

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
Housing history

39. Are you currently on a waiting list for public housing, Section 8 housing, or some other type of rental assistance?

	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	40%	41%	40%	44%	43%	41%	46%
No	60%	59%	60%	56%	57%	59%	54%
# of respondents (weighted)	1058	1174	1393	326	478	2295	5565

40. For those who are currently on a waiting list, how long have you been on the waiting list?

	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 a month	5%	5%	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%
1 - 3 months	35%	42%	42%	36%	35%	39%	39%
4 - 6 months	10%	18%	14%	18%	17%	15%	16%
7 - 12 months	16%	20%	17%	22%	15%	18%	21%
More than a year	33%	16%	23%	18%	27%	23%	19%
# of respondents (weighted)	339	393	441	121	171	756	2185

	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 (months)	19	9	14	12	13	14	11
Median (months)	6	4	4	5	5	5	5

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

41. For those who are not on a waiting list, have you been unable to get on a waiting list because it was closed?

	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	30%	16%	21%	24%	29%	23%	22%
No	70%	84%	79%	76%	71%	77%	78%
# of respondents (weighted)	494	546	696	149	194	1071	2437

42. During the past two years have you received a Section 8 or other rental assistance or housing voucher that you could not use because you could not find a place that would accept it?

	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	7%	6%	5%	6%	10%	7%	8%
No	93%	94%	95%	94%	90%	93%	92%
# of respondents (weighted)	1094	1238	1431	340	526	2396	5861

43. What was the last city or town where you had regular or permanent housing?

	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	7%	6%	6%	5%	8%	7%	13%
Minneapolis	35%	44%	33%	41%	55%	40%	21%
Somewhere else in Minnesota	20%	17%	18%	21%	19%	18%	39%
Another state	15%	20%	20%	18%	16%	18%	19%
Another country	23%	13%	22%	15%	2%	17%	8%
# of respondents (weighted)	1103	1248	1440	339	534	2420	5870

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

44. If your last regular or permanent housing was in Minnesota, but not Minneapolis or St. Paul, where was your last regular or permanent housing?

	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		
Northeast Minnesota - cities under 25,000	0.5%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0.2%	5%
Northeast Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Northwest Minnesota - cities under 25,000	10%	11%	6%	4%	21%	10%	7%
Northwest Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Central Minnesota - cities under 25,000	8%	10%	8%	12%	10%	9%	14%
Central Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	3%	6%
West Central Minnesota - cities under 25,000	4%	3%	4%	0%	4%	3%	3%
West Central Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Hennepin County - cities under 25,000	15%	10%	14%	17%	8%	13%	4%
Hennepin County - cities 25,000 or more	30%	28%	30%	26%	29%	29%	8%
Southwest Minnesota - cities under 25,000	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%
Southwest Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Southeast Minnesota - cities under 25,000	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	7%
Southeast Minnesota - cities 25,000 or more	2%	5%	4%	0%	4%	3%	9%
Anoka County - cities under 25,000	5%	6%	4%	11%	2%	5%	3%
Anoka County - cities 25,000 or more	7%	6%	9%	2%	4%	7%	4%
Dakota County - cities under 25,000	0%	2%	1%	4%	1%	1%	2%

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

44. If your last regular or permanent housing was in Minnesota, but not Minneapolis or St. Paul, where was your last regular or permanent housing?

	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		
Dakota County - cities 25,000 or more	4%	2%	3%	0%	4%	2%	4%
Scott/Carver County - cities under 25,000	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Scott/Carver County - cities 25,000 or more	0%	5%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%
Washington County - cities under 25,000	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Washington County - cities 25,000 or more	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%	1%
Ramsey County - cities under 25,000	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%	3%	1%
Ramsey County - cities 25,000 or more	3%	1%	1%	6%	1%	2%	2%
St. Louis County - cities under 25,000	1%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0.4%	4%
St. Louis County - cities 25,000 or more	0.5%	2%	1%	0%	2%	1%	9%
# of respondents (weighted)	216	197	262	61	98	429	2257

45. If your last regular or permanent housing was in Minnesota, but not Minneapolis or St. Paul, was that on a reservation?

	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	9%	11%	6%	6%	21%	10%	5%
No	91%	89%	94%	94%	79%	90%	95%
# of respondents (weighted)	207	196	253	65	94	418	2035

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

46. If your last regular or permanent housing was on a reservation, which reservation was that?

	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		
Red Lake	48%	45%	57%	26%	40%	47%	31%
White Earth	16%	18%	7%	0%	25%	17%	18%
Leech Lake	10%	9%	0%	0%	20%	10%	18%
Fond du Lac	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%	2%	12%
Mille Lacs	20%	12%	12%	74%	10%	16%	11%
Prairie Island Sioux	0%	16%	24%	0%	0%	8%	3%
Lower Sioux	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Bois Forte	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Upper Sioux	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Grand Portage	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
# of respondents (weighted)	19	22	14	4	20	41	105

47. Thinking about the last regular or permanent place you lived, did either of the following situations happen to you?

	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		
Evicted or had a foreclosure	27%	28%	26%	29%	32%	28%	30%
Lease expired and your landlord would not renew it	19%	19%	17%	19%	24%	19%	20%
Neither of the above situations indicated	61%	61%	64%	58%	55%	61%	58%
# of respondents (weighted)	1112	1253	1440	345	539	2435	5900

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

48. Did you leave your last regular or permanent housing for any of the following reasons?

	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		
Rent or house payment increased and you could no longer afford it	31%	28%	28%	35%	29%	29%	26%
You lost your job or had your hours cut	31%	37%	34%	32%	33%	34%	31%
You felt unsafe in the neighborhood	38%	22%	35%	27%	18%	30%	25%
Abuse by someone you lived with	26%	11%	19%	22%	16%	19%	22%
You had a dispute with your landlord	21%	24%	22%	22%	27%	23%	24%
Unfair or discriminatory rules or policies by your landlord or housing facility	25%	22%	23%	26%	26%	24%	21%
A breakup with your spouse or partner	25%	26%	24%	29%	26%	25%	26%
Problems or conflict with other people you lived with	27%	27%	25%	35%	29%	28%	31%
None of the above reasons indicated	15%	19%	17%	18%	20%	17%	19%
# of respondents (weighted)	1112	1248	1441	345	531	2425	5900

49. What was the first type of place you stayed when you lost your last regular or permanent housing?

	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		
Stay with friends or family in regular housing that they had	38%	34%	36%	37%	36%	36%	41%
Stay in an emergency shelter	24%	25%	30%	18%	12%	24%	21%
Sleep in a car, a bus or train station, lobby, or another inside public space not intended for housing	14%	16%	13%	20%	20%	15%	15%
Sleep outside or some other open place including camping	13%	17%	10%	16%	26%	15%	13%
Stay somewhere else	10%	8%	11%	9%	6%	9%	10%
# of respondents (weighted)	1081	1217	1399	334	534	2363	5803

2023 Minnesota Homeless Study: Hennepin County data
Housing history

50. Have you ever had difficulty renting an apartment or getting housing because of the following reasons?

	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		
Your race or the race of any of your family members	10%	11%	8%	14%	15%	10%	8%
Physical disability	4%	7%	3%	11%	9%	6%	6%
Mental health issue	9%	9%	7%	12%	15%	9%	10%
Alcohol or substance use by you or anyone in your household	8%	10%	5%	13%	19%	9%	12%
Criminal background	14%	26%	14%	25%	34%	20%	25%
Credit problems	29%	26%	27%	26%	29%	27%	34%
No local rental history or references	21%	26%	21%	26%	28%	24%	25%
Eviction action, UD (unlawful detainer), or bad rental history	22%	14%	19%	18%	19%	18%	22%
No transportation	19%	15%	15%	18%	22%	17%	21%
No housing you could afford	47%	39%	42%	51%	44%	43%	49%
# of respondents (weighted)	1111	1270	1452	344	539	2449	5947

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.