

# Veteran Homelessness:

A Supplemental Report to the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress



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

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
The National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans





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## Executive Summary

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are pleased to present *Veteran Homelessness: A Supplemental Report to the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*. This report is the result of ongoing collaboration between HUD and the VA to understand the extent and nature of homelessness among veterans in the United States. The information presented in this report is intended to inform public policymakers, local practitioners and the general public about veteran homelessness. It also advances the goals of the nation's federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness (*Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*) through the collection, analysis, and reporting of quality, timely data on homelessness.

The Veteran's Supplemental Report provides one-day and one-year estimates of the number of homeless veterans nationally. This report also examines the demographic characteristics of homeless veterans and compares them to the characteristics of various other population groups, including all U.S. veterans, all veterans living in poverty, and non-veteran adults who are and are not homeless. These comparisons illuminate the heightened risks of becoming homeless faced by some veterans. The report also discusses the location of homeless veterans in the United States by state and by type of location. Finally, the report describes the flow of veterans into the shelter system and, once there, how they use the system.

Below is a summary of major findings.

### Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness Among Veterans

- On a single night in January 2009, 75,609 veterans were homeless; 57 percent were staying in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program; and the remaining 43 percent were living on the street, in an abandoned building, or another place not meant for human habitation (i.e., unsheltered).
- Veterans are overrepresented among the homeless population. At a point in time in 2009, approximately 12 percent of all people (and 16 percent of adults) experiencing homelessness identified as a veteran, as did 10 percent of those homeless over the course of a year. Less than 8 percent of the total U.S. population has veteran status.

### One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness Among Veterans

- An estimated 136,334 veterans spent at least one night in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program between October 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009. This accounts for 1 of every 168 veterans in the U.S. or 1 out of every 10 veterans living in poverty.
- Just over 96 percent of sheltered veterans were individuals, and just less than 4 percent were veterans who were a part of a family.
- While homeless veterans make up less than 1 percent of all veterans, within the poverty population veterans are at greater risk of homelessness than non-veterans. Ten percent of veterans in poverty became homeless at some point during the year, compared to just over 5 percent of adults in poverty.

## Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans

- Homeless veterans are most often white men, between the ages of 31 and 50 years, with a disability, and alone in shelter.
- The small number of sheltered homeless veterans in families typically are younger, minority women and less likely to have a disability. However, sheltered homeless veterans in families are more likely to have a male adult present in the household than other homeless families.

## Veterans with High Risk of Becoming Homeless

- Rates of homelessness among veterans living in poverty are particularly high for veterans identifying as Hispanic/Latino (1 in 4) or African American (1 in 4).
- Two groups of homeless veterans—women and people between age 18 and 30—are small in number. However, female veterans and young veterans are at high risk of becoming homeless, and both groups are growing within the overall veteran population.

## Location of Homeless Veterans

- Similar to the overall homeless population, almost half of homeless veterans on a given night were located in four states: California, Florida, Texas, and New York. Only 28 percent of all veterans were located in those same four states.
- The share of homeless veterans located in the densest urban areas (or principal cities) is more than twice that of all veterans (72 percent compared to 31 percent).

## Prior Living Arrangement and Patterns of Shelter Use

- Most sheltered veterans entered shelter or transitional housing from another homeless situation. In 2009, 46 percent of sheltered veterans accessed residential services from some other homeless situation (25 percent from emergency shelter or transitional housing and 21 percent from an unsheltered location).
- Veterans were less likely than non-veterans to have come from housing—either their own unit or that of a friend or family member. Approximately 32 percent of veterans came from housing compared to 42 percent of non-veterans.
- Of those who did come from housing, veterans were more likely than non-veterans to come from their own unit (40 percent compared to 26 percent) and less likely to have been doubled up with friends or family (58 percent compared to 73 percent for non-veterans).
- Most veterans who used emergency shelter did not use it for very long. One-third of veterans stayed in shelter for less than one week, 61 percent used shelter for less than one month, and 84 percent stayed for less than 3 months.
- Veterans who were alone had a median length of stay of 21 days in emergency shelter and 117 days in transitional housing. The median length of stay for non-veterans who were alone was 17 days in emergency shelter and 106 days in transitional housing. For veterans in homeless families, the median length of stay in emergency shelter was 30 days and 137 days in transitional housing. The median length of stay for non-veterans in homeless families was 36 days in emergency shelter and 175 days in transitional housing.



## Section 1: Introduction

This first supplemental Annual Homeless Assessment Report on veteran homelessness (*2009 Veteran AHAR*) describes the extent and nature of homelessness among veterans in America. The report provides national estimates of homeless veterans and describes their demographic characteristics and patterns of shelter use. The report also identifies the risk of homelessness for particular demographic subgroups of veterans and compares the risks of homelessness for veterans compared to non-veterans within those subgroups. As a companion to the AHAR, this report uses both annual Point-in-Time data and longitudinal administrative data from Homeless Management Information Systems that are reported by local Continuums of Care (CoC)<sup>1</sup> nationwide.

This *2009 Veteran AHAR* is being released on the heels of the 2010 Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.<sup>2</sup> The plan includes the goal of preventing and ending homelessness among veterans in five years. To achieve this goal, the plan puts forth a comprehensive framework that is designed to improve housing stability, economic security, and health among homeless veterans. The framework calls for government agencies at all levels to “break down the silos” that hinder cross-agency collaborations and forge stronger partnerships.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, this report results from an ongoing partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to better understand how homelessness affects our nation’s veterans. The report builds on a solid foundation of collaboration between HUD and the VA that includes the provision of housing assistance and clinical services to homeless veterans through the HUD – VA Supportive Housing program (or HUD-VASH), as well as the provision of preventive services to address the needs of veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless. Continuing these collaborative partnerships will ensure that resources targeted to homeless veterans are leveraged effectively to prevent and end homelessness among veterans in five years.

HUD and the VA intend to partner on future annual Veteran supplements to the AHAR. These supplemental reports will monitor changes in veteran homelessness over time and provide policymakers and practitioners with updated annual data that can inform future policies and services.

### 1.1 In This Report

*Section 1—Introduction.* The remainder of this section provides a brief review of previous attempts to enumerate homelessness among veterans, describing how this report differs from those past efforts.

*Section 2—How Many Homeless Veterans Are There?* This section presents the national estimates of veterans in 2009, focusing on the prevalence of homeless veterans on a single night in January 2009 and during a 12-month period (October 2008 to September 2009).

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<sup>1</sup> Continuums of Care 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.

<sup>2</sup> United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. 2010. Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

<sup>3</sup> Id., p. 30.

*Section 3—Who Are Sheltered Homeless Veterans?* This section presents the demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless veterans who used a residential homeless program during the 12-month reporting period.

*Section 4—Are Veterans at Greater Risk of Homelessness?* This section focuses on the proportions of different demographic subgroups that become homeless for groups of veterans and non-veterans and illuminates the types of veterans at particularly great risk of becoming homeless.

*Section 5—Where Are Sheltered Homeless Veterans Located?* This section describes the spatial distribution of homeless veterans across the nation and in different types of geographic locations.

*Section 6—How Do Sheltered Homeless Veterans Use the Shelter System?* The section describes how veterans move into the system and how homeless veterans use emergency shelters and transitional housing programs once they access services.

*Section 7—Concluding Observations.* The section provides a few summary comments about the findings of this first supplemental report to the AHAR on veteran homelessness.

*Appendix A* describes the methodology used to generate the PIT and HMIS-based estimates.

*Appendix B* presents the detailed estimates based on HMIS data. *Appendix C* provides the detailed data tables used to calculate the risk ratios. *Appendix D* provides information on the estimated number of veterans on a single night in January 2009 by state.

## **1.2 The 2009 AHAR Veteran and the CHALENG Estimates**

Until recently, the literature on veteran homelessness was thin, because researchers had difficulties collecting information from people without fixed addresses. (Exhibit 1-1 summarizes the key findings from studies on homelessness among veterans conducted since the 1980s.) Like the general homeless population, homeless veterans are transient, moving in and out of the shelter system and medical facilities, as well as spending nights in places not meant for human habitation—such as abandoned buildings, cars or encampments. Their mobility complicates efforts to estimate accurately the number of homeless veterans, because it increases the chances that a veteran maybe double counted. The mobility of homeless veterans means researchers find it difficult to administer surveys about the characteristics and service needs of homeless veterans. The homeless veteran may not be present when and where the survey is conducted.

Starting in the mid-1990s, the VA provided data on homeless veterans through a report called CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups for Veterans). The CHALENG Report used questionnaires completed by VA staff, community providers, and homeless veterans to estimate the number of homeless veterans and describe their service needs. CHALENG estimates focused on veterans who accessed services from VA medical facilities and relied mostly on staff knowledge about veterans' homelessness status. The CHALENG estimates were made to support a primary function of the report – identifying unmet needs of homeless veterans.

In 2004, the CHALENG report adopted a point-in-time (PIT) estimate rather than an annual estimate of veteran homelessness. This “snapshot” of homelessness estimated that there were 192,000

homeless veterans on any given night; the prior year's CHALENG report had estimated that 313,000 veterans had been homeless at some time during 2003. In 2007, the CHALENG report rescheduled the day of the PIT count to coincide with HUD's PIT date, occurring at the end of January. This change contributed to a drop in the PIT estimate from 195,000 in 2006 to 154,000 in 2007.

### Exhibit 1-1: What is Known about Homeless Veterans from Past Studies?

#### *Percentage of Veterans Among the Homeless*

A number of studies have found veterans to be overrepresented in the homeless population. Early studies found that between 33 percent and an estimated 41 percent of homeless men in 1987 and 1996 reported past military service, compared with 28 percent and 34 percent in the general adult male population (Rosenheck et al., 1994; Gamache et al., 2001). Overrepresentation was not limited to men; 23 percent of all adults receiving homeless services in 1996 were estimated to be veterans compared to 13 percent of all adults (Burt et al., 2001). Among homeless women in 1996, 3 to 4 percent were estimated to be veterans, compared to 1 percent in the general adult female population (Gamache et al., 2003).

#### *Characteristics of Homeless Veterans*

Studies comparing homeless veterans with homeless non-veterans have found differences in race, sex, age, rates of alcohol abuse, education levels, and average length of homelessness, many of which are supported by findings in this report. Common research findings are that homeless veterans are generally older than homeless non-veterans and more likely to be white than homeless non-veterans (Schutt, 1986; Robertson, 1987; Roth, 1992; Rosenheck and Koegel, 1993; Winkleby and Fleshin, 1993; and O'Toole et al., 2003). Women are a much smaller percentage of veterans than of the general population and, accordingly, earlier studies found homeless veterans much less likely than homeless non-veterans to be women (Gamache et al., 2003). Both male and female homeless veterans report higher levels of education than their homeless non-veteran counterparts (Rosenheck and Koegel, 1993; Gamache et al., 2003).

Researchers have also found higher rates of alcohol abuse among homeless veterans compared to homeless non-veterans (Robertson, 1987; Roth, 1992; Rosenheck and Koegel, 1993; and Winkleby and Fleshin, 1993), even when controlling for age and other correlates of alcohol abuse (Tessler et al., 2002). Finally, in comparison with non-veterans, veterans have been found more likely to be homeless for more than one year (Tessler et al., 2002).

#### *Risk Factors for Homelessness*

Research has suggested that the risk of homelessness for veterans may be related to factors as diverse as age, race, psychiatric illness, and economic status prior to entry in the military. Other factors such as combat exposure, wartime trauma, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) may have an indirect effect on the risk of homelessness among male veterans to the extent that these conditions are associated with social isolation and psychiatric hospitalization, which directly increase a veteran's risk for homelessness (Rosenheck and Fontana, 1994). Experiences prior to military service can alter a veteran's risk of homelessness; pre-military traumas, such as childhood abuse or placement in foster care, have been found to be significantly and directly related to homelessness later in life (Rosenheck and Fontana, 1994). For female veterans, factors occurring prior to, during, and following military service have been found to affect risk of homelessness; sexual assault during military service, unemployment, poor health, and having an anxiety disorder or PTSD have all been associated with homelessness among female veterans. Conversely, two characteristics appear to protect against homelessness for female veterans: having a college degree and being married (Washington et al., 2010).

Since 2007, the CHALENG report has increasingly relied upon HUD PIT counts as the basis for its estimates. VA staff responsible for formulating local estimates continued to make upward adjustments to the HUD PIT estimates to account for homeless veterans they believed were excluded from the count (e.g., veterans located in rural communities and in VA programs). These upward adjustments likely resulted in some duplicate counting of homeless veterans and, in some communities, an over-estimation of veteran homelessness.

The PIT estimate in this 2009 Veteran AHAR addresses the known areas of undercounting (e.g., veterans served in VA Grant and Per Diem programs), while avoiding potential duplication issues by using a standardized, validated methodology developed by staff from HUD and the VA's National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans.<sup>4</sup> The definition of homelessness established in the McKinney-Vento Act was used in this report. The 2009 PIT estimate of homeless veterans presented in this report is slightly larger than HUD's earlier estimate presented in the 2009 AHAR, but likely lower than the estimate that would have been issued by the VA for the 2010 CHALENG Report. Although further refinements may be made in the 2010 CHALENG reporting process, the new, more reliable methodology developed for the 2009 Veteran AHAR will be used by the VA and HUD in their joint endeavor to achieve the most accurate count of homelessness among our nation's veterans.

Producing these estimates will continue to improve with coordination between the VA and HUD to address the needs of homeless veterans. VA programs that serve homeless veterans are expected to participate fully in the January 2011 PIT count, and many will begin participation in local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). Participation in communities' HMIS will ensure that the 2011 AHAR will capture the most accurate estimates to date of veteran homelessness at the national and local levels.

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<sup>4</sup> Communities are required to report PIT estimates of sheltered homeless veterans, but identifying which homeless people in unsheltered locations are veterans is optional. In 2009, approximately 65 percent of CoCs reported an unsheltered count of veterans. Appendix A describes how statistical adjustments were applied to produce a complete estimate of sheltered and unsheltered veterans. The veteran status of homeless persons is self-reported in both the PIT estimates and the HMIS data.

## Section 2: How Many Homeless Veterans Are There?

### 2.1 Types of Estimates

This section provides the national estimates of homelessness among veterans in 2009 (see Exhibit 2-1). The section presents two types of estimates:

1. *Point-in-Time (PIT)* estimates of all sheltered *and* unsheltered homeless veterans on a single night in January 2009. The PIT estimates are submitted to HUD annually and account for homeless veterans in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the PIT count (i.e., sheltered) and homeless veterans who are in places not meant for human habitation such as the streets, abandoned buildings, cars, or encampments (i.e., unsheltered). The PIT estimates reported by communities were adjusted statistically to account for missing information.<sup>5</sup>
2. *One-year estimates* of sheltered homeless veterans based on Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data. HMIS are electronic administrative databases that are designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless persons. The one-year estimates account for veterans who access an emergency shelter or transitional housing facility during a 12-month period (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009) and are unduplicated to account for veterans who use residential service program multiple times during the year. In 2009, 300 communities submitted usable HMIS data on sheltered homeless veterans, representing 36,039 person records. These data are adjusted statistically to provide the nationally representative, one-year estimates.

To read more about the methodology behind the estimates in this report, see Appendix A.

### 2.2 Estimates of Homeless Veterans, 2009

*PIT Estimate.* On a single night in January 2009 there were an estimated **75,609** homeless veterans—sheltered and unsheltered. More than 43,000 (57 percent) of the veterans were sleeping in emergency shelters or transitional housing and the remaining 32,000 (43 percent) were sleeping on the streets, in cars, in abandoned buildings, or in other places not meant for human habitation.

*One-Year Estimate.* An estimated **136,334** people self-identified as veterans and spent at least one night in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program in 2009. This is 1 in every 168 veterans throughout the United States or 1 in every 10 veterans living in poverty. Almost 97 percent of sheltered veterans were served as individuals, and just under 4 percent were veterans who were

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<sup>5</sup> The statistical adjustments were conducted to account for four types of missing data. First, there were 5,836 beds for homeless veterans that were missing from HUD's national inventory of homeless residential service providers and thus presumably excluded from the PIT count of sheltered veterans. Second, approximately two-thirds of CoCs used an HMIS to generate their estimates of sheltered homeless veterans, and about 5.4 percent of HMIS records were missing information on veteran status. Third, three CoCs in 2009 did not report data on the number of sheltered veterans. Finally, 19 percent of CoCs had missing information for the number of unsheltered veterans, and 16 percent reported zero unsheltered veterans.

homeless as part of a family.<sup>6</sup> The proportion of veterans served as members of families is much lower than the non-veteran sheltered adult population; about 20 percent of non-veteran sheltered adults experience homelessness as part of a family.

Appendix B presents the detailed estimates based on HMIS data.

<b>Exhibit 2-2: Estimates of Homelessness Among Veterans in the United States, 2009</b>			
<i>Type of Estimate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Coverage</i>
PIT One-Night Count <sup>1</sup>	75,609	100%	Sheltered and unsheltered
One-Year Estimate <sup>2</sup>			
Total	136,334	100%	Sheltered only
Adult Individuals	132,160	96.3%	
Adults in Families <sup>3</sup>	5,091	3.7%	

<sup>1</sup> The PIT estimate accounts for sheltered and unsheltered homeless veterans on a single night in January 2009. Data source: Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Counts, January 2009

<sup>2</sup> The HMIS-based estimates reflect the number of veterans in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who used emergency shelters or transitional housing programs during the one-year period from October 1 through September 30 of the following year. The estimates include an extrapolation adjustment to account for veterans who use emergency shelters and transitional housing programs but whose jurisdictions do not yet participate in their respective HMIS. A homeless veteran who does not use an emergency shelter or transitional housing during the 12-month period is not included in this estimate. The number of veterans served as individuals (132,160) and as adults in families (5,091) will not equal the total unduplicated count of sheltered homeless veterans because 918 veterans were served as both individuals and as members of a family. In 2009, the 95 percent confidence interval for the estimated number of sheltered homeless veterans in the population was 78,765 to 193,901 veterans (or +/- 57,568 veterans). Data source: Homeless Management Information System, 2009.

<sup>3</sup> In the AHAR, a family is defined as a household composed of at least one adult and one child. The household status of a veteran is determined when the veteran enters an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. The estimate of veterans in families may be an undercount if veterans access shelter as individuals but have family members living elsewhere, for example, with family or friends.

*Sources: 2009 Continuum of Care Applications: Exhibit 1, CoC Point-in-Time Homeless Population and Subpopulations Charts; 2009 Homeless Management Information Systems.*

### 2.3 How Common is Homelessness among Veterans?

Veterans are overrepresented among the homeless population. Veterans constitute just under 8 percent of the total U.S. population and, based on the PIT estimates, they account for 12 percent of the total homeless population (and 16 percent of homeless adults) on a given night. Their overrepresentation is reinforced by the one-year estimates. Approximately 10 percent of all people who experienced homelessness over the year identified themselves as veterans.

Homeless veterans comprise a relatively small share of the total veteran population. Less than 1 percent (0.64 percent)<sup>7</sup> of veterans in 2009 was homeless. The low rates of homelessness among

<sup>6</sup> In the AHAR, a family is defined as a household composed of at least one adult and one child. The household status of a veteran is determined when the veteran enters an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during the 12-month reporting period. The estimate of veterans in families may be an undercount if veterans access shelter as individuals but have family members living elsewhere, for example, with family or friends.

veterans may reflect the relatively good economic circumstances of most veterans. Veterans have higher median incomes than the general population, and their poverty rate is half the rate of the total U.S. population (6 percent compared to 13 percent). However, once veterans become impoverished, they are more likely to descend further into homelessness. In 2009, just under 10 percent of veterans in poverty spent at least one night in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. This is roughly double the rate of homelessness for all adults in poverty, which was 5.5 percent in 2009.<sup>8</sup>

Detailed comparisons between veterans and non-veterans, including risks of homelessness among various subgroups, are discussed in Section 4. The next section provides some basic demographic characteristics for veterans who were homeless at some time during 2009.

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<sup>7</sup> Based on 2009 ACS 1-year estimates of veterans. Subject Table S2101.  
[http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/STTable?\\_bm=y&-qr\\_name=ACS\\_2009\\_1YR\\_G00\\_S2101&-geo\\_id=01000US&-ds\\_name=ACS\\_2009\\_1YR\\_G00\\_&-\\_lang=en&-format=&-CONTEXT=st](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/STTable?_bm=y&-qr_name=ACS_2009_1YR_G00_S2101&-geo_id=01000US&-ds_name=ACS_2009_1YR_G00_&-_lang=en&-format=&-CONTEXT=st)

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.





## Section 3: Who Are Sheltered Veterans?

This section presents a demographic profile of sheltered homeless veterans based on HMIS data. Sheltered homeless veterans are compared to all veterans and to all U.S. adults to illustrate the ways in which homeless veterans are different. Sheltered homeless veterans are also compared with homeless non-veterans. Programs that serve homeless veterans may need to tailor their services to properly align with the special characteristics of veterans who become homeless and of homeless people who are veterans.

### 3.1 All Sheltered Veterans

Homelessness affects veterans of all genders, ethnicities, races and ages. Exhibit 3-1 presents the demographic characteristics for sheltered homeless veterans in 2009 and compares this profile with that of all U.S. adults and the total veteran population.

<b>Exhibit 3-1: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans, All Veterans, and All U.S. Adults, 2009</b>			
<i>Characteristic</i>	<i>Sheltered Homeless Veterans</i>	<i>All Veterans</i>	<i>All U.S. Adults</i>
<b>Number</b>	136,334	22,906,784	231,718,105
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	7.5%	6.8%	51.5%
Male	92.5%	93.2%	48.5%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	88.9%	94.8%	86.4%
Hispanic/Latino	11.1%	5.2%	13.6%
<b>Race</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	49.2%	81.2%	68.1%
White Hispanic/Latino	8.3%	3.6%	8.6%
Black or African American	34.0%	10.5%	11.8%
Asian	0.3%	1.2%	4.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	3.4%	0.7%	0.8%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%
Other/Several races	4.4%	2.7%	6.0%
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	8.4%	8.0%	24.2%
31 to 50	44.6%	23.1%	36.5%
51 to 61	38.1%	21.4%	18.5%
62 and older	8.9%	47.4%	20.8%

*Sources: 2009 Homeless Management Information Systems; U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.*

The typical sheltered homeless veteran has the following characteristics:

- **Male** (93 percent),
- **White non-Hispanic/Latino** (49 percent),
- **Between the ages of 31 and 50** (45 percent), and
- **Disabled** (52 percent).

*Gender*—Similar to the gender composition of the total veteran population, women make up a small share of the sheltered veteran population. In 2009, only 8 percent of sheltered homeless veterans were female. However, the proportion of women among the total veteran population has increased steadily between 2000 and 2009<sup>9</sup>—from about 6 to 8 percent—and the proportion of female veterans among the sheltered homeless population is likely to increase in the coming years.

*Race and Ethnicity*—The racial and ethnic composition of sheltered homeless veterans differs considerably from that of all veterans and all U.S. adults. In 2009, minority groups were overrepresented among the sheltered veteran population. Approximately 34 percent of sheltered veterans were African American, and 11 percent were Hispanic/Latino. By contrast, African Americans represent only 11 percent of the total veteran population and 12 percent of all U.S. adults. Hispanic/Latinos comprise only 5 percent of all veterans, although they are a higher proportion of all U.S. adults. Other minority groups were also overrepresented among the sheltered veteran population. American Indian or Alaska Native veterans account for less than 1 percent of all veterans but 3 percent of sheltered veterans.

Conversely, the white non-Hispanic/Latino population is underrepresented among the sheltered veteran population, as this group accounts for 81 percent of the total veteran population and only 49 percent of the sheltered veteran population.

*Age*—Most sheltered homeless veterans (45 percent) are between 31 and 50 years of age. This age group is overrepresented in the homeless population when compared to the total veteran population (23 percent) and all U.S. adults (37 percent). Veterans between 51 and 61 years of age are also overrepresented in the sheltered population compared to these other groups. Younger veterans, 18 to 30, were in approximate proportion to their share of the overall veteran population.

### 3.2 Homeless Veterans by Household Type

The demographic profile of sheltered homeless veterans varies depending on the veteran's household type (see Exhibit 3-2 and 3-3). Household type refers to the composition of a veteran's household, and this report uses two categories of household types:

- *Individuals* refers to veterans who experience homelessness alone; and
- *Persons in families* refer to veterans who become homeless with at least one minor child (age 17 or under).

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<sup>9</sup> VetPop 2007, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, Department of Veterans Affairs, <http://www1.va.gov/vetdata/>

Veterans are by and large individuals, meaning that most veterans experience homeless alone rather than as part of families. Thus the characteristics of sheltered individual veterans largely mirror those of all sheltered veterans. The small number of veterans in families are more likely to be women (59 percent), African-American (47 percent), young adults under age 30 (38 percent), and not disabled (83 percent).

**Exhibit 3-2: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans and Non-Veterans, 2009**

Characteristics	Sheltered Veterans			Sheltered Non-Veterans		
	All Veterans	Individual Veterans	Veterans in Families <sup>1</sup>	All Non-Veterans	Individual Non-Veteran Adults	Non-Veteran Adults in families <sup>2</sup>
<b>Number<sup>3</sup></b>	136,334	132,160	5,091	1,422,583	902,499	530,356
<b>Gender</b>						
Female	7.5%	5.6%	58.7%	40.0%	30.6%	80.2%
Male	92.5%	94.5%	41.3%	60.0%	69.4%	19.8%
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	88.9%	89.0%	87.9%	79.7%	83.1%	74.1%
Hispanic/Latino	11.1%	11.1%	12.1%	20.3%	16.9%	25.9%
<b>Race</b>						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	49.2%	49.6%	39.7%	36.9%	44.7%	23.4%
White, Hispanic/Latino	8.3%	8.3%	5.1%	11.9%	10.7%	14.0%
Black or African American	34.0%	33.4%	47.0%	39.2%	34.3%	47.9%
Asian	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	3.4%	3.5%	1.2%	3.2%	2.7%	4.1%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.4%	0.4%	1.3%	0.7%	0.3%	1.3%
Other/Several races	4.4%	4.4%	5.3%	7.3%	6.7%	8.5%
<b>Age</b>						
18 to 30	8.4%	7.2%	38.0%	31.2%	25.5%	55.6%
31 to 50	44.6%	44.5%	48.1%	49.8%	51.8%	41.4%
51 to 61	38.1%	39.1%	12.9%	16.0%	19.2%	2.7%
62 and older	8.9%	9.2%	1.0%	2.9%	3.5%	0.3%
<b>Disability Status</b>						
Yes	51.9%	53.3%	16.8%	35.9%	41.2%	13.9%
No	48.1%	46.7%	83.3%	64.1%	58.8%	86.1%

<sup>1</sup> In the AHAR, a family is defined as a household composed of at least one adult and one child. The household status of a veteran is determined when the veteran enters an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during the 12-month reporting period. The estimate of veterans in families may be an undercount if veterans access shelter as individuals but have family members living elsewhere, for example, with family or friends.

<sup>2</sup> The demographic characteristics for non-veterans in families are limited to adults only, except for ethnicity and race. Information on ethnicity and race are not reported separately to the AHAR for adults and children.

<sup>3</sup> For both sheltered veterans and sheltered non-veterans, the sum of individuals and persons in families may not equal the total number of people in each category because some people were served as both individuals and as members of families. The total number of people in each category is an unduplicated count.

Sources: Homeless Management Information System data, 2009.

However, veterans in homeless families are also quite different from non-veterans in homeless families. Only 59 percent of veterans in families are women, whereas women comprise 80 percent of non-veteran adults in families (Exhibit 3-2). Homeless veteran families are headed more frequently by two parents than homeless non-veteran families. Most adult men in homeless families are accompanied by adult women. Also, homeless veterans in families tend to be older than non-veteran adults in families, with a smaller proportion under 30 years (38 percent compared to 56 percent) and a larger proportion over 51 years (14 percent compared to 3 percent).

### 3.3 Sheltered Homeless Veterans Compared to Sheltered Homeless Non-Veterans

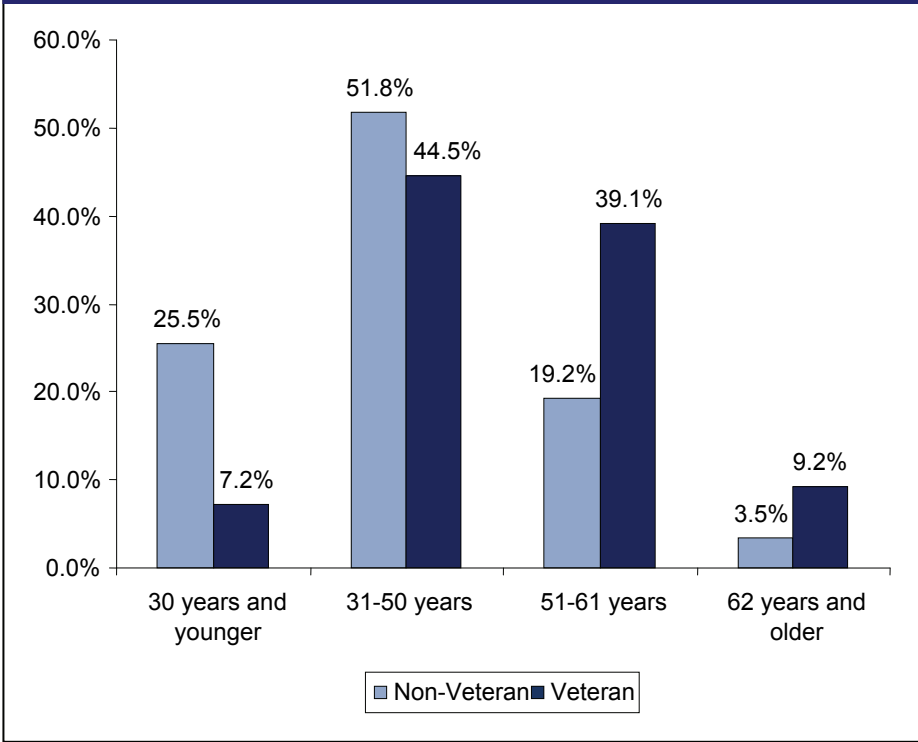
Exhibit 3-2 shows several other ways in which homeless veterans are markedly different from their non-veteran counterparts in shelter. Across household types, sheltered veterans are much more likely to be male, white non-Hispanic/Latino, and disabled when compared to sheltered non-veterans.

<b>Exhibit 3-3: Demographic Characteristics of a Typical Sheltered Veteran, 2009</b>		
<i>The Typical Sheltered Veteran is:</i>	<i>The Typical Sheltered Individual Veteran is:</i>	<i>The Typical Sheltered Veteran in a Family is:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Male (93 percent)</li> <li>• Equally likely to be minority or white, non-Hispanic/Latino (51 and 49 percent)</li> <li>• Between 31 and 50 (45 percent)</li> <li>• Disabled (52 percent)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Male (95 percent)</li> <li>• Equally likely to be minority or white, non-Hispanic/Latino (50 percent each)</li> <li>• Between 31 and 50 (45 percent)</li> <li>• Disabled (53 percent)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female (59 percent)</li> <li>• African American (47 percent)</li> <li>• Between 31 and 50 (48 percent)</li> <li>• Not disabled (83 percent)</li> </ul>

The age differences between homeless veterans and non-veterans are especially striking, as shown in Exhibit 3-4. While both homeless individual veterans and individual non-veterans are likely to be in their middle years, homeless veterans are disproportionately older than their non-veteran counterparts:

- 7 percent of homeless veterans are 30 years or younger compared with 26 percent of homeless non-veterans.
- 39 percent of homeless veterans are 51–61 years compared with 19 percent of homeless non-veterans.
- 9 percent of homeless veterans are 62 years and older compared with 4 percent of homeless non-veterans.

**Exhibit 3-4: Age Distribution of Sheltered Homeless Individual Veteran and Non-Veteran Adults**





## Section 4: Risk of Homelessness Among Veterans

This section builds on the discussion of how homeless veterans differ from other sheltered homeless adults and uses comparisons of the rates of homelessness among various groups of veterans and non-veterans to explore whether some types of veterans are at especially great risk of becoming homeless. Because there are so few veterans who experience homelessness as members of families, most comparisons are made between veterans who are homeless as individuals and other homeless and non-homeless individual adults. Also, because almost all people who become homeless have incomes below the poverty line, the comparisons described in this section often are made among veterans and other subpopulations that are poor. Other comparisons include gender, race/ethnicity, age, and disability as risk factors.

Rates of homelessness among veterans are compared with the rates of four populations:

- *All adults in the U.S.* This comparison suggests whether veterans are over or underrepresented in the homeless adult population compared to the total U.S. adult population.
- *Adults living in poverty.* This comparison indicates whether veterans are over or underrepresented in the homeless adult population compared to other poor adults.
- *Adult non-veterans.* This comparison suggests whether veterans are more or less likely than non-veterans to be homeless.
- *Non-veterans living in poverty.* This comparison suggests whether veterans are more or less likely than other poor people who are not veterans to be homeless.

Risk ratios are used to make these comparisons and suggest whether particular types of veterans are at greater risk of becoming homeless when compared to adults in other populations. Risk ratios divide the proportion of the homeless population that is veteran by the proportion of the comparison population that is veteran. Other risk ratios divide the proportion of the veteran population that is homeless by the proportion of the comparison population that is homeless.

A ratio of 1.0 indicates that the subgroup of veterans is just as likely to be homeless as the comparison population. A risk ratio that is greater than one suggests that veterans are at higher risk of homelessness; less than one indicates that veterans are at lower risk. For example, 17 percent of individual sheltered men are veterans, and 24 percent of men in the total U.S. population are veterans. The risk ratio is  $17/24$  or 0.7, meaning that male veterans are not at high risk of becoming homeless. However, if the comparison group changes to focus on adults in poverty, only 14.7 percent of poor men are veterans. The risk ratio is  $17/14.7$  or 1.2, meaning that male veterans living in poverty are at somewhat higher risk of becoming homeless than other poor individual men.

Appendix C provides the detailed information used to calculate the risk ratios.

### 4.1 Gender as a Risk Factor

As described earlier, very few homeless veterans are women. However, women who are veterans are at much higher risk of homelessness than their male counterparts. Among individuals (Exhibit 4-1, top panel):

- Female veterans are twice as likely to be in the homeless population as they are to be the U.S. adult female population.
- They are almost three (2.7) times more likely to be in the homeless population than in the female poverty population.
- Female veterans are also more likely to be homeless when compared to female non-veterans in the U.S. and female non-veterans in the poverty population.

By contrast, individual male veterans are underrepresented in the homeless population when compared to the U.S. adult population and the non-veteran population. Male veterans are slightly overrepresented in the homeless population when compared to veterans and non-veterans living in poverty.

**Exhibit 4-1: Risk Ratio of Homelessness Among Veterans, by Household and Gender<sup>1</sup>**

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Compared to the Adult U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Adults Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults in the U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults Living in Poverty</i>
<b>Individuals</b>				
Female	2.0	2.7	2.0	2.7
Male	0.7	1.2	0.6	1.2
<b>Persons in Families</b>				
Female	1.3	2.1	1.3	2.1
Male	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.8

<sup>1</sup> Two types of risk ratios are used: (1) the proportion of the homeless population that is veteran in relation to the proportion of the comparison population that is veteran; and (2) the proportion of the veteran population that is homeless in relation to the proportion of the non-veteran comparison population that is homeless. Four comparison populations are presented in the exhibit: adults in the U.S. population; adults living in poverty; non-veteran adults in the U.S. population; and non-veteran adults living in poverty.

*Source: Homeless Management Information System, 2010. U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.*

The bottom panel of Exhibit 4-1 presents the risks of homelessness among veterans in families when measured against the same comparison groups. Like their individual counterparts, female veterans in families are at higher risk of becoming homeless when compared to adult women in these four subpopulations. In stark contrast, male veterans in families are underrepresented in the homeless population when compared to any of the comparison populations.

## 4.2 Race and Ethnicity as Risk Factors

Exhibit 4-2 uses the risk ratios to confirm the point made earlier (see Exhibit 3-1) that rates of homelessness are much higher for Hispanics, African Americans, and Native Americans than for veterans who are not members of minority groups, particularly among veterans who are living in poverty.

Hispanic veterans are at particularly high risk of becoming homeless. Among individuals:

- Hispanic veterans are three times more likely to be in the homeless population than among non-veteran adults in poverty.



- They are almost three (2.8) times more likely to be in the homeless population than in the total poverty population.
- Hispanic veterans are nearly twice as likely to be in the homeless population as the total U.S. population (1.6) and all non-veteran adults in poverty (1.7).

**Exhibit 4-2: Risk of Homelessness among Veterans who are Homeless as Individual Adults, by Ethnicity and Race<sup>1</sup>**

<i>Ethnicity and Race</i>	<i>Compared to the Adult U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Adults Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults in the U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults Living in Poverty</i>
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.9
Hispanic/Latino	1.6	2.8	1.7	3.0
<b>Race</b>				
White	1.2	2.0	0.2	0.8
Black or African American	1.2	1.8	0.9	1.6
Asian	1.8	3.6	0.1	0.2
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.3	2.1	1.6	2.1
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1.4	2.5	1.5	2.7
Other	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.9

<sup>1</sup> Two types of risk ratios are used: (1) the proportion of the homeless population that is veteran in relation to the proportion of the comparison population that is veteran; and (2) the proportion of the veteran population that is homeless in relation to the proportion of the non-veteran comparison population that is homeless. Four comparison populations are presented in the exhibit: adults in the U.S. population; adults living in poverty; non-veteran adults in the U.S. population; and non-veteran adults living in poverty.

Source: Homeless Management Information System, 2010. U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.

Indeed, almost a quarter of poor Hispanic veterans *living alone* used shelter at some time during the year, compared with 12 percent of poor non-Hispanic veterans and 8 percent of poor white non-Hispanics.

Similarly, about 24 percent of African American individual veterans with incomes below the poverty line were homeless at some point during 2009, as were 35 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native veterans living alone and in poverty.

- African Americans were 1.8 times as likely to be in the homeless population than in the poverty population.
- African Americans were 1.6 times as likely to be homeless than to be a non-veteran living in poverty.
- African Americans were less likely to be homeless than their non-veteran counterparts in the U.S. adult population.
- American Indians and Alaska Natives were 2.1 times more likely to be in the homeless population than in the population living in poverty.
- American Indians and Alaska Natives were also overrepresented in the homeless population compared to the general population and the non-veteran adult population (1.3 and 1.6).

The risk ratios for veterans in families across all racial and ethnic groups are much lower and, for the most part, do not differ among racial and ethnic groups. Being part of a family, even a poor family, appears to be a strong protection against becoming homeless.<sup>10</sup>

### 4.3 Age as a Risk Factor

While veterans are more likely than non-veterans to be in the older age categories (see Exhibit 3-3), that fact largely mirrors the age distribution of veterans. As Exhibit 4-3 indicates, veterans between the ages of 18 and 30 are almost twice as likely (1.8) to be homeless than to be in the U.S. adult population. The risk of homelessness increases considerably when young veterans are poor. Young homeless individuals are three times more likely to be veterans than poor young adults are to be veterans. Similarly, young veterans are three times more likely to be homeless than young non-veteran adults living in poverty.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Compared to the Adult U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Adults Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults in the U.S. Population</i>	<i>Compared to Non-Veteran Adults Living in Poverty</i>
18–30 years	1.8	3.3	1.9	3.4
31–50 years	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.1
51–61 years	1.6	2.1	1.8	2.4
62 years and older	1.2	2.3	1.3	2.8

<sup>1</sup> Two types of risk ratios are used: (1) the proportion of the homeless population that is veteran in relation to the proportion of the comparison population that is veteran; and (2) the proportion of the veteran population that is homeless in relation to the proportion of the non-veteran comparison population that is homeless. Four comparison populations are presented in the exhibit: adults in the U.S. population; adults living in poverty; non-veteran adults in the U.S. population; and non-veteran adults living in poverty.

*Source: Homeless Management Information System, 2010. U.S. Census Bureau. (2009). 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.*

While relatively few homeless veterans are in the youngest age category, this is a particularly interesting cohort as it is likely comprised of veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. During 2009, more than 11,300 younger veterans used a shelter. The small absolute number of young homeless veterans may reflect supports available for veterans as they exit these war zones. However, although the proportion of homeless veterans in the youngest age group is lower compared with non-veteran homeless adults, the risk ratios show that their risk for homelessness is high. Furthermore, the typical time lag between becoming a veteran and experiencing homelessness is unclear. The current cohort of new veterans may experience even higher rates of homelessness in the future.

<sup>10</sup> The exception seems to be Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, but this is a very small group. Comparisons to the race and ethnicity of the overall population of veterans and non-veterans in families must be interpreted with some caution, as the HMIS data on which the estimates of sheltered homeless families are based do not distinguish the race/ethnicity of adults from that of children.

#### 4.4 Disability as a Risk Factor

Taken as a single group, homeless veterans are considerably more likely to have a disability than homeless adults who are not veterans. About 53 percent of individual homeless veterans have disabilities, compared with 41 percent of sheltered homeless non-veteran individuals. However, these results are not adjusted to account for the higher average age of the homeless veteran population compared to the general homeless population. Veterans in families are also slightly more likely to have a disability than non-veterans in families: 17 percent compared to 14 percent.

Risk ratios were not calculated among veterans who have disabilities, because the definition of disability used in the HMIS includes substance abuse (as well as mental illness and physical disabilities), and that differs from the data from the Census used to create the risk ratios.



## Section 5: Where are Homeless Veterans Located?

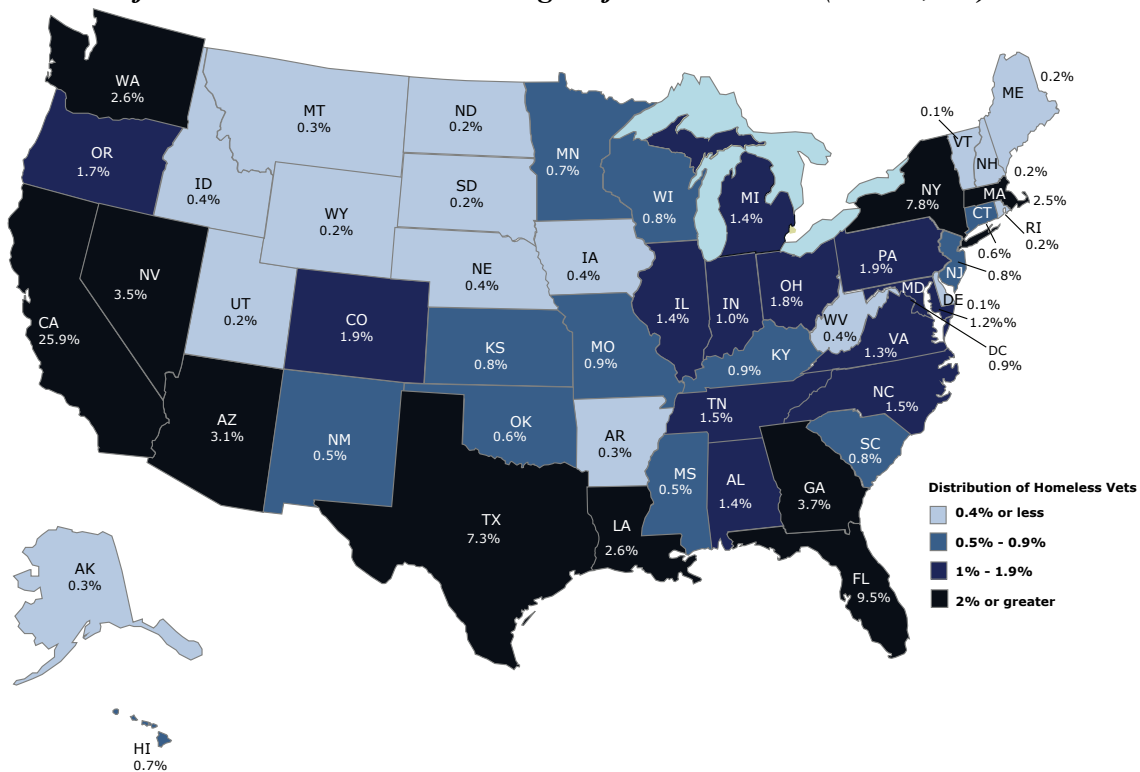
This section describes the spatial distribution of homeless veterans. The section uses PIT data to provide estimates of veteran homelessness by state, and HMIS data to provide estimates across types of sub-geographies (urban, suburban, and rural). Appendix D provides information on the estimated number of veterans on a single night in January 2009 by state.

### 5.1 PIT Estimates of Veteran Homelessness by State

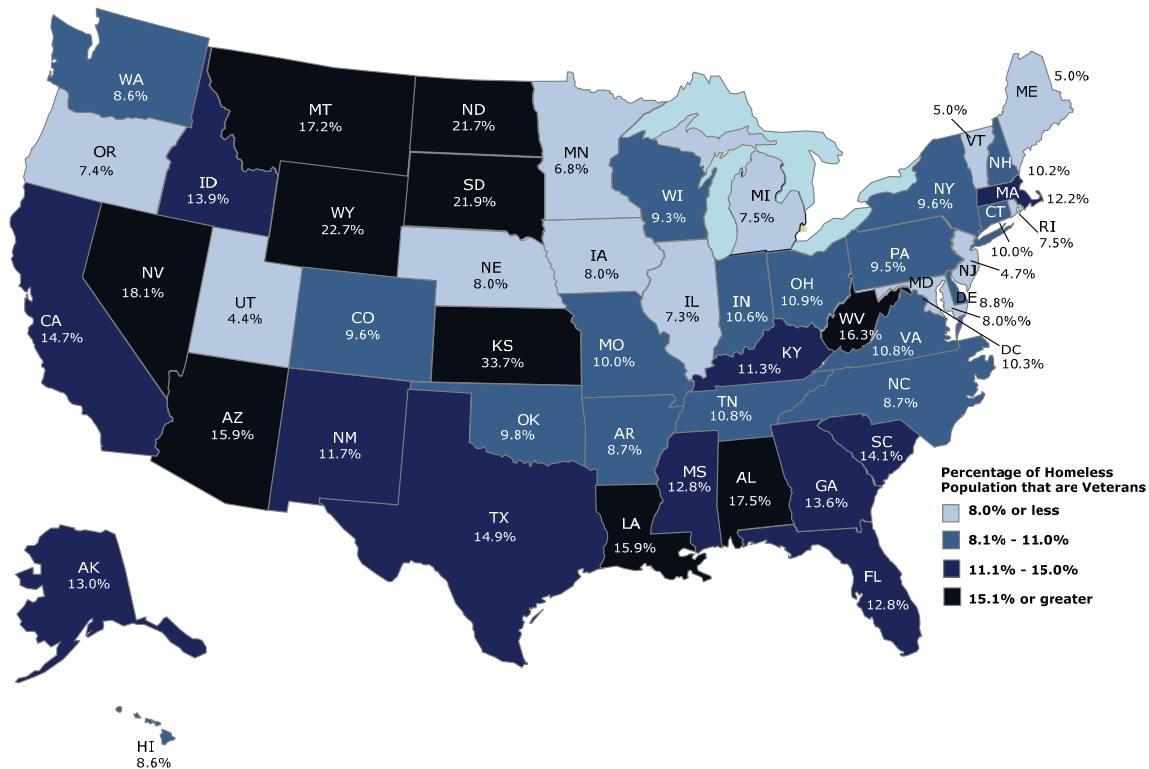
Homeless veterans are found in all states. Most states had less than one percent of the total homeless veteran population on a single night in January 2009. Delaware, Maine, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming, and Utah combined have about one percent of the nation's homeless veteran population. By contrast, one-half of homeless veterans on a single night are located in just four states: California (26 percent), Florida (9 percent), New York (8 percent), and Texas (7 percent). These four states have a similar combined share of all sheltered homeless people (45 percent), but only 28 percent of the total veteran population nationwide. Exhibit 5-1 displays the distribution of homeless veterans by state (top map) and the share of each state's total PIT count of homeless persons that are veterans (bottom map).

#### Exhibit 5-1: The Distribution and Share of Homeless Veterans by State, 2009

##### *Distribution of Homeless Veterans on the Night of the PIT Count (N = 75,609)*



## Share of the PIT Count of Homeless Persons that are Veterans



Overrepresentation of veterans among the homeless population occurs in all regions of the country. Veterans represent about 9 percent of the total PIT estimate of homeless persons in both the Northeast and Midwest regions, but they represent only 7 to 8 percent of total population in these regions (see Exhibit 5-2). In the South and West regions, veterans constitute about 13 percent of the total homeless population, but only 7 to 8 percent of the total population in these regions.

At the state-level, veterans are overrepresented in the total homeless population in 37 states. On a single night in January 2009, the states with the highest estimated share of veterans among their total homeless populations were Kansas (34 percent), North Dakota (22 percent), South Dakota (23 percent), and Wyoming (22 percent). In these same states, veterans make up a relatively small share of the total population (8, 8, 10, and 9 percent, respectively).

States with an underrepresentation of veterans in their homeless population when compared to their share of the total populations are: Arkansas, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, and Washington.

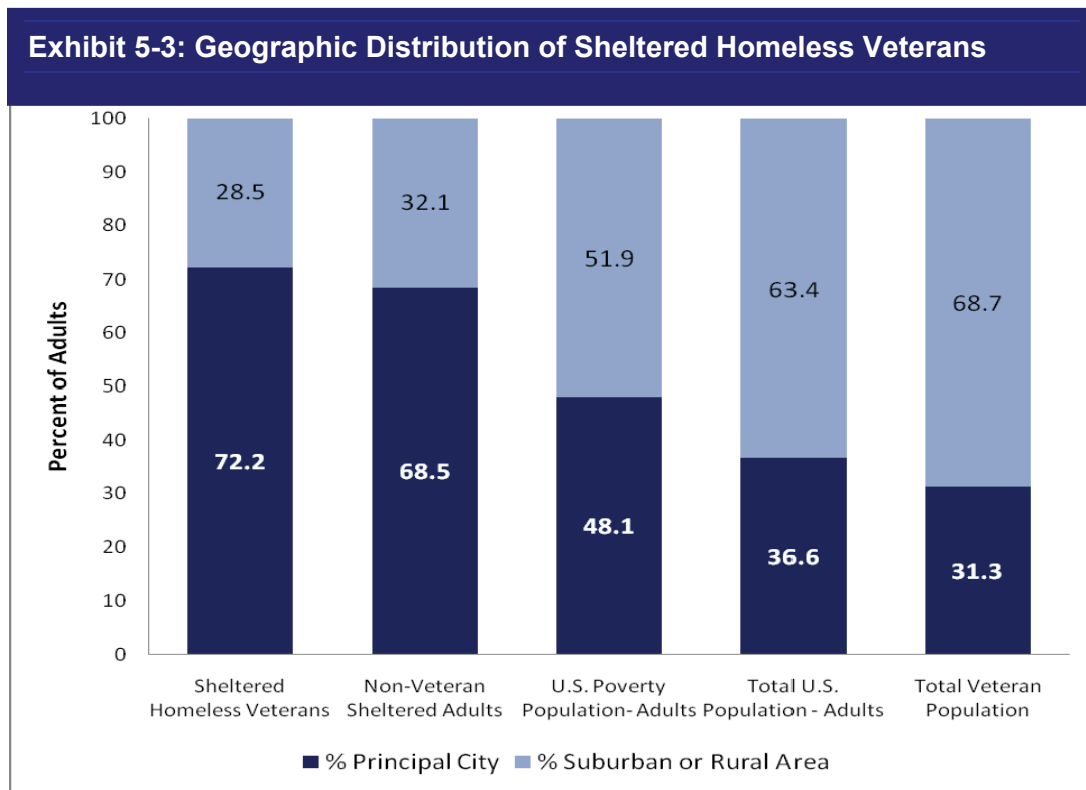
**Exhibit 5-2: Representation of Veterans in the Homeless and the U.S. Populations in 2009, by Region**

U.S. Region	Percent of Total PIT Estimate of the Homeless Population	Percent of U.S. Population
Northeast	9.3%	6.8%
Midwest	9.5%	7.7%
South	12.7%	8.2%
West	13.2%	7.2%

Source: Continuum of Care Point-in-Time Counts, January 2009

## 5.2 Location of Homeless Veterans – Principal Cities and Suburban or Rural Areas

While homelessness occurs in all types of jurisdictions—urban, suburban and rural areas—most of the sheltered homeless population is located in the densest urban areas, principal cities.<sup>11</sup> In 2009, more than two-thirds (68 percent) of non-veteran sheltered homeless adults were accessing residential services in principal cities. The remaining 32 percent were in suburban or rural areas. For sheltered veterans, the proportion located in principal cities was even higher. About 72 percent of sheltered veterans were in principal cities, and approximately 28 percent were in suburban or rural areas. This distribution was decidedly different than that of the total population and the total veteran population in 2009 (see Exhibit 5-3).



Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2009 and U.S. Census Bureau, 2009

The variations between sheltered veterans and sheltered non-veterans by location largely mirror the differences in characteristics of the two populations discussed in the previous sections of this report, as shown in (see Exhibit 5-4). However, in principal cities veterans were more likely to identify ethnically as Hispanic/Latino and racially as African American than they were in suburban or rural areas. Sheltered veterans in principal cities were also more likely to be local compared to those in suburban or rural areas—that is, they were more likely to report a last permanent zip code in the same jurisdiction as where they first accessed residential services in the 12-month reporting period.

<sup>11</sup> The largest city in each metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area is designated a principal city, and other cities may qualify if specified requirements (population size and employment) are met.

**Exhibit 5-4: Demographic Differences between Sheltered Homeless Veterans and Non-Veterans by Location Type**

<i>In Principal Cities</i>	<i>In Suburban or Rural Areas</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterans were more likely to be white than non-veterans—44 percent compared to 32 percent.</li> <li>• 37 percent of veterans were African American compared to 42 percent of sheltered non-veterans.</li> <li>• 14 percent of sheltered veterans were Hispanic/Latino compared to 23 percent of non-veterans.</li> <li>• Veterans had a higher incidence of disability: 50 percent compared to 32 percent.</li> <li>• More veterans than non-veterans came from another jurisdiction: 39 percent compared to 31 percent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A considerable majority of veterans were white – 64 percent compared to 46 percent.</li> <li>• 27 percent of veterans were African American compared to 33 percent of sheltered non-veterans.</li> <li>• 4 percent of sheltered veterans were Hispanic/Latino compared to 15 percent for non-veterans.</li> <li>• Veterans had a higher incidence of disability: 57 percent compared to 47 percent.</li> <li>• More veterans than non-veterans came from another jurisdiction: 53 percent compared to 45 percent.</li> </ul>

*Source: Homeless Management Information System data*



## Section 6: How do Veterans Access and Use the Shelter System?

This section describes both how veterans move into the residential service system and how veterans use the system once they access it. This section discusses the prior living arrangements of homeless veterans, which residential services they used, and for how long they used them.

### 6.1 Movement into the Shelter System

Information on where sheltered veterans stayed the night before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing maps various pathways into the homeless residential system. This information is based on HMIS data and corresponds to each person's first entry into the shelter system during this report's 12-month reporting period. By identifying the various points of entry, this information can help suggest early points of intervention for homeless veterans.

In 2009, the most common prior living situation among sheltered veterans was homelessness. That is, 46 percent of veterans who entered shelter during the reporting period came from another shelter or other homeless situation, such as the streets (Exhibit 6-1). Among those veterans who were already homeless (not shown in the exhibit), nearly even percentages came from another emergency shelter (47 percent) and from an unsheltered location (46 percent). Only 7 percent came from transitional housing.

Approximately one-third (32 percent) of sheltered veterans were housed before accessing residential services. Among all those who were housed, 40 percent were in a housing unit of their own, 33 percent were staying with a family member, and the remaining 25 percent were doubled up with friends.

Homeless veterans appear to be more socially isolated than the general homeless population, with weaker family and social support systems. Their entry into shelter reflects this isolation. Veterans were less likely than non-veterans to have come from housing—either their own unit or that of a friend or family member. Approximately 32 percent of veterans came from housing compared to 42 percent of non-veterans. Of those who did come from housing, veterans were more likely than non-veterans to come from their own unit (40 percent compared to 26 percent) and less likely to have been doubled up with friends or family: 58 percent compared to 73 percent for non-veterans. The VA's most recent published CHALENG report identifies concerns around unmet family needs that may support this finding.<sup>12</sup>

Among the remaining sheltered veterans who did not spend the previous night in housing or in another homeless situation, just more than 14 percent entered shelter from an institutional setting (hospitals, jails, prison, psychiatric facilities, or substance abuse settings), and 8 percent came from some other situation including hotels and motels.

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<sup>12</sup> The Sixteenth Annual CHALENG report surveyed 16,512 providers and consumers (10,701 consumers who responded were homeless and formerly homeless veterans) and found that that out of 42 listed needs categories, 3 of the top 5 "unmet" needs relate to family concerns that may fuel social isolation. The top 5 unmet needs in order were child care, legal assistance for child support issues, legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines, long-term permanent housing, and family reconciliation.

**Exhibit 6-1: Previous Living Situation of People Using Residential Services by Household Type, 2009**

<b>Living Arrangement</b>	<b>All Persons</b>		<b>Adult Individuals</b>		<b>Adults in Families</b>	
	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran
Already Homeless	46.2%	37.4%	46.9%	40.1%	29.0%	25.9%
Housing Situation	31.8%	42.3%	30.9%	37.5%	58.1%	62.7%
Institutional Settings	14.2%	12.2%	14.7%	14.5%	0.7%	2.7%
Other Situations	7.7%	8.1%	7.5%	7.9%	12.1%	8.7

Source: Homeless Management Information Systems, 2009.

Sheltered veterans in families were much less likely than individual veterans to be already homeless (29 versus 47 percent) or coming from an institutional setting (0.7 versus 15 percent). Instead, sheltered veterans in families were much more likely to be in a housing situation than individual veterans (58 versus 31 percent).

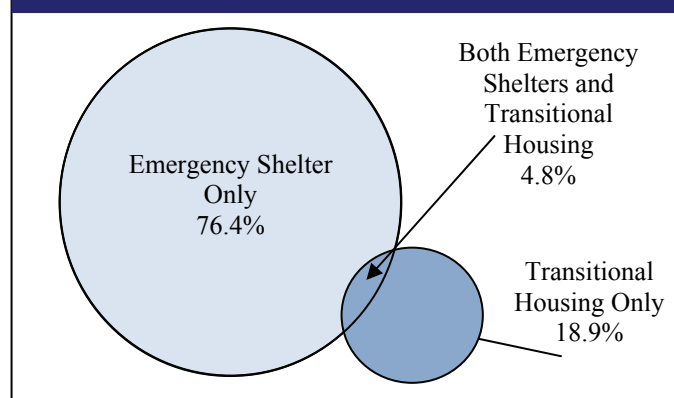
## 6.2 Patterns of Shelter Use

Analysis of data for all sheltered homeless people has shown that a linear progression through the system (entering through emergency shelter, moving on to transitional housing, then to permanent housing) is not as common as had once been assumed.<sup>13</sup> Estimates for sheltered veterans reveal a similarly non-linear pattern of homeless service use.

More than 3 out of 4 homeless veterans used only emergency shelter in 2009, about 1 in 5 used only transitional housing services, and 5 percent used some combination of both (see Exhibit 6-2).

These estimates provide information on the use of emergency shelter and transitional housing during a 12-month period only, and thus do not account for all potential movement by veterans into, out of, or within the homeless residential system. However, as noted earlier, a significant share of homeless veterans entered the shelter system from some other homeless situation (42 percent of those in emergency shelter and 45 percent of those in transitional housing), which indicates that veterans do cycle in and out of emergency shelters and transitional housing.

**Exhibit 6-2: Type of Program Used Among All Sheltered Veterans, 2009**



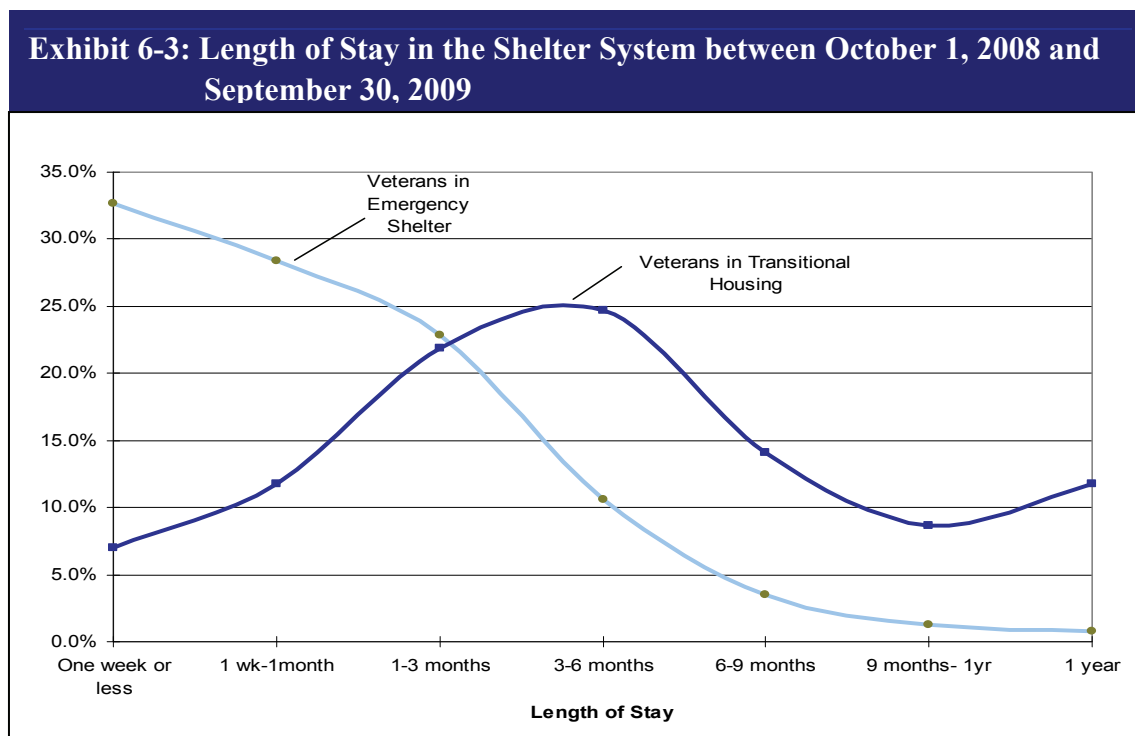
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, 2009

<sup>13</sup> Department of Housing and Urban Development, “Annual Homeless Assessment Report”, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

Service use patterns varied considerably by household type. Again, because most homeless veterans were individuals, the individual use of residential homeless programs looks similar to that of all veterans. About 77 percent of homeless individual veterans used an emergency shelter only in 2009. Veterans in families had a much higher percentage of people using transitional housing exclusively (30 percent compared to 18 percent), and a lower percentage of emergency shelter use alone (65 percent compared to 77 percent).

### 6.3 Length of Stay

The estimates of a veteran’s total length of stay in the shelter system represent the cumulative amount of time spent in these programs during the 12-month reporting period. This means that, if a veteran entered emergency shelter twice, for example, and stayed five nights each time, then that veteran experienced 10 nights in emergency shelter. The estimated length of stay does not account for time spent in shelter before or after the reporting period.



Over the course of a year, most sheltered homeless people experience only brief periods of sheltered homelessness<sup>14</sup>—this is true for veterans as well. As shown in Exhibit 6-3, during the 12-month reporting period, 33 percent of veterans experiencing homelessness stayed in emergency shelter for less than one week, 61 percent stayed less than one month, and more than 84 percent veterans stayed in emergency shelter for less than 3 months. The number of homeless veterans who stay in emergency shelter drops rapidly after about 3 months.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. *2007, 2008 and 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report*. Washington, D.C.

As expected, the length of stay among veterans in transitional housing is much different as transitional housing is designed to serve people for longer periods of time than emergency shelter. About 23 percent sheltered veterans spent between 3 and 6 months in transitional housing, the most common pattern. During the 12-month reporting period, about half (46 percent) of veterans spent between 1 and 6 months, and 61 percent spent between 1 and 9 months in transitional housing.

Veterans who were homeless alone spent more time in shelters than their non-veteran counterparts (Exhibit 6-4). On average (median), sheltered veterans spent 21 days in emergency shelters and 117 days in transitional housing, compared to 17 and 106 days for non-veterans. But service use patterns are significantly different for veterans in homeless families. Among families, sheltered non-veterans stayed for longer periods of time in both emergency shelters and transitional housing than veterans in families. For example, sheltered non-veterans stayed in transitional housing for about 175 days, which is 38 days longer than veterans in homeless families.

**Exhibit 6-4: Median Length of Stay (in Days) by Household Type, 2009**

<i><b>Living Arrangement</b></i>	<i><b>All Persons</b></i>		<i><b>Adult Individuals</b></i>		<i><b>Adults in Families</b></i>	
	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran	Sheltered Veteran	Sheltered Non-Veteran
Emergency Shelter	22	22	21	17	30	36
Transitional Housing	120	135	117	106	137	175

*Source: Homeless Management Information Systems, 2009.*

## Section 7: Concluding Observations

This report, *Veteran Homelessness: A Supplemental Report to the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress*, makes important progress toward one of the primary goals established by the 2010 Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. This first supplemental AHAR report on veterans presents baseline estimates of the prevalence of veteran homelessness, arrived at using improved data collection and estimation methods. These estimates, together with detailed information on demographics and patterns of shelter use, provide critically important information to support federal interagency collaboration to end homelessness among veterans. These baseline estimates will enable federal agencies to track changes in veteran homelessness over time, measure success, and determine the need for improvements in programs targeted to veteran homelessness.

This report comes at a time when the U.S. military is drawing down troops in Iraq and engaged in Afghanistan. The potential impacts of these engagements on veteran homelessness are of concern to policymakers, service providers, and the public. This report shows that a considerable number of younger veterans (18 to 30 years old) have already accessed shelter in 2009, a cohort that likely served during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Furthermore, comparing rates of homelessness for these younger veterans with their rates in the overall population—and comparing homelessness among younger veterans and non-veterans—shows that new veterans already are at particularly high risk of becoming homeless. This finding highlights the need to prevent homelessness among the nation's youngest group of veterans by providing services to identify veterans at greatest risk of becoming homeless and by targeting housing assistance, vocational services, benefits, and treatment services to this at-risk population.

### *Prevention and Rapid Rehousing for Veterans and Their Families*

Through a partnership with HUD, VA, and DOL, five communities that are geographical adjacent to the boundaries of military installations were selected for the Veterans Homelessness Prevention Demonstration (VHPD). The aim of this program will be to help with housing, economic instability, health and other supportive services which place veterans at high-risk of becoming homeless. HUD awarded \$10 million for short- or medium-term rental assistance, including security deposits, utility payments and arrearages, and family services. The VA is providing \$5 million for medical services and case management, and DOL is providing employment training and counseling.

The VA recently announced a Notice of Funding Availability for approximately \$50 million for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program. SSVF is patterned after HUD's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) and will provide supportive services to very low-income veteran families transitioning to permanent housing. Funds will be granted to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives to provide a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability. Grantees may also provide time-limited payments to third parties (e.g., landlords, utility companies, moving companies, and licensed child care providers) if these payments help veterans and their families stay in or acquire permanent housing on a sustainable basis. Much like the overall homeless population, most veterans experience only brief periods of homelessness, suggesting that these prevention services could significantly reduce the number of veteran families that become homeless. Additionally, a rapid re-housing

program for veterans who do become homeless will offer temporary rental assistance or a longer-term subsidy to place homeless veterans in permanent housing as quickly as possible, thereby limiting the disruptive impact of homelessness.

### *Permanent Supportive Housing*

For the large percentage of veterans with disabilities, permanent supportive housing would be effective in helping them achieve long-term stability. The VA and HUD established the HUD-VA

Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program specifically for veterans who need housing assistance as well as supportive services, such as case management, social support, and mental health services. Continued and expanded support of this program is necessary to end chronic homelessness among veterans.

It is through these collaborative efforts and the diligent work of local service providers that homeless veterans will find permanent housing and the flow of veterans into the homelessness system will cease. Subsequent reports on veteran homelessness will certainly monitor changes in the number of homeless veterans and how they use the residential homelessness system. Indeed, both HUD and the VA intend to release future Veteran AHAR reports to improve the nation's understanding of veteran homelessness and gauge progress on the nation's goal to prevent and end homelessness in five years.

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## Appendix A: Methodology

### Methodology for the One-Day Estimate of Homeless Veterans

Every odd numbered year, HUD requires all Continuums of Care (CoCs) to conduct a thorough enumeration of all sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons and their characteristics on a single night in January. In 2009, CoCs were required to collect information on the veteran status of all sheltered adults but collecting this information for unsheltered adults was optional. In 2009, 452 CoCs completed a PIT count. Overall, they counted 59,390 veterans, 36,224 of whom were sheltered and 23,166 were unsheltered.

However, the researchers know that this figure underestimates the extent of homelessness among veterans for several reasons. First, many CoCs did not report any information on unsheltered veterans and a few did not report any information on sheltered veterans. Second, not all veterans staying in VA-funded homeless programs were included in the sheltered homeless counts. Finally, most CoCs used HMIS data to identify sheltered veterans and it is known that veteran status information is missing in many HMIS records. The data was adjusted to address each of these limitations. The final adjusted estimate is that there were 75,609 homeless veterans on a single night in January 2009, 43,409 of whom were sheltered and 32,200 were unsheltered.

#### **Step 1: Adjust for VA homeless programs not included in the PIT count**

The researchers compared the emergency shelter and transitional housing bed inventory that CoCs reported to HUD to the VA's inventory of homeless residential beds and found that 5,836 beds for homeless veterans funded by the VA were not included in HUD's housing inventory. It was assumed that because CoCs did not include these programs in their housing inventory they were also not included in the CoC's sheltered count. To estimate the number of veterans that were sheltered in these programs on the night of the PIT count, the number of beds in each program was multiplied by that program's average nightly occupancy rate. This estimate of sheltered veterans was then added to the reported sheltered veterans count for each CoC. Thus, for example if VA funded program Y had 100 emergency shelter beds that were not included in CoC Z's HUD housing inventory, and these beds had an average occupancy rate of 80 percent, researchers added 80 sheltered veterans to CoC Z's sheltered veterans count. In total, this adjustment added 4,852 sheltered homeless veterans, increasing the sheltered homeless count from 36,224 to 41,076.

#### **Step 2: Adjust for sheltered adults whose veteran status is unknown**

Two-thirds of CoCs used HMIS data to complete their sheltered homeless counts. The 2009 AHAR found that 5.4 percent of HMIS records for sheltered adults were missing information for the Veteran Status variable. It was assumed that similar missing rates would apply to the sheltered adult population from the PIT count. To adjust for sheltered adults whose veteran status was unknown, total number of sheltered adults in the PIT was estimated first.

HUD does not ask CoCs to report separately on the number of adults and children who were homeless on the night of the PIT count. Instead, HUD asks CoCs to report the number of persons in households with dependent children and the number of persons in households with dependent

children who were homeless. To estimate the number of sheltered adults the researchers took the total number of persons in households without dependent children and subtracted the number of unaccompanied youth, and then assumed that each household with dependent children had only one adult, since this is true for most homeless families. Researchers added the number of adults in households with and without dependent children to get the total number of sheltered adults. The total number of sheltered adults in each CoC was then multiplied by .054 to find the total number of adults we assumed were missing information about their veteran status. The percent of sheltered adults who were veterans was determined by taking the sum of sheltered veterans and dividing it by the sum of adults minus the adults with missing veteran status. The CoC's percentage of sheltered adults who are veterans was then applied to the number of adults whose veteran status is assumed missing. This adjustment added an additional 2,313 sheltered veterans bringing the total count to 43,389.

### **Step 3: Impute for CoCs that did not do a count of sheltered veterans**

Although all CoCs were required to collect information on the veteran status of their sheltered homeless population, three CoCs did not submit information on the number of sheltered veterans in their community. For these three CoCs, the number of sheltered veterans was imputed by taking the percentage of all sheltered adults who are veterans in all other CoCs and assuming that the same proportion of sheltered adults was veterans in these three CoCs. Overall, 16 percent of sheltered adults on the night of the PIT count were veterans. There were 127 total sheltered adults in the three CoCs that were missing a count of sheltered veterans,  $127 * .16 = 20$  so the imputation added 20 sheltered veterans giving a final sheltered veteran count of 43,409.

### **Step 4: Impute for CoCs that did not do a count of unsheltered veterans**

There were 292 CoCs (65 percent) that did a count of unsheltered veterans in 2009, 73 CoCs (16 percent) reported having zero unsheltered veterans, and 87 CoCs (19 percent) did not report any information about unsheltered veterans. CoCs that reported no information on unsheltered veterans were treated the same as CoCs that reported zero unsheltered veterans the same and imputed an unsheltered veteran count for both. This was done because some of the CoCs that reported no unsheltered veterans were quite large making it unlikely that they actually had no unsheltered veterans.

Researchers tried several different methods of imputing an unsheltered count of veterans for the 35 percent of CoCs that reported either zero or missing information for unsheltered veterans. These methods were evaluated based on the assumptions about unsheltered veterans based on past research and by comparing the imputed unsheltered count with each method to the actual unsheltered count for the 65 percent of CoCs that did an unsheltered veterans count. The imputation method used the came closest to producing the same totals as the actual unsheltered counts.

The imputation method that used takes the estimated percentage of sheltered individuals and adults in families in the CoC who were veterans and applies that percentage to the total number of unsheltered single adults and adults in families. Because CoCs did not report separately on the veteran status of single adults and adults in families researchers had to make assumptions based on other data. According to the 2009 AHAR, 13 percent of all single adults who used emergency

shelter or transitional housing were veterans compared to 2 percent of persons in families. Thus, single adults were 6.5 times more likely to be veterans than adults in families:

$$\text{Thus, } PA = 6.5 * PF * WI + PF * WF$$

Where:

PI = Percent of sheltered individual adults that are veterans

PF = Percent of sheltered adults in families that are veterans

PA = Percent of all sheltered adults that are veterans

WI = The percent of sheltered adults that are individuals

WF = The percent of sheltered adults that are persons in families

Because PA is known (see Step 2) we can use the following equation to solve for PF:

$$PF = PA / (6.5 * WI + WF)$$

Once we solve for PF we can solve for PI because

$$PI = PF * 6.5$$

Once we know PF and PI we impute the unsheltered veterans count:

$$UV = UI * PI + UF * PF \text{ where}$$

UV = The number of unsheltered veterans

UI = The number of unsheltered individual adults

UF = The number of unsheltered adults in families

So, for example if CoC X has 100 total sheltered adults, half of whom are individuals and half are in families, and 20 total sheltered veterans, then  $PA = 20/100 = .2$ ,  $PF = .2 / (6.5 * .5 + .5) = .053$  and  $PI = .053 * 6.5 = .347$ . If CoC X has 80 unsheltered individual adults and 20 unsheltered adults in families then it's imputed unsheltered veterans count =  $(.053 * 20) + (.347 * 80) = 29$ .

The imputation for CoCs with missing or zero unsheltered veterans added 9,034 unsheltered veterans bringing the total unsheltered veteran count to 32,200.

### **One-Year Estimate of Sheltered Homeless Veterans**

The 1-year estimate of veterans who stayed in emergency shelters or transitional housing for homeless persons is based on HMIS data provided by 300 CoCs. The HMIS data account for people using a homeless facility anytime from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009.

In 2009, the 300 participating communities submitted data with 36,039 unduplicated person records of veterans that used an emergency shelter or transitional housing during the 1-year period.<sup>15</sup> The

<sup>15</sup> These records did not contain any personally identifying information.

data from these CoCs were weighted to produce estimates of sheltered homeless veterans in the nation. The procedures for weighting the data follow the same methodology described in Appendix B of the *2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress*.<sup>16</sup> However, the estimated number of homeless veterans in this report differs from the AHAR because of two small adjustments made to improve the estimate of the sheltered homeless population that were veterans. The improved estimate in this report is 136,334 veterans, 8,700 more than the 127,634 reported in Appendix D of the AHAR.

The two adjustments are as follows.

### **Adjustment 1: Adjust for sheltered adults whose veteran status is unknown**

The 2009 AHAR found that 5.4 percent of HMIS records for sheltered adults were missing information for the Veteran Status variable. For this report, researchers assumed that the percent of veterans among the adults with missing veteran status was the same as among the adults with known veteran status. Nationally, 11.1 percent of sheltered homeless adults with known veteran status were identified as veterans. For this report, it was assumed 11.1 percent of adults with missing veteran status were veterans. This adjustment increased the estimated number of homeless veterans.

### **Adjustment 2: Adjust for differences in veteran-only emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities participation in HMIS within communities**

To account for emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities that did not provide data to HMIS in participating communities, researchers imputed the number of persons who used these beds. In the AHAR, it was assumed that the non-HMIS participating beds served the same number of homeless people per-bed, per-year as the HMIS participating beds. This adjustment was done separately for the four program-household types (i.e., emergency shelters for individuals, emergency shelters for families, transitional housing for individuals, and transitional housing for families) and made an adjustment to account for the small number of people who used both a participating and non-participating provider to ensure people were not double counted. (This methodology is described in Appendix B of the 2009 AHAR.) For the estimate of veterans, the method was refined by making this adjustment separately for veteran-only and general beds in each of the four household-program type categories.

For non-participating beds that served veterans only, researchers used the persons' per-bed, per-year estimate for the program-household type of all participating providers to estimate the number of veterans served in the year. For the non-participating providers that served the general population, researchers used a veterans' per-bed, per-year measure to impute the number of veterans using these

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<sup>16</sup> Even though the research team followed the same procedures, the weights for the AHAR and AHAR-Veterans report are not exactly the same because fewer communities provided information for the AHAR-Veterans Report. For the AHAR, 334 communities provided usable HMIS data, but only 300 (of the 334) also provided useable HMIS data focused solely on veterans for the AHAR-Vets report. With the weighted data from these two samples, the research team compared the estimated number of adults and found the larger AHAR sample produced an estimate about 1 percent higher. Because the larger sample is expected to be more reliable, the research team used the AHAR sample as a population control by adjusting the AHAR-vet estimates by the ratio of the number of adults in the AHAR sample to the weighted AHAR-vet sample (1.012).

beds. To obtain the estimate of veterans' per-bed, per-year for general beds, researchers first subtracted the estimated to be served by participating veterans-only programs to arrive at an estimated veterans' per-bed, per-year measure for participating providers serving the general population. This veterans' per-bed, per-year estimate for participating general providers was used to impute the number of veterans served by non-participating general providers.

If the percentage of veterans-only provider beds participating in HMIS was the same as the overall percentage of participating beds in each community, this adjustment would not affect the estimates. However, the average of communities' veterans-only participation rate is a little lower (80 percent) than the overall participation rate (87 percent), so this adjustment increases the estimated number of veterans served by Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Facilities. After this adjustment, the revised estimate of the number of sheltered veterans in the year is 136,334.

### **VA homeless programs not included in the estimate**

Researchers compared the emergency shelter and transitional housing bed inventory that CoCs reported to HUD to the VA's inventory of homeless residential beds and found 5,836 beds for homeless veterans funded by the VA that were not included in HUD's housing inventory. It was assumed that because CoCs did not include these programs in their housing inventory they were also not included in the CoC's sheltered count. To estimate the number of veterans that were sheltered in these programs during the year, the number of beds in each program was multiplied the by the average persons' per-bed, per-year measure from all participating providers of the same program-household type. In total, this adjustment would add 6,243 sheltered homeless veterans to the one-year estimate, increasing it to 142,576. This report focuses on the estimated 136,334 veterans because that is the only group that we have statistically valid demographic characteristics and homeless use patterns. It is not possible to estimate this information for the shelters that were not reported in the CoC inventory report to HUD on the Housing Inventory Chart of the CoC application.



## Appendix B: HMIS-Based Estimates of Veteran Homelessness, 2009

<b>Appendix B-1: Estimate of Sheltered Homeless Veteran Individuals and Families during a One-Year Period, October 2008–September 2009</b>	
<i>Household Type</i>	<i>Number of Sheltered Persons</i>
<b>All Sheltered Persons...</b>	<b>136,334</b>
...in emergency shelters only	104,122
...in transitional housing only	25,729
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	6,484
<b>Individuals...</b>	<b>132,160</b>
...in emergency shelters only	101,487
...in transitional housing only	24,237
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	6,436
<b>Persons in Families...</b>	<b>5,091</b>
...in emergency shelters only	3,284
...in transitional housing only	1,543
...in both emergency shelters and transitional housing	265
<b>Households with Children</b>	<b>4,852</b>

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.  
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

<b>Appendix B-2: Seasonal Point-in-Time Count of Sheltered Homeless Veterans by Household Type, October 2008–September 2009</b>			
<i>Number of Sheltered Homeless Persons</i>	<i>All Sheltered Persons</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Persons in Families</i>
<b>On a single night in</b>			
Oct-08	22,105	21,185	920
Jan-09	24,728	23,713	1,015
Apr-09	22,827	21,722	1,105
Jul-09	22,591	21,520	1,072
<b>On an average night</b>	<b>23,141</b>	<b>22,151</b>	<b>990</b>

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.  
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-3: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans by Household Type, October 2008–September 2009**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>All Sheltered Persons</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>Persons in Families</b>
Number of Homeless Persons	136,334	132,160	5,091
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	10,214	7,324	2,966
Male	125,931	124,682	2,089
Unknown	188	154	36
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	119,988	116,349	4,411
Hispanic/Latino	14,945	14,455	607
Unknown	1,400	1,356	72
<b>Race</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	66,101	64,628	1,897
White, Hispanic/Latino	11,037	10,871	242
Black or African American	45,602	43,600	2,250
Asian	434	411	26
American Indian or Alaska Native	4,602	4,615	56
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	547	497	60
Several races	5,936	5,749	251
Unknown	2,075	1,788	309
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	11,367	9,501	1,921
31 to 50	60,769	58,723	2,430
51 to 61	51,825	51,583	652
62 and older	12,170	12,185	52
Unknown	203	170	37
<b>Persons by Household Size</b>			
1 person	135,849	131,976	4786
2 people	358	150	210
3 people	38	2	37
4 people	18	0	18
5 or more people	22	0	22
Unknown	51	33	18
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>			
Yes	65,936	65,535	820
No	61,055	57,345	4,075
Unknown	9,343	9,280	197

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.



**Appendix B-4: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans in Emergency Shelters, October 2008–September 2009**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Persons in Emergency Shelters</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>Persons in Families</b>
Number of Homeless Persons	110,605	107,923	3,549
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	7,778	5,828	2,018
Male	102,753	102,045	1,505
Unknown	74	50	26
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	96,688	94,451	2,992
Hispanic/Latino	13,096	12,684	519
Unknown	821	788	38
<b>Race</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	54,251	53,607	1,043
White, Hispanic/Latino	10,136	9,997	215
Black or African American	34,663	33,216	1,744
Asian	305	281	25
American Indian or Alaska Native	4,138	4,139	25
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	347	341	8
Several races	4,985	4,810	219
Unknown	1,779	1,531	268
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	9,154	8,017	1,213
31 to 50	48,076	46,715	1,733
51 to 61	42,516	42,322	529
62 and older	10,779	10,814	47
Unknown	80	55	27
<b>Persons by Household Size</b>			
1 person	110,203	107,751	3312
2 people	302	136	171
3 people	25	2	23
4 people	10	0	10
5 or more people	13	0	13
Unknown	52	34	19
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>			
Yes	50,115	50,023	501
No	52,285	49,766	2,940
Unknown	8,205	8,133	108

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-5: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans in Transitional Housing, October 2008-September 2009**

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Persons in Transitional Housing</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Persons in Families</i>
Number of Homeless Persons	32,212	30,673	1,807
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	2,922	1,865	1,081
Male	29,168	28,696	716
Unknown	123	113	10
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	28,848	27,441	1,659
Hispanic/Latino	2,695	2,597	112
Unknown	669	635	36
<b>Race</b>			
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	15,006	14,170	950
White, Hispanic/Latino	1,573	1,542	40
Black or African American	13,033	12,527	631
Asian	155	154	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	615	584	36
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	247	191	57
Several races	1,201	1,168	45
Unknown	383	337	48
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	2,738	1,971	787
31 to 50	15,579	14,869	841
51 to 61	11,779	11,720	162
62 and older	1,985	1,992	7
Unknown	131	121	10
<b>Persons by Household Size</b>			
1 person	32,112	30,650	1730
2 people	68	23	45
3 people	14	0	15
4 people	8	0	8
5 or more people	9	0	9
Unknown	1	1	0
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>			
Yes	19,051	18,839	375
No	11,512	10,275	1,334
Unknown	1,649	1,560	99

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008-September 2009.

**Appendix B-6: Demographic Characteristics of Sheltered Homeless Veterans by Location, October 2008–September 2009**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Principal Cities</b>	<b>Suburban and Rural Areas</b>
Number of Homeless Persons	97,724	38,608
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	6,905	3,308
Male	90,647	35,284
Unknown	172	17
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	83,346	36,640
Hispanic/Latino	13,514	1,431
Unknown	863	537
<b>Race</b>		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	41,857	24,242
White, Hispanic/Latino	10,386	651
Black or African American	35,479	10,123
Asian	372	62
American Indian or Alaska Native	3,698	903
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	304	243
Several races	4,020	1,916
Unknown	1,607	468
<b>Age</b>		
18 to 30	7,938	3,429
31 to 50	43,445	17,322
51 to 61	36,778	15,047
62 and older	9,374	2,796
Unknown	188	14
<b>Persons by Household Size</b>		
1 person	97,347	38,500
2 people	288	70
3 people	34	4
4 people	14	4
5 or more people	9	12
Unknown	32	19
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>		
Yes	46,181	19,753
No	45,936	15,118
Unknown	5,606	3,737

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-7: Earlier Living Situation of Veterans Using Homeless Residential Services by Household Type, October 2008–September 2009**

<i>Earlier Living Situation</i>	<i>Individuals and Adults in Families</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Adults in Families</i>
Number of Homeless Adults	136,334	132,160	5,091
<b>Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry</b>			
Place not meant for human habitation	27,617	27,681	224
Emergency shelter	27,855	26,829	1,128
Transitional housing	4,386	4,364	58
Permanent supportive housing	218	209	7
Psychiatric facility	1,984	2,005	2
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	7,069	7,019	20
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	3,308	3,357	7
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	5,678	5,706	3
Rented housing unit	13,827	12,818	1,102
Owned housing unit	2,861	2,772	111
Staying with family	13,684	12,681	1,119
Staying with friends	10,616	10,206	485
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	4,311	3,973	373
Foster care home	345	334	1
Other living arrangement	5,687	5,483	217
Unknown	6,886	6,722	233
<b>Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement</b>			
Stayed 1 week or less	27,502	26,884	824
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	19,295	18,947	524
Stayed 1 to 3 months	26,228	24,915	1,439
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	20,007	19,220	868
Stayed 1 year or longer	26,138	25,348	948
Unknown	17,164	16,847	489
<b>ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address</b>			
Same jurisdiction as program location	65,212	62,239	3,464
Different jurisdiction than program location	49,106	48,277	1,259
Unknown	22,016	21,645	368

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-8: Previous Living Situation of Veterans Using Homeless Residential Services in Emergency Shelters, October 2008-September 2009**

<i>Earlier Living Situation</i>	<i>Individuals and Adults in Families in Emergency Shelters</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Adults in Families</i>
Number of Homeless Adults	110,605	107,923	3,549
<b>Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry</b>			
Place not meant for human habitation	24,623	24,652	160
Emergency shelter	19,743	19,508	369
Transitional housing	2,247	2,255	15
Permanent supportive housing	190	185	8
Psychiatric facility	1,479	1,490	2
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	2,646	2,662	5
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	2,244	2,255	6
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	4,720	4,760	2
Rented housing unit	13,078	12,497	688
Owned housing unit	2,636	2,563	97
Staying with family	12,662	11,681	1,079
Staying with friends	9,649	9,320	422
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	3,997	3,683	339
Foster care home	285	286	1
Other living arrangement	4,788	4,651	168
Unknown	5,619	5,476	187
<b>Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement</b>			
Stayed 1 week or less	24,552	24,002	732
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	13,972	13,670	400
Stayed 1 to 3 months	18,945	18,418	676
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	15,140	14,651	608
Stayed 1 year or longer	23,493	22,939	737
Unknown	14,504	14,243	395
<b>ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address</b>			
Same jurisdiction as program location	50,515	48,690	2,268
Different jurisdiction than program location	42,640	41,916	1,039
Unknown	17,451	17,317	242
Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.			
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008-September 2009.			

**Appendix B-9: Earlier Living Situation of Veterans Using Homeless Residential Services in Transitional Housing, October 2008-September 2009**

<i>Earlier Living Situation</i>	<i>Individuals and Adults in Families in Transitional Housing</i>	<i>Individuals</i>	<i>Adults in Families</i>
Number of Homeless Adults	32,212	30,673	1,807
<b>Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry</b>			
Place not meant for human habitation	4,583	4,536	85
Emergency shelter	9,309	8,546	832
Transitional housing	2,391	2,362	50
Permanent supportive housing	35	36	0
Psychiatric facility	600	608	0
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	4,798	4,827	16
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	1,243	1,250	1
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	1,253	1,263	1
Rented housing unit	1,427	978	459
Owned housing unit	343	328	19
Staying with family	1,670	1,592	97
Staying with friends	1,396	1,325	86
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	468	418	53
Foster care home	76	76	0
Other living arrangement	1,100	1,054	55
Unknown	1,521	1,476	55
<b>Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement</b>			
Stayed 1 week or less	4,058	3,960	128
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	6,464	6,368	163
Stayed 1 to 3 months	8,538	7,765	844
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	5,872	5,619	302
Stayed 1 year or longer	3,979	3,752	258
Unknown	3,302	3,209	111
<b>ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address</b>			
Same jurisdiction as program location	17,910	16,670	1,376
Different jurisdiction than program location	8,567	8,365	288
Unknown	5,735	5,638	143

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-10: Earlier Living Situation of Veterans Using Homeless Residential Services by Location, October 2008-September 2009**

<i>Earlier Living Situation</i>	<i>Principal Cities</i>	<i>Suburban and Rural Areas</i>
Number of Homeless Adults	97,724	38,608
<b>Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry</b>		
Place not meant for human habitation	21,193	6,422
Emergency shelter	20,431	7,424
Transitional housing	3,625	762
Permanent supportive housing	152	66
Psychiatric facility	983	1,001
Substance abuse treatment center or detox	4,908	2,161
Hospital (nonpsychiatric)	2,047	1,261
Jail, prison, or juvenile detention	4,217	1,461
Rented housing unit	10,045	3,782
Owned housing unit	2,057	805
Staying with family	8,986	4,698
Staying with friends	6,865	3,751
Hotel or motel (no voucher)	2,421	1,890
Foster care home	148	197
Other living arrangement	4,100	1,587
Unknown	5,546	1,340
<b>Stability of Previous Night's Living Arrangement</b>		
Stayed 1 week or less	17,901	9,599
Stayed more than 1 week, but less than a month	12,980	6,315
Stayed 1 to 3 months	18,805	7,423
Stayed more than 3 months, but less than a year	13,753	6,253
Stayed 1 year or longer	19,486	6,652
Unknown	14,798	2,366
<b>ZIP Code of Last Permanent Address</b>		
Same jurisdiction as program location	48,587	16,624
Different jurisdiction than program location	30,593	18,513
Unknown	18,544	3,472

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.

**Appendix B-11: Length of Stay in Emergency Shelters by Household Type,  
October 2008-September 2009**

<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Persons in Emergency Shelters</b>	<b>Individuals</b>			<b>Persons in Families</b>
		<b>All</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	
Number of Homeless Persons	110,605	107,923	102,045	5,828	3,549
<b>Length of Stay</b>					
1 week or less	36,132	35,533	34,227	1,301	879
1 week to 1 month	31,339	30,689	28,693	1,988	873
1 to 2 months	16,731	16,259	15,012	1,247	604
2 to 3 months	8,446	8,171	7,854	314	346
3 to 4 months	6,016	5,866	5,675	191	204
4 to 5 months	2,979	2,851	2,704	146	154
5 to 6 months	2,680	2,611	2,424	187	94
6 to 7 months	2,075	1,972	1,719	253	120
7 to 8 months	1,150	1,062	1,000	63	98
8 to 9 months	604	586	562	24	23
9 to 10 months	557	541	515	26	21
10 to 11 months	519	499	487	11	24
11 months to 1 year	395	387	360	27	12
1 year	861	845	795	48	23
Unknown	122	51	19	3	73

Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.

Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.



<b>Appendix B-12: Length of Stay in Transitional Housing by Household Type, October 2008-September 2009</b>					
<b>Length of Stay</b>	<b>Persons in Emergency Shelters</b>	<b>Individuals</b>			<b>Persons in Families</b>
		<b>All</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	
Number of Homeless Persons	32,212	30,673	28,696	1,865	1,807
<b>Length of Stay</b>					
1 week or less	2,244	2,228	2,016	210	31
1 week to 1 month	3,789	3,679	3,420	259	143
1 to 2 months	3,802	3,743	3,478	264	93
2 to 3 months	3,208	3,117	2,944	174	120
3 to 4 months	3,046	2,883	2,633	251	186
4 to 5 months	3,091	2,505	2,370	134	608
5 to 6 months	1,776	1,644	1,552	91	149
6 to 7 months	1,976	1,902	1,760	141	92
7 to 8 months	1,445	1,397	1,333	64	62
8 to 9 months	1,107	1,037	992	44	77
9 to 10 months	967	945	928	17	32
10 to 11 months	937	927	859	68	20
11 months to 1 year	885	861	829	32	31
1 year	3,780	3,659	3,544	115	148
Unknown	158	145	38	2	13
Note: Counts may not add up to total because of rounding.					
Source: Homeless Management Information System data, October 2008–September 2009.					



## Appendix C: Data Tables for Calculating Risk Ratios, 2009

<b>Appendix C-1: Proportion of Veterans In Sheltered Individual Adult Homeless Persons Compared to Proportion of Veterans in Overall Individual Adult Population</b>					
<b>Characteristics</b>	<i>Proportion of Veterans among Homeless</i>	<i>Proportion of Veterans in Total Population</i>	<i>Proportion of Veterans in Population in Poverty</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty</i>
	<i>HV/H (%)</i>	<i>V/Pop (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>PV/Pov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV/H: V/Pop</i>	<i>HV/H: PV/Pov</i>
Total Number of Persons	13.1%	12.7%	7.2%	1.0	1.8
<b>Gender</b>					
Female	2.7%	1.4%	1.0%	2.0	2.7
Male	17.0%	24.0%	14.7%	0.7	1.2
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	13.7%	13.4%	7.8%	1.0	1.8
Hispanic/Latino	8.9%	5.5%	3.2%	1.6	2.8
<b>Race<sup>a</sup></b>					
White	16.1%	13.9%	7.9%	1.2	2.0
Black or African American	12.6%	10.4%	6.9%	1.2	1.8
Asian	6.2%	3.5%	1.7%	1.8	3.6
American Indian or Alaska Native	16.2%	12.3%	7.6%	1.3	2.1
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	15.5%	11.1%	6.3%	1.4	2.5
Other	3.6%	6.1%	3.9%	0.6	0.9
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 30	4.1%	2.2%	1.2%	1.8	3.3
31 to 50	11.5%	7.1%	5.9%	1.6	1.9
51 to 61	23.5%	14.5%	11.3%	1.6	2.1
62 and older	28.3%	23.7%	12.2%	1.2	2.3
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>					
Yes	17.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
No	11.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<sup>a</sup> ACS data providing estimates of the number of veterans in the general population and population in poverty were adjusted to omit the small number of 17-year-olds who qualify as veterans. Estimates of the number of sheltered individuals used in this table only include those 18 years and older. V=Veterans, H=Homeless, HV=Homeless Veteran, PV=Veteran in Poverty, Pop=Total Population, Pov=Population in Poverty					

Source: Homeless Management Information System Data, 2009 and American Community Survey 2006-2008 3-year estimates

## Appendix C-2: Proportion of Veterans In Sheltered Families Compared to Proportion of Veterans in Overall Family Population

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Proportion of Veterans among Homeless</i>	<i>Proportion of Veterans in Total Population</i>	<i>Proportion of Veterans in Population in Poverty</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty</i>
	<i>HV/H (%)</i>	<i>V/Pop (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>PV/Pov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV/H: V/Pop</i>	<i>(HV/H: PV/Pov)</i>
Total Number of Persons	2.4%	5.6%	2.7%	0.4	0.9
<b>Gender</b>					
Female	1.8%	1.3%	0.9%	1.3	2.1
Male	4.9%	10.5%	6.1%	0.5	0.8
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	2.8%	6.4%	3.5%	0.4	0.8
Hispanic/Latino	1.1%	2.4%	0.9%	0.5	1.3
<b>Race<sup>a</sup></b>					
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	3.8%	6.0%	3.2%	0.6	1.2
Black or African American	2.2%	6.8%	2.8%	0.3	0.8
Asian	1.5%	1.9%	1.1%	0.8	1.3
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.7%	6.3%	3.4%	0.1	0.2
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	2.2%	6.4%	1.9%	0.3	1.2
Other	1.1%	2.8%	1.1%	0.4	1.0
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 30	1.7%	2.3%	1.2%	0.7	1.4
31 to 50	2.8%	5.6%	2.9%	0.5	1.0
51 to 61	10.7%	11.7%	7.5%	0.9	1.4
62 and older	6.8%	15.2%	8.2%	0.4	0.8
<b>Disabled (adults only)</b>					
Yes	3.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
No	2.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<sup>a</sup> ACS data providing estimates of the number of veterans in the general population and population in poverty were adjusted to omit the small number of 17-year-olds who qualify as veterans. Estimates of the number of sheltered individuals used in this table only include those 18 years and older. V=Veterans, H=Homeless, HV=Homeless Veteran, PV=Veteran in Poverty, Pop=Total Population, Pov=Population in Poverty					

Source: Homeless Management Information System Data, 2009 and American Community Survey 2006-2008 3-year estimates

**Appendix C-3: Rate of Homelessness in Veteran Individual Adult Population and Population in Poverty Compared to Rate of Homelessness in Non-Veteran in Individual Adult Population and Population in Poverty**

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Veterans</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Non-Veterans</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Non-Veterans Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Compared to Non-Veterans</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty Compared to Non-Veterans Living in Poverty</i>
	<i>HV/V (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV/VPov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>NVH/NV (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>NVH/NVPov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV/V: NVH/NV</i>	<i>HV/VPov: NVH/NVPov</i>
Number of Homeless Persons	0.7%	12.6%	0.7%	6.5%	1.0	1.9
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Female	0.8%	9.2%	0.4%	3.4%	2.0	2.7
Male	0.7%	12.8%	1.1%	10.8%	0.6	1.2
<b>Ethnicity<sup>b</sup></b>						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	0.7%	11.7%	0.7%	6.2%	1.0	1.9
Hispanic/Latino	2.0%	24.6%	1.2%	8.2%	1.7	3.0
<b>Race<sup>b</sup></b>						
White	0.5%	9.4%	2.2%	12.2%	0.2	0.8
Black or African American	2.7%	23.8%	2.8%	14.7%	0.9	1.6
Asian	0.2%	3.6%	2.1%	18.1%	0.1	0.2
American Indian or Alaska Native	3.9%	34.5%	2.4%	16.4%	1.6	2.1
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	3.0%	49.7%	2.1%	18.1%	1.5	2.7
Other	1.4%	15.1%	2.4%	16.4%	0.6	0.9
<b>Age</b>						
18 to 30	1.3%	16.7%	0.7%	4.9%	1.9	3.4
31 to 50	2.3%	29.4%	1.4%	14.2%	1.7	2.1
51 to 61	1.1%	16.7%	0.6%	6.9%	1.8	2.4
62 and older	0.1%	2.5%	0.1%	0.9%	1.3	2.8
<p><sup>a</sup> ACS data providing estimates of the number of veterans in the general population and population in poverty were adjusted to omit the small number of 17-year-olds who qualify as veterans. Estimates of the number of sheltered individuals used in this table only include those 18 years and older.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> HMIS data provide estimates of the ethnicity and race for adult veterans only, but estimates of the ethnic and racial composition for non-veteran shelter users do not differentiate between adults and children. In this table, the ethnic and racial composition of non-veteran adult shelter users was assumed to be proportionally equivalent to that of non-veteran shelter users overall, which includes adults and children.</p> <p>V=Veteran, NV=Non-veteran, H=Homeless, HV=Homeless Veteran, NVH=Homeless Non-Veteran, VPov=Veterans in Poverty, NVPov=Non-Veterans in Poverty</p>						

Source: Homeless Management Information System Data, 2009 and American Community Survey 2006-2008 3-year estimates

**Appendix C-4: Rate of Homelessness in Veteran Adult in Family Population and Population in Poverty Compared to Rate of Homelessness in Non-Veteran Adult in Family Population and Population in Poverty**

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Veterans</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Non-Veterans</i>	<i>Rate of Homelessness among Non-Veterans Living in Poverty</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Compared to Non-Veterans</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans Living in Poverty Compared to Non-Veterans Living in Poverty</i>
	<i>HV/V (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV /VPov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>NVH/NV (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>NVH/ NVPov (%)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>HV/V: NVH/NV</i>	<i>HV/VPov: NVH/ NVPov</i>
Number of Homeless Persons	0.1%	1.7%	0.3%	1.9%	0.4	0.9
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Female	0.5%	4.8%	0.4%	2.3%	1.3	2.1
Male	0.1%	0.9%	0.1%	1.1%	0.4	0.8
<b>Ethnicity<sup>b</sup></b>						
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	0.1%	1.7%	0.2%	2.1%	0.4	0.8
Hispanic/Latino	0.2%	2.1%	0.3%	1.6%	0.5	1.3
<b>Race<sup>b</sup></b>						
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	0.1%	1.0%	1.0%	3.9%	0.1	0.2
Black or African American	0.3%	3.2%	1.1%	4.4%	0.3	0.7
Asian	0.0%	0.6%	1.6%	9.5%	0.0	0.1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.1%	0.8%	0.6%	2.9%	0.2	0.3
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.5%	11.0%	1.6%	9.5%	0.3	1.2
Other	0.2%	2.8%	0.6%	2.9%	0.4	1.0
<b>Age</b>						
18 to 30	0.4%	3.6%	0.5%	2.5%	0.7	1.4
31 to 50	0.1%	1.6%	0.2%	1.7%	0.5	1.0
51 to 61	0.1%	1.2%	0.1%	0.8%	0.9	1.5
62 and older	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4	0.8
<p><sup>a</sup> ACS data providing estimates of the number of veterans in the general population and population in poverty were adjusted to omit the small number of 17-year-olds who qualify as veterans. Estimates of the number of sheltered individuals used in this table only include those 18 years and older.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> HMIS data provide estimates of the ethnicity and race for adult veterans only, but estimates of the ethnic and racial composition for non-veteran shelter users do not differentiate between adults and children. In this table, the ethnic and racial composition of non-veteran adult shelter users was assumed to be proportionally equivalent to that of non-veteran shelter users overall, which includes adults and children.</p> <p>V=Veteran, NV=Non-veteran, H=Homeless, HV=Homeless Veteran, NVH=Homeless Non-Veteran, VPov=Veterans in Poverty, NVPov=Non-Veterans in Poverty</p>						

Source: Homeless Management Information System Data, 2009 and American Community Survey 2006-2008 3-year estimates

## Appendix D: PIT Estimates of Veteran Homelessness by State, 2009

Appendix D: Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness and Total State Populations by State, 2009				
State	PIT Estimate of Veteran Homelessness	PIT Estimate of All Homeless People	Estimated Veteran Population	State Population
Alabama	1,063	6,080	405,480	4,625,354
Alaska	259	1,992	74,564	681,235
Arizona	2,343	14,721	557,881	6,343,952
Arkansas	249	2,853	248,440	2,830,047
California	19,532	133,129	2,087,582	36,418,499
Colorado	1,471	15,268	413,985	4,844,568
Connecticut	462	4,605	247,586	3,493,006
Delaware	100	1,130	35,634	861,804
District of Columbia	642	6,228	78,062	588,373
Florida	7,135	55,599	1,701,811	18,182,321
Georgia	2,760	20,360	714,958	9,509,254
Hawaii	499	5,782	116,885	1,280,273
Idaho	270	1,939	131,770	1,493,713
Illinois	1,028	14,055	811,941	12,829,014
Indiana	740	6,984	490,987	6,335,595
Iowa	270	3,380	246,243	2,984,391
Kansas	638	1,892	231,099	2,778,599
Kentucky	675	5,999	335,618	4,234,999
Louisiana	1,985	12,504	313,600	4,342,582
Maine	123	2,444	139,163	1,315,069
Maryland	932	11,698	460,006	5,618,250
Massachusetts	1,890	15,482	440,643	6,469,770
Michigan	1,054	14,005	749,308	10,045,697
Minnesota	525	7,718	403,943	5,181,962
Mississippi	358	2,797	209,945	2,918,790
Missouri	699	6,959	517,843	5,874,327
Montana	206	1,196	100,524	956,496
Nebraska	298	3,718	146,020	1,770,896
Nevada	2,619	14,478	233,324	2,546,235
New Hampshire	167	1,645	124,118	1,312,298
New Jersey	618	13,169	503,969	8,658,668
New Mexico	408	3,475	174,384	1,962,226
New York	5,879	61,067	1,060,660	19,428,881

## Appendix D: Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness and Total State Populations by State, 2009

State	PIT Estimate of Veteran Homelessness	PIT Estimate of All Homeless People	Estimated Veteran Population	State Population
North Carolina	1,118	12,918	742,348	9,036,449
North Dakota	168	773	54,203	638,613
Ohio	1,390	12,700	946,707	11,473,983
Oklahoma	475	4,838	328,809	3,606,200
Oregon	1,277	17,309	345,716	3,735,524
Pennsylvania	1,440	15,096	1,045,306	12,418,756
Rhode Island	120	1,607	80,668	1,054,306
South Carolina	629	4,473	395,860	4,403,175
South Dakota	160	731	73,224	795,757
Tennessee	1,142	10,532	506,750	6,144,104
Texas	5,491	36,761	1,634,329	23,845,989
Utah	166	3,795	153,936	2,663,500
Vermont	61	1,214	56,373	620,738
Virginia	960	8,852	746,748	7,698,738
Washington	1,963	22,782	616,471	6,453,083
West Virginia	271	1,667	171,112	1,810,358
Wisconsin	608	6,525	448,802	5,598,453
Wyoming	117	515	51,446	522,833
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,458 <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>637,439</b>	<b>22,906,784</b>	<b>301,237,703</b>

<sup>1</sup> There were an additional 151 homeless veterans estimated for Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, for a total of 75,609. The PIT estimates were adjusted statistically to account for four types of missing data. First, there were 5,836 beds for homeless veterans that were missing from HUD's national inventory of homeless residential service providers and thus presumably excluded from the PIT count of sheltered veterans. Second, approximately two-thirds of CoCs used an HMIS to generate their estimates of sheltered homeless veterans, and about 5.4 percent of HMIS records were missing information on veteran status. Third, three CoCs in 2009 did not report data on the number of sheltered veterans. Finally, 19 percent of CoCs had missing information for the number of unsheltered veterans and 16 percent reported zero unsheltered veterans.





