

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County Minnesota Interview Data

Background information

The following tables provide detailed interview data from the 2023 Minnesota Homeless Study, including in-depth information about the characteristics of people experiencing homelessness, their history and experiences, and the barriers that prevent them from obtaining housing.

For the **count** of people experiencing homelessness on the day of the study (October 26, 2023), see [Single Night Count of People Experiencing Homelessness](#) available at www.mnhomeless.org. Other reports from the 2023 Minnesota Homeless Study are published on the same site.

Suggested citation

Wilder Research. (2023). *2023 Minnesota Homeless Study interview data*. <http://mnhomeless.org/minnesota-homeless-study/detailed-data-interviews.php>

Table organization

The following data tables represent aggregate responses to questions from the [2023 Minnesota Homeless Study interview](#). Data tables are organized by gender identity, days spent outside, and region.

- **Gender identity:** Respondents could choose one of four gender options: man, woman, non-binary, or another identity. Respondents were also asked if they identify as transgender or Two-Spirit. Responses from these two questions were combined into three categories of gender identity: man, woman, and transgender/non-binary/another identity. Statewide, 7-County Metro Area, and Greater Minnesota data tables report responses for all three categories. For regional data tables, the number of people who identify as trans, non-binary, or another identity is too low to report specific responses to most questions, but they are included in the totals.
- **Days spent outside/unsheltered:** Respondents were asked where they stayed in the previous month and they identified the number of days they were: unsheltered (including those who were outside or in a car or vacant building or some other place not intended for housing), doubled up with others, in a shelter, in housing, and in other locations. Data tables are divided by those who spent: 0 days unsheltered, 1-14 days unsheltered, and 15-30 days unsheltered in the previous month.
- **Region versus statewide:** Each regional report includes total percentages for the region compared to the statewide percentages.

Who is included in these tables?

These tables represent adults age 18 and older; they **do not include unaccompanied minors (under 18)**. Youth under 18 will be represented in separate tables about the characteristics of homeless youth age 24 and younger.

The data reported in these tables apply only to the respondents for whom the question was applicable. Some tables report data that were collected only from those who answered a previous question in a certain way. For example, many questions about children are asked only of those adults who have children with them.

How to read the data tables

Use the percentages instead of “Ns.” Sample weighting, such as we have performed with these data, uses calculations that can result in “fractional” persons. When we use computer rounding to adjust for this, numbers and percentages do not always add up exactly to the total for each category.

The total number of responses is different for each question. The “N” for each table includes the number of valid responses to that question. Missing data (cases when a respondent did not answer a question) are not reported or included in the percentages.

There may be small differences in the medians reported in these tables versus those reported in aggregate reports. This is due to inconsistencies in how medians are calculated within the SPSS statistical software.

Weighted vs. non-weighted data

The 2023 interview data were weighted – or statistically adjusted – to reflect the actual number of sheltered homeless persons, compiled from site counts of people in shelters throughout the state on October 26, 2023. Shelter sites include emergency shelters and motel/hotel vouchers, domestic violence shelters, and transitional housing programs.

Data from non-shelter locations are not weighted. The actual number of homeless persons in non-shelter locations cannot be accurately estimated, so these cases were given a weight of 1.0. There is more information about weighting techniques on the last page of these data tables.

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Demographics and education

1. Age

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
18 to 21 years	10%	4%	7%	12%	5%	8%	9%
22 to 24 years	10%	7%	9%	11%	5%	8%	7%
25 to 29 years	18%	11%	14%	10%	14%	14%	11%
30 to 39 years	31%	26%	27%	26%	34%	28%	26%
40 to 49 years	17%	22%	19%	21%	20%	19%	20%
50 to 54 years	5%	9%	7%	5%	8%	7%	8%
55 to 59 years	4%	7%	5%	6%	6%	6%	7%
60 to 69 years	4%	12%	8%	8%	8%	8%	10%
70 to 79 years	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	2%
80 years or older	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%
# of respondents (weighted)	1116	1268	1456	344	550	2451	5935

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Mean	35	42	39	38	39	39	40
Median	33	40	36	36	37	36	38

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Demographics and education

2. What is your gender?

	Hennepin County						Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity			By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	Trans / Non-Binary / Another gender identity	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Man	0%	100%	21%	45%	59%	62%	52%	53%
Woman	100%	0%	28%	54%	37%	37%	46%	46%
Non-binary	0%	0%	42%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Another identity	0%	0%	9%	0%	1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
# of respondents (weighted)	1131	1285	60	1449	350	560	2477	5988

3. Do you identify yourself as transgender or Two-Spirit?

	Hennepin County						Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity			By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	Trans / Non-Binary / Another gender identity	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Yes	0%	0%	83%	1%	5%	2%	2%	2%
No	100%	100%	17%	99%	95%	98%	98%	98%
# of respondents (weighted)	1070	1203	60	1394	335	501	2338	5737

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Demographics and education

4. Combined gender and transgender identity

	Hennepin County			Totals (all adults)	
	By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Woman	53%	35%	36%	46%	46%
Man	45%	59%	62%	52%	52%
Trans / Non-Binary / Another gender identity	2%	6%	2%	3%	2%
# of respondents (weighted)	1451	350	560	2479	5991

'Trans / Non-binary / Another gender identity' includes all respondents indicating 'Non-binary' or 'Another identity' in Table 2 and/or 'Transgender or Two-Spirit' in Table 3

5. Sexual orientation

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Heterosexual or straight	84%	95%	89%	85%	87%	88%	89%
Gay or lesbian	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Bisexual, pansexual, or queer	11%	2%	6%	11%	9%	7%	8%
Identify in a different way	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unsure	2%	0.1%	1%	2%	0.2%	1%	1%
# of respondents (weighted)	1025	1182	1354	331	493	2269	5625

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Demographics and education

6. What is your racial or ethnic background? (Check all that apply)

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Black or African American	37%	43%	40%	43%	38%	40%	35%
African born	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%
Asian or Pacific Islander	4%	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
American Indian or Native American	23%	21%	15%	17%	43%	22%	20%
Middle Eastern or North African	0%	0.3%	0.2%	0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	32%	24%	33%	27%	15%	28%	18%
Other (unspecified)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Native American or Person of Color (any of the above)	87%	83%	84%	83%	86%	85%	68%
White	21%	26%	26%	25%	21%	25%	44%
Multiple racial or ethnic identities selected	19%	21%	20%	19%	21%	21%	19%
# of respondents (weighted)	1118	1266	1431	343	555	2448	5919

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Demographics and education

7. If American Indian, what tribe are you mainly affiliated with?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Other reservation	29%	21%	24%	30%	23%	24%	26%
Red Lake	22%	21%	16%	23%	26%	22%	18%
None	15%	21%	36%	9%	6%	18%	17%
Leech Lake	14%	14%	11%	14%	15%	14%	11%
White Earth	9%	9%	3%	13%	15%	10%	10%
Fond du Lac	1%	3%	1%	0%	4%	2%	5%
Mille Lacs	5%	3%	2%	5%	5%	4%	3%
Bois Forte	1%	4%	3%	0%	3%	3%	3%
Upper Sioux	0.5%	1%	0%	3%	0.5%	1%	3%
Lower Sioux	3%	1%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Grand Portage	0%	0.4%	0%	0%	0.5%	0.2%	1%
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux	0%	2%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0.5%
Prairie Island Mdewakanton	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%
# of respondents (weighted)	218	230	166	54	215	467	982

8. If affiliated with a tribe, are you living there now?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Yes	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%
No	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	99%	98%
# of respondents (weighted)	171	170	100	45	188	355	772

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9. If American Indian, are you tribally enrolled?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Officially enrolled with a tribe	65%	68%	50%	70%	78%	66%	60%
A descendent of a tribal member but not enrolled	24%	18%	25%	28%	18%	22%	30%
Something else (adopted, not enrolled, need to prove eligibility, etc.)	10%	14%	24%	2%	4%	12%	10%
# of respondents (weighted)	203	205	147	52	202	429	943

10. What is your current marital status?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Married	15%	11%	15%	9%	6%	13%	9%
Separated	7%	8%	7%	10%	10%	8%	7%
Divorced	10%	14%	13%	9%	10%	12%	17%
Widowed	3%	2%	2%	3%	6%	3%	3%
Never married	65%	65%	63%	69%	68%	65%	63%
# of respondents (weighted)	1115	1264	1434	342	550	2443	5925

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11. Where did you live most of the time between the time you were born and age 16?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
St. Paul	5%	3%	4%	6%	3%	4%	8%
Minneapolis	26%	27%	21%	20%	43%	26%	15%
Seven-county metro area, but not St. Paul or Minneapolis	6%	9%	7%	13%	9%	8%	11%
Somewhere else in Minnesota	8%	7%	7%	8%	10%	8%	20%
Another state	26%	32%	30%	33%	29%	29%	33%
Another country	28%	22%	31%	20%	7%	25%	13%
# of respondents (weighted)	1119	1252	1449	340	540	2437	5896

12. How long have you lived in Minnesota?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Less than 1 year	32%	25%	34%	30%	8%	28%	18%
1 to 2 years	7%	6%	7%	3%	5%	6%	6%
3 to 5 years	5%	4%	6%	4%	2%	5%	7%
6 to 10 years	5%	6%	5%	8%	7%	6%	7%
11 to 19 years	9%	13%	10%	16%	15%	12%	11%
20 years or more	42%	45%	38%	39%	63%	44%	51%
# of respondents (weighted)	1124	1272	1455	348	547	2464	5970

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13. For those living in Minnesota two years or less, where did you live before coming to Minnesota?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Ecuador	50%	31%	45%	34%	9%	41%	24%
Illinois	10%	7%	9%	3%	16%	8%	9%
Wisconsin	5%	7%	4%	11%	18%	6%	9%
New York	13%	8%	9%	12%	3%	11%	7%
Texas	0.4%	4%	3%	0%	2%	2%	6%
North Dakota	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%
Missouri	2%	3%	2%	0%	9%	2%	3%
California	1%	1%	1%	0%	5%	1%	3%
Iowa	2%	2%	2%	4%	0%	2%	3%
Florida	0.4%	3%	1%	0%	2%	1%	3%
Tennessee	1%	5%	2%	2%	10%	3%	2%
Mississippi	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%
South Dakota	3%	0.3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Georgia	1%	1%	1%	3%	0%	1%	2%
Ohio	1%	2%	1%	4%	0%	1%	2%
Arizona	1%	0%	0.5%	0%	0%	0.3%	2%
Arkansas	2%	1%	2%	4%	0%	2%	1%
Nevada	0.4%	1%	0%	3%	2%	1%	1%
Columbia	2%	3%	3%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Louisiana	0.5%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Pennsylvania	1%	1%	0%	5%	0%	1%	1%
Alabama	1%	0.5%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Mexico	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Colorado	0%	1%	0.2%	0%	2%	0.3%	1%
Nebraska	1%	1%	0%	4%	5%	1%	1%
Venezuela	0%	3%	1%	0%	3%	1%	1%
Indiana	0%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Kansas	0%	1%	0%	3%	2%	1%	1%
Oklahoma	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Demographics and education

13. For those living in Minnesota two years or less, where did you live before coming to Minnesota?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Washington	0%	1%	0%	2%	2%	0.4%	1%
North Carolina	0%	0.4%	0.2%	0%	0%	0.2%	1%
Kentucky	0.3%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0.1%	0.5%
Michigan	1%	0.3%	0.5%	0%	2%	0.5%	0.5%
Virginia	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.4%
Idaho	0%	1%	0%	0%	6%	1%	0.4%
Alaska	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0.4%
Maryland	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.4%
Puerto Rico	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0.3%
Massachusetts	0%	0.4%	0.3%	0%	0%	0.2%	0.3%
Montana	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%
Nicaragua	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%
Oregon	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%
New Jersey	0.3%	0%	0.2%	0%	0%	0.1%	0.2%
Poland	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%
Hawaii	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%
New Mexico	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0.3%	0.2%
Caribbean Islands (Trinidad, Jamaica, Virgin Islands, West Indies)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%
El Salvador	0%	0.3%	0%	1%	0%	0.1%	0.2%
Utah	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
Honduras	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
District of Columbia	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
Kenya	0%	0.5%	0.3%	0%	0%	0.2%	0.1%
Liberia	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
Maine	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
Canada	0.4%	0%	0.3%	0%	0%	0.2%	0.1%
Delaware	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
Cuba	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%

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13. For those living in Minnesota two years or less, where did you live before coming to Minnesota?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Wyoming	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
South Carolina	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.1%
# of respondents (weighted)	394	327	511	103	66	726	1277

14. For those living in Minnesota two years or less, did you ever live in Minnesota before?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Yes	18%	20%	17%	18%	49%	19%	29%
No	82%	80%	83%	82%	51%	81%	71%
# of respondents (weighted)	385	319	508	97	59	710	1243

15. What is the highest grade in school you have completed?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
8th grade or less	10%	2%	7%	6%	3%	6%	4%
Some high school	16%	13%	13%	18%	19%	15%	15%
GED	11%	16%	13%	9%	18%	14%	13%
High school graduate	33%	34%	35%	33%	32%	34%	34%
Some college, but no degree	21%	21%	21%	23%	19%	21%	23%
Completed any college degree (2-year Associate or higher)	9%	12%	12%	10%	8%	10%	12%
# of respondents (weighted)	1014	1171	1329	326	508	2248	5606

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16. While you were in school, did you ever have an IEP or Individual Education Plan, or receive Special Education services?

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
Yes	22%	29%	24%	30%	33%	27%	31%
No	78%	71%	76%	70%	67%	73%	69%
# of respondents (weighted)	1089	1257	1414	342	537	2406	5843

17. Are you currently enrolled in a GED, adult education, college, or job training program? (Check all that apply)

	Hennepin County					Totals (all adults)	
	By gender identity		By nights spent outside (past month)			Hennepin County	Statewide
	Woman	Man	0 nights unsheltered	1-14 nights unsheltered	15+ nights unsheltered		
A GED program	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%
Adult Basic Education	2%	2%	1%	6%	1%	2%	1%
2-year college or technical school	5%	3%	4%	10%	1%	4%	3%
4-year college or advanced degree	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Any other education or job training program	4%	4%	5%	4%	3%	4%	4%
None of the above	86%	89%	87%	79%	93%	88%	89%
# of respondents (weighted)	1089	1237	1421	335	532	2393	5863

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County Minnesota Interview Data Weighting Techniques

Interviews conducted at shelters were weighted – or statistically adjusted – to reflect the **actual number** of sheltered homeless persons, compiled from site counts of people in shelters throughout the state on October 26, 2023. Shelter sites include emergency shelters and motel/hotel vouchers, domestic violence shelters, and transitional housing programs.

Interviews conducted in non-shelter locations are not weighted. The actual number of homeless persons in non-shelter locations cannot be accurately estimated, so these cases were given a weight of 1.0.

Adult data tables: Interviews and actual counts, by gender identity and total

	Men	Women	Trans/ Non-binary	Total
Interviews with adults in shelters (before being adjusted for weights)	382	293	22	697
Counts of adults in shelters (used for weighting adjustments)	929	936	37	1,902
Interviews of adults in non-shelter locations (not weighted)	375	187	23	585

Note. For comprehensive counts of people experiencing homelessness on October 26, 2023, see <https://www.wilder.org/mnhomeless/results/detailed-data>.

The weightings were calculated by a sample-balancing program available in the Princeton Statistical Program (P-STAT). Individual case weights were computed based on:

- Individual sites
- Gender (male; female; and trans, non-binary, and another identity)
- Minnesota regions (northwest, northeast, central, west central, southwest, southeast, and suburban metro) and counties (Hennepin, Ramsey, and St. Louis)
- Shelter types (emergency shelters and motel/hotel vouchers, domestic violence shelters, and transitional housing programs)

For questions on weighting techniques, contact Walker Bosch at walker.bosch@wilder.org.