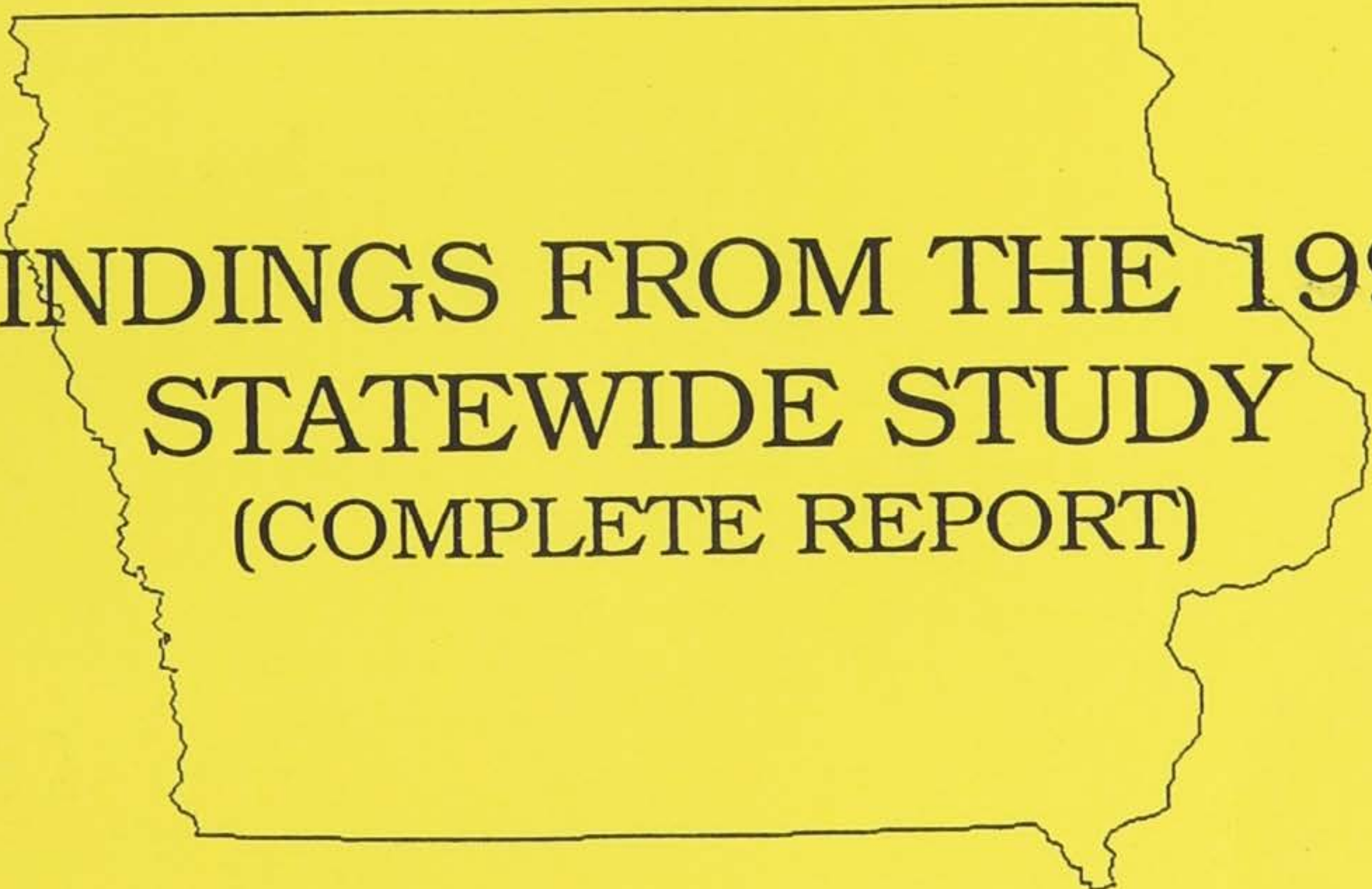


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HOMELESSNESS IN IOWA:



FINDINGS FROM THE 1997
STATEWIDE STUDY
(COMPLETE REPORT)

**HOMELESSNESS IN IOWA:
FINDINGS FROM THE 1997 STATEWIDE STUDY**

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Spring 1998

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PREFACE

One of the earliest statewide studies of homelessness in Iowa occurred in 1987 (Coons, 1987). Between 1988 and 1995 several additional studies, all funded through the Iowa Department of Education, were completed (Wright, 1988; Wright & Wright, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993; Molseed, 1995). Beginning in 1988, each successive study endeavored to update the prior one and did not vary the previous methodology appreciably, thereby allowing for some comparison of the numbers of homeless across years.

Methodologically this study differs **significantly** from previous studies of homelessness in Iowa. Some of these changes were the result of extensive meetings with the Data Committee of the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness, which enlightened us about the methodological problems encountered in the previous homeless studies. Others emerged as collective decisions about methodology and data management made by the research team. Many of these methodological adjustments reflect advancing technical and computer capabilities that have emerged in the time since the first study was undertaken in 1987 and are now more widely available to researchers wishing to attempt the difficult task of enumeration of the homeless. In addition, the body of knowledge about the homeless problem in the United States has grown significantly in the last ten years, thereby providing substantial additional guidance to researchers who wish to examine the problem.

The research team cautions that, because of the very significant differences in methodologies between this study and previous ones, any comparison of numbers found in this study with numbers contained in the previous studies of homelessness in Iowa, with a view toward making statements about trends, growth, or decline in the homeless problem, would **not** be scientifically valid and would be based upon fallacious reasoning. The number of reporting agencies has changed appreciably from earlier studies, the reporting techniques and record-keeping abilities of agencies and shelters have changed, and the possibility of underreported numbers of homeless remains a concern.

The actual, unduplicated reported number of homeless adults and children in this study (N=4,983) is remarkably less than the number reported in earlier studies. We addressed this problem in two ways. The first was to make a

statistical estimation of the statewide incidence of homelessness¹ (which does not translate directly into an estimation of the actual number of homeless) during the time period in which the study was undertaken. This statistical estimation follows a methodology commonly employed by the US Census Bureau. Second, we estimated the number of homeless statewide based upon the reported number of homeless. For this estimate we assumed that, on average, one-third of the reported number were chronically homeless (i.e., 12 incidents), one-third were homeless occasionally but repeatedly (i.e., 6 incidents), and one-third were homeless only once (i.e. 1 incident) during the year of the study.

Finally, this study does not include the "near" or "imminently" homeless. This population is accounted for in the section of the study, which addresses statewide vulnerability to homelessness. Therefore, the **findings from this study should be viewed as a new baseline description of homelessness in Iowa, NOT as a continuation of the previous studies of the problem.**

Accordingly, this report is written with the intent that it not only provide data on the number of homeless in Iowa, but also that it contribute to the reader's knowledge about the important issues which must be addressed and somehow resolved when doing homeless research. Thus, the methodology is presented in considerable detail so that it can be replicated, if desired, by locales across the state who might want to carry through with their own studies of homelessness. A complete copy of the report, including all appendices, is available from the Iowa Department of Education or from the Iowa State University Research Team who conducted the study.

SUMMARY OF THE 1997 STUDY

The 1997 study of homelessness in Iowa set out to learn as much as possible about the problem as it currently exists, thus gathering considerably more data than previous studies. All public schools, community action agencies, Department of Human Services offices, county relief offices, shelters, transitional housing programs, and other miscellaneous sources of data concerning the

¹ An **incident** of homelessness refers to one episode, of indeterminate length between 1 and 30 days, of homelessness for one individual. Each **incident**, by definition, is mutually exclusive of all other **incidents** of homelessness for the individual in question. For example, if an individual is homeless for an entire year, this is interpreted as 12 **incidents** of homelessness.

Beginning with the reported numbers of people provided by the shelter and agency data, and after adjusting for non-reporting, a multiplier of 12 was used to inflate the reported number of homeless in order to produce the estimated **annual incidents of homelessness**. This **does not directly translate into an estimate of the number of homeless individuals** because it is impossible to determine how many **incidents** of homelessness any individual may have experienced during the year for which data were collected. Thus, although a county may have reported zero homeless persons, using an incidence estimate it is possible to project actual **incidents** of homelessness based upon other pertinent information. See pp. 21-23 of this report for a detailed explanation of how the incidence estimate was derived.

homeless population were included in the sampling frame. The final response rate was 54%.

The unduplicated reported number of homeless in Iowa in 1997 was 4,983 individuals, and from this number we estimated 59,558 annual **incidents** of homelessness. This estimate of **incidents** of homelessness suggests that, in those counties where no homeless individuals were reported, several **incidents** of homelessness (possibly one or more individuals experiencing several episodes of homelessness), occurred nevertheless, and may not have been reported or otherwise accounted for in this study. Using the unduplicated reported number of homeless as a baseline, and assuming that, on average, one-third of this population are chronically homeless (i.e., 12 incidents), one-third are episodically homeless (i.e., 6 incidents), and one-third were homeless once during the year (i.e., 1 incident), and then including the homeless reported by the schools, the study estimated that there were 26,298 **homeless individuals** statewide during 1997.

In addition to the unduplicated reported number of homeless identified by the study, the statewide estimated number of homeless individuals, and the number of **incidents** of homelessness that we estimated for each county from this unduplicated number, the findings also indicate that:

- Most (59.5%) of the reported homeless are living in doubled-up situations, transitional housing programs, or some other living arrangement. The sheltered and non-sheltered homeless account for the remaining 40.1%.
- 55% of the homeless in Iowa are children and youth less than 18 years of age, 71.8% of the homeless are in the eight large metropolitan counties of the state, and the population is almost equally male and female. Further, 70% are white and 10% are Hispanic.
- Across all categories of homelessness, domestic violence, and family-related issues account for 31.8% of the causal factors, followed by employment problems (22.5%) and evictions (11.1%). In terms of household structure, 27.5% of the homeless adults are living in single-parent households, 27% are single males, 8% are living in two-parent households, and the remaining are individuals whose household status is unknown.
- The schools appear to be increasingly aware of the role of family problems in causing homelessness, and indicate that various types of family counseling programs for homeless children, in addition to solving transportation problems, are essential to meeting the educational needs of these children.
- Most of the schools and agencies that responded to the study report that the homeless problem has remained about the same during the last year.

However, 666/861 of the responding schools (77%) reported no homeless children, and many indicated that they felt they had a good safety net in place to prevent an otherwise vulnerable child from becoming homeless.

Earlier studies have considered the "imminently homeless" or "near homeless" as a vulnerable population which is part of the complete picture of homelessness in Iowa. We elected to address this concern by identifying and ranking the counties in Iowa that may have a significant, economically fragile population on the edge of homelessness, who may or may not be easily identified in studies of homelessness. Thus, assuming that homelessness and poverty are closely interwoven, we selected several demographic characteristics related to poverty (i.e., poverty level, patterns of welfare program participation) and ranked them according to the severity of the problem in proportion to the county population. This procedure helps to account for those who may be living in circumstances, which render them at risk for homelessness. By the process used to determine vulnerability to homelessness:

- The five Iowa counties that appear to be the most vulnerable to homelessness are Clarke, Appanoose, Decatur, Wayne, and Wapello. All are in the southern tier of rural counties known to be among the poorest in the state, and most likely homelessness in these counties is so deeply embedded within the larger context of rural poverty as to be indistinguishable from it. This overall level of poverty markedly influences vulnerability to homelessness.
- The Iowa counties least vulnerable to homelessness are Johnson, Grundy, Story, and Sioux. Two of these are small metropolitan counties and two are rural, but not among the poorest of rural counties.

This report concludes by making recommendations for carrying through with future studies of homelessness, including a more consistent mechanism for ongoing reporting, such as the **CHIP** project, which will assist in deriving a continuous, unduplicated count of the homeless in Iowa when it is fully operational. Other recommendations include immediate attention to the family-centered causes of homelessness, and widespread efforts to reduce significantly the number of homeless children and youth, many of who probably become homeless as a result of parental/family difficulties. Finally, issues of availability of low-income housing, adequate wages, and employment opportunities are also underscored as central concerns in the spectrum of solutions to homelessness.

INTRODUCTION

Homelessness is the most graphic representation and startling illustration of the nation's poverty, for to be without a place to live and without resources to obtain shelter is to be truly poor. Yet, even after several years of research

describing most aspects of the problem, the face of homelessness remains blurry and diffuse. Because both the causes and consequences of homelessness appear to be as varied as the individuals themselves, most who study the problem agree that it seems to continue despite widespread efforts to reduce the problem significantly.

Difficulties with enumerating the homeless population accurately have plagued efforts to describe homelessness effectively since this problem first came to the attention of social scientists almost 20 years ago. Concerns have included (but are not limited to) issues of the operational definition of homelessness, determining an appropriate sampling frame, accuracy of the numbers resulting from any counting effort, and debate over the best counting methodology (e.g., point-in-time or annual). In addition to being a very difficult personal circumstance, homelessness is also a very fluid social problem (i.e., most homeless individuals move into and out of homelessness more or less at random, as part of a lifestyle of chronic poverty and/or family abuse) and, as a result, researchers face difficult methodological issues that are not easy to resolve. This study was no exception and, as a result, the next few pages are devoted to a brief discussion of the more pressing issues of definition and enumeration of the homeless problem.

Counting the Homeless

Deriving an accurate estimate of the frequency of various categories of homelessness are legend, and remain as a serious challenge to social science methodology and a puzzle for homeless researchers to solve within the context of the homeless study they wish to undertake.² In addition to the complex political and philosophical issues surrounding efforts to enumerate the homeless population, concerns about the operational definition of homelessness, determining an adequate and appropriate sampling framework, generating accurate numbers, and debate over whether a point-in-time or annualized estimation research protocol results in more accurate findings persist. None of these issues is easy to resolve. Nevertheless, within any given time period, there are an unknown number of individuals who, for various reasons, are appropriately classified as homeless and who should be documented as such in some reliable way.

However, accurately estimating the number of homeless depends upon two critical issues. The first is defining the problem and the second is determining the best methodology for attempting the count, given the constraints imposed by available research dollars and access to relevant data sources.

² An entire issue of *Evaluation Review* (Vol. 16, No. 4, 1992) edited by James Wright was devoted to exploring various aspects of effective and accurate enumeration of the homeless.

Defining Homelessness

Any systematic effort to count the homeless must begin by attempting to define the problem in precise, operational terms. However, a widely acceptable and uniformly interpreted definition of homelessness has yet to be decided upon, among either researchers or homeless advocates. Generally, the most common definition of homelessness (and the one used in this study) is the one proposed in Section 103 of the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (1987), and codified as Title 42 - The Public Health and Welfare, Chapter 119, Homeless Assistance, Subchapter I (General Provisions 11302 - general definition of a homeless individual). This amendment states that, for purposes of this Act, the term "homeless" or "homeless individual" includes: (1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and (2) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill); (B) an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intending to be institutionalized; or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. Excluded is any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of Congress or a State law (PL 100-77; July 22, 1987). Agencies who administer homeless assistance programs sometimes broaden this definition to include individuals who are residing in transitional or supportive housing.

In the time since this definition has come into favor for purposes of researching the homeless problem as well as for driving applications for homeless assistance and housing program funding, the term "doubled-up" has come into common usage as an additional definitional category of homelessness. This definition is usually applied to rural rather than to urban homelessness, but presents a research dilemma because most rural homelessness is so deeply embedded within rural poverty as to be virtually indistinguishable from it (Dail, 1997). Further, doubling-up is often a way of coping with the overriding problems of poverty and/or domestic violence in rural areas, and it is not uncommon to find individuals and families sharing housing for brief periods of time when it is necessary to do so. Rural families tend to accommodate one another in this way, and do not consider themselves to be homeless just because they are temporarily living with extended family, for whatever reason (Dail, 1997). However, from the "political" view, excluding the category of "doubled-up" is very problematic because it is the "bread and butter" of verifying the existence of rural homelessness.

These definitional debates have not stopped some of the more courageous social scientists from attempting to enumerate and describe this social problem, and various methodologies and interpretations of the resulting data have resulted. The infamous S-night national homeless census attempted

in 1990 is legend for both the criticisms of the methodology and the numbers which resulted (for a full discussion, see Wright & Devine, 1992; Martin, 1992). This effort ignited fierce debate between the homeless advocates who believe the number of homeless is significantly underestimated by government officials, and government officials, as well as many social scientists, who argue that the advocates massively inflate their numbers, do not control for duplication in reporting, and have no hard data to back up their claims about the severity of the problem.

Until some agreed-upon definition of homelessness is arrived at, it will never be possible to derive an accurate nation-wide or even state-wide count of the homeless because the results of any counting effort depend precisely upon the definition of homelessness that is employed. This disagreement over definition permits the debate over the extent of the homeless problem to continue relatively unabated, and therefore every effort to enumerate the extent of homelessness first must be reviewed to determine the operational definition of homelessness that it employs.

Estimating the Extent of Homelessness

Because the social science literature remains inconclusive about the best methodology for counting and estimating the homeless, the decision about how to address this challenge is generally left to individual researchers who know best the context and constraints of the individual geographic area in which a counting effort might be attempted (see Dail & Shelley, 1996 for an Iowa example). Among the more recent discussions of how to define and count the homeless is a book by Jencks (1995). He narrows the definition of homelessness to include only the more visible homeless (i.e., those in shelters and on the streets) because he believes that these are the ones who concern society the most and are the targets of most social intervention programs. In addition, he also suggests that it is necessary to determine whether those living doubled-up are doing so voluntarily or involuntarily before automatically including them in a homeless count.

Cowan (1991) suggests that many methods to count/estimate the homeless reflect the local constraints of the geographic region in which the count is being attempted, the costs involved in implementing various methodologies appropriate to a given region, problems with defining homelessness, and the purposes for collecting the data. He also believes that most methods employed in counting the homeless do not allow for evaluation of the accuracy or thoroughness of the counts, rest heavily upon assumptions about the population which may or may not be valid, and rely upon a self-contained survey that uses only the actual data collected as the core of the counting effort. To address these issues, he proposes implementation of a

capture-recapture (i.e., count-recount) methodology as a model, and sampling in space and time (SIST).

Count-recount is a beneficial approach in that it assumes that, within two or more counting periods, every individual in the population has some chance of being included, and from the frequencies and patterns of observations for individuals it then becomes possible to estimate the total number of affected persons. While perhaps a more realistic approach than count-recount, for SIST to be effective the sample must be stratified carefully and requisite counting rules must be adhered to (Cowan, 1991). Double counting is not likely to occur if the time frame is short; however, successfully estimating from the resulting numbers is more complicated than with a count-recount methodology.

Glasser (1994) concurs that cost of the count as well as defining the problem are the two most difficult issues in researching homelessness. In addition, he suggests that the most difficult to count, and perhaps the largest proportion, of the homeless population are families doubled-up with other families, families divided due to lack of housing, and families living in abandoned buildings who would not want to be discovered because of the consequences to their children and the risk of losing them because of a failure to provide suitable living conditions. As a result, many estimates of homelessness that are based upon point-in-time methodologies will fail to include these categories of the homeless, and will not be likely to generate the kind of data upon which estimates of these two sub-populations reasonably can be derived.

While arguing that survey estimates of the homeless generally are considered to be more accurate and more scientific than estimates by lay informants, Link, Phelan, Bresnahan, Stueve, Moore, & Susser (1995) also observe that both surveys and point prevalence studies can result in undercounts because these methodologies do not uncover the hidden homeless. Using a randomly selected population, Link et. al., (1995) conducted a national telephone survey of households, asking respondents if they had ever considered themselves homeless. Those responding in the affirmative were asked additional questions about the circumstances. This unconventional approach to estimating the prevalence of homelessness in the general population was criticized in the scientific community because it allowed participants to determine their own definition of homelessness. However, in a follow-up to the original study, and after altering the methodology to define homelessness more precisely, the authors (Link et. al., 1995) replicated their initial results. They concluded that approximately 14% of the total sample had been homeless at some point in their lives. This estimate is considerably higher than that resulting from any previous efforts to describe homelessness.

Rossi (1989) suggests five approaches to researching homelessness. These include key person surveys, partial counts, heroic extrapolations from

partial counts, windshield street surveys, and adaptations of various area probability designs. He uses the advantages and disadvantages of these methods to argue for a national survey of homelessness, using an agreed-upon definition, which would provide data useful in informing the development of social programs to address the homeless problem, establish good evaluation measures to assess the effectiveness of these programs, and thereby reduce the prevalence of homelessness. These same arguments are applicable to any state-wide efforts to count the homeless, and many states already have adopted some means for an ongoing, state-wide annualized count of the homeless.

THE 1997 STUDY

The 1997 statewide study of homelessness made several significant departures from earlier studies:

- First, we obtained specific demographic information on each reported individual, which was combined into a unique identifier that permitted us to address reporting duplication rigorously and eliminate individuals who were reported more than once.
- Second, we used information such as shelter bed capacity and a multiplication factor, in combination with reported numbers, to develop a county level estimate of the number of incidents of homelessness that is particularly useful in understanding homelessness in rural counties of the state.
- Third, using the unduplicated reported number of homeless, we estimated a statewide annual number of homeless, based upon the assumption that one-third of the reported number of homeless are chronically homeless (i.e., 12 incidents), one-third are episodically homeless (i.e., 6 episodes), and one-third were homeless only once (i.e., 1 episode) during the year of this study (see Hopper, 1995; Link, et. al., 1995; Piliavin, Wright, Mare, & Westerfelt, 1996; Rossi, 1991; Sosin, Piliavin, & Westerfelt, 1990; Wright & Devine, 1995 in support of the assumption of multiple patterns of homelessness). We added the annual number of homeless reported by the schools to this number in order to arrive at the total statewide estimate of the number of homeless in Iowa during 1997.
- Fourth, we used the most recent state census information available (Goudy, Burke, & Hanson, 1997; 1995) to identify certain population traits, such as food stamp usage or Title XIX eligibility, which might be useful in predicting vulnerability to homelessness in each county of the state. These were ranked according to the severity of the problem in each county and then each county was ranked statewide to determine which are most and least vulnerable to homelessness.

- Fifth, we analyzed the data regionally, using the population definitions of rural, small metropolitan, and large metropolitan counties developed by Bruner (1993). This approach assisted us in estimating **incidents** of homelessness in rural counties where no homeless actually were reported.
- Sixth, we applied more sophisticated statistical techniques to the data than have been used in previous studies, to assure the reliability and validity of our findings.
- Seventh, we did not include the "near" or "imminently" homeless in our count of the homeless. This concern was addressed in the section of the study that examines county vulnerability to homelessness.
- Eighth, we obtained information about the primary causes of homelessness in Iowa and from this information were able to make definitive recommendations about solutions to the homeless problem.
- Ninth, we also obtained specific information about the housing needs of the homeless.

Consistent with previous Iowa studies, the 1997 census of homelessness in Iowa was developed around the definition proposed in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (1987). As noted earlier, this amendment states that, for purposes of this Act, the term "homeless" or "homeless individual" includes: (1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and (2) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill); (B) an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intending to be institutionalized; or (C) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. Excluded is any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of Congress or a State law (PL 100-77; July 22, 1987).

The US Department of Education (1989) provided additional guidelines in operationalizing the McKinney definition of homelessness by specifying which categories of homelessness should and should not be included in a census specifically of homeless children. These guidelines (cited in Wright & Wright, 1992) suggest that counts of homeless children should include children who are living in shelters for runaways, on the streets, in abandoned buildings, or in other facilities unfit for human habitation; children who do not have an adequate home base that serves as a permanent home; children living in camping areas (or trailer parks) because they lack adequate accommodations; children in

transitional emergency shelters; sick or abandoned children living in state institutions because of no other suitable alternative; runaway/throwaway children living together as a group in a suitable shelter; and children living with friends or relatives. The guidelines suggest that children living in foster homes and in trailer parks with adequate, long-term accommodations; children incarcerated for violations of the law; and children of migrant workers, as whole classes, who are living doubled-up should not be included in a count of the homeless.

Accordingly, the operational definition of homelessness employed in this study was consistent with previous studies, and included the following response categories: living on the streets or in abandoned buildings; living in a public or a private homeless shelter; living doubled-up with family/friends; living in transitional housing for the mentally ill; living in a single room occupancy facility; living in a transitional housing project; living in a home or apartment; living in a youth group home; or "other." Those included in the category of home or apartment most often were teenage youth who were living in this situation unsupervised or a woman domestic abuse victim who was seeking assistance from a domestic violence shelter facility. The category "other" encompassed those living in campgrounds, temporary trailers, or other makeshift arrangements not specified in other categories. This operational definition does not include those referred to as the "near homeless" or "imminently homeless" in previous studies. This population is accounted for in our identification of those most vulnerable to homelessness.

METHODOLOGY

Following institutional review of this project to insure the protection of human subjects (see Appendix 2); mail survey methodology was used in obtaining the data for this study. Two spreadsheet type questionnaires were developed one for use by schools across all districts of Iowa and the other for use by various social service agencies. Appendices 3 and 4 contain the questionnaires and instructions for their use. Both sets of questionnaires requested partial names and social security numbers of individuals being reported as homeless. This information was later used to eliminate reporting duplications across schools, across agencies, and between schools and agencies.

Surveys were mailed to all public schools in Iowa and all known shelters in the state, CAP agencies, County General Relief Offices, Transitional Housing Programs, County Department of Human Services Offices, and miscellaneous programs such as medical outreach services serving the homeless population. Each survey contained a stamped, addressed return envelope as well as instructions about how to contact researchers at Iowa State University if questions arose. These questionnaires were sent under the signature of the Director of the Iowa State Department of Education.

(were) coded "99" (duplicate data line). An algorithm was created to facilitate assessment of probable duplication status for the data lines that were missing one or both components of the "unique identifier."

Scoring Algorithm:

Name	5 pts.
S.S.N.	5 pts.

Age	3 pts.

Gender	1 pt.
Race	1 pt.
County	1 pt.
District	1 pt.
Building	1 pt.

The eight variables used in the sort were ascribed individual weights to facilitate coding of data lines with missing elements of the unique identifier. When a data line was missing either "Name" or "S.S.N." the available variable (i.e., either "Name" or "S.S.N.") was checked against similar data lines to assess duplication status and was assigned a code number from "5"- "18." Adding the weighted values of each matching variable produced the code number. When a data line was missing both "Name" and "S.S.N." it was coded "88" (unknown).

As an example, case #1 shows what was done in a hypothetical case where part of the "unique identifier" was missing.

Entry Number	Name	S.S.N.	Age	Gender	Race	County	District	Building
100	aaaa		16	2	1	57	1111	109
101	aaaa		16	2	1	57	1111	109

Since both data lines have missing values in the S.S.N. column a unique identifier cannot be created. Entry lines 100 and 101 are compared, to one another, on each of the remaining seven variables. A score of 13 is obtained (Name=5, S.S.N.=0, Age=3, Gender=1, Race=1, County=1, District=1, Building=1). The S.S.N. is unknown, consequently it is not considered a match and does not receive a weighted score.

In example case #2, again part of the "unique identifier" is missing.

Entry Number	Name	S.S.N.	Age	Gender	Race	County	District	Building
200	bbbb		11	1	2	57	2222	209
201	bbbb		16	2	1	57	1111	109

Again both data lines have missing values in the S.S.N. column so the algorithm is employed. Entry lines 200 and 201 are compared, to one another, on each of the remaining seven variables. A score of 6 is obtained (Name=5, S.S.N.=0, Age=0, Gender=0, Race=0, County=1, District=0, Building=0). Using this process all data lines in the SCHOOL data set were ascribed a number representing probable duplication status **within** the SCHOOL data set.

Agencies

Data from 223 responding agencies among the 453 included in the sample were entered in the file AGENCIES. Each data line was checked against similar data lines. When a unique identifier appeared more than once the first data line was coded "0" (unduplicated data line) and the other(s) was (were) coded "99" (duplicate data line). An algorithm was created to facilitate assessment of probable duplication status for the data lines that were missing one or both components of the "unique identifier."

Scoring Algorithm:	Name	5 pts.
	S.S.N.	5 pts.

	Age	3 pts.

	Gender	1 pt.
	Race	1 pt.
	County	1 pt.
	Agency	1 pt.

The seven variables used in the sort were ascribed individual weights to facilitate the coding of data lines with missing elements of the unique identifier. When a data line was missing either "Name" or "S.S.N." the available variable (i.e., either "Name" or "S.S.N.") was checked against similar data lines to assess the duplication status and assigned a code number from "5"- "17." Adding the weighted values of each matching variable produced the code number. When a data line was missing both "Name" and "S.S.N." it was coded "88" (unknown).

The same process was used to identify probable duplication status within AGENCIES as was employed for the SCHOOLS data. However, in the AGENCIES data the maximum weighted score was "17" (seven variables), compared to "18" (eight variables) for the SCHOOLS data.

As described above, the data sets were scanned separately for duplications (i.e., duplications **within** AGENCIES and duplications **within** SCHOOLS). Upon completion of these tasks the two data sets were merged to produce the MERGE 1 data set. The above duplication removal process was

repeated, searching this time for duplications **between** AGENCIES and SCHOOLS.

MERGE 1

When a unique identifier appeared **between** AGENCIES and SCHOOLS more than once the first data line was coded "0" (unduplicated data line) and the other(s) was (were) coded "99" (duplicate data line).

Scoring Algorithm:	Name	5 pts.
	S.S.#	5 pts.

	Age	3 pts.

	Gender	1 pt.
	Race	1 pt.
	County	1 pt.

The six variables used in the sort were ascribed individual weights to facilitate the coding of data lines with missing elements of the "unique identifier". When a data line was missing either "Name" or "S.S.#" the available variable (i.e., either "Name" or "S.S.#") was checked against similar data lines to assess duplication status and was assigned a code number from "5"- "16." Adding the weighted values of each matching variable produced the code number. Merge 2 was created and found to be obsolete. The next step in removing duplications from the data set involved producing low, middle, and high estimates based on assumptions made regarding the probability of duplication.

MERGE 3 (low)

This is the most conservative unduplicated estimate. It assumes that all weighted coded items are duplicates; therefore 1/2 of all such paired entries were re-coded "0" (non-duplicate) and 1/2 were re-coded "99" (duplicate). All items coded "99" were then deleted. All items coded "88" (unknown) also were deleted.

MERGE 4 (middle)

This is a middle-range-unduplicated estimate. Items coded from "5"- "10" were assumed to be non-duplicative and then were re-coded "0" (non-duplicate). Items coded from "11"- "18" were assumed to be duplicates, so 1/2 of all such pairs were re-coded "0" (non-duplicate) and 1/2 were re-coded "99." All items coded "99" (duplicate) were deleted. All items coded "88" (unknown) also were deleted.

MERGE 5 (high)

This is the least conservative unduplicated estimate. It assumes that all items coded "88" (unknown) and "5"- "18" were non-duplicates and therefore retained in the data set. Items coded "99" (duplicate) were deleted.

From the 1,881 homeless identified by the schools, 53 were found to be duplicates and were removed from the data set, leaving 1,828 unduplicated cases in the school data. From the 3,665 homeless identified by agencies and shelters, 479 duplicates/unknowns were discovered and removed from the agency and shelter data sets, leaving 3,186 unduplicated cases. When the data sets were merged 31 additional duplicates were eliminated, leaving a total of 4,983 unduplicated cases. Approximately 10% of the total reported number were duplications.

(2) Inflating For Non-Reporting

Due to the low response rate (54% overall) it was necessary to make adjustments for non-reporting. Response rate adjustments were calculated using the response rate of the schools, the response rate of the shelters, and the response rate of the remaining agencies (General Relief, Department of Human Services, Community Action Programs, Transitional Housing providers, and the miscellaneous category). The response rate adjustment for shelters was refined further by utilizing shelter-bed capacity information. For each of the shelters surveyed in this study the number of available beds per shelter was obtained. Then the shelter-bed capacity rate (SBCR) was calculated for responding shelters. The SBCR is a ratio of the number of reported clients for one month to the number of available beds on any given night. For the middle-range estimate the proportion was 1,481/1,236, producing a shelter-bed capacity rate of 1.201. For the high estimate the proportion was 1,672/1,413, producing a shelter-bed capacity rate of 1.185. The low, middle, and high categories were maintained throughout this process.

(2a) Shelters

SheltM3 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by shelters in the Merge 3 data set.

SheltM4 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by shelters in the Merge 4 data set.

SheltM5 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by shelters in the Merge 5 data set.

Low estimate: SheltM3 + 0

Middle estimate: $\text{SheltM4} + [\text{SBCR} * (\text{shelter bed capacity for non-reporting shelters} / 2)]$

High estimate: $\text{SheltM5} + (\text{SBCR} * \text{shelter bed capacity for non-reporting shelters})$

The low estimate assumes that the non-reporting shelters had zero homeless to report; therefore the raw number reported was not adjusted. The mid-range estimate assumes that, on average, one-half of the non-reporting shelters maintained the same shelter bed capacity as the reporting shelters during the reporting period; and that one-half of the non-reporting shelters had zero homeless to report. The high estimate assumes that all of the non-reporting agencies maintained the same shelter-bed capacity as the reporting shelters during the reporting period.

(2b) Other Agencies

AgencM3 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by non-shelter agencies in the Merge 3 data set.

AgencM4 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by non-shelter agencies in the Merge 4 data set.

AgencM5 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by non-shelter agencies in the Merge 5 data set.

Low estimate: $\text{AgencM3} + 0$

Middle estimate: $.5 [\text{AgencM4} * \{(1 / \text{response rate}) + 1\}]$

High estimate: $\text{AgencM5} * (1 / \text{response rate})$

In these equations "response rate" = the response rate for all agencies except shelters. The low estimate assumes that the non-reporting agencies had zero homeless to report; therefore the raw number reported was not adjusted. The middle-range estimate assumes that one-half of the non-reporting agencies had, on average, the same number of homeless as the reporting agencies during the reporting period, while the other one-half of the non-reporting agencies had zero homeless to report. The high estimate assumes that non-reporting agencies, on average, had the same average number of homeless reported by the reporting agencies.

(2c) Schools

SchoolM3 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by schools in the Merge 3 data set.

SchoolM4 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by schools in the Merge 4 data set.

SchoolM5 = The total number of unduplicated data lines reported by schools in the Merge 5 data set.

Low estimate: SchoolM3 + 0

Middle estimate: $.5 [\text{SchoolM4} * \{(1/\text{response rate}) + 1\}]$

High estimate: $\text{SchoolM5} * (1/\text{response rate})$

For these equations the "response rate" = the response rate for the schools. The low estimate assumes that the non-reporting schools had zero homeless to report. The middle-range estimate assumes that one-half of the non-reporting schools had, on average, the same number of homeless as the reporting schools during the reporting period, while the other one-half of the non-reporting schools had zero homeless to report. The high estimate assumes that, on average, the non-reporting schools had the same average number of reported homeless provided by the reporting schools.

(3) Inflating For Time

The data provided by agencies covered a one-month period, while the data provided by schools was for the 1996/1997 school year. In order to produce an **annualized** estimate of **incidents** of homelessness, an inflation equation was applied to the agency and shelter data. The use of "12" as the inflation factor assumes that the reporting period represents an average number of homeless in a given month of a 12 month period. Nine different inflated totals were possible:

$$3a \text{ (low)} = 2a \text{ (low)} * 12$$

$$3a \text{ (mid)} = 2a \text{ (mid)} * 12$$

$$3a \text{ (high)} = 2a \text{ (high)} * 12$$

$$3b \text{ (low)} = 2b \text{ (low)} * 12$$

$$3b \text{ (mid)} = 2b \text{ (mid)} * 12$$

$$3b \text{ (high)} = 2b \text{ (high)} * 12$$

$$3c \text{ (low)} = 2c \text{ (low)} * 12$$

$$3c \text{ (mid)} = 2c \text{ (mid)} * 12$$

$$3c \text{ (high)} = 2c \text{ (high)} * 12$$

To produce total state estimates of **incidents**, the estimates for shelters, agencies, and schools are summed across the respective low, middle, and high range categories.

Total State low estimate of **incidents** (all categories) =

3a (low) + 3b (low) + 3c (low)

Total State mid-range estimate of **incidents** (all categories) =

3a (mid) + 3b (mid) + 3c (mid)

Total State high estimate of **incidents** (all categories) =

3a (high) + 3b (high) + 3c (high)

Following the above steps we arrived at a **statewide estimates of the number of annual INCIDENTS of homelessness, doubling-up, and "other" categories** (see footnote 1, p. 6.). This number does **not** translate directly into an estimate of the number of homeless individuals. However, this number **is** valuable in explaining something about homelessness in rural areas where no homeless were reported and are difficult to account for in any other way because most are living in doubled-up situations. In addition, this number reveals something more about homelessness at the individual county level, whereas the statewide estimated number reflects the total number of homeless across the state, but cannot be separated by individual county.

County Totals

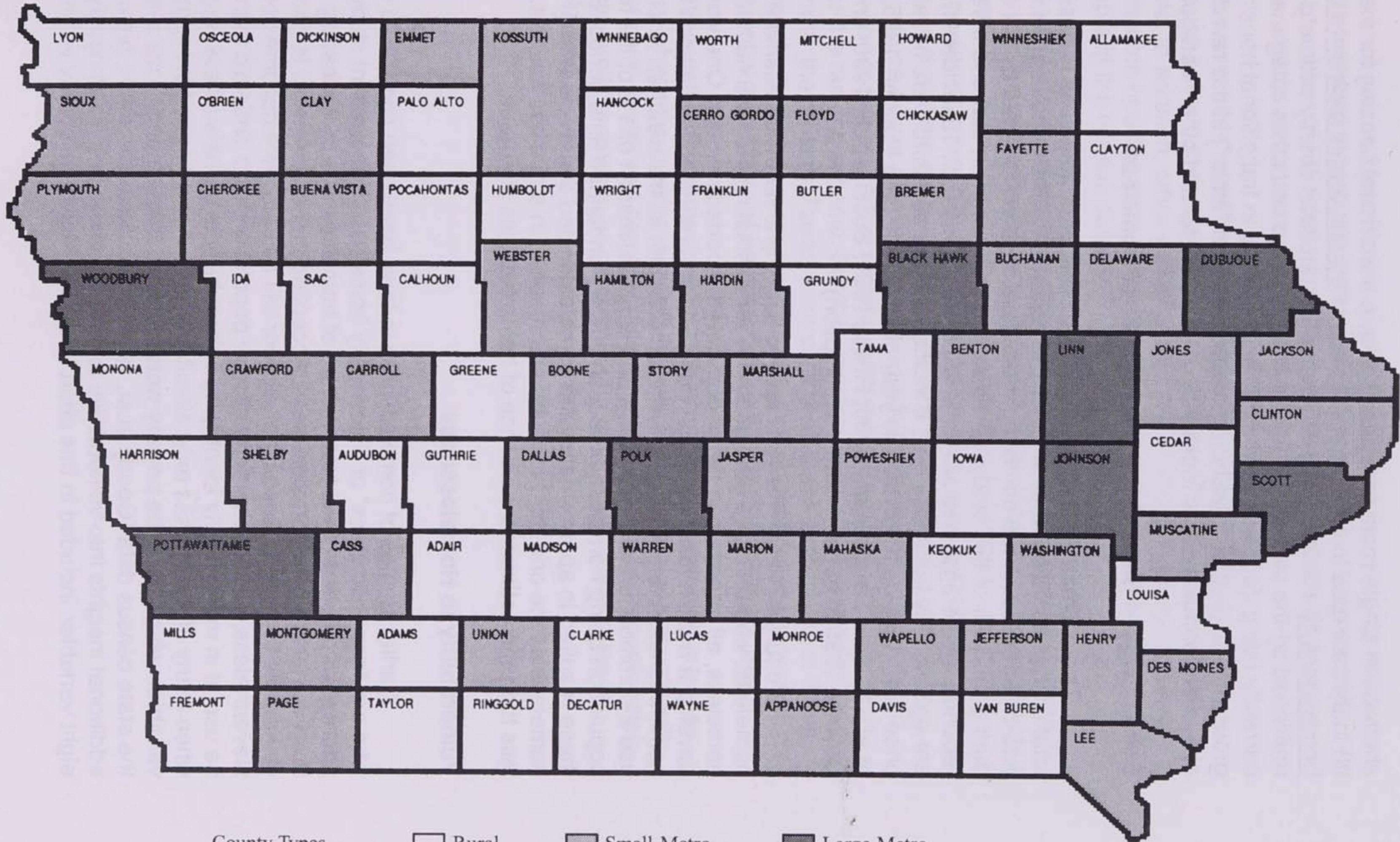
The 99 counties of Iowa were divided into three categories (Bruner, 1993): large metro counties (largest population center = 50,000+), small metro counties (largest population center between 5,000 and 49,999), and rural counties (largest population center less than 5,000). There are eight large metro counties, which together contain 42% of the total state population, 45 small metro counties, representing 40% of the state population, and 46 rural counties, which account for 18% of the total state population. For each of the 99 counties, the individual county population was calculated as a proportion of the total county-type population to provide a basis for allocating the estimated **incidents** of homelessness across counties. For example, the total county-type population for the large metro counties is 1,183,275. Therefore, we divided the population of each of the eight large metro counties by 1,183,275. Map 1 (p. 22a) illustrates the geographic representation of the large metropolitan, small metropolitan, and rural counties of the state.

A proportion of the state total population was calculated for each of the three county-types. This proportion was multiplied by the state total estimate to produce a number for each of the three county-types. The total number for each county-type then was multiplied by the proportion of each county to its respective county type population to obtain a total county estimate for each of the 99 counties in Iowa.

For each of the 99 counties, the total county estimate was multiplied by the proportion reported "homeless" (those currently living "on-the-street," in

MAP 1

Geographic Representation of County Types



County Types Rural Small Metro Large Metro

shelters, in single room occupancies, or in transitional housing for the mentally ill) in the raw data to obtain the estimate of annual county incidents of homelessness. For each of the 99 counties, the total county estimate was multiplied by the proportion reported "doubled-up and other categories" (those currently living doubled-up with family or friends, in transitional housing, in youth group homes, in their own home or apartment, or "other") in the raw data to obtain the annual county **incidents** of "doubled-up and other" categories.

Estimating the Statewide Total Number of Homeless

The estimate of the statewide total number of homeless is based upon the total unduplicated number of homeless reported by the various agencies, which was combined with the number of homeless children reported by the schools during the year of this study, and makes the assumption that one-third of those reported by the agencies are chronically homeless (i.e., 12 incidents), one-third are episodically homeless (i.e., 6 incidents), and one-third were homeless only once (i.e., 1 incident) during the year of this study (see Hopper, 1995; Link, et.al., 1995; Piliavin, et.al., 1996; Rossi, 1991; Sosin, et.al., 1990; and Wright & Devine, 1995 in support of this assumption).

To further verify this approach to deriving a statewide estimate of the homeless, we attempted other methods for estimating the total number of homeless, all based upon the unduplicated reported number. One was to develop a hypothetical 12-month trend line that reflected fluctuations in homelessness based upon external factors such as the weather. Another was to use a common, unscientific "quick and dirty" estimation of 1% of the total population being homeless during any given, undefined time period. Both of these resulted in approximately the same estimated statewide annual number of homeless as the one-third formula, and resulted in a number which is, logically, less than the estimated incidence of homelessness statewide.

Vulnerability to Homelessness

Earlier studies of homelessness in Iowa have been concerned with those who are "near homeless" or "imminently homeless." The present study addressed this part of the total picture of homelessness by assessing county-level vulnerability to homelessness. Accepting that anyone who is poor is clearly vulnerable to homelessness, not all poor will actually ever become homeless. Nevertheless, certain characteristics or population traits endemic to poverty may be useful in more clearly identifying vulnerability to homelessness, especially when many of these traits exist simultaneously. Accordingly, appropriate variables which describe poverty were selected from among those available in the state census data (Goudy et.al, 1997) which, taken together, provide additional insights into vulnerability to homelessness in a given county. The eight variables included in this effort to assess individual county vulnerability to

homelessness were unemployment rate, per capita income, food stamp rate, Title XIX enrollment rate, monthly number of Family Investment Program (FIP) cases, monthly number of FIP cases where parent(s) is/are unemployed, founded cases of child abuse rates, and poverty rate.

Domestic assault is rated and ranked, but is not included in the total rankings because several of the counties acknowledged having incomplete data for this variable. In addition, other variables such as housing costs and vacancy rates for low-income housing were not included in this assessment because they are not available in the census data.

Next, each variable was ranked for each county, using a rate-level system whereby the rate of occurrence of the variable in question per county population was established. The higher the rate the lower the ranking. In other words, counties having, for example, high rates of founded child abuse would receive a lower ranking, so that if the rank was 1, that county would lead the state in reported child abuse cases. Conversely, if the rank were 99, that county would rank last. The one exception to this ranking system is per capita income, which is reversed for the ranking scheme. For this variable, the lower the per capita income, the lower the ranking. Ranks were summed across variables and those counties having the lowest sum scores were determined to be most vulnerable to having a substantial population of homeless, based upon the variables used.

In addition, within this table the rankings on individual variables provides an indication of where the greater vulnerabilities are. For example, a county with higher rates of child abuse and domestic assault might have a disproportionately high number of family problems, as compared to a county with lower rates of occurrence of these problems.

County	Unemployment Rate	Per Capita Income	Food Stamp Rate	Title XIX Enrollment Rate	Monthly Number of FIP Cases	Monthly Number of FIP Cases where Parent(s) is/are Unemployed	Founded Cases of Child Abuse Rates	Poverty Rate
Alameda	10.2	12,500	12.5	15.0	150	100	10	15.0
Alameda	10.2	12,500	12.5	15.0	150	100	10	15.0
Alameda	10.2	12,500	12.5	15.0	150	100	10	15.0
Alameda	10.2	12,500	12.5	15.0	150	100	10	15.0
Alameda	10.2	12,500	12.5	15.0	150	100	10	15.0

FINDINGS

Table 1 reports the response rates for all schools and other agencies participating in this study. The response rate for schools was 55.2%. The response rate for all agencies combined was 49.2%. The overall response rate was 53.8%

Table 1 - Response Rates

Data Source	Number Sent	Number Returned	Response Rate (%)
Schools	1560	861	55.2
Homeless Shelters	82	47	57.3
General Relief	101	35	34.7
County Dept. of Human Services Of.	104	73	70.2
Community Action Agencies	119	52	43.7
Transitional Housing Programs	32	6	18.8
Miscellaneous	15	10	66.7
TOTAL	2013	1084	53.8%*

* This number is not the sum of all response rates; it is calculated as the number of total returns divided by the total number of questionnaires sent.

Table 2 reports the unduplicated numbers³ used in deriving estimates of the number of homeless. These findings estimate an unduplicated reported number of homeless of between 4,824 and 5,291. Using 4,983 as the unduplicated reported number upon which to base an estimate, the resulting estimate of the statewide **number** of homeless is 26,298.

Table 2 - Unduplicated Reported Number of Homeless in All Categories

Data Source	M3 Low	M4 Mid-range	M5 High
Shelters	1,435	1,481	1,672
Agencies	1,667	1,697	1,774
Schools	1,726	1,805	1,845
TOTAL	4,828	4,983	5,291

The mid-range estimated number was used in deriving the inflated estimation of the number of **incidents** of homelessness when the reported

³ From the 1,881 homeless identified by the schools, 53 were found to be duplicates and were removed from the data set, leaving 1,828 unduplicated cases. From the 3,665 homeless identified by agencies and shelters, 479 duplicates/unknowns were discovered and removed from the agency and shelter data sets, leaving 3,186 unduplicated cases. When the data sets were merged, 31 additional duplicates were eliminated, leaving a total of 4,983 unduplicated cases. Approximately 10% of the total reported number were duplications.

numbers were adjusted for time. The lower range estimate of the number of **incidents** of homelessness is 38,950; the mid-range estimate is 59,558; and the highest estimate is 83,502. When examining the geography of the homeless problem, as determined by the county types (large metropolitan, small metropolitan and rural), 71.8% of the total are in the large metropolitan counties, 23.6% in the small metropolitan counties, and 4.6% in the rural counties.

Table 3 (p. 26a) summarizes the reported numbers of homeless by categories of response and the estimate of annual **incidents**⁴ of homelessness for each county in Iowa. County type refers to whether a county is a large metropolitan county (1), small metropolitan county (2), or rural county (3). The first column of data is the actual reported number of homeless living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, in public or private shelters, in transitional housing for the mentally ill, and in single room occupancy facilities (n=1,850) and the second column is the estimate of annual **incidents** of this type of homelessness (n=23,890); the third column is the number of doubled up with family/friends, those in transitional housing, youth group homes, own home or apartment and other/unknown and other categories (n=3,133), and column 4 is the estimate of the annual **incident** of this type of homelessness (n=35,672); column 5 is the total reported number of all types of homelessness (n=4,983) and column 6 is the mid-range estimate of the total number of **incidents** of all types of homelessness (n=59,562). The last column reports state population by county, with a total of 2,841,764. These findings indicate that 40.1% of the homeless are among those who are in the sheltered/non-sheltered (i.e., abandoned buildings, on the streets., etc.) homeless and 59.9% are living doubled-up, in transitional housing and other circumstances (cars, campgrounds, etc.).

Map 2a (p. 26b) illustrates the estimated annual **incidents** of homelessness for the sheltered and unsheltered homeless. Map 2b (p. 26c) illustrates the estimated annual **incidents** of those living doubled-up, in transitional housing, or "other" categories of homelessness across Iowa counties. These maps are based upon the data contained in Table 3.

Table 4 (p. 27) summarizes the population traits of all categories of the homeless, based upon the three county types. This table indicates that 71.8% of the homeless are in the large metropolitan counties and are almost equally male and female. Additionally, 55% are less than 18 years of age, 70% are white, and 90% are non-Hispanic.

Map 3 (p. 27a) illustrates the reported number of adults in all categories of homelessness. Map 4 (p. 27b) illustrates the reported number of homeless children in all categories of homelessness.

⁴ Note that number of **incidents** does not refer to the number of individuals; see footnote 1, p. 5 for full explanation of this category.

Table 3 - SUMMARY OF REPORTED NUMBERS BY RESPONSE CATEGORIESⁱ AND ESTIMATE OF THE ANNUAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTSⁱⁱ OF HOMELESSNESS

County Type ^{vii}	County Number	County Name	DEFINITIONAL CATEGORIES OF HOMELESSNESS ⁱⁱⁱ						County Population
			SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESS ^{iv}		DOUBLED-UP/ TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER ^v		COMBINED SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED/ DOUBLED-UP/TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER ^{vi}		
			Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents ^{viii}	
3	1	Adair	0	18	0	27	0	45	8286
3	2	Adams	0	10	0	14	0	24	4500
3	3	Allamakee	0	30	3	45	3	75	14079
2	4	Appanoose	0	67	1	100	1	167	13674
3	5	Audubon	0	15	0	22	0	37	6875
2	6	Benton	0	119	14	177	14	296	24137
1	7	Black Hawk	125	1783	181	2664	306	4447	123077
2	8	Boone	0	125	12	187	12	312	25502
2	9	Bremer	1	114	8	170	9	284	23218
2	10	Buchanan	1	105	11	156	12	261	21294
2	11	Buena Vista	1	99	16	147	17	246	20065
3	12	Butler	0	34	4	50	4	84	15745
3	13	Calhoun	0	25	0	37	0	62	11430
2	14	Carroll	3	106	5	159	8	265	21603
2	15	Cass	0	74	9	110	9	184	15047
3	16	Cedar	1	38	9	57	10	95	17682
2	17	Cerro Gordo	9	229	59	342	68	571	46633
2	18	Cherokee	0	67	5	100	5	167	13591
3	19	Chickasaw	0	29	11	43	11	72	13429
3	20	Clarke	0	17	1	26	1	43	8136
2	21	Clay	2	86	27	128	29	214	17412
3	22	Clayton	0	40	19	60	19	100	18833
2	23	Clinton	29	250	40	373	69	623	50889
2	24	Crawford	0	81	3	121	3	202	16461
2	25	Dallas	1	162	1	242	2	404	32947
3	26	Davis	0	18	0	27	0	45	8539
3	27	Decatur	0	18	0	26	0	44	8177
2	28	Delaware	0	90	1	135	1	225	18394
2	29	Des Moines	11	210	81	313	92	523	42679
3	30	Dickinson	1	34	3	50	4	84	15664
1	31	Dubuque	16	1283	29	1917	45	3200	88566
2	32	Emmet	3	55	7	82	10	137	11153
2	33	Fayette	2	107	14	160	16	267	21799
2	34	Floyd	0	82	0	122	0	204	16603
3	35	Franklin	1	24	8	36	9	60	11106
3	36	Fremont	0	17	3	26	3	43	8097
3	37	Greene	0	22	4	32	4	54	10080

County Type	County Number	County Name	SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESS		DOUBLED-UP/ TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER		COMBINED SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED/ DOUBLED-UP/ TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER		County Population
			Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	
3	38	Grundy	0	26	0	39	0	65	12303
3	39	Guthrie	2	24	2	37	4	61	11406
2	40	Hamilton	0	80	0	119	0	199	16193
3	41	Hancock	0	26	0	39	0	65	12184
2	42	Hardin	0	92	30	137	30	229	18685
3	43	Harrison	0	32	2	48	2	80	15115
2	44	Henry	0	97	10	145	10	242	19826
3	45	Howard	0	21	0	32	0	53	9887
3	46	Humboldt	1	22	10	33	11	55	10284
3	47	Ida	0	18	7	26	7	44	8193
3	48	Iowa	0	33	0	49	0	82	15193
2	49	Jackson	1	99	8	148	9	247	20120
2	50	Jasper	0	173	22	258	22	431	35163
2	51	Jefferson	0	83	5	123	5	206	16829
1	52	Johnson	64	1468	166	2192	230	3660	101291
2	53	Jones	0	100	28	149	28	249	20273
3	54	Keokuk	0	25	5	37	5	62	11564
2	55	Kossuth	11	89	22	133	33	222	18147
2	56	Lee	13	192	19	287	32	479	39130
1	57	Linn	332	2587	439	3864	771	6451	178559
3	58	Louisa	0	25	19	38	19	63	11793
3	59	Lucas	0	19	7	29	7	48	9015
3	60	Lyon	0	26	2	38	2	64	11890
3	61	Madison	0	29	2	43	2	72	13490
2	62	Mahaska	6	108	1	161	7	269	21927
2	63	Marion	1	153	7	228	8	381	31102
2	64	Marshall	0	190	0	283	0	473	38627
3	65	Mills	0	30	12	44	12	74	13802
3	66	Mitchell	0	24	5	36	5	60	11129
3	67	Monona	0	21	0	32	0	53	9968
3	68	Monroe	0	18	4	26	4	44	8177
2	69	Montgomery	0	59	0	88	0	147	11939
2	70	Muscatine	86	204	19	304	105	508	41435
3	71	O'Brien	0	33	0	49	0	82	15349
3	72	Osceola	0	15	0	23	0	38	7077
2	73	Page	0	82	0	122	0	204	16676
3	74	Palo Alt	0	22	4	33	4	55	10200
2	75	Plymouth	0	119	0	178	0	297	24220
3	76	Pocahontas	0	20	0	29	0	49	9119
1	77	Polk	441	5065	840	7565	1281	12630	349560
1	78	Pottawattamie	90	1213	31	1812	121	3025	83701
2	79	Poweshiek	0	93	2	140	2	233	19014
3	80	Ringgold	0	12	3	17	3	29	5373
3	81	Sac	0	26	0	39	0	65	12087

County Type	County Number	County Name	SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESS		DOUBLED-UP/ TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER		COMBINED SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED/ DOUBLED-UP/TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/ OTHER		County Population
			Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	Reported Number	Estimate of Annual Incidents	
1	82	Scott	283	2270	308	3391	591	5661	156694
2	83	Shelby	0	64	1	96	1	160	13089
2	84	Sioux	17	154	20	230	37	384	31398
2	85	Story	108	367	12	548	120	915	74638
3	86	Tama	2	38	8	57	10	95	17878
3	87	Taylor	0	15	1	23	1	38	7152
2	88	Union	0	61	10	91	10	152	12416
3	89	Van Buren	1	17	37	25	38	42	7767
2	90	Wapello	55	176	136	262	191	438	35770
2	91	Warren	1	191	4	286	5	477	38940
2	92	Washington	2	101	46	150	48	251	20508
3	93	Wayne	0	15	0	22	0	37	6866
2	94	Webster	65	193	21	288	86	481	39206
3	95	Winnebago	0	26	2	38	2	64	11900
2	96	Winneshiek	0	103	12	155	12	258	21058
1	97	Woodbury	61	1475	171	2204	232	3679	101827
3	98	Worth	0	17	0	25	0	42	7926
3	99	Wright	0	31	22	46	22	77	14314
		TOTAL	1850	23890	3133	35672	4983	59562	2841764

ⁱ Categories of homeless were determined from available response categories from which respondents were able to choose

ⁱⁱ An **incident** of homelessness refers to one episode, of indeterminate length between 1 and 30 days, of homelessness for one individual. Each **incident**, by definition, is mutually exclusive of all other **incidents** of homelessness for the individual in question. For example, if an individual is homeless for an entire year, this is interpreted as 12 **incidents** of homelessness.

Beginning with the reported numbers of people provided by the shelter and agency data, and after adjusting for non-reporting, a multiplier of 12 was used to inflate the reported number of homeless in order to produce a number of **annual incidents of homelessness**. This number **does not directly translate into an estimate of the number of homeless individuals** because it is impossible to determine how many **incidents** of homelessness any individual may have experienced during the year for which data were collected. Thus, although a county may have reported zero homeless persons, using an incidence estimation it is possible to project actual occurrences of homelessness based upon other pertinent information. See pp. 11- 14 of this report for a detailed explanation of how the incidence estimate was derived.

ⁱⁱⁱ These categories represent the categories available to respondents as reflected by the operational definition of homelessness used in this study

^{iv} Homeless: living on the streets and abandoned buildings (n= 130); living in public/private shelters (n=1720); living in transitional housing for the mentally ill (n=44) and living in single room occupancy facilities (n=105)

^v Doubled-up with family/friends (n=1680); transitional housing (704); youthgroup home (n=80); own home/apt (n=278); other/unknown (n=242)

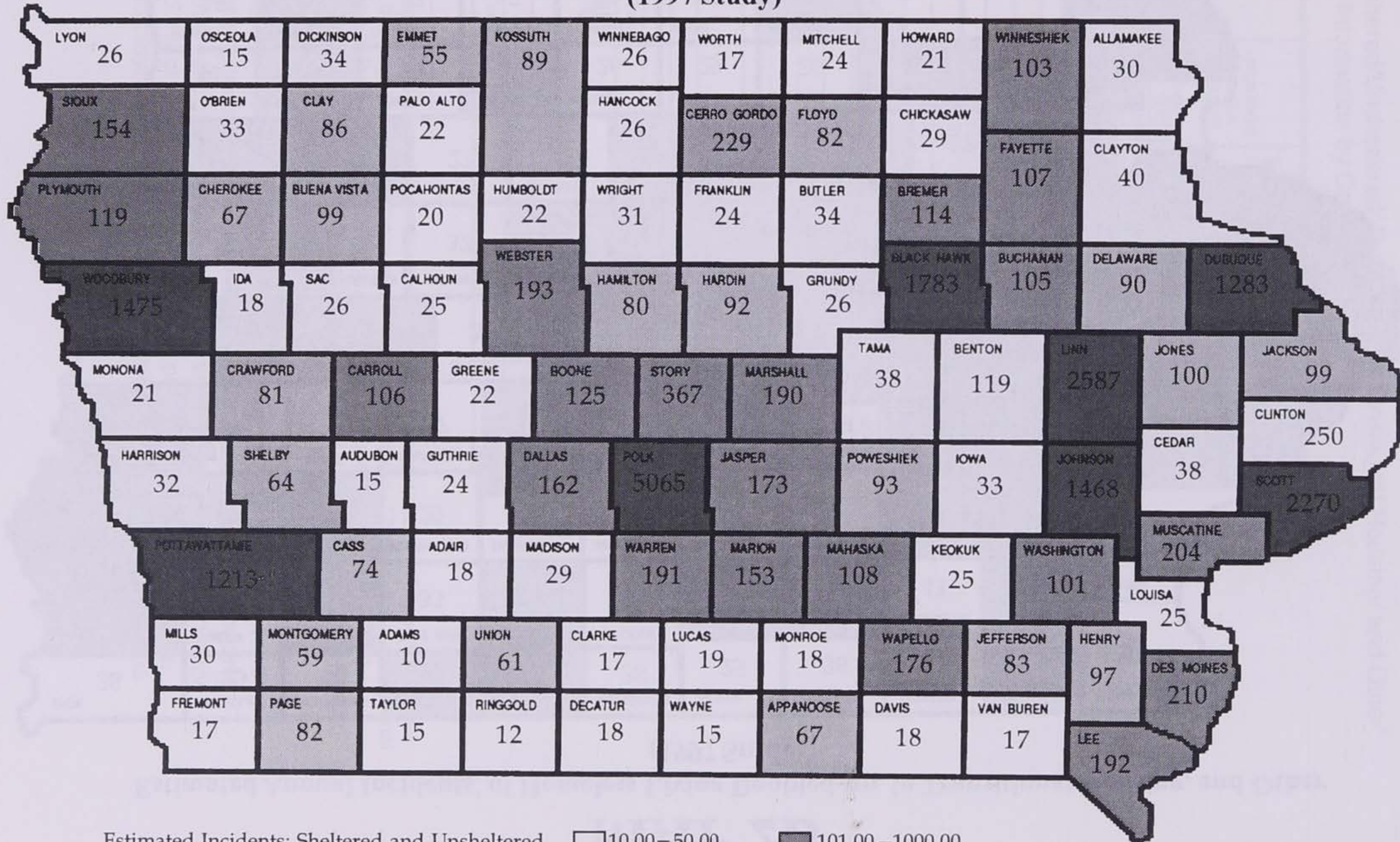
^{vi} A combination of all categories of homelessness available to respondents

^{vii} 1= large metropolitan county (with at least one population center in excess of 50,000). 2= small metropolitan county (with the largest population center falling between 5,000 and 49,999). 3= rural county (with the largest population center less than 5,000)

^{viii} Estimate of annual incidents of homelessness and estimate of annual incidents of doubling up/other categories do not always equal total estimate of annual incidents due to rounding errors.

MAP 2A

Estimated Annual Incidentsⁱ of Homelessness: Sheltered and Unsheltered
(1997 Study)



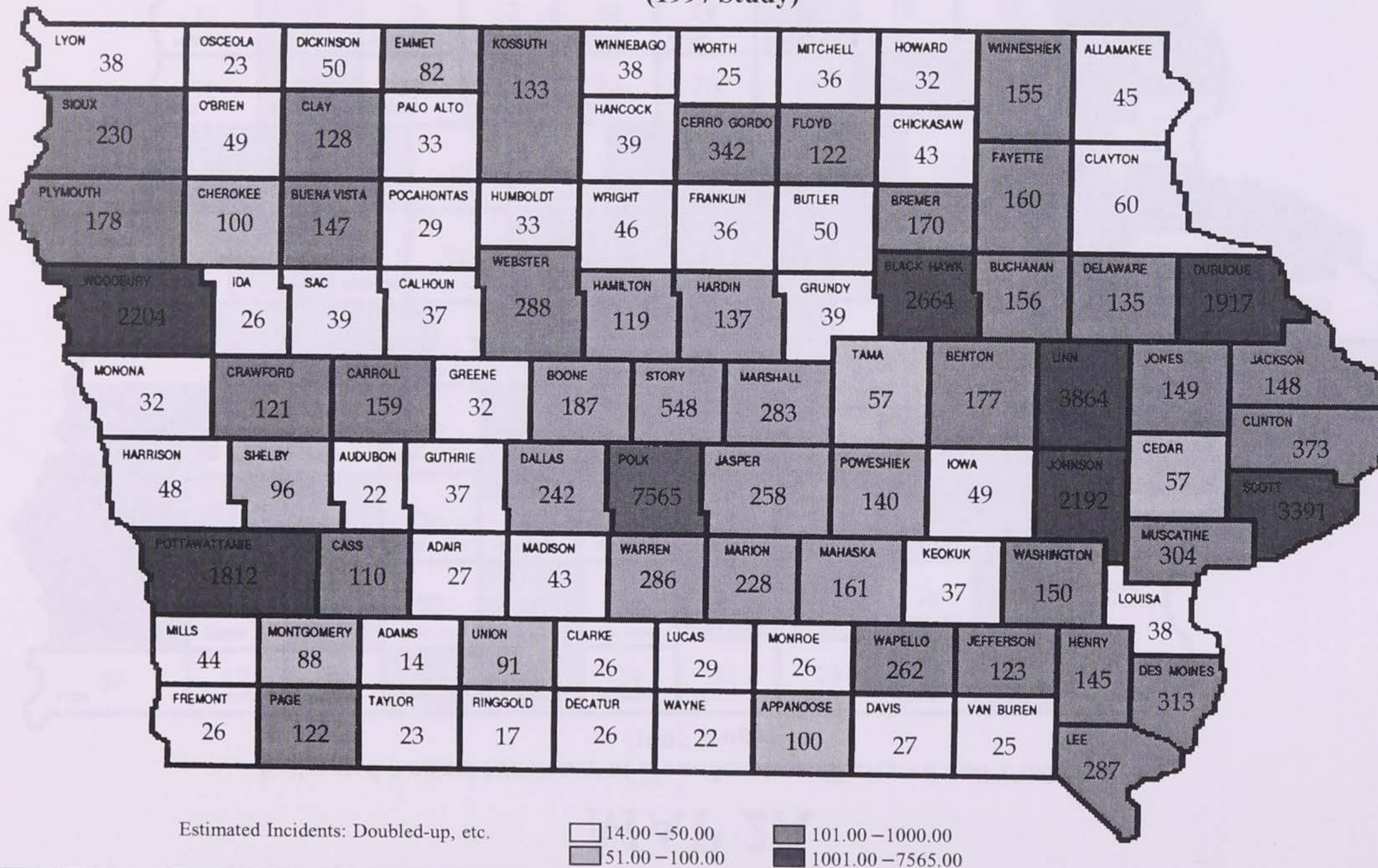
Estimated Incidents: Sheltered and Unsheltered

□ 10.00–50.00	■ 101.00–1000.00
■ 51.00–100.00	■ 1001.00–5065.00

ⁱ See Footnote 1, page 5, for explanation of how the number of annual incidents of homelessness was derived.

MAP 2B

Estimated Annual Incidents¹ of Homeless Living Doubled-up, in Transitional Housing, and Other (1997 Study)



26c

¹ See Footnote 1, page 5, for explanation of how the number of annual incidents of homelessness was derived.

Table 4 - Sheltered/Unsheltered/ Doubled-Up/Transitional Housing/ and Other¹: Demographic Information by County Types

	Large Metro Counties (+50,000)	Small Metro Counties (5,000-49,999)	Rural Counties (<5,000)	State Total
GENDER				
Male	1806	604	127	2537
Female	1764	574	101	2439
Unknown	7	0	0	7
Total	3577	1178	228	4983
AGE				
1- 4 yrs.	412	92	18	522
5- 10 yrs.	973	287	46	1306
11- 13 yrs.	259	105	15	379
14- 17 yrs.	299	188	51	538
18+	1536	474	80	2090
Unknown	98	32	18	148
Total				4983
RACE				
White	2315	965	211	3491
Black	749	88	7	844
Asian/ Pacific Islander	26	9	0	35
Native American/ American Indian	77	2	4	83
Biracial	215	36	2	253
Unknown	195	78	4	277
Total				4983
HISPANIC ORIGIN				
Yes	331	95	12	438
No	3220	1070	216	4506
Unknown	26	13	0	39
Total				4983

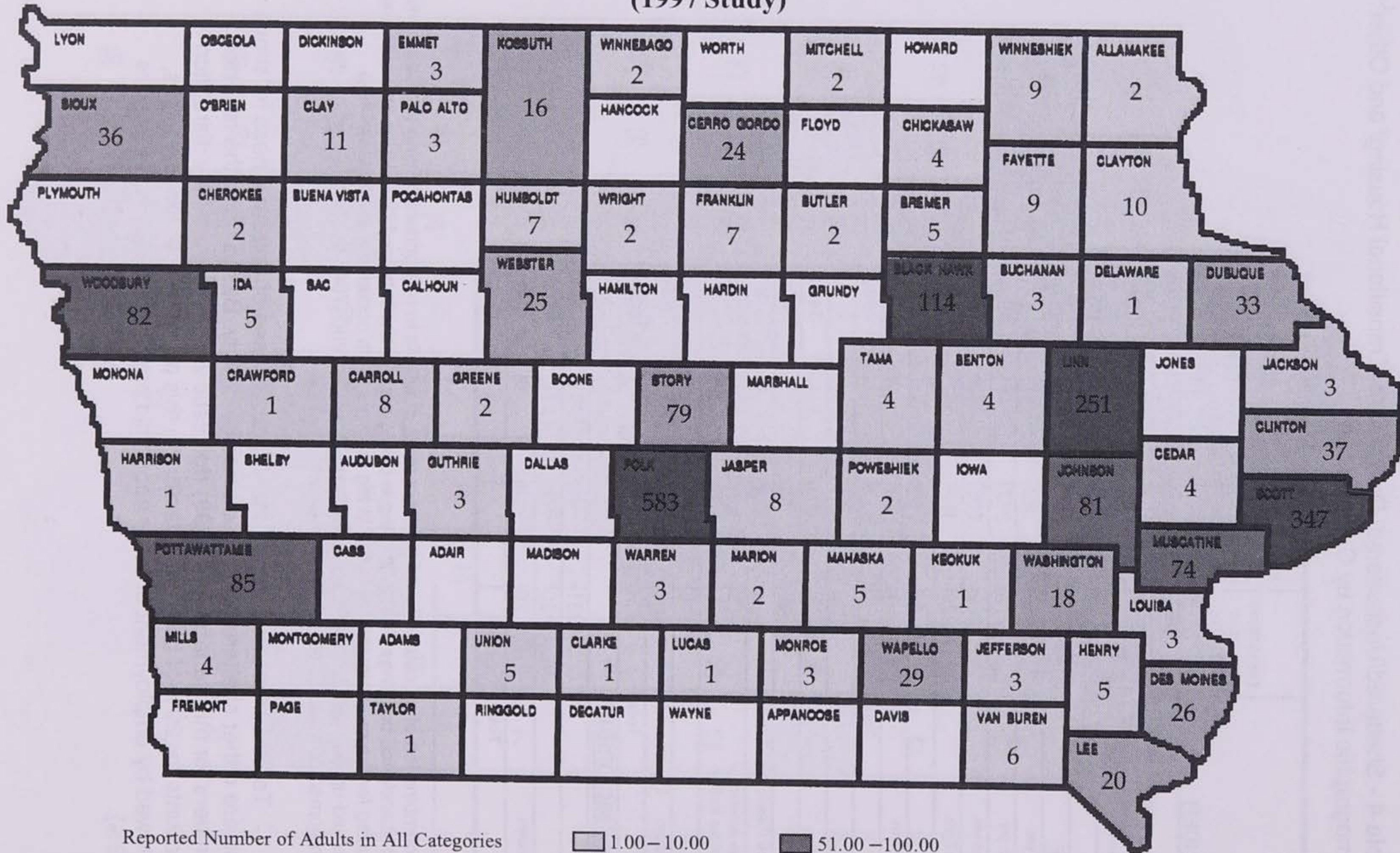
¹ A combination of all categories of homelessness available to respondents: living on the streets and abandoned buildings (n= 130); living in public/private shelters (n=1720); living in transitional housing for the mentally ill (n=44) and living in single room occupancy facilities (n=105) Doubled-up with family/friends (n=1680); transitional housing (704); youth group home (n=80); own home/apt (n=278); other/unknown (n=242)

Table 5a (p. 28a) reports the various causes of homelessness for those who are either sheltered or unsheltered by county. Based upon the reported numbers for this variable (n=1,999) domestic violence and family disruption accounts for 29% of the causal factors in this population of the homeless, followed by employment or other economic problems (22%), and evictions (12%).

MAP 3

Reported Number of Adultsⁱ in all Categories of Homelessness
(1997 Study)

27a



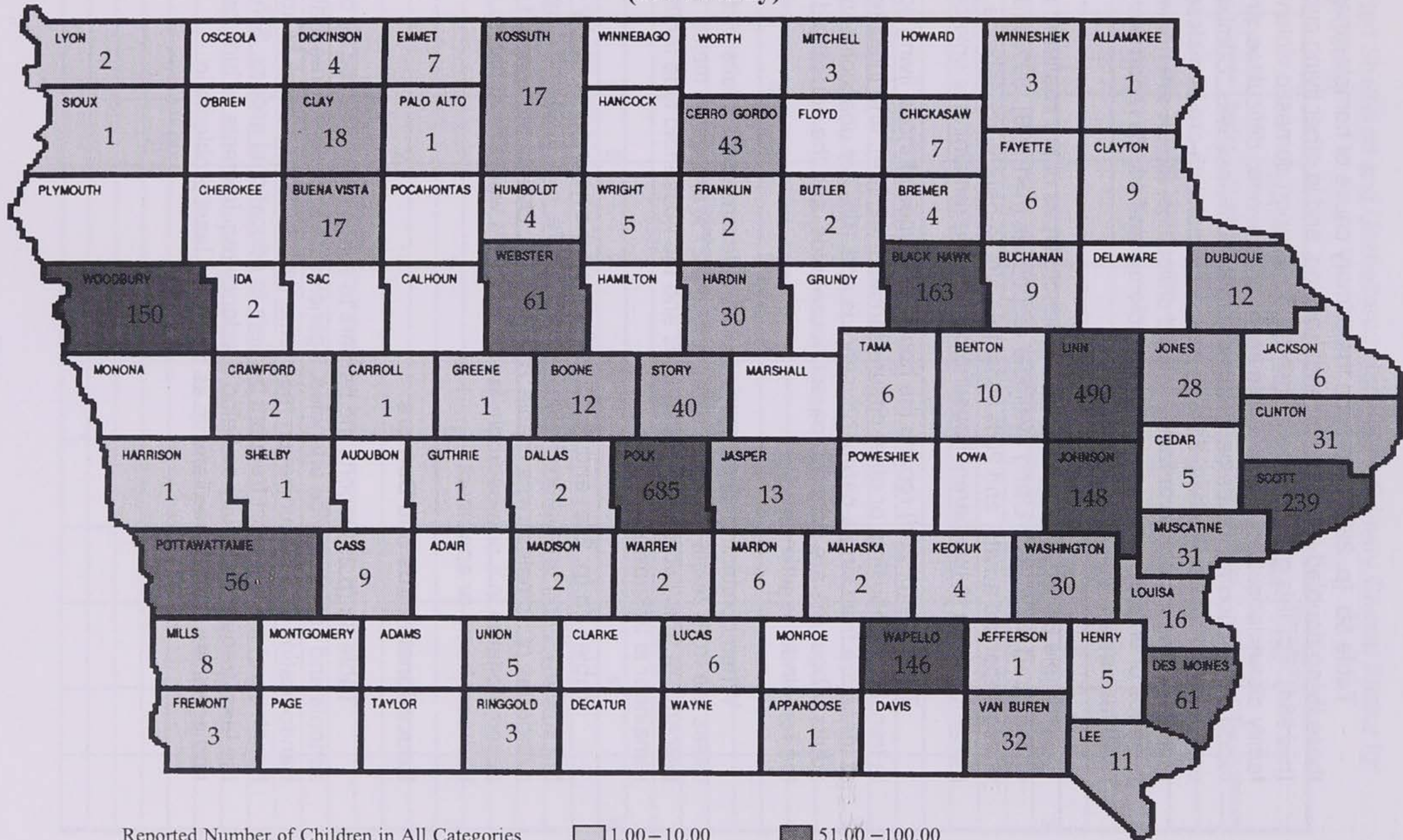
Reported Number of Adults in All Categories



ⁱAdult = Age 18 and older.

MAP 4

Reported Number of Childrenⁱ in all Categories of Homelessness
(1997 Study)



Reported Number of Children in All Categories



27b

ⁱChildren = Age 17 and younger.

Table 5b (p. 28b) reports on the primary cause of homelessness for those living doubled-up, in transitional housing, and in other living circumstances (n=2984). For this group of the homeless, 33% report domestic violence or other family disruptions, 23% report employment or economic difficulties, and 10% report an eviction as the primary cause of their homelessness. Combining all categories of homelessness, 31% of the total population are homeless as a result of domestic abuse or family-related difficulties, 22.5% are homeless because of employment or economic problems, and 11.1% report being homeless as a result of an eviction.

Table 6a (p. 28c) reports the household types of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless. Using available responses (n=1,999), 39% are unaccompanied adults, and 20% constitute single-parent households. Eight percent belong to two-parent households, and the remaining is unknown.

Table 6b (p. 28d) reports the household types of those living doubled-up, in transitional housing, or other circumstances (n=2,984), and indicates that 35% of these are from single-parent households and 15% are unaccompanied single adults. About 8% are from two-parent households, and the household type for the remainder is unknown.

When combining all categories of homelessness for adults 27.5% of all cases are from single-parent households, and 27% are single males. Eight percent are from two-parent households and the household type for the remainder is unknown.

Tables 7a (p. 28e) and 7b (p. 28f) report the housing needs by county for the sheltered and unsheltered homeless (Table 7a, n=1,999) and those in other categories of homelessness (Table 7b, n=2,984). Overall, 48% would be well accommodated in a one-bedroom facility and 29% would be suited to a two-bedroom home or apartment.

Educational Needs and Barriers

Table 8a (p.29) reports the barriers to schooling perceived by both schools and social service agencies. Agencies and schools agree that transportation and immunization requirements (which reflect lack of access to health care) are the most frequent barriers to educational access. Schools report the least frequent difficulty as being residency requirements or birth certificates, and agencies report guardianship as being the least problematic.

Table 5a - Reported Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless¹: Primary Causal Factor for Homelessness by County

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug /Alcohol Related Issues	De-institutionalized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
1	Adair										
2	Adams										
3	Allamakee										
4	Appanoose										
5	Audubon										
6	Benton										
7	Black Hawk	44	11	15	23	3	1	17	22	9	3
8	Boone										
9	Bremer			1				1			
10	Buchanan							1			
11	Buena Vista			4							
12	Butler										
13	Calhoun										
14	Carroll				1						2
15	Cass										
16	Cedar				1						
17	Cerro Gordo	6	2	2				1			
18	Cherokee										
19	Chickasaw							2			
20	Clarke										
21	Clay	1								1	
22	Clayton										
23	Clinton	2	2	2	4	1	5	1	4		8
24	Crawford										
25	Dallas			1							
26	Davis										
27	Decatur										
28	Delaware										
29	Des Moines	6		1	4	1			1		1
30	Dickinson	1									
31	Dubuque	5	4	11	1	2		5	1		
32	Emmet		1		2						
33	Fayette		2						1		
34	Floyd										
35	Franklin	1									
36	Fremont										
37	Greene										
38	Grundy										
39	Guthrie	1		1							
40	Hamilton										
41	Hancock										
42	Hardin										
43	Harrison										

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug /Alcohol Related Issues	De-institutionalized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
44	Henry										
45	Howard										
46	Humboldt			1							
47	Ida										
48	Iowa										
49	Jackson							1			
50	Jasper										
51	Jefferson										
52	Johnson	6	5	14	2	3		1	6	26	2
53	Jones										
54	Keokuk										
55	Kossuth	2		4	3				3		
56	Lee	1		3	5	1	1		4	3	
57	Linn	69	37	89	50	18	3	21	38	15	21
58	Louisa			1							
59	Lucas										
60	Lyon										
61	Madison										
62	Mahaska			5	1						
63	Marion			1							
64	Marshall										
65	Mills										
66	Mitchell										
67	Monona										
68	Monroe										
69	Montgomery										
70	Muscatine		23	20	19	3	4	2	10	5	
71	O'Brien										
72	Osceola										
73	Page										
74	Palo Alt										
75	Plymouth										
76	Pocahontas										
77	Polk	48	54	100	66	100	6	21	36	37	2
78	Pottawattamie		44	14	14	1			14	3	1
79	Poweshiek		1								
80	Ringgold										
81	Sac	27	35	88	33	19	8	13	61	14	2
82	Scott										
83	Shelby										
84	Sioux			4		1	4	2	4	1	1
85	Story	32	18	41	5		2	2	1	6	2
86	Tama				2						
87	Taylor										
88	Union										

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug /Alcohol Related Issues	De- institution- alized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
89	Van Buren				1			1			
90	Wapello	20	1	3	15	3	16		2	2	
91	Warren	1									
92	Washington			1		1					
93	Wayne										
94	Webster	13			22	9		10		11	
95	Winnebago										
96	Winneshiek										
97	Woodbury	9	9	10	15	3	1	7	9	5	
98	Worth										
99	Wright										
	TOTALS	295	249	437	289	169	51	109	217	138	45

ⁱ Homeless: living on the streets and abandoned buildings (n= 130); living in public/private shelters (n=1720); living in transitional housing for the mentally ill (n=44) and living in single room occupancy facilities (n=105). All empty cells indicate 0 reported or no reported number.

Table 5b - Reported Doubled-Up/Transitional Housing/Other Homeless¹: Primary Causal Factor for Homelessness by County

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug / Alcohol Related Issues	De-institutionalized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
1	Acair										
2	Adams										
3	Allamakee				2				1		
4	Appanoose		1								
5	Audubon										
6	Benton	5		8						1	
7	Black Hawk	26	7	29	55	5	1	1	20	5	9
8	Boone	2		1	5	1	2	1			
9	Bremer		4		3						
10	Buchanan	3		1	2		2	1	2		
11	Buena Vista			10					3		
12	Butler			1	3						
13	Calhoun										
14	Carroll	2			3						
15	Cass	4		1	4						
16	Cedar			3	3	3					
17	Cerro Gordo	6	7	7	20	5	1	3	4	4	
18	Cherokee				1		1			3	
19	Chickasaw			1	8						
20	Clarke				1						
21	Clay	2		7	4				14		
22	Clayton	1	3	3	7				5		
23	Clinton	2	3	7	17	5		1	2		3
24	Crawford				3						
25	Dallas				1						
26	Davis										
27	Decatur										
28	Delaware				1						
29	Des Moines	5	5	16	23	5		5	9	5	5
30	Dickinson	2			1						
31	Dubuque	1	6	2	1		2	2	1	1	
32	Emmet				7						
33	Fayette			1	8		1		3		
34	Floyd										
35	Franklin		5	1	1			1			
36	Fremont		2		1						
37	Greene				1					3	
38	Grundy										
39	Guthrie									2	
40	Hamilton										
41	Hancock										
42	Hardin			4	18		4		4		
43	Harrison				2						

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug / Alcohol Related Issues	De-institutionalized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
44	Henry				6			1	2	1	
45	Howard										
46	Humboldt	1		9							
47	Ida	2							5		
48	Iowa										
49	Jackson	2			5	1					
50	Jasper			6	5	3	2		4		2
51	Jefferson			1	2				2		
52	Johnson	25	19	35	34	5	9	4	15	18	1
53	Jones			6	1					21	
54	Keokuk			1	1				3		
55	Kossuth		2	8	11						
56	Lee		5	2	4				1	2	
57	Linn	48	98	106	25	48	9	10	50	2	14
58	Louisa	2		4	8				1	2	1
59	Lucas				6						1
60	Lyon				2						
61	Madison	2									
62	Mahaska		1								
63	Marion		2	1	3			1			
64	Marshall										
65	Mills	5	3		4						
66	Mitchell			5							
67	Monona										
68	Monroe	1		1	1				1		
69	Montgomery										
70	Muscatine	3	7		5			2		2	
71	O'Brien										
72	Osceola										
73	Page										
74	Palo Alt						1	1	1	1	
75	Plymouth										
76	Pocahontas										
77	Polk	77	58	177	164	134	10	37	90	52	12
78	Pottawattamie	4	4	4	6	3		1	7		1
79	Poweshiek		1								
80	Ringgold			1	2						
81	Sac										
82	Scott	21	14	91	53	37	9	17	30	13	6
83	Shelby				1						
84	Sioux		1	6	1	1	1	2	5	3	
85	Story			4	2						5
86	Tama				4	2			1	1	
87	Taylor								1		
88	Union			6	2				1	1	
89	Van Buren	3		8	20				2	3	

County Number	County Name	Domestic Violence	Eviction	Economic/ Employment Problems	Family Disruption/ Conflict/ Break-up	Drug / Alcohol Related Issues	De-institutionalized	Mental Health Issues	Relocation from Another Area	Other	Unknown
90	Wapello	8	8	47	32	5	4	3	3	11	8
91	Warren				4						
92	Washington	13	9	1	20	2	1				
93	Wayne										
94	Webster		6	3	3	3			5	1	
95	Winnebago		1		1						
96	Winneshiek		4	3	2		1	1	1		
97	Woodbury	59	16	44	14	3		1	20	6	1
98	Worth										
99	Wright	1	4	4	1	3			2	1	6
	TOTALS	338	306	687	661	274	61	96	321	165	75

ⁱ Doubled-up with family/friends (n=1,680); transitional housing (704); youth group home (n=80); own home/apt (n=278); other/unknown (n=242). All empty cells indicate 0 reported or no reported number.

Table 6a - Reported Sheltered and Unsheltered Homelessⁱ: Type of Household by County

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Unaccompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
1	Adair							
2	Adams							
3	Allamakee							
4	Appanoose							
5	Audubon							
6	Benton							
7	Black Hawk	21	9	7	57	1	52	1
8	Boone							
9	Bremer				2			
10	Buchanan					1		
11	Buena Vista			3				1
12	Butler							
13	Calhoun							
14	Carroll				3			
15	Cass							
16	Cedar						1	
17	Cerro Gordo	5			3		2	1
18	Cherokee							
19	Chickasaw			2				
20	Clarke							
21	Clay	1			1			
22	Clayton							
23	Clinton	4			25			
24	Crawford							
25	Dallas			1				
26	Davis							
27	Decatur							
28	Delaware							
29	Des Moines	7			6			1
30	Dickinson	1						
31	Dubuque	7		1	21			
32	Emmet	2		1				
33	Fayette						2	1
34	Floyd							
35	Franklin				1			
36	Fremont							
37	Greene							
38	Grundy							
39	Guthrie			1	1			
40	Hamilton							
41	Hancock							
42	Hardin							
43	Harrison							

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Unaccompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
44	Henry							
45	Howard							
46	Humboldt	1						
47	Ida							
48	Iowa							
49	Jackson	1						
50	Jasper							
51	Jefferson							
52	Johnson	6		9	18	26	6	
53	Jones							
54	Keokuk							
55	Kossuth	2	2	1	1		6	
56	Lee	3	2		6		6	1
57	Linn	113	30	40	72	40	63	3
58	Louisa	1						
59	Lucas							
60	Lyon							
61	Madison							
62	Mahaska		3		1		2	
63	Marion			1				
64	Marshall							
65	Mills							
66	Mitchell							
67	Monona							
68	Monroe							
69	Montgomery							
70	Muscatine	9	6	8	39	1	23	
71	O'Brien							
72	Osceola							
73	Page							
74	Palo Alt							
75	Plymouth							
76	Pocahontas							
77	Polk	86	30	29	268		49	8
78	Pottawattamie	12	22	6	7		43	1
79	Poweshiek				1			
80	Ringgold							
81	Sac							
82	Scott	39	25	18	158	2	57	
83	Shelby							
84	Sioux	3		1	13			
85	Story	14	10	14	46	1	24	
86	Tama						2	
87	Taylor							
88	Union							
89	Van Buren		1	1				

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Unaccompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
90	Wapello	24	6	5	7	1	14	5
91	Warren				1			
92	Washington	1			1			
93	Wayne							
94	Webster	9	4	3	3	41	5	
95	Winnebago							
96	Winneshiek							
97	Woodbury	16	6	7	18	1	20	
98	Worth							
99	Wright							
	TOTALS	388	156	159	780	115	377	23

¹ Homeless: living on the streets and abandoned buildings (n= 130); living in public/private shelters (n=1,720); living in transitional housing for the mentally ill (n=44) and living in single room occupancy facilities (n=105). All empty cells indicate 0 or no reported number.

Table 6b - Doubled-Up/Transitional Housing/Other Homeless¹: Type of Household by County

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Un-accompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
1	Adair							
2	Adams							
3	Allamakee			2				1
4	Appanoose							1
5	Audubon							
6	Benton	5		3	1		5	
7	Black Hawk	73	4	16	18	18	15	14
8	Boone	3	1		2	5		1
9	Bremer	2			1		4	
10	Buchanan	2		4		3	2	
11	Buena Vista	3	1	9				
12	Butler		1			2		1
13	Calhoun							
14	Carroll	1			1		1	2
15	Cass	8	1					
16	Cedar	2		2	2	3		
17	Cerro Gordo	18	1	11	10	8	6	3
18	Cherokee		1		4			
19	Chickasaw		2				7	
20	Clarke			1				
21	Clay	5	6		2		14	
22	Clayton	9		2	3		5	
23	Clinton	10	3	8	7	3	1	8
24	Crawford	2					1	
25	Dallas				1			
26	Davis							
27	Decatur							
28	Delaware				1			
29	Des Moines	33	5	6	8	6	17	3
30	Dickinson	2						1
31	Dubuque	8	3	4	1			
32	Emmet	1			1	2	3	
33	Fayette	4	3		2		4	
34	Floyd							
35	Franklin	1	3		3		1	
36	Fremont	1		2				
37	Greene	2			1	1		
38	Grundy							
39	Guthrie				1	1		
40	Hamilton							
41	Hancock							
42	Hardin	13	2	6	3	6		
43	Harrison	1						1

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Un-accompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
44	Henry	3			2		5	
45	Howard							
46	Humboldt	3	2		1		4	
47	Ida	3			2		2	
48	Iowa							
49	Jackson	5					2	1
50	Jasper	6	2	3	3	5	3	
51	Jefferson	1		1	1		2	
52	Johnson	46	8	16	24	5	61	5
53	Jones	7			21			
54	Keokuk	1		3	1			
55	Kossuth	5	4		1		11	
56	Lee	2	2		7		3	
57	Linn	152	37	24	44	9	141	3
58	Louisa	2		2		9	2	3
59	Lucas			3	1		2	1
60	Lyon					2		
61	Madison				2			
62	Mahaska	1						
63	Marion	1		1	1		4	
64	Marshall							
65	Mills	1		1	2	1	4	3
66	Mitchell	1					4	
67	Monona							
68	Monroe	1	1		1			1
69	Montgomery							
70	Muscatine	4	1	6	7			1
71	O'Brien							
72	Osceola							
73	Page							
74	Palo Alt	1		1	1			1
75	Plymouth							
76	Pocahontas							
77	Polk	285	66	103	110	51	173	23
78	Pottawattamie	6	7	4	5		7	1
79	Poweshiek				1			
80	Ringgold					1		2
81	Sac							
82	Scott	106	15	19	65	23	55	8
83	Shelby							1
84	Sioux	3	1	1	14	1		
85	Story	1	3	3				4
86	Tama	3	1				2	2
87	Taylor	1						
88	Union	2	2		3		3	
89	Van Buren	14	2	8	4	6	2	

County Number	County Name	Single Parent Household	Two Parent Household	Adult Couple with no Kids	Un-accompanied Adult	Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)	Child Accompanying Parent	Unknown
90	Wapello	59	8	23	5	20	2	12
91	Warren	3		1				
92	Washington	12	7			1	23	3
93	Wayne							
94	Webster	8			4	2	7	
95	Winnebago				2			
96	Winneshiek	2	2	1	4		3	
97	Woodbury	48	14	26	17	10	47	2
98	Worth							
99	Wright	6	6	6	1		1	2
	Total	1014	228	332	430	204	661	115

Doubled-up with family/friends (n=1,680); transitional housing (704); youth group home (n=80); own home/apt (n=278); other/unknown (n=242). All empty cells indicate 0 reported or no reported number.

Table 7a - Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless¹: Type of Housing That Would Best Serve Clients' Needs by County

County Number	County Name	Permanent - One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
1	Adair										
2	Adams										
3	Allamakee										
4	Appanoose										
5	Audubon										
6	Benton										
7	Black Hawk	30	77	16		13		1		4	7
8	Boone										
9	Bremer	2									
10	Buchanan		1								
11	Buena Vista										4
12	Butler										
13	Calhoun										
14	Carroll	1				2					
15	Cass										
16	Cedar										1
17	Cerro Gordo	3	4								4
18	Cherokee										
19	Chickasaw							2			
20	Clarke										
21	Clay	1	1								
22	Clayton										
23	Clinton	11	1			3		1			13
24	Crawford										
25	Dallas										1
26	Davis										
27	Decatur										
28	Delaware										
29	Des Moines	6									8
30	Dickinson										1
31	Dubuque	17	3	1		3			2		3
32	Emmet										3
33	Fayette	1									2
34	Floyd										
35	Franklin	1									
36	Fremont										
37	Greene										
38	Grundy										
39	Guthrie	1		1							
40	Hamilton										
41	Hancock										
42	Hardin										
43	Harrison										

County Number	County Name	Permanent - One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
44	Henry										
45	Howard										
46	Humboldt	1									
47	Ida										
48	Iowa										
49	Jackson										1
50	Jasper										
51	Jefferson										
52	Johnson	7	9		3	11				25	10
53	Jones										
54	Keokuk										
55	Kossuth		2	9						1	
56	Lee	6	11	1							
57	Linn	57	49	56	2	7	5		12	38	135
58	Louisa										1
59	Lucas										
60	Lyon										
61	Madison		6								
62	Mahaska										
63	Marion										1
64	Marshall										
65	Mills										
66	Mitchell										
67	Monona										
68	Monroe										
69	Montgomery	45	37		2	2					
70	Muscatine										
71	O'Brien										
72	Osceola										
73	Page										
74	Palo Alt										
75	Plymouth										
76	Pocahontas										
77	Polk	227	66	21	10	22	1	14	5	11	93
78	Pottawattamie	5	51	23		3				5	4
79	Poweshiek	1									
80	Ringgold										
81	Sac										12
82	Scott	85	111	15		72	1	1	2	1	
83	Shelby										
84	Sioux	14	3								
85	Story	14	45			45			1		4
86	Tama										2
87	Taylor										
88	Union										
89	Van Buren										2

County Number	County Name	Permanent - One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
90	Wapello	7	20								35
91	Warren	1									
92	Washington					1					1
93	Wayne										
94	Webster	4	19		1				1	39	1
95	Winnebago										
96	Winneshiek										
97	Woodbury	17	27					2		4	18
98	Worth										
99	Wright										
	TOTALS	565	543	143	18	184	7	19	25	128	367

ⁱ Homeless: living on the streets and abandoned buildings (n= 130); living in public/private shelters (n=1,720); living in transitional housing for the mentally ill (n=44); and living in single room occupancy facilities (n=105). All empty cells indicate no response for that category.

Table 7b - Doubled-Up/Transitional Housing/and Other Homeless¹: Type of Housing That Would Best Serve Clients' Needs

County Number	County Name	Permanent- One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
1	Adair										
2	Adams										
3	Allamakee										3
4	Appanoose										1
5	Audubon										
6	Benton	3	6								5
7	Black Hawk	21	30			1			2		104
8	Boone										12
9	Bremer	1	6								
10	Buchanan	4	3		1						3
11	Buena Vista										13
12	Butler										4
13	Calhoun										
14	Carroll	1	2								2
15	Cass										9
16	Cedar	3									6
17	Cerro Gordo	7	9				1				40
18	Cherokee	2				1				1	1
19	Chickasaw		9								
20	Clarke										1
21	Clay	2	20								5
22	Clayton	1	14								4
23	Clinton	1	3	3							33
24	Crawford		2								1
25	Dallas										1
26	Davis										
27	Decatur										
28	Delaware	1									
29	Des Moines	6	26						2	2	42
30	Dickinson										3
31	Dubuque	3	4								9
32	Emmet	1	5								1
33	Fayette	1	10			1					1
34	Floyd										
35	Franklin	4	4								
36	Fremont										3
37	Greene		2	1				1			
38	Grundy										
39	Guthrie	1								1	
40	Hamilton										
41	Hancock										
42	Hardin										30
43	Harrison	1									1

County Number	County Name	Permanent- One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
44	Henry	2	8								
45	Howard										
46	Humboldt	1	9								
47	Ida	2	5								
48	Iowa										
49	Jackson										8
50	Jasper	5	6								11
51	Jefferson	3	2								
52	Johnson	15	91			6	1		2		50
53	Jones										28
54	Keokuk	1									4
55	Kossuth	1	9	11							
56	Lee	6	5							1	2
57	Linn	42	140	107			1		1	1	118
58	Louisa										18
59	Lucas										7
60	Lyon									2	
61	Madison										2
62	Mahaska		1								
63	Marion		5					1			1
64	Marshall										
65	Mills		5								7
66	Mitchell		5								
67	Monona										
68	Monroe	2	2								
69	Montgomery										
70	Muscatine	6				6					7
71	O'Brien										
72	Osceola										
73	Page										
74	Palo Alt	2	1								1
75	Plymouth										
76	Pocahontas										
77	Polk	86	174	16	25	4		1	2	63	440
78	Pottawattamie	2	15	4		1	1				7
79	Poweshiek	1									
80	Ringgold										3
81	Sac										
82	Scott	37	121	8		1			1		123
83	Shelby										1
84	Sioux	15	4		1						
85	Story	1									10
86	Tama										8
87	Taylor			1							2
88	Union	3	5								
89	Van Buren	1		3							32
90	Wapello										129

County Number	County Name	Permanent - One Bedroom	Permanent - Two or More Bedrooms	Transitional Housing Assistance	Juvenile Group Home	Single Room Occupancy	Mental Health Facility	Adult Group Home	Supervised Independent Living	Other	Unknown
91	Warren										4
92	Washington	2	30	6		1					7
93	Wayne										
94	Webster	6	9							2	4
95	Winnebago	1				1					
96	Winneshiek	3	7			1				1	
97	Woodbury	20	64	4					1	2	73
98	Worth										
99	Wright	1	3								18
	TOTALS	331	881	164	27	24	4	3	11	76	1463

ⁱ Doubled-up with family/friends (n=1,680); transitional housing (704); youth group home (n=80); own home/apt (n=278); other/unknown (n=242); All empty cells indicate no response for that category.

Table 8a - Barriers to Educational Access and School Enrollment of Homeless Children and Youth as Identified by Schools and Agencies

Barriers Identified by Schools	Most Frequent Problem	Frequent Problem	Least Frequent Problem
Residency requirements	32	84	272
Requirements for school records	21	117	248
Birth certificates	20	105	258
Legal guardianship requirements	31	153	201
Transportation	59	155	174
Physical examination records	27	152	211
Immunization requirements	44	163	180
Prior school records	39	172	172
Other	12	13	32

Barriers Identified by Agencies	Most Frequent Problem	Frequent Problem	Least Frequent Problem
Residency requirements	7	31	48
Requirements for school records	6	43	38
Birth certificates	14	46	29
Legal guardianship requirements	9	19	57
Transportation	31	46	15
Physical examination records	12	54	22
Immunization requirements	15	46	28
Prior school records	15	39	34
Other	5	3	5

Table 8b (p. 30) describes the school and agency perceptions of the most significant difficulties in gaining access to special educational programs for homeless children. Both schools (27%) and agencies (70%) indicate that access to early Head Start is the most serious concern.

Table 8c (p. 30) identifies the educational needs of homeless children. Schools mentioned free meal programs and access to counseling most frequently, and agencies mentioned school supplies followed by transportation and meal programs.

Table 8b - Significant Difficulties in Gaining Access to Federal and State Programs Experienced by Homeless Children and Youth, Including Preschoolers

School/Agency	Difficulty Identified by Schools		Difficulty Identified by Agencies	
	yes	no	yes	no
Title I	28	366	13	49
Head Start	57	308	20	60
Early Head Start	63	226	29	41
Even Head Start	59	202	25	30
Gifted and Talented	30	352	23	41
Special Education	23	376	15	59
Other programs	7	112	5	17

Table 8c - Identification of the Educational Needs of Homeless Children and Youth

Educational Needs	Educational Needs Identified by Schools	Educational Needs Identified by Agencies
Tutoring/remedial programs	338	66
Special education programs	363	61
Counseling	431	72
Transportation	316	75
Free lunch/breakfast	436	75
Medical services	312	67
School supplies	378	76
Preschool programs	260	66
Staff development on homeless issues	190	60
Parent training/involvement	244	65
Agency coordination	290	53
Policy revision to facilitate enrollment	116	35
Case management (to facilitate enrollment, records transfer)	191	60
Other	12	8

Table 8d (p. 31) identifies the generally unmet needs of the homeless. Both schools and agencies agree that affordable housing is a need. Schools also place high priority on the need for all types of counseling. Agencies indicate that community awareness of the homeless problem is more important.

Table 8d - Identification of the General Unmet Needs of the Homeless

General Unmet Needs	General Needs Identified by Schools	General Needs Identified by Agencies
Family counseling	142	27
Family planning education	115	26
Youth counseling	75	23
Adult counseling	113	22
Parent education/ skill development	161	41
Financial counseling	158	48
Mental health	77	14
Physical health	74	21
Affordable permanent housing	193	89
Community awareness of homeless problem	148	72
Appropriate employment opportunities	121	68
Substance abuse intervention	94	32
Job/work training	112	52
Communication about services available	105	24
Emergency shelter	109	61
Transitional housing	141	59
Home intervention (e.g. child abuse prevention)	70	26
Child care	91	49
Rent/ utilities deposit	101	65
Basic needs (food, clothing, temporary shelter)	91	35
Other	14	3

Table 8e (p.32) reports school and agency perceptions of the homeless problem over the last year. Of the 531 schools who responded to this question, 78% indicate that the homeless problem in their area has remained about the same. Most agencies concur with this observation.

Table 8f (p. 32) identifies the various programs available to assist homeless children in the schools or community. Both schools and agencies were able to check as many responses as they wished.

Table 8e - Perceptions of the Homelessness Problem Over the Last Year

Perceptions	Perception of Schools	Perception of Agencies
Become <u>much</u> worse	14	10
Become worse	66	31
Stayed about the same	413	78
Improved	38	2

Table 8f - Identification of Programs Available Specifically to Assist Homeless Children and Youth in Schools and/or Community

Available Programs	Programs Identified by Schools	Programs Identified by Agencies
Counseling	539	91
In school support programs to help students succeed academically	463	63
Meal programs	506	104
Alternative classrooms/schools	278	59
Youth shelter services	183	52
Church support programs	320	61
Mental health services	373	87
Physical health care services	268	75
Youth/teen recreation programs	180	49
Big Brother/Big Sister program	193	52
Youth employment programs	168	45
YMCA or YWCA	165	52
Shelter-based referral programs	164	46
Teachers trained to identify and work specifically with homeless children	52	23
Other	29	7

Table 9, which is found in Appendix 5 (p. 44), indicates the reported number of homeless in all categories derived from the school data. The data are reported in grade level and attendance categories by school districts across the state.

Vulnerability to Homelessness

Table 10 (p. 32a) ranks the counties of Iowa according to their vulnerability to homelessness, based upon the eight demographic variables determined to be useful in making this type of projection. For each of the eight variables used in this assessment the rate of the county ranking on this variable follow occurrence per population. The lower the ranking (column 1), the greater

Table 10 - Vulnerability to Becoming Homelessⁱ: Ratesⁱⁱ and Relative Rankingsⁱⁱⁱ on Selected Variables By County

County	Total Vuln Rank	Sum of Ranks	Unemp Rate	Unemp Rank	Pov. Rate	Pov. Rank	Chld-Abus Rate	Chld- Abus Rank	Afmr Rate	Afmr Rank	Afupr Rate	Afupr Rank	Dv Rate	Dv Rank	Fdstmp Rate	Fdstmp Rank	XIX Rate	XIX Rank	Pcinc	Pcinc Rank
Adair	41	359	3.2	74	12.7	38	0.0021	68	0.017	48	0.006	29	0.00012	78	0.059	39	0.076	49	16417	14
Adams	11	185	9.2	1	17.1	6	0.0009	96	0.031	20	0.0078	14	0.00022	74	0.081	20	0.101	21	14911	7
Allamakee	42	360	5	19	16.3	9	0.0031	37	0.014	71	0.0019	82	0*	85	0.041	74	0.07	56	16126	12
Appanoose	2	74	5.7	8	15.9	11	0.0029	42	0.049	2	0.014	1	0.00521	3	0.133	1	0.153	1	15201	8
Audubon	64	465	3.5	59	13.6	28	0.0035	28	0.012	83	0.0013	95	0*	85	0.041	73	0.063	70	17755	29
Benton	56	427	4	36	9.5	83	0.0049	9	0.016	59	0.0046	38	0.00118*	45	0.042	71	0.057	80	18977	51
Black Hawk	18	250	4.5	29	8.6	90	0.0053	7	0.047	3	0.005	31	0.00348*	11	0.094	7	0.114	7	20660	76
Boone	69	508	2.7	91	7.6	96	0.0025	53	0.019	43	0.0039	46	0.00213	22	0.051	51	0.079	43	21079	85
Bremer	92	655	3.1	81	9.3	85	0.001	93	0.013	77	0.0027	70	0.00043	68	0.032	91	0.05	90	20131	68
Buchanan	19	251	4.9	23	14.8	14	0.003	40	0.022	38	0.0068	20	0.00014	76	0.054	45	0.077	45	17591	26
Buena Vista	70	511	2.5	96	11.3	58	0.0028	48	0.017	51	0.0021	78	0.00277	13	0.044	63	0.069	57	19453	60
Butler	55	424	5.2	16	11.3	58	0.0024	57	0.016	60	0.0027	71	0	85	0.045	62	0.066	64	18284	36
Calhoun	54	422	3.8	50	12.1	48	0.0029	45	0.015	70	0.0032	59	0.00209	23	0.052	48	0.075	50	18989	52
Carroll	86	568	3.4	64	12.4	45	0.0025	55	0.013	78	0.0014	92	0.00037	71	0.039	79	0.063	71	20941	84
Cass	24	270	5.4	13	13.5	29	0.0029	41	0.023	35	0.0045	40	0.00194	28	0.057	41	0.089	33	18339	38
Cedar	76	533	3.8	50	10.2	77	0.0017	79	0.014	72	0.0038	49	0.00129*	44	0.047	56	0.056	85	19665	65
Cerro Gordo	38	346	4	36	9.6	82	0.0054	5	0.023	34	0.0042	41	0.00341	12	0.065	33	0.088	34	20905	81
Cherokee	78	537	3.4	64	12.1	48	0.0014	85	0.016	64	0.0016	90	0.0023	19	0.038	82	0.068	58	18653	46
Chickasaw	49	398	5.6	10	14.5	18	0.003	39	0.013	82	0.003	64	0.00044*	67	0.037	83	0.063	69	17997	33
Clarke	1	69	5.5	12	15.6	12	0.0044	15	0.037	10	0.0099	5	0.0017	34	0.096	5	0.114	6	14186	4
Clay	81	551	2.6	93	10.7	69	0.0032	34	0.016	68	0.0019	83	0.00261	15	0.043	68	0.067	61	20641	75
Clayton	58	440	6.1	6	18.3	2	0.0023	59	0.008	98	0.0019	84	0.00148	38	0.033	89	0.06	77	17578	25
Clinton	35	311	4.8	26	10.5	70	0.0014^	86	0.036	12	0.0074	16	0.00018*	75	0.085	14	0.1	23	19537	64
Crawford	21	260	3.4	64	14.4	20	0.0046	13	0.025	30	0.0049	32	0.00115	48	0.071	28	0.093	28	18646	45
Dallas	90	627	2.7	91	9	88	0.0029	46	0.016	63	0.0021	80	0.00094	52	0.04	77	0.054	86	22999	96
Davis	44	362	3.8	50	17.5	5	0.0009	94	0.019	44	0.0032	61	0.00201	24	0.053	47	0.074	51	15625	10
Decatur	3	104	5.6	10	18.3	2	0.0021	69	0.036	11	0.0094	7	0.00012*	79	0.12	2	0.143	2	12854	1

County	Total Vuln Rank	Sum of Ranks	Unemp Rate	Unemp Rank	Pov. Rate	Pov. Rank	Chld-Abus Rate	Chld- Abus Rank	Afmr Rate	Afmr Rank	Afupr Rate	Afupr Rank	Dv Rate	Dv Rank	Fdstmp Rate	Fdstmp Rank	XIX Rate	XIX Rank	Pcinc	Pcinc Rank
Delaware	39	356	6.5	3	18.7	1	0.0019	73	0.016	66	0.0035	55	0.00032	73	0.044	66	0.061	75	16597	17
Des Moines	25	272	4.9	23	10	80	0.0039	23	0.038	8	0.0063	24	0.00251	16	0.084	16	0.102	20	20797	78
Dickinson	84	562	3.2	74	10.8	67	0.0034	30	0.012	85	0.0046	37	0*	85	0.037	85	0.053	87	23271	97
Dubuque	57	434	5.7	8	10.9	64	0.0023	60	0.017	47	0.0037	50	0.00427	7	0.048	55	0.066	63	21160	87
Emmet	42	360	4.3	32	12.9	35	0.004	21	0.016	61	0.0025	75	0.0018	31	0.052	49	0.083	38	18829	49
Fayette	20	257	4.1	35	14.2	24	0.002	71	0.027	28	0.0072	18	0.00213	21	0.065	34	0.092	29	16780	18
Floyd	15	233	5.3	14	12.7	38	0.0044	16	0.025	31	0.0065	21	0.00091	55	0.068	31	0.095	26	19142	56
Franklin	65	475	3.2	74	11.9	50	0.0012	90	0.017	54	0.0031	63	0.00082*	59	0.052	50	0.077	44	18893	50
Fremont	12	196	3.8	50	13.5	29	0.0025	52	0.031	17	0.0097	6	0*	85	0.086	13	0.107	13	16569	16
Greene	40	357	3.3	71	11.8	51	0.0047	10	0.021	39	0.0048	34	0.00059*	63	0.062	36	0.082	39	20664	77
Grundy	98	686	3.9	46	8.4	93	0.0015	84	0.011	90	0.0018	86	0.00041*	70	0.028	96	0.037	99	21676	92
Guthrie	36	314	3.5	59	12.7	38	0.0042	19	0.017	49	0.0046	39	0	85	0.057	42	0.084	37	17811	31
Hamilton	72	521	3.2	74	10.4	74	0.0039	25	0.014	73	0.0029	67	0.00118	46	0.046	57	0.063	68	20940	83
Hancock	71	517	3.1	81	12.8	37	0.0027	49	0.014	74	0.0006	99	0.00082	58	0.04	76	0.062	73	17720	28
Hardin	48	393	4	36	11.5	53	0.0022	61	0.02	42	0.0039	48	0.0023	18	0.056	43	0.085	36	20601	74
Harrison	31	295	4	36	11.1	60	0.002	72	0.023	36	0.0049	33	0*	85	0.074	24	0.104	15	16784	19
Henry	61	448	3.4	64	10	80	0.0019	74	0.02	40	0.004	45	0.00247	17	0.055	44	0.076	47	19025	54
Howard	59	446	4.2	33	17.9	4	0.0024	58	0.011	94	0.001	98	0.00133	42	0.044	65	0.071	54	18425	40
Humboldt	89	607	2.5	96	10.4	74	0.0022	63	0.015	69	0.0017	89	0.00086*	57	0.043	69	0.068	59	21165	88
Ida	80	543	2.6	93	14.7	15	0.0022	62	0.013	81	0.0014	94	0	85	0.037	84	0.056	84	17794	30
Iowa	94	664	2.8	90	9.3	85	0.0025	51	0.012	86	0.0018	87	0.00091	54	0.03	94	0.049	92	20821	79
Jackson	21	260	6.4	4	15.2	13	0.0021	65	0.02	41	0.0046	36	0	85	0.06	38	0.08	42	16998	21
Jasper	74	525	3.4	64	8.6	90	0.0039	24	0.018	46	0.003	65	0.00172	33	0.042	72	0.061	74	21448	90
Jefferson	50	402	3.1	81	11.7	52	0.0012	89	0.023	37	0.0062	26	0.00178	32	0.068	30	0.081	40	18664	47
Johnson	99	716	2.9	85	6.4	98	0.0011	92	0.013	76	0.0021	81	0.00201	25	0.032	92	0.04	97	22894	95
Jones	59	446	4.2	33	12.3	47	0.0006	98	0.016	56	0.0035	53	0.00049*	66	0.044	67	0.056	83	15482	9
Keokuk	10	177	5	19	14.5	18	0.0034	31	0.027	27	0.0064	23	0.00129	43	0.079	21	0.096	25	16240	13
Kossuth	68	495	3.3	71	13.8	26	0.0021	67	0.013	80	0.0032	60	0.0005	65	0.04	78	0.057	81	17973	32
Lee	16	236	6.1	6	10.9	64	0.0029	47	0.039	7	0.0062	25	0.00579	2	0.083	18	0.104	16	19003	53
Linn	75	528	2.9	85	7.8	95	0.0025	54	0.024	32	0.0033	58	0.00037*	72	0.054	46	0.067	60	24448	98

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County	Total Vuln Rank	Sum of Ranks	Unemp Rate	Unemp Rank	Pov. Rate	Pov. Rank	Chld-Abus Rate	Chld- Abus Rank	Afmr Rate	Afmr Rank	Afupr Rate	Afupr Rank	Dv Rate	Dv Rank	Fdstmp Rate	Fdstmp Rank	XIX Rate	XIX Rank	Pcinc	Pcinc Rank
Louisa	13	219	4.5	29	13.3	32	0.0029	44	0.031	18	0.0081	12	0.002	26	0.071	27	0.087	35	17051	22
Lucas	8	154	5.3	14	13.3	32	0.0018	77	0.039	6	0.0102	4	0.00099	51	0.096	6	0.12	4	15846	11
Lyon	82	557	2.9	85	14.3	22	0.0018	78	0.012	88	0.0011	97	0.00042	69	0.034	88	0.058	79	16800	20
Madison	79	542	4	36	10.5	70	0.002	70	0.011	91	0.0023	77	0.00007*	84	0.039	80	0.06	76	18456	42
Mahaska	34	308	3.5	59	11.5	53	0.0027	50	0.027	26	0.0059	30	0.00198	27	0.073	25	0.09	31	18065	34
Marion	77	536	3.5	59	8.5	92	0.0022	64	0.016	58	0.0035	54	0.00166*	36	0.046	59	0.058	78	20425	72
Marshall	45	364	3.6	57	10.9	64	0.0031	35	0.03	21	0.0041	43	0.00499	4	0.075	23	0.091	30	21469	91
Mills	33	303	3.4	64	9.2	87	0.0065	1	0.032	16	0.0073	17	0*	85	0.064	35	0.112	10	20548	73
Mitchell	91	632	3.5	59	13.2	34	0.0016	82	0.009	96	0.0015	91	0.0009	56	0.027	97	0.049	93	20871	80
Monona	27	280	3.9	46	12.7	38	0.004	22	0.016	55	0.0034	57	0.00471	5	0.068	29	0.104	18	16474	15
Monroe	14	220	4.5	29	14.7	15	0.0012	88	0.026	29	0.0075	15	0*	85	0.09	9	0.111	11	17443	24
Montgomery	29	288	6.3	5	11.5	53	0.0017	80	0.028	24	0.0071	19	0.00411*	8	0.076	22	0.098	24	19499	61
Muscatine	23	261	4.9	23	10.3	76	0.0054	4	0.034	14	0.0092	8	0.00381	9	0.084	15	0.094	27	22623	94
O'Brien	88	587	2.5	96	12.9	35	0.0019	76	0.011	89	0.0027	72	0.00106	50	0.035	86	0.064	67	19822	66
Osceola	87	582	3.1	81	12.6	42	0.0016	83	0.013	79	0.0025	74	0.00141	41	0.039	81	0.043	94	18701	48
Page	30	289	4	36	10.5	70	0.0029	43	0.027	25	0.0083	11	0.0022*	20	0.073	26	0.102	19	19351	59
Palo Alto	67	491	3.2	74	14.3	22	0.0019	75	0.011	93	0.0028	69	0.0001*	81	0.044	64	0.072	53	18443	41
Plymouth	94	664	3.9	46	10.2	77	0.0009	95	0.01	95	0.0014	93	0.00143	40	0.026	98	0.039	98	19501	62
Pocahontas	63	457	3.2	74	12.6	42	0.0021	66	0.014	75	0.0036	52	0.00011	80	0.049	54	0.07	55	18394	39
Polk	53	419	2.9	85	8.2	94	0.006	2	0.033	15	0.0036	51	0.00353	10	0.067	32	0.081	41	26127	99
Pottawattamie	31	295	3.4	64	10.8	67	0.0038	26	0.039	5	0.0047	35	0*	85	0.083	19	0.1	22	19153	57
Poweshiek	52	417	5	19	9.4	84	0.0043	17	0.017	52	0.0042	42	0*	85	0.045	60	0.062	72	20366	71
Ringgold	6	124	4	36	17	7	0.0041	20	0.024	33	0.0088	9	0	85	0.091	8	0.113	8	13784	3
Sac	37	336	4	36	13.9	25	0.0033	32	0.016	67	0.004	44	0.00117	47	0.05	53	0.073	52	17636	27
Scott	26	279	3.9	46	8.8	89	0.0054	6	0.051	1	0.006	28	0.00433	6	0.096	4	0.109	12	22005	93
Shelby	65	475	3.8	50	14.4	20	0.0004	99	0.016	57	0.0018	85	0*	85	0.045	61	0.064	66	18305	37
Sioux	96	680	3.2	74	10.2	77	0.0007	97	0.007	99	0.0012	96	0.00013*	77	0.023	99	0.042	95	18460	43
Story	97	682	2.9	85	5.7	99	0.0013	87	0.012	84	0.0034	56	0.00107	49	0.031	93	0.041	96	20922	82
Tama	46	366	4.6	28	13.5	29	0.0054	3	0.018	45	0.0028	68	0.00187*	30	0.043	70	0.065	65	19178	58
Taylor	9	156	6.7	2	16.6	8	0.0017	81	0.031	19	0.0088	10	0.00167	35	0.083	17	0.104	17	13152	2

County	Total Vuln rank	Sum of Ranks	Unemp Rate	Unemp Rank	Pov. Rate	Pov. Rank	Chl-Abus Rate	Chld- Abus Rank	Afmr Rate	Afmr Rank	Afupr Rate	Afupr Rank	Dv Rate	Dv Rank	Fdstmp Rate	Fdstmp Rank	XIX Rate	XIX Rank	Pcinc	Pcinc Rank
Union	7	142	5.1	18	13.7	27	0.0036	27	0.034	13	0.0079	13	0.00063*	62	0.087	12	0.112	9	17129	23
Van Buren	17	249	4	36	16.2	10	0.0031	36	0.017	53	0.0064	22	0.00077*	60	0.059	40	0.077	46	14725	6
Wapello	5	119	5.2	16	12.4	45	0.0047	11	0.045	4	0.0108	2	0.00162	37	0.119	3	0.14	3	18247	35
Warren	92	655	2.1	99	7.5	97	0.0024	56	0.016	65	0.0017	88	0.00188	29	0.032	90	0.05	91	20135	69
Washington	62	450	3.6	57	11.4	57	0.0035	29	0.016	62	0.0032	62	0.0001*	82	0.046	58	0.066	62	19519	63
Wayne	4	112	5	19	14.7	15	0.0032	33	0.029	22	0.0104	3	0.00263	14	0.089	10	0.116	5	14394	5
Webster	28	285	3.8	50	10.5	70	0.0043	18	0.037	9	0.0061	27	0.00008	83	0.089	11	0.106	14	21152	86
Winnebago	82	557	2.6	93	11.1	60	0.0045	14	0.012	87	0.0023	76	0.00092	53	0.041	75	0.056	82	20346	70
Winneshiek	85	566	4.7	27	12.5	44	0.0011	91	0.008	97	0.0021	79	0.00067	61	0.03	95	0.05	89	18554	44
Woodbury	47	375	3.7	56	11.5	53	0.0046	12	0.028	23	0.0026	73	0.00693*	1	0.062	37	0.09	32	21410	89
Worth	73	522	4	36	11.1	60	0.0031	38	0.011	92	0.0029	66	0.00051*	64	0.034	87	0.051	88	19078	55
Wright	51	403	3.3	71	11.1	60	0.0052	8	0.017	50	0.0039	47	0.00147	39	0.051	52	0.076	48	19838	67

¹ Vulnerability to homelessness was determined by ranking 8 variables which are believed to draw a composite picture of the population traits of those most likely to become homeless. These variables are identified across the top of this table and defined in the footnotes below. Lower numbers in column 1 (total vulnerability rank) indicate greater vulnerability to homelessness.

² SOURCE for all Rate Information: Iowa Counties: Selected Population Trends, Vital Statistics, and Socio-Economic Data (Goudy et al., 1997).

³ For each variable a rank was calculated based upon the rates for each county on that variable. The lowest rank ("1") corresponds to the highest rate for each variable except per capita income, where the lowest rank ("1") corresponds to the lowest per capita income.

the vulnerability to homelessness (e.g. vulnerability rank #1 indicates that this county is the most vulnerable to homelessness). Notably, the five counties with the lowest total vulnerability scores, and thereby the most vulnerable to homelessness, are all rural: Clarke, Appanoose, Decatur, Wayne, and Wapello. All five are located in the southern tier of counties and are among the poorest in the state. The counties least vulnerable to homelessness, by our measure, are Johnson, Story, Grundy, and Sioux. Johnson and Story counties each contain university communities, which may deceive the statistics because of having atypical populations. The two rural counties are not among the poorest in the state, and may appear less vulnerable to homelessness because of the ratio between the occurrence of the variables we used in assessing vulnerability and the total county population.

Although the domestic assault variable was not included in the total ranking of vulnerability because of copious amounts of missing data for this variable, this problem surfaced as a leading cause of homelessness in this research, suggesting that counties ranking among the top on this variable may have a disproportionate number of homeless who are domestic assault victims. The Iowa counties ranking highest in reported cases of domestic assault are Woodbury, Lee, Appanoose, and Marshall.

DISCUSSION and RECOMMENDATIONS

This study aimed to develop a new baseline level of homelessness in Iowa and, as such, the findings differ appreciably from earlier studies of the homeless problem in the following ways:

- First of all, the actual reported numbers of homeless with which we worked are considerably lower than the number reported in prior studies, as illustrated by 23/99 (23%) of Iowa counties either reporting no homeless or failing to respond at all. This response factor caused us to move forward with more sophisticated statistical estimation techniques to try to determine the **incidents** of homelessness, thereby providing some account of homelessness in rural areas, although nothing was reported about the problem from many of these counties.
- Second, the response rate itself is mediocre. The reasons for this are unclear, but it may represent reporting fatigue from agencies and others who must report on the homeless problem several times each year or are not familiar, for one reason or another, with the homeless problem; various counties may deny the existence of homelessness; or this may reflect an actual drop in the number of homeless. With Iowa's overall unemployment rate being lower than it has been in recent years and unemployment being second rather than first among the three main causes of homelessness, it is

possible that, with more persons employed, the actual number of homeless is declining somewhat, although trend data currently are not available to support or refute this possibility.

- Third, many schools responded to the study by indicating to us that they rarely have homeless children anymore because they have a tight safety net in place whereby children are "caught" before actual homelessness occurs. Many other schools responded that they do not have any homeless children. This information also supports the possibility of fewer homeless than previously documented, although the actual likelihood of this is difficult to determine.

The number of homeless estimated in this study, and the number of episodes of homelessness they experience, could change rapidly and unpredictably, depending upon several factors, such as the as yet untested effects of the welfare reform initiatives implemented in Iowa. Further, until the domestic assault problem and other problems of family disruption are addressed, there will always be a group of women and children and, to a lesser extent men, who become homeless because of family violence and other severe family problems. Additionally, the issues of employment and adequate wages as well as housing availability are all relevant to any discussion of homelessness, and these are very fluid issues that rise and fall based upon various other events such as the cost of living in a given community.

It is also important to recognize that, by the measures we employed, the five counties most vulnerable to homelessness are all rural. This suggests that there is much to be learned about rural homelessness and its role in the larger context of rural poverty. Because most of the variables used in this ranking system are some measure of poverty or family difficulty, and because other research suggests that rural homelessness probably is tightly interwoven into rural poverty, it is not surprising that rural counties, while accounting for only 4.6% of the total reported homeless, are most vulnerable to homelessness. Rural homelessness is very sensitive to issues of unemployment, availability of low-income housing, family difficulties, and other economic and personal problems that remain hidden from this research endeavor and are not easily discovered using most conventional research methodologies which are commonly employed when studying homelessness.

The counties least vulnerable to homelessness are those where the measures of poverty in proportion to the total population suggest that there are fewer poor overall and therefore fewer people likely ever to become homeless. The characteristics of the two small metropolitan counties included in this group support this assumption because unemployment rates are low and generally per capita income is relatively high proportionate to the population in the small metropolitan counties. Compared to other rural counties in the state, both

counties in the least vulnerable category also have relatively high per capita income and low unemployment rates.

The large metropolitan counties of the state, where most of the homeless are found, tend to fall in the middle range of vulnerability to homelessness. This means that, proportionate to the total population, the rates of some of the measures of poverty may be less, thereby allowing a lower overall county ranking, although the actual numbers of individuals who are included within these categories are substantial. Thus, while their vulnerability ranking may not be high, their numbers of actual homeless are greater than other, less populated, regions of the state because their populations are greater.

While the domestic violence variable could not be included in the vulnerability ranking because of copious amounts of missing county-level data statewide on this measure, it should not be dismissed as an indicator of vulnerability to homelessness because it is primary among the identified causes of homelessness. Those counties that appear to have proportionately higher rates of domestic assault probably also are among the more vulnerable to homelessness, and could expect that a significant portion of their homeless would be women who are seeking relief from this problem and bringing their children with them.

There is also much to be learned from the research process undertaken in this study. The response rate could be improved dramatically if statewide and local homeless coalitions were to actively and directly lobby for full participation. The numbers provided to researchers are all they have to work with in analyzing the scope of homelessness, no matter what methodology is employed, and better response rates will assist immeasurably in understanding the dimensions of homelessness in Iowa.

Mandatory reporting of homelessness is another issue that comes forward from this research endeavor. Many states already require this, and while Iowa does not the mechanism for reporting homelessness on an ongoing basis through the **CHIP (Counting Homeless Iowans Project)** should assist future studies in several very important ways by providing a comprehensive, existing database of reported homeless which would include trends and variations within a given year as well as across all years. The **CHIP** participants would not have to be asked to provide additional data for another statewide study because the program maintains an unduplicated and current count of the number of homeless being served, which could be incorporated into future efforts to document the extent of homelessness statewide.

The program also provides a means to track the homeless history of individuals, thereby generating very valuable information to be used in directing program resources. Expanding and maintaining this database should be a

cooperative interagency initiative among interested state agencies (i.e. Department of Human Services, Department of Economic Development, and Department of Education). In addition, state and local coalitions such as the Iowa Coalition for Housing and the Homeless must encourage all member agencies and other facilities who serve homeless clients to participate fully in the **CHIP** program.

We also recommend that the next bi-annual statewide study of homelessness be a shared funding initiative whereby the above named agencies all contribute to its execution. Hopefully, this would make additional money available to do the study and thus permit better follow-up with non-respondents to improve the response rate.

Finally, other communities and locales have undertaken local studies of homelessness. Two of these (Linn County and Black Hawk County) are included as Appendix 6. Both are semi-annual, point-in-time studies and neither makes any effort to annualize their findings by adjusting for non-reporting or by including homeless individuals who may have been missed at the time the data were collected. The two issues that remain unaddressed by these studies are duplication of reported numbers across agencies providing data and continual data collection, both of which would allow for greater accuracy in reported numbers.

The Linn County study appears to have controlled for duplication within agencies for each reporting period, but does not address duplication across agencies or between reporting periods for their annualized report. The final number of homeless reported (4,354) is the sum of all reporting periods, and is not an unduplicated count.

The Black Hawk County study (Grey, 1998) is a semi-annual, point-in-time survey of housing and homelessness conducted during 1997. The study does not control for possible duplications between reporting agencies either within the reporting time period or between both reporting periods for the year. Several hundred questionnaires in excess of 1000 (the exact number was not reported, but ~1000 were in English and "several hundred" additional questionnaires were in Spanish and Bosnjak) were sent out and resulted in 392 useable surveys for data analysis. In addition, the percentages reported reflect the total number of surveys; not just those providing appropriate information, and thus include missing data and refused information. As a result, the data are difficult to interpret accurately.

We believe that using a centralized reporting system such as **CHIP** resolves both of the concerns these local studies were unable to address; namely duplication of reported numbers and continual counting, which is much more likely to include all homeless in a count than a point-in-time study is able to

do. In addition, a centralized system will standardize reporting across all locales, making the resulting numbers much more useful.

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COVER LETTER ACCOMPANYING REPORT

Dr. [Name]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP]

Dear [Name]:

Enclosed for you are two copies of the report on [topic]. One is for the [recipient] and the other is for [recipient]. The report contains [summary of findings] and [summary of conclusions]. The report is [length] pages long and includes [number] tables and [number] figures. The report is [available in English/Spanish].

The research team is [pleased/proud] to have provided you with [valuable/valuable] information. We are [pleased/proud] to have [contributed] to the [knowledge] of [topic].

- First, we have advanced the understanding of [topic] by [summary of findings] and [summary of conclusions].
- Second, we have provided [summary of findings] and [summary of conclusions].
- Third, the study has [summary of findings] and [summary of conclusions].
- Fourth, [summary of findings] and [summary of conclusions].

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Department of Human Development
and Family Studies
1086 LeBaron Hall
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515 294-6316
FAX 515 294-2502

10 April, 1998

Dr. Ray Morley
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Ray:

Enclosed you will find several versions of our report on homelessness in Iowa. One is the full report, including all appendices. The second is an abbreviated report containing all tables and data, but without the appendices and with a shorter version of the methodology. The third is a very brief summary of the report which includes the preface and overview of the 1997 study together with Table 3 describing the results. I am also including a set of color maps.

The research team believes that the findings from this study make several very valuable contributions toward advancing our understanding of the complexities of homelessness which reach far beyond the numbers which have been generated.

- First, we have advanced the methodology for examining the homeless problem considerably, thereby allowing for substantial confidence in the findings and setting the stage for future studies.
- Second, we have provided important information about the causes of homelessness, including documentation that the problem is much more than just an issue of lack of affordable housing and low wages. Findings from this study indicate that domestic abuse and family disruption are the leading causes of homelessness in Iowa.
- Third, the majority of homeless in Iowa are children. This is an alarming situation which bears immediate attention from both schools and social service agencies.
- Fourth, estimating incidents of homelessness is a new approach to examining homelessness which provides some insights into how homelessness is lived for those who are experiencing this level of poverty and social displacement. This adds to the body of understanding about the unique aspects of rural homelessness which are otherwise lost when thinking about the problem only in terms of where it occurs most often, namely in large metropolitan areas. In addition, this figure provides some insight into the number of interactions that various human service agencies have with the homeless population during the course of a year.

- Fifth, the vulnerability data add another dimension to the homeless picture. These data suggest that vulnerability to homelessness is a larger problem in rural areas than previously thought, and also indicate that while there are more homeless in metropolitan areas, simply because the population is larger, actual vulnerability to homelessness may not be as great as in the more isolated rural counties of Iowa.

If you are interested in uploading all or part of this report onto a website we would be happy to assist you with this. Kathy Shelley would be the best person to discuss the logistics of this with, and she can be reached at 515-294-7776. Scott has designed a cover for the report, which we have included. He would be happy to work with you further on the colors and variations for the different versions of the report.

We are requesting that any if versions (including press releases) of this report (other than the ones we are providing) are distributed, we will have the opportunity to review and edit these prior to dissemination. For your information, the proper citation for this report is: Dail, P.W., Shelley, M.C., Fitzgerald, S., & Baker, J. (1998). Homelessness in Iowa: Findings from the 1997 Statewide Study. Ames, IA: Iowa State University. When the report is finally published through the Department of Education, you might want to change the site attribution.

Finally, the research team wishes to express its thanks to the Data Committee of the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness for their contribution to the study. The comments provided were very thought provoking and helpful at many stages of the research process.

On behalf of the entire research team, thank you for providing us with the opportunity to work on this project. We hope that the study will assist the advocacy community with their efforts to ameliorate homelessness and provide the schools with valuable insights into the needs of homeless children. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Paula W. Dail, PhD
Project Director

HUMAN SUBJECT APPROVAL FORMS

2/19/97 F. D. ...

NAME, TITLE, & ADDRESS
DEPARTMENT OF ...

Signature of Principal Investigator
Signature of Institutional Review Board Member

- 1. Project Description (check all that apply)
 Faculty Staff Graduate Student Undergraduate Student
- 2. Project (check all that apply)
 Research Thesis or dissertation Class project Independent Study
- 3. Number of subjects (complete all that apply)
Adults: 100-200 # 18-20 years: # 21-30 years: # 31-40 years: # 41-50 years: # 51-60 years: # 61-70 years: # 71-80 years: # 81-90 years: # 90+ years:
- 4. Brief description of project (attach separate sheet if necessary)
- 5. The subject and objectives of this research are included in the attached form. The subject is a ...



Information for Review of Research Involving Human Subjects

Iowa State University

(Please type and use the attached instructions for completing this form)

1. Title of Project ASSESSING THE SCOPE AND CONTEXT OF HOMELESSNESS IN IOWA

2. I agree to provide the proper surveillance of this project to insure that the rights and welfare of the human subjects are protected. I will report any adverse reactions to the committee. Additions to or changes in research procedures after the project has been approved will be submitted to the committee for review. I agree to request renewal of approval for any project continuing more than one year.

PAULA W. DAIL, PhD 2/1/97 P Dail
 Typed Name of Principal Investigator Date Signature of Principal Investigator

HDFS 1095 LE BARON HALL 4-4564
 Department Campus Address Campus Telephone

3. Signatures of other investigators Date Relationship to Principal Investigator
Raymond E. Morley 1/30/97 Coordinator
RAYMOND E. MORLEY, EdD REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FUNDING AGENCY
IOWA DEPT. OF EDUCATION

4. Principal Investigator(s) (check all that apply)
 Faculty Staff Graduate Student Undergraduate Student

5. Project (check all that apply)
 Research Thesis or dissertation Class project Independent Study (490, 590, Honors project)

6. Number of subjects (complete all that apply)
 ___ # Adults, non-students ___ # ISU student ___ # minors under 14 other (explain) UNKNOWN
 ___ # minors 14 - 17

7. Brief description of proposed research involving human subjects: (See instructions, Item 7. Use an additional page if needed.)
 THE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS RESEARCH ARE DESCRIBED ON THE ATTACHED PAGE. THE STUDY IS A FEDERALLY MANDATED INITIATIVE WHICH REQUIRES ALL STATES WHO ACCEPT HOMELESS ASSISTANCE MONEY TO DO A BI-ANNUAL CENSUS OF THE HOMELESS. THE RESEARCH IS FUNDED THROUGH THE STUART MCKINNEY HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT ADMINISTERED THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION. DATA WILL BE GATHERED THROUGH MAIL SURVEYS TO THE AGENCY NOTED IN ITEM #6. ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN THE 379 IOWA SCHOOL DISTRICTS WILL BE ASKED TO RESPOND TO THE ATTACHED QUESTIONNAIRE. A SIMILAR QUESTIONNAIRE WILL ALSO BE SENT TO DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO SERVE THE HOMELESS, ASKING THEM TO PROVIDE A ONE MONTH CENSUS OF CLIENTS SERVED. BOTH QUESTIONNAIRES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION, AND COVER LETTER ARE ATTACHED.

(Please do not send research, thesis, or dissertation proposals.)



8. Informed Consent: Signed informed consent will be obtained. (Attach a copy of your form.)
 Modified informed consent will be obtained. (See instructions, item 8.)
 Not applicable to this project.

9. Confidentiality of Data: Describe below the methods to be used to ensure the confidentiality of data obtained. (See instructions, item 9.)

DATA WILL BE STORED IN A LOCKED CABINET IN THE HOMELESS RESEARCH OFFICE. CLIENT IDENTIFIER WILL BE THE LAST DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER AND FIRST 4 LETTERS OF LAST NAME; NO FULL NAMES OR SS#'S WILL BE USED. RESPONDING SCHOOLS WILL BE CODED, USING THE STATE ASSIGNED IDENTIFICATION CODE, AND NO DISTRICT OR SCHOOL NAMES WILL APPEAR ON WRITTEN QUESTIONNAIRE. THE CODING SHEETS WILL BE STORED SEPARATELY FROM THE DATA. IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR RESEARCHERS TO IDENTIFY HOMELESS CLIENTS REPORTED IN THE STUDY. DATA WILL BE ENTERED INTO A COMPUTER PROGRAM USING ONLY IDENTIFIER CODES. COUNTY RELIEF AGENCIES AND CAP AGENCIES WILL BE ASSIGNED IDENTIFICATION CODES, AS WILL HOMELESS SHELTERS.

10. What risks or discomfort will be part of the study? Will subjects in the research be placed at risk or incur discomfort? Describe any risks to the subjects and precautions that will be taken to minimize them. (The concept of risk goes beyond physical risk and includes risks to subjects' dignity and self-respect as well as psychological or emotional risk. See instructions, item 10.)

NONE _ NO HOMELESS WILL BE INTERVIEWED; ALL DATA WILL BE OBTAINED FROM SECONDARY SOURCES WHO WILL BE REPORTING ABOUT THE PROBLEM.

11. CHECK ALL of the following that apply to your research:

- A. Medical clearance necessary before subjects can participate
- B. Samples (Blood, tissue, etc.) from subjects
- C. Administration of substances (foods, drugs, etc.) to subjects
- D. Physical exercise or conditioning for subjects
- E. Deception of subjects
- F. Subjects under 14 years of age and/or Subjects 14 - 17 years of age
- G. Subjects in institutions (nursing homes, prisons, etc.)
- H. Research must be approved by another institution or agency (Attach letters of approval)

If you checked any of the items in 11, please complete the following in the space below (include any attachments):

Items A - D Describe the procedures and note the safety precautions being taken.

Item E Describe how subjects will be deceived; justify the deception; indicate the debriefing procedure, including the timing and information to be presented to subjects.

Item F For subjects under the age of 14, indicate how informed consent from parents or legally authorized representatives as well as from subjects will be obtained.

Items G & H Specify the agency or institution that must approve the project. If subjects in any outside agency or institution are involved, approval must be obtained prior to beginning the research, and the letter of approval should be filed.

Checklist for Attachments and Time Schedule

The following are attached (please check):

- 12. Letter or written statement to subjects indicating clearly:
 - a) purpose of the research
 - b) the use of any identifier codes (names, #'s), how they will be used, and when they will be removed (see Item 17)
 - c) an estimate of time needed for participation in the research and the place
 - d) if applicable, location of the research activity
 - e) how you will ensure confidentiality
 - f) in a longitudinal study, note when and how you will contact subjects later
 - g) participation is voluntary; nonparticipation will not affect evaluations of the subject
- 13. Consent form (if applicable)
- 14. Letter of approval for research from cooperating organizations or institutions (if applicable) INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO PARTICIPANTS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- 15. Data-gathering instruments

16. Anticipated dates for contact with subjects:

First Contact

Last Contact

MARCH 1, 1997

APRIL 15, 1997

Month / Day / Year

Month / Day / Year

17. If applicable: anticipated date that identifiers will be removed from completed survey instruments and/or audio or visual tapes will be erased:

MARCH 1, 1998

Month / Day / Year

18. Signature of Departmental Executive Officer Date Department or Administrative Unit

Merrilee McLeod

2/3/97

Human Development & Family Studies

19. Decision of the University Human Subjects Review Committee:

Project Approved Project Not Approved No Action Required

Patricia M. Keith

2-12-97

PMKeith

Name of Committee Chairperson

Date

Signature of Committee Chairperson

PROPOSAL (DRAFT)

ASSESSING THE SCOPE AND CONTEXT OF HOMELESSNESS IN IOWA

Project Director: Paula W. Dail, PhD
Department of Human Development and Family Studies
Iowa State University
515-294-4564
fax: 515-294-2502
e-mail: PWDAIL@IASTATE.EDU

Statistical Consultant: Mack C. Shelley, PhD
Departments of Statistics and Political Science
Iowa State University

Project Duration: 13 January 1997- 30 December 1997

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

This research will assess the scope and context of the homeless problem in Iowa, with particular focus on the educational challenges and needs of homeless children. The study will follow earlier efforts to examine homelessness in Iowa which have been forthcoming through surveys of the problem previously conducted at Drake University. Accordingly, the objectives of this project include the following:

1. Careful analysis of the earlier studies of Iowa homelessness, with a view toward improving the methodology and accuracy of the findings;
2. Enumeration of the homeless population according to various demographic categories, including, age, gender, family/household status, and homeless status, using reported numbers as a basis for statistical estimations and projections;
3. Identification of the types and availability of homeless assistance programs for various categories of homeless;
5. Identification of the needs (with particular attention to the general and special educational needs of children, adult education needs of parents, and housing issues) and barriers to educational and social interventions and assistance for the homeless; and
6. Dissemination of the findings to public and private agencies who address homelessness, and to the community of professionals who administer various homeless assistance initiatives.

APPENDIX 3

DEFINITIONS AND COMPLETING HOMELESS SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for your participation in the 1987 survey on homelessness which we are conducting nationwide. The enclosed questionnaire contains information about the survey and the survey instrument. Although your participation is voluntary, we hope you will find the survey an interesting and valuable one. We appreciate your assistance in this effort and we hope you will find the questionnaire a useful tool in solving the homelessness problem in your agency.

The survey will be a telephone survey on Friday, March 7 from 9 am to 11 am in your agency. The survey will be conducted by a research assistant who will be available to answer any questions you may have. We appreciate your participation in this effort and we hope you will find the questionnaire a useful tool in solving the homelessness problem in your agency.

Information about your agency information about the study and involvement in the survey will be provided to you in a separate letter. On the first page of the questionnaire you will find an example of how such questions should be answered in your agency. The questionnaire and possible responses from which to choose are enclosed in the form of a questionnaire and are self-explanatory.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

The definition of homelessness used for this survey is: (1) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence; or (2) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence and is currently staying in an emergency shelter, a transitional housing arrangement (including a temporary shelter, a homeless shelter, or a housing for the emergency shelter), or a public or private emergency shelter, or a regular sleeping quarters (e.g., a hotel or motel). (U.S. Census, 1987)

The definition of homelessness used for this survey is: (1) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence; or (2) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence and is currently staying in an emergency shelter, a transitional housing arrangement (including a temporary shelter, a homeless shelter, or a housing for the emergency shelter), or a public or private emergency shelter, or a regular sleeping quarters (e.g., a hotel or motel). (U.S. Census, 1987)

The definition of homelessness used for this survey is: (1) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence; or (2) an individual who does not have a regular and adequate nighttime residence and is currently staying in an emergency shelter, a transitional housing arrangement (including a temporary shelter, a homeless shelter, or a housing for the emergency shelter), or a public or private emergency shelter, or a regular sleeping quarters (e.g., a hotel or motel). (U.S. Census, 1987)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING HOMELESS SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Attached you will find the 1997 survey on homelessness which we are asking you to complete and return in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope. Although your participation is voluntary and you are free to decline to answer any of the questions we hope you will complete the survey to the best of your ability because your answers will assist us in more accurately describing the homeless problem in Iowa.

There will be a statewide ICN conference on Friday, March 7 from 9 to 11 am to discuss this project and answer any questions you may have. We hope this opportunity ask questions will assist you in completing the questionnaire as easily as possible,

Below is some general information about the study and instructions to assist you in answering the questions, which is in a spreadsheet format. On the first line of the questionnaire we have provided an **example** of how each question should be answered to guide you in responding. The questions and possible responses from which to select are written across the top of the spreadsheet, and are self explanatory.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

As previously, the definition of homelessness used for this study is: 1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or 2) an individual who has a nighttime residence that is a) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary public living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill; or b) sleeps in a private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (The Homeless Assistance Act, U.S. Congress, 1987; Section 103). Your response to question-----will help us to determine the appropriate category of homelessness.

Confidentiality

All information obtained will be stored in a locked file in the Homeless Research Office at Iowa State University and accessible only to the research team. All questionnaires have numerical codes which correspond to a list of shelters and agencies from whom data are being requested, but actual shelter/agency names do not appear on the questionnaire, and the list of codes and matching names will be stored separately from the data. The findings will be reported in summary form and individual agencies will not be identified. **Client confidentiality** will be protected by asking for the last 4 digits of their social security number and first four letters of their last name only, thereby making it impossible for researchers to know who the individuals are. This coding system will be used to assist us in determining an unduplicated count of the homeless.

Time-line

We are asking you to enter the information requested on ALL clients seen for an entire month, from March 1 through March 31. On April 1 please answer the general questions at the end of the spreadsheet and mail the completed questionnaire back to us in the envelope provided for that purpose. The questionnaire provides ----lines to enter clients. If you think you will need additional lines in order to report all clients seen during the month, please make copies of the questionnaire for your use..

Participants

Please complete as many questions as possible about each client that you serve, as well as identifying other homeless individuals that you may know about who are not living in a shelter (i.e. on the streets, or in public buildings or "doubled up). For these entries, indicate that the individual is "unsheltered" and describe their current sleeping accommodations (i.e. on the streets). Do not fail to report a homeless individual just because you have no other information about that person aside from what you can observe (i.e., gender, race; living circumstances); report that individual as "unknown" name and/or social security number. Please record adults and children individually and do not report the same client more than once.

Terminology

The terms "quasi-homeless" and "imminently homeless" have been eliminated from this study. Estimates of the number of imminently homelessness will be made using individual county poverty rates. Those previously categorized as quasi-homeless will be identified through the question on homeless status immediately prior to entering into the shelter system and those reported as unsheltered.

The term "household" has been substituted for marital and family status questions. The response categories will permit a census of households and individuals that are independent of one another.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please contact Dr. Paula Dail, Project Director at 515-294-4564 at Iowa State University, Scott Fitzgerald, Research Assistant at 515-294-4500, or Dr. Raymond Morley at the Iowa Department of Education at 515-281-3966.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for your assistance with this study. The findings will be available about December 1, 1997.

Agency: _____

6) NO=0
YES=1

7) White=1
Black=2
Hispanic Origin=3
Asian/Pacific Islander=4
Native American/American Indian=5
Biracial=6

8) Male=1
Female=2

9) NO=0
YES=1
Don't know=2

10) Single Parent Household=1
Two-Parent Household =2
Adult couple w/ NO children=3
Unaccompanied Adult=4
Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)=5
Child accompanying parent=6
Unkown=7

1) Agency Code	2) County Code	3) First four letters of Last Name	4) Entry Date	5) Last four digits of Social Security #	6) US Citizen	7) Race	8) Gender	9) If Female-Pregnant	10) Type of Household	11) # of accompanying children

13) Unemployed=0
 Employed (Full Time)=1
 Employed (Part Time)=2

14) NO=0
 YES=1

15) NO=0
 YES=1

17) AFDC=1
 Food Stamps=2
 SSI=3
 SSD=4
 Social Security Pension=5
 Veterans' Benefits=6
 Title XIX=7
 other=8

18) Rental=1
 Own Home=2
 Street/abandoned buildings=3
 Shelter(fee charge)=4
 Shelter (no charge)=5
 Doubled-Up w/ friends or family=6
 Institutionalized(jail or treatment facility)=7
 Transitional housing=8
 Public Building (bus station, etc.)=9
 other=10

12) Monthly Income	13) Employment	14) Physically Handicapped	15) Homeless before current episode	16) Lenth of current episode <i>*days</i>	17) Types of Assistance	18) Client's living condition prior to becoming homeless

- 19) Domestic Violence=1
- Drug/alcohol related issues=2
- Eviction=3
- Family disruption, conflict, or breakup=4
- Deinstitutionalized (jail or treatment facility)=5
- Economic or Employment problems=6
- Mental Health Issues=7
- Relocation from another area=8
- other=9

- 20) Permanent- one bedroom=1
- Permanent- two bedroom=2
- Permanent- more than two bedrooms=3
- Transitional Care=4
- Group Home=5
- Single Resident Occupancies=6
- other=7

19) Primary factor contributing to homelessness	20) Type of housing that would best serve the client's needs	21) Number of days in your shelter

1) What programs are available to specifically assist homeless children in your school and/or community? (Check all that apply)

- counseling
- in school support programs to help students succeed academically
- meal programs
- alternative classrooms/ schools
- youth shelter services
- church support programs
- mental health services
- physical health care services
- youth/ teen recreation programs
- Big Brother/ Big Sister program
- youth employment programs
- YMCA or YWCA
- Shelter-based referral programs
- Teachers trained to identify and work specifically with homeless children
- other (please describe):

2) List the programs available to assist homeless individuals and households in your county?

3) Which needs of the homeless are not being met? (Check all that apply)

- family counseling
- parent education/ skill development
- financial counseling
- mental health
- physical health
- affordable permanent housing
- community awareness of homeless problem
- appropriate employment opportunities
- substance abuse intervention
- child care
- rent/ utilities deposit
- basic needs (food, clothing, temporary shelter)
- youth counseling
- adult counseling
- other (please describe):

4)What are three major barriers to successful interventions with homeless children and households?

SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

5)Is the homelessness problem in your county worse, about the same, or better, compared to:

A. last year? () worse ()about the same () better

B. five years ago? () worse ()about the same () better

APPENDIX 4

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for participating in this study. The school questionnaire is a key part of the research. It is designed to help us understand the current situation in your school and to identify areas for improvement. Your responses will be used to inform the development of a school improvement plan. The survey is confidential and your responses will be kept secure. The survey is being conducted by the Ministry of Education.

To complete the questionnaire, please take 10-15 minutes of your time. The questionnaire is designed to be completed by the school principal or a designated staff member. The questionnaire is available in both English and Maori. If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry of Education.

The questionnaire is a key part of the research. It is designed to help us understand the current situation in your school and to identify areas for improvement. Your responses will be used to inform the development of a school improvement plan. The survey is confidential and your responses will be kept secure. The survey is being conducted by the Ministry of Education.

DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE

The definition of compliance is based on the following criteria: 1) the school has a written policy on compliance; 2) the school has a compliance officer; 3) the school has a compliance committee; 4) the school has a compliance plan; 5) the school has a compliance report; 6) the school has a compliance audit; 7) the school has a compliance review; 8) the school has a compliance improvement plan; 9) the school has a compliance monitoring system; 10) the school has a compliance evaluation system.

Your responses to this questionnaire will provide valuable information for the development of a school improvement plan. The survey is confidential and your responses will be kept secure. The survey is being conducted by the Ministry of Education.

CONTACT

An information sheet will be provided to you by the Ministry of Education. If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry of Education. The survey is being conducted by the Ministry of Education.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING HOMELESS SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Attached you will find the 1997 survey on homelessness which we are asking you to complete and return in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope. Although your participation is voluntary and you are free to decline to answer any of the questions we hope you will complete the survey to the best of your ability because your answers will assist us in more accurately describing the homeless problem, especially for children in Iowa, and reporting this information back to the U.S. Department of Education, as required by the McKinney legislation.

To assist you in responding to the survey, there will be a statewide ICN conference on Friday March 7 from 9 to 11 am to discuss this project and to answer any questions you may have about it. We hope this conference will make it easier for you to provide the information we are requesting.

Below is some general information about the study and instructions to assist you in answering the questions, which is in a spreadsheet format. On the first line of the questionnaire we have provided an **example** of how each question should be answered to guide you in responding. The questions and possible responses from which to select are written across the top of the spreadsheet, and are self explanatory.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

As with previous state-wide studies of homelessness, the definition of homelessness used for this study is: 1) an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or 2) an individual who has a nighttime residence that is a) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary public living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill; or b) sleeps in a private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (The Homeless Assistance Act, U.S. Congress, 1987; Section 103).

Your response to question-----will provide sufficient information for us to determine the category of homelessness. Children living in foster care arrangements should not be included in your documentation of homeless children in your school.

Confidentiality

All information obtained will be stored in a locked file in the Homeless Research Office at Iowa State University and accessible only to the research team. All questionnaires have numerical codes which correspond to a list of shelters and agencies

from whom data are being requested, but actual shelter/agency names do not appear on the questionnaire, and the list of codes and matching names will be stored separately from the data. The information will be reported in summary form, and individual schools will not be identified. **Student confidentiality** will be protected by asking for the last 4 digits of their social security number and first four letters of their last name only, thereby making it impossible to know who the individuals are. This coding system will be used to assist us in determining an unduplicated count of the homeless.

Time-line

We are asking you to enter the information requested on **ALL HOMELESS STUDENTS known to you during the 1996-1997 academic year to date**. In addition, please answer the general questions at the end of the spreadsheet and mail the completed questionnaire(s) back to us by **March 15** in the envelope provided for that purpose. There is space to enter the names of-----individuals; if you think you will need additional lines, please copy the original before completing the forms.

Participants

Please complete as many questions as possible about each homeless student. Do not fail to report a homeless individual just because you have no other information about that person aside from what you can observe (i.e., gender, race; living circumstances); report that individual as "unknown" name and/or social security number. Please record students individually and do not report the same student more than once.

Terminology

The terms "quasi-homeless" and "imminently homeless" have been eliminated. Estimates of the number of imminently homelessness will be made using individual county poverty rates. Those previously categorized as quasi-homeless will be identified through the question on homeless status immediately prior to entering into the shelter system and those reported as unsheltered.

The term "household" has been substituted for marital and family status questions. The response categories have been designed to permit a census of households and individuals that are independent of one another.

If you have any questions whatsoever about the survey, please contact Dr. Paula Dail, Project Director at Iowa State University at 515-294-4564 or Scott Fitzgerald, Research Assistant for the project at 515-294-4500. You may also contact Dr. Raymond Morley at the Iowa Department of Education at 515-281-3966.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH for your assistance with this study. The findings will be available from the Iowa Department of Education about December 1, 1997.

School District: _____

6) NO=0
YES=1

7) White=1
Black=2
Hispanic Origin=3
Asian/Pacific Islander=4
Native American/American Indian=5
Biracial=6

8) Male=1
Female=2

9) Single Parent Household=1
Two-Parent Household =2
Adult couple w/ NO children=3
Unaccompanied Adult=4
Unaccompanied Youth (age 17 or younger)=5
Child accompanying parent=6
Unkown=7

10) NO=0
YES=1

11) NO=0
YES=1

1) District Code	2) School Code	3) First four letters of Last Name	4) Last four digits of Social Security #	5) US Citizen	6) Age	7) Race	8) Gender	9) Grade in School 1996/97	10) Household circumstances of child	11) Physically Handicapped	12) Mentally Handicapped

13)

- 14) Streets/abandoned buildings=1
- Shelter (public)=2
- Shelter (private)=3
- Doubled-up w/ friends or family=4
- Transitional housing=5
- Other=6

- 15) Domestic violence=1
- Drug/alcohol related issues=2
- Eviction=3
- Family disruption, conflict or breakup=4
- Deinstitutionalized (jail or treatment facility)=5
- Economic or Employment problems=6
- Mental Health Issues=7
- Relocation from another area=8
- Other=9

13) Special Education services	14) Child's current living condition	15) Primary factor contributing to current homelessness

1) Which of the following would address the special educational needs of homeless children?
(Rank the top 5)

- enforcement of attendance policies
- parent training
- community training about needs of the homeless
- counseling for children
- more funding(\$) for special programs
- more funding(\$) for staff training/ inservice around needs of homeless children
- easier enrollment in school
- instructional support (remedial services, tutoring)
- job opportunities
- home/ youth residence interventions
- day care
- financial assistance for basic needs (food, clothing, school supplies, personal hygiene)
- transition schools for those who can't/won't attend public schools
- interagency cooperation around issues of substance/drug abuse, mental health care, and health care
- other (please describe):

2) What are three major barriers to successful interventions with homeless children/families?

3) What programs are available to specifically assist homeless children in your school and/or community? (Check all that apply)

- counseling
- in school support programs to help students succeed academically
- meal programs
- alternative classrooms/ schools
- youth shelter services
- church support programs
- mental health services
- physical health care services
- youth/ teen recreation programs
- Big Brother/ Big Sister program
- youth employment programs
- YMCA or YWCA
- Shelter-based referral programs
- Teachers trained to identify and work specifically with homeless children
- other (please describe):

Table 9 - Reported Homeless (All Categories) from School Data Only: Grade Categories and Attendance by School District

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Atten	Pre-school			Kindergarten			Grade School (Grades 1-5)			Middle School (Grades 6-9)			High School (Grades 10-12)			Unknown Grade			
				Irregular Attendance?			Irregular Attendance?			Irregular Attendance?			Irregular Attendance?			Irregular Attendance?						
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	
Ackley-Geneva	9																					
Adair-Casey	18																					
Adel-Desoto-Minburn	27	2														2						
Akron Westfield	63																					
Albert City-Truesdale	72																					
Albia	81																					
Alburnett	99	1											1									
Alden	108																					
Algona	126																					
Allamakee	135																					
Allison-Bristow	153																					
Alta	171																					
Ames	225	9				2			6			1										
Anamosa	234																					
Andrew	243																					
Anita	252	9							6	3												
Ankeny	261																					

63

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																				
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn					
Charter Oak-Ute	1134	1														1							
Cherokee	1152	1												1									
Clarinda	1197																						
Clarion-Goldfield	1206	2											2										
Clarke	1211																						
Clarksville	1215																						
Clay Central/Everly	1218																						
Clear Creek-Amana	1221																						
Clearfield	1224																						
Clear Lake	1233																						
Clinton	1278	25				2	1		5	4			1			4	7		1				
Colfax-Mingo	1332																						
College	1337	40				2			8	1			28	1									
Collins-Maxwell	1350																						
Colo-Nesco	1359																						
Columbus	1368	18											3	3		8	4						
Coon Rapids-Bayard	1413	2														2							
Corning	1431																						
Corwith-Wesley	1449																						
Council Bluffs	1476	8											1	2		1	4						
Creston	1503	2											1	1									
Dallas Center-Grimes	1576																						
Danville	1602																						
Davenport	1611	104		2	9		11	11		37	23		2	2		3	4						

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																	
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn		
Hubbard-Radcliffe	3033	29					2			16			5	3		2	1			
Hudson	3042																			
Humboldt	3060																			
Independence	3105																			
Indianola	3114	4														1	3			
Interstate 35	3119																			
Iowa City	3141	59		1	2		1	3		7	9		8	2		24	2			
Iowa Falls	3150	1												1						
Iowa Valley	3154																			
IKM	3168																			
Janesville	3186																			
Jefferson-Scranton	3195																			
Jesup	3204	2											2							
Johnston	3231																			
Keokuk	3312																			
Keota	3330	4									2			2						
Kingsley-Pierson	3348																			
Knoxville	3375	2									1						1			
Lake Mills	3420																			
Lamoni	3465																			
Laurens-Marathon	3537																			
Lawton-Bronson	3555																			
Le Mars	3600																			
Lenox	3609																			

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	
Lewis Central	3645																					
North Cedar	3691																					
Lincoln Central	3700																					
Lineville-Clio	3705																					
Linn-Mar	3715																					
Lisbon	3744	1																1				
Little Rock	3771																					
Logan-Magnolia	3798	1															1					
Lone Tree	3816																					
Louisa-Muscatine	3841																					
Lu Verne	3897																					
Lynnville-Sully	3906																					
Madrid	3942																					
Malvern	3978	4								2				1								
Manning	4014																					
Manson Northwest Webster	4023																					
Maple Valley	4033																					
Maquoketa	4041	9												5			2	2				
Maquoketa Valley	4043																					
Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn	4068																					
Marion	4086	7					3			4												
Marshalltown	4104																					
Martensdale-St. Marys	4122																					
Mason City	4131	37					3	1		20	5						2	6				

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn				
Moc-Floyd Valley	4149																					
Mediapolis	4203	1																1				
Melcher-Dallas	4212																					
Meservey-Thornton	4266																					
Midland	4269	7								6					1							
Mid-Prairie	4271																					
Missouri Valley	4356																					
MFL-Mar Mac	4419																					
Montezuma	4437																					
Monticello	4446	21											5				16					
Moravia	4491																					
Mormon Trail	4505																					
Morning Sun	4509																					
Moulton-Udell	4518																					
Mount Ayr	4527	3		1						2												
Mount Pleasant	4536																					
Mount Vernon	4554																					
Murray	4572	1																		1		
Muscatine	4581	2					1			1												
Nashua	4599																					
Nevada	4617																					
Newell-Fonda	4644																					
New Hampton	4662																					
New London	4689																					

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	
Oskaloosa	5013																					
Ottumwa	5049	164		3	1		13	5		51	15		13	8		11	37		5	2		
Panorama	5121																					
Parkersburg	5130	4														1	3					
Paton-Churdan	5139																					
PCM	5160	1								1												
Pekin	5163																					
Pella	5166																					
Perry	5184																					
Plainfield	5238																					
Pleasant Valley	5250																					
Pleasantville	5256																					
Pocahontas Area	5283																					
Pomeroy-Palmer	5301																					
Postville	5310	3														3						
Prairie Valley	5325																					
Prescott	5328																					
Preston	5337																					
Red Oak	5463																					
Reinbeck	5472																					
Remsen-Union	5486																					
Riceville	5508																					
Riverside	5510																					
Rock Valley	5607																					

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn				
South Clay	6092																					
Solon	6093																					
Southeast Warren	6094																					
South Hamilton	6095																					
South East Webster	6096																					
South Page	6097																					
South Tama County	6098	10															4	6				
South O'Brien	6099																					
South Winneshiek	6100																					
Southeast Polk	6101																					
Spencer	6102	5					1			2	1		1									
Spirit Lake	6120	4					1			2										1		
Springville	6138	3															2	1				
Stanton	6165																					
Starmont	6175																					
Storm Lake	6219	17					4	1		9	1			1						1		
Stratford	6246																					
Stuart-Menlo	6264																					
Sumner	6273																					
Terril	6345																					
Tipton	6408																					
Titonka	6417																					
Treynor	6453																					
Tri-Center	6460																					

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	
Tri-County	6462																					
Tripoli	6471																					
Turkey Valley	6509																					
Twin Cedars	6512																					
Twin Rivers	6516																					
Underwood	6534	1															1					
Union	6536																					
United	6561																					
Urbandale	6579																					
Valley	6591																					
Van Buren	6592	17								4	4		3			4	2					
Van Meter	6615																					
Ventura	6633																					
Villisca	6651																					
Vinton-Shellsburg	6660																					
Waco	6700																					
Wall Lake View Auburn	6741																					
Walnut	6750																					
Wapello	6759	1																	1			
Wapsie Valley	6762																					
Washington	6768	8															3	5				
Waterloo	6795	108					7	9		41	19	3	1	2		14	10			1	1	
Waukee	6822																					
Waverly-Shell Rock	6840																					

School District	School District Number	Total Number of Children and Youth Reported	Non-Attn																			
				No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn	No	Yes	Unkwn				
Woodbury Central	7098																					
Woodward-Granger	7110																					
TOTAL		1800	27	20	22	16	129	82	2	545	310	14	129	127	3	170	190	1	5	5	2	

APPENDIX 6

A. LINN COUNTY

COMMUNITY STUDIES OF HOMELESSNESS

A. Linn County

B. Black Hawk County

A. LINN COUNTY

The number of homeless persons in Linn County, Iowa, as of the end of each fiscal year is shown in the following table. The number of homeless persons is based on the data provided by the Linn County Department of Social Services, which provides shelter and food for the homeless. The data is based on the number of homeless persons who are housed in the county's homeless shelters. The data is based on the number of homeless persons who are housed in the county's homeless shelters.

Fiscal Year	Number of Homeless Persons
FY93	11
FY94	11
FY95	11
FY96	11
FY97	11

In monitoring the homeless population in Linn County, Iowa, the Department of Social Services, which provides shelter and food for the homeless, has found that the number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years. The number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years. The number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years.

CONCLUSION

Six homeless shelters are currently operating in Linn County, Iowa. The shelters provide shelter and food for the homeless. The number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years. The number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years. The number of homeless persons in the county has remained relatively stable over the past several years.

**FY97 LINN COUNTY HOMELESS DATA
SUMMARY REPORT**

The number of homeless person served by Linn County Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Facilities declined slightly (by one half of a percent) during FY97 as illustrated in the chart below:

Number of Persons Served Unduplicated by Local Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Facilities		
Fiscal Year	Total Served	% Increase/Decrease over previous year
FY93	3,807	+ 9%
FY94	4,327	+ 14%
FY95	4,491	+ 4%
FY96	4,376	- 3%
FY97	4,354	- 1/2%

In examining this decrease, one must keep in mind that FY97 data does not include statistics from the Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center. This facility, which provided limited emergency shelter and transitional housing for single men, was closed early in the fall of 1996. At that time, those being served by this facility were relocated to other communities around the State. In FY96, this facility served 927 men; of that number, 378 were provided with limited overnight emergency shelter while 549 received transitional housing assistance. If these numbers were factored into FY97 data, there would have been an increase in the number of persons served during FY97.

SHELTERS

Six local programs provided overnight emergency shelter to a variety of target populations. Combined, local emergency shelters provided 27,742 shelter nights and 4,467 shelter days to 3,718 homeless persons during FY97. Of those served: 1,911 or 51% were children or youth, 1,354 or 37% were women and 453 or 12% were men. The closing of the Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center, as discussed above, may have impacted these percentages, particularly with regard to the number of men served. There were significant increases, 43% and 27% respectively, in the number of women and children served during FY97. And, if one factors in the drop in the number

of men served, due to the closing of the Salvation Army's facility, there was actually a slight increase in the number of men served in FY97. Overall, the total number of persons served by local emergency shelters increased by 14% in FY97. The following chart illustrates the number of men, women and children served by each of these facilities in FY97:

Number of Persons Served and Number of Shelter Nights/Days Provided by Local Emergency Shelters in FY97					
Shelter Name	Number Served Unduplicated by Shelter				#Nights/Days* of Shelter Provided
	Men	Women	Children	Total	
Catholic Worker House	50	136	103	289	1,960 ^①
Foundation II Youth Shelter	0	0	264	264	4,983
Madge Phillips Center					
- 24 Hour	0	164	147	311	7,804
- Daytime	0	765	1,070	1,835	4,467
Salvation Army	34	0	0	34	34
Willis Dady	369	33	70	472	5,472
YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter	0	256	257	513	7,489
TOTALS:	453	1,354	1,911	3,718	32,209

^① Does not include data from June, 1997; data was not available.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

The number of agencies providing transitional housing services to various subgroups of the homeless decreased to five in FY97 due to the closing of the Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center in the fall of 1996. As a result of this closing, the total number of persons served by area transitional housing facilities dropped by 42% in FY97. Data regarding the number of persons served and the number of housing nights provided by each of the local transitional housing programs is noted below:

**Number of Persons Served and Number of Housing Nights
Provided by Local Transitional Facilities in FY97**

Facility Name	Number Served Unduplicated by Shelter				# Housing Nights Provided
	Men	Women	Children	Total	
ASAC Halfway House	32	21	0	53	2,544
Catherine McAuley Center for Women	0	38	0	38	5,695
HACAP Scattered Sites	23	61	148	232	37,172
Inn Circle	4	98	151	253	34,309
Safe Place Foundation	52	8	0	60	4,729
TOTALS:	111	226	299	636	84,803

Of those served by Transitional Housing Programs in FY97; 17% were men, 36% were women and 47% were children. As noted in the Shelter Section above, the number of men served was impacted by the closing of the Salvation Army facility. If FY96 numbers are factored into the FY97 data, the number of persons served by local transitional housing facilities would actually have shown a 7% increase.

FAMILY COMPOSITION OF THOSE SERVED

The family composition of those served in both emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities during FY97 is depicted in the following chart. The majority of those served - - 70% - - were with families. Of the total number of families served, female head of household families were the predominant type.

Family Composition of Those Served

Families

Persons not in Families

- Emergency Shelters -

	<u>Number Served</u>	<u>% of Total Families</u>		<u>Number Served</u>	<u>% of Total Singles</u>
Two Adult Households	226	26%	Single Men	372	33%
Male Head of Household	6	1%	Single Women	494	44%
Female Head of Household	634	73%	Unaccompanied Youth	264	23%
Subtotals:	866	100%		1,130	100%
	Families			Singles	

- Transitional Housing Facilities -

	<u>Number Served</u>	<u>% of Total Families</u>		<u>Number Served</u>	<u>% of Total Singles</u>
Two Adult Households	22	15%	Single Men	84	52%
Male Head of Household	2	1%	Single Women	77	48%
Female Head of Household	127	84%	Unaccompanied Youth	0	-----
Subtotals:	151	100%		161	100%
	Families			Singles	

TOTAL: 1,017 Families 1,291 Singles

RACIAL/ETHNIC BENEFICIARY CHARACTERISTICS OF THOSE SERVED

Racial/ethnic beneficiary characteristics were available for approximately 93% or 4,031 of the 4,354 persons served by local homeless programs in FY97. As in previous years, the largest percentage of those served were Caucasian. However, in FY97 there was a 5% increase in the number of minority persons served. Information regarding the racial/ethnic characteristics of the local homeless population is highlighted in the following chart:

Racial/Ethnic Characteristics of Homeless Persons Served in FY97		
Race or Ethnic Group	Number Served	% of Total Reported
Black	872	22%
White	2,746	68%
Hispanic	50	1%
Asian	13	Less than 1%
Native American	25	Less than 1%
Other	325	8%
TOTALS:	4,031	100%

MEAL SITES

Linn County is fortunate to have four community meal sites which collectively provide either breakfast, lunch or dinner seven days a week. Those sites include: First Lutheran's Saturday Evening Meal Program; First Presbyterian's Sunday Evening Meal Program; Green Square Meals, which serves evening meals, Monday through Friday; and the Salvation Army's Soup Kitchen, which serves breakfast and lunch, Monday through Friday. These sites provided 56,055 meals to homeless persons during FY97. This represents a 10% increase over the number of meals served by these programs in FY96. A breakdown of the number of meals provided at each site for FY97 is as follows:

Number of Meals Provided by Local Meal Sites During FY97	
First Lutheran	4,642
First Presbyterian	5,230
Green Square Meals	17,637
Salvation Army Soup Kitchen	28,546
TOTAL:	56,055

In addition to the meals provided by the meal sites noted above, six overnight emergency shelters, one daytime shelter and one transitional housing facility served another 72,414 meals to homeless or near homeless persons in FY97. The number of meals provided by those programs are highlighted in the chart below:

Number of Meals Provided by Shelters or Transitional Housing Facilities in FY97	
Shelter/Program	Number of Meals
ASAC Halfway House	7,632
Catholic Worker House	3,760*
Foundation II Youth Shelter	14,537
Madge Phillips Center	
- 24 hour	15,624
- Daytime	726
Salvation Army	60
Willis Dady	4,200
YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter	25,875
TOTAL:	72,414

*Does not include data for June, 1997; data was not available

Overall, 128,469 meals were served to homeless/near homeless individuals at local meal sites, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs during FY97. This is down slightly - - approximately 2% - - from FY96.

SUMMARY

In FY97 (July 1, 1996 - - June 30, 1997), 4,354 persons were sheltered by local homeless programs. Of that number 3,718 were served by emergency shelters while 636 were served by transitional housing programs. This represents a less than a 1% decrease in the number served from FY96 to FY97.

The following chart depicts the total number of men, women and children served by quarter during FY97 and contrasts the total number of men, women and children served during the previous three fiscal years. In general, the number of women and children served increased while the number of men served decreased in FY97.

TOTAL NUMBER SERVED BY QUARTER IN FY97				
<u>FY97</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>CHILDREN</u>	<u>QUARTER TOTAL</u>
1 st Quarter	194	542	846	1,582
2 nd Quarter	109	326	469	904
3 rd Quarter	130	322	439	891
4 th Quarter	131	390	456	977
TOTALS	564	1,580	2,210	4,354
TOTAL NUMBER SERVED COMPARED TO PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS				
FY96 Totals	1,458	1,146	1,772	4,376
FY95 Totals	1,433	1,153	1,895	4,491
FY94 Totals	1,295	1,171	1,861	4,327

For more information, contact:

Ann Hearn
 Planning and Grants Coordinator
 Linn County Department of Human Resources Management
 305 Second Avenue, SE
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1215

Phone: (319) 398-3543
 FAX: (319) 398-3906

**LINN COUNTY LOCAL HOMELESS COORDINATING BOARD
POINT IN TIME DATA COLLECTION RESULTS -- NOVEMBER 11, 1996
REVISED 1/97**

Shelter	Men	Women	Children	Total
Catholic Worker House	2	4	5	11
Foundation II	0	0	14	14
Madge Phillips Daytime	0	10	7	17
Madge Phillips 24 hour	0	10	17	27
Willis Dady	10	2	2	14
YWCA DV Shelter	0	8	9	17
TOTALS	12	34	54	100

Facility	Men	Women	Children	Total
ASAC Halfway House	6	2	0	8
ASAC Heart of Iowa Program	0	3	5	8
Catherine McAuley	0	16	0	16
HACAP Inn-Circle	0	32	57	89
HACAP Transitional	9	26	68	103
Safe Place Foundation	11	2	0	13
TOTALS	26	81	130	237

Program	Men	Women	Children	Total
LSCI	7	14	25	46

On November 11, 1996, 38 men, 115 women and 184 children—a total of 337 persons -- were sheltered at local emergency shelters or transitional housing facilities. Programs reported turning away 16 individuals because they were operating at full capacity, 2 persons who did not meet the program's admission criteria, and 7 for other reasons.

**LINN COUNTY LOCAL HOMELESS COORDINATING BOARD
POINT IN TIME DATA COLLECTION RESULTS – JANUARY 20, 1997**

Shelter	Men	Women	Children	Total
Catholic Worker House	0	1	2	3
Foundation II	0	0	14	14
Madge Phillips Daytime	0	13	12	25
Madge Phillips 24 hour	0	12	10	22
Willis Dady	6	1	3	10
YWCA DV Shelter	0	8	6	14
TOTALS	6	35	47	88

Facility	Men	Women	Children	Total
ASAC Halfway House	6	2	0	8
ASAC Heart of Iowa Program	0	9	18	27
Catherine McAuley	0	14	0	14
HACAP Inn-Circle	3	32	51	88
HACAP Transitional ^①	10	26	62	98
Safe Place Foundation	12	3	0	15
TOTALS	31	86	131	250

Program	Men	Women	Children	Total
LSCI ^②	12	25	37	74

On January 20, 1997, 37 men, 121 women and 178 children – a total of 338 persons – were sheltered at local emergency shelters or transitional housing facilities. Programs reported turning away 44 individuals because the shelter/facility was operating at full capacity, the individual did not meet the program's admission criteria or refused to abide by program rules, or for other reasons.

^①Data for 1/20/97 was reconstructed at a later date; although numbers are close to actual, they may be slightly off.

^②These numbers represent the persons served on 1/21/97. LSCI was closed on Monday, January, 20, 1997 due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

B. BLACK HAWK COUNTY

TO: Park County by December 9, 1990 (Survey Report)

FROM: Mark A. Giga, UM Center for Social and Behavioral Research

DATE: January 13, 1991

RE: Survey Results

Thanks to the 20 agencies who participated, we have received 404 completed questionnaires. This number is close to the July 1990 total of 409. Follow-up respondents completed the survey twice, resulting in 192 multiple surveys. Twenty-two Spanish and 14 Swedish questionnaires were returned.

The data included is as follows. I have included working or revised information in the parentheses, describing the characteristics of the respondents. Not just those that provided the appropriate information. If you require more detailed information, please contact me by telephone at 1/2-6-79 or by FAX at 273-1771.

SEX: Male 114% Female 88% Missing Data 1%

AGE: Male 21% Female 27% Male 21%

ETHNICITY	Percentage
White/Anglo	54.7%
Black/African-American	7.7%
Native American	0.5%
Hispanic	4.3%
Latino/Hispanic	9.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7%
Other	1.7%
Missing Data	1.5%

MAIN HOUSEHOLD LANGUAGE

English	91.7%
Spanish	1.8%
French	0.5%
Other	0.5%
Missing Data	2.0%



TO: Participants in December 9, 1997 Housing Survey
FROM: Mark A. Grey, UNI Center for Social and Behavioral Research
DATE: January 15, 1998
RE: Survey Results

Thanks to the 26 agencies who participated, we have received 406 completed questionnaires. This number is down from the July, 1997 total of 480. Fourteen respondents completed the survey twice, resulting in 392 usable surveys. Twenty-two Spanish and 18 Bosnjak questionnaires were returned.

The data breakdown is as follows. I have included missing or refused information in the percentages, therefore, the percentages reflect the total number of surveys, not just those that provided the appropriate information. If you require more detailed information, please contact me by telephone at 273-6496 or by FAX at 273-7104.

SEX: Male 31.4% Female 67.6% Missing Data 1%

AGE: Mean 30.8 Median 29 Mode 21

ETHNICITY: White/Anglo 55.1%
Black/African-American 28.3%
Native American 0.5%
Bosnian 4.8%
Latino/Hispanic 6.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander 0.8%
Other 1.1%
Missing Data 1.5%

MAIN HOUSEHOLD LANGUAGE:

English 61.7%
Bosnjak 1.3%
Spanish 0.5%
Other 0.5%
Missing Data 36%

HOUSEHOLD SITUATION:

Single Male without Children	16.8%
Single Female without Children	17.6%
Single Male with Children	3.8%
(Mean Number of Children:	1.57)
Single Female with Children	32.4%
(Mean Number of Children:	2.14)
Married without Children	3.6%
Married with Children	24.2%
(Mean Number of Children:	2.4)
Missing Data	1.5%

NUMBER OF ADULTS (18 years or older) IN FAMILY:

Mean 1.62 Median 1 Mode 1

NUMBER OF ADULTS PER HOUSEHOLD SITUATION:

	MEAN	MEDIAN
Single Male without Children	1.64	1
Single Female without Children	1.40	1
Single Male with Children	1.85	1
Single Female with Children	1.36	1
Married without Children	1.60	2
Married with Children	2.08	2

NUMBER OF CHILDREN (17 years or younger) IN FAMILY:

Mean 1.60 Median 2 Mode 2

NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER HOUSEHOLD TYPE:

	MEAN	MEDIAN
Single Male without Children	.48	0
Single Female without Children	.72	0
Single Male with Children	1.08	1
Single Female with Children	2.05	2
Married without Children	.13	0
Married with Children	2.16	2

WHERE DID RESPONDENT STAY IN THE LAST 24 HOURS?

	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Homeless Shelter	7	1.8%
DV Shelter	3	.8%
Women/Children's Shelter	1	.3%
Youth Shelter	12	3.1%
Other Emergency Shelter	1	.3%
On the Street	0	0%
In a Car	0	0%
Vacant Building	0	0%
Other Unsheltered	1	.3%
With Friends/Relatives	61	15.6%
Transitional Housing	60	15.3%
House/Apartment (owned)	79	20.2%
House/Apartment (rent)	154	39.3%
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	1	.3%
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0	0%
Jail	1	.3%
Recovery House	1	.3%
Missing Data	10	2.6%

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN HOUSING SITUATIONS DURING THE PREVIOUS 24 HOURS:

	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	MEAN
Homeless Shelter	3	3
DV Shelter	1	1
Women/Children's Shelter	0	0
Youth Shelter	28	2.3
Other Emergency Shelter	0	0
On the Street	0	0
In a Car	0	0
Vacant Building	0	0
Other Unsheltered	0	0
With Friends/Relatives	67	1.97
Transitional Housing	51	1.88
House/Apartment (owned)	112	2.24
House/Apartment (rent)	218	2.18
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	0	0
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0	0
Jail	0	0
Recovery House	0	0
Missing Data	10	--

MENTAL ILLNESS: TOTAL "YES": 90 PERCENTAGE: 23%

MENTAL ILLNESS BY HOUSING SITUATION:

	NUMBER "YES"
Homeless Shelter	1
DV Shelter	0
Women/Children's Shelter	0
Youth Shelter	4
Other Emergency Shelter	0
On the Street	0
In a Car	0
Vacant Building	0
Other Unsheltered	0
With Friends/Relatives	5
Transitional Housing	48
House/Apartment (owned)	9
House/Apartment (rent)	20
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	0
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0
Jail	0
Recovery House	0
Missing Data RE: Housing Situation	3

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: TOTAL "YES": 60 PERCENTAGE: 15.3%

SUBSTANCE ABUSE BY HOUSING SITUATION:

	NUMBER "YES"
Homeless Shelter	1
DV Shelter	0
Women/Children's Shelter	0
Youth Shelter	3
Other Emergency Shelter	0
On the Street	0
In a Car	0
Vacant Building	0
Other Unsheltered	1
With Friends/Relatives	8
Transitional Housing	26
House/Apartment (owned)	6
House/Apartment (rent)	13
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	0
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0
Jail	1
Recovery House	1
Missing Data RE: Housing Situation	1

AIDS/HIV: TOTAL "YES": 0

PERCENTAGE: 0%

CURRENT HOUSING SITUATION AS A RESULT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

TOTAL "YES": 33 PERCENTAGE: 8.4%

HOUSING SITUATION BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

	NUMBER "YES"
Homeless Shelter	0
DV Shelter	3
Women/Children's Shelter	0
Youth Shelter	1
Other Emergency Shelter	0
On the Street	0
In a Car	0
Vacant Building	0
Other Unsheltered	0
With Friends/Relatives	4
Transitional Housing	13
House/Apartment (owned)	0
House/Apartment (rent)	11
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	0
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0
Jail	0
Recovery House	0
Missing Data RE: Housing Situation	1

VETERAN STATUS: TOTAL "YES": 16 PERCENTAGE: 4.1%

VETERAN STATUS BY HOUSING SITUATION:

	NUMBER "YES"
Homeless Shelter	0
DV Shelter	0
Women/Children's Shelter	0
Youth Shelter	0
Other Emergency Shelter	0
On the Street	0
In a Car	0
Vacant Building	0
Other Unsheltered	0
With Friends/Relatives	2
Transitional Housing	0
House/Apartment (owned)	6
House/Apartment (rent)	7
Motel/Hotel (respondent paid)	0
Motel/Hotel (others paid)	0
Jail	0
Recovery House	1
Missing Data RE: Housing Situation	0

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