

El Dorado County Homeless Count and Survey Results

January 2011

El Dorado County Department of Human Services
Housing, Community and Economic Development
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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Homeless Definitions¹

- **Sheltered homeless persons:** “Adults, children, and unaccompanied youth who, on the night of the count, are living in shelters for the homeless including: Emergency shelters; transitional housing; domestic violence shelters; residential programs for runaway/homeless youth; and any hotel, motel or apartment voucher arrangements paid by a public or private agency because the person or family is homeless.”
- **Unsheltered homeless persons (also referred to as literally homeless):** “Reside in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings or on the street.”
- **Precariously housed:** “These are people on the edge of becoming literally homeless who may be doubled up with friends and relatives or paying extremely high proportions of their resources for rent. The group is often characterized as being at imminent risk of becoming homeless.” Other terms often used to describe this subpopulation group include people that are ‘doubled up’, ‘at risk of homelessness’, ‘living with friends or family’, or ‘couch surfing’.
- **Chronic homelessness:** “An unaccompanied homeless individual (18 or older) with a disabling condition or a family² with at least one adult member (18 or older) who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.” To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in emergency shelter during that time.
- **Disabling Condition:** “A diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. A disabling condition limits an individual’s ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living.”

¹ Definitions from HUD’s *A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People*, r. 1/2008, and *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, r.2 1/2008.

² The HUD definition for chronic homelessness previously included only individuals, but was expanded in 2011 to include families based on a HUD Community, Planning and Development (CPD) Web Mail dated October 22, 2010 on *Changes for 2011 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of Homeless People*.

Overview

Date of Count and Survey

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that the homeless count take place during the last 10 days in January, no less than biennially. For the purposes of the 2011 Homeless Count and Survey, the date of the point-in-time count was the night of Thursday, January 27, 2011. The homeless survey was administered during the week of January 27, 2011 through January 31, 2011 at 22 service and housing locations throughout El Dorado County, including locations on the west slope, South Lake Tahoe and the southern part of El Dorado County.

Definition of Homelessness

The survey results are presented in the following categories:

- **HUD Definition:** HUD defines a homeless person as a person who is “literally homeless” and is lacking a fixed, adequate night-time residence. This definition includes people who sleep in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned building, or on the street or in a transitional housing or emergency shelter program. The purpose of the point-in-time homeless count is to conduct a count and survey of the homeless population that meet the HUD definition of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless. This definition is used to collect information to report to HUD as part of the annual Continuum of Care grant funding application.
- **Expanded Definition:** There are other programs within the community that use an expanded definition of homelessness, such as the McKinney-Vento program through school districts and many nonprofits. This includes HUD’s definition and also persons that are doubled-up in housing (multiple family units living in a home or apartment intended to house one family), and persons that are “couch-surfing” (brief periods of stay moving between the couches of acquaintances, friends and family members) or temporarily living with friends or family. For the purpose of this count, information has been collected on individuals meeting this expanded definition that are using services at the designated survey collection locations, but the numbers reported for this subpopulation are largely undercounted as this specific subpopulation was not targeted during data collection. This definition is used by member organizations of the El Dorado County Continuum of Care.

Purpose

The count and survey was conducted for the purpose of meeting HUD eligibility criteria to apply annually for the HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program grant, as directed by General Plan Housing Element Measure HO-24 and is beneficial for the purposes of³:

- (1) Service planning;
- (2) Demonstrating a need for resources in the Continuum of Care application;
- (3) Raising public awareness about the issue of homelessness;
- (4) Accurately measuring and identifying the needs of populations that are the hardest to serve (chronically homeless); and
- (5) Measuring performance in eliminating homelessness, particularly chronic homeless.

Data Sources and Components

The data collected for the 2011 Homeless Count and Survey was gathered from three main sources: (1) a point-in-time count of unsheltered homeless persons conducted by county staff and volunteers on January 28, 2011; (2) a point-in-time provider count of persons staying at emergency shelters, domestic violence facilities and transitional housing programs on the night of January 27-28, 2011; and (3) a survey of homeless persons conducted at 22 housing and service locations throughout El Dorado county during the period of January 27, 2011 through January 31, 2011.

Coordination

The 2011 Homeless Count and Survey was coordinated by the El Dorado County Department of Human Services, Housing, Community and Economic Development program, to meet the goals identified by Housing Element Measure HO-24 of the General Plan in support of the efforts of the El Dorado County Continuum of Care. Nineteen (19) volunteers, comprised of community advocates, county staff and local service and housing providers, conducted the point-in-time homeless count and survey of homeless persons throughout El Dorado County. In addition, many of the participating survey sites utilized staff to administer the survey instrument. The Department of Human Services provided training to volunteers and many of the volunteers had experience through participation in prior counts.

Methodology

The resources used for guidance included HUD's *A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People*, rev. January 2008, and HUD's *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, 2nd rev. January 2008. The methodology and procedures followed for the count and survey were developed by HomeBase, The Center for Common Concerns, the consultant firm hired to conduct the 2008 Homeless Count and Survey through funds received by a State of California Community Development Block Grant. In 2011, HUD provided additional guidance for the

³ HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs. (January 2008). *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, 2nd rev, p.6.

2011 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to include specific methodology and procedures to increase data collection on chronically homeless families, unaccompanied children and veterans. The recommended methods for increasing data collection in these categories were incorporated into the methodology, procedures, and the survey instrument.

Enumeration Undercount

Homeless count results are often reported as an undercount of the homeless population, but serve as an estimation of the homeless within a community. Research indicates that homeless youth, recently homeless persons, rural homeless, unsheltered homeless, and persons who are doubled-up with family and friends or “couch surfing” are less likely to be counted during surveys⁴.

HomeBase, The Center for Common Concerns, reported the results of the first El Dorado County Homeless Count and Surveys conducted in 2008 to be an undercount due to lack of full provider participation, weather conditions and due to “the difficulty of locating people who are homeless and not staying in emergency shelter or transitional housing.” As in the previous homeless counts, the number of homeless persons identified in this report are reported as an undercount due to the continued restrictions of counting in rural encampments, reduced volunteer participation, and difficulty in coordinating bilingual volunteers.

⁴ Franklin J. James. (1991). “Counting Homeless Persons with Surveys of Users of Services for the Homeless,” *Housing Policy Debate*, Volume 2, Issue 3, pp. 733-753.

Homeless Count Totals and Data Summary

In the 2008 El Dorado County Homeless Count and Survey, HomeBase identified the most comprehensive picture of homeless in the County as being developed by “synthesizing the data from the three sources” and the same methods have been utilized during the 2009 and the 2011 El Dorado County Homeless Count and Survey to ensure consistency in biennial reporting: (1) unsheltered point-in-time count; (2) sheltered point-in-time count of people staying in emergency shelter or transitional housing programs; and (3) the survey of homeless people conducted at 22 service and housing locations throughout the County. The following information was developed as a result of analyzing the data from the three sources:

Nightly Count Data

- **HUD Definition:**

170 people are homeless on any given night in El Dorado County that meet HUD’s definition and are either unsheltered and living in places not meant for human habitation or sheltered and living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and domestic violence shelters.

37 people identified in the unsheltered Point-in-Time count and survey
+ 133 people identified in the Provider Survey of Sheltered Homeless
170 Total

- **Expanded Definition:**

322 homeless people meet the expanded definition of homeless, which includes both HUD’s definition of homelessness and persons that are precariously housed (staying in a motel/hotel paid for by themselves but self-declare as homeless and people who are doubled up and temporarily living with friends or family).

37 people identified in the unsheltered point-in-time count and survey
133 people identified in the Provider Survey of Sheltered Homeless
+ 152 people (130 people surveyed with 22 homeless children with them)
322 Total

Point-in-Time Homeless Count Results

Sheltered and Unsheltered

Point-in-Time Count Results - Night of January 27, 2011

The point-in-time homeless count results include both a census of homeless persons that were unsheltered and sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, and a census of the number of homeless persons that were sheltered in emergency shelter or transitional housing programs on the night of January 27, 2011. This census data will be submitted to HUD with the annual Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program grant funding application.

Homeless Population	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
1. Number of Households with Dependent Children:	3	16	3	22
1a. Total Number of Persons in these Households (adults and children)	12	45	6	63
2. Number of Households with only children	2	0	0	2
2a. Number of Persons in these Households	2	0	0	2
3. Number of Households without Dependent Children**	23	51	31	105
3a. Total Number of Persons in these Households	23	51	31	105
Total Households (Add Lines 1, 2, and 3):	28	67	34	129
Total Persons (Add Lines 1a, 2a and 3a):	37	96	37	170
Part 2: Homeless Subpopulations (Adults only, except i. below)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
a. Chronically Homeless	9	-	7	16
b. Chronic Homeless Families	1	-	0	1
c. # Persons in CH Families	3	-	0	3
d. Severely Mentally Ill	5	14	8	27
e. Chronic Substance Abuse	3	12	11	26
f. Veterans	-	1	1	2
g. Persons with HIV / AIDS	-	-	0	0
h. Victims of Domestic Violence	7	17	3	27
i. Unaccompanied Youth (Under 18)	2	-	0	2

Comparison with January 2009 Data Collected

- The homeless counted in emergency shelter programs increased by 23 people from those counted during 2009, due to the implementation of a rotating emergency shelter program.
- The homeless counted in transitional housing programs almost doubled from the results of the 2009 homeless count, due to the increased survey participation by existing transitional housing programs.
- The unsheltered homeless that were counted decreased by 46 persons from 2009, which could be due to the opening of an emergency shelter program and the decreased volunteer participation in the count of unsheltered homeless persons.
- The number of persons meeting the HUD definition for chronic homelessness has remained steady since the 2009 Homeless Count and Survey⁵.

⁵ Results and definition of chronic homelessness are described on page 22.

Unsheltered Count – Geographic Distribution

Region		Men	Women	Unknown Gender	Under 16	16-24	Total
TOTALS		4	3	14	0	1	22
Area 1	El Dorado Hills/Clarksville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 2	Cameron Park/Shingle Springs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 3	North Placerville/Downtown	1	0	0	0	0	1
Area 4	South Placerville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 5	West Placerville	1	0	0	0	0	1
Area 6	Diamond Springs/El Dorado	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 7	Coloma/Georgetown/Garden Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 8	Pollock Pines/Camino/Cedar Grove	2	3	0	0	0	5
Area 9	Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 10	South Lake Tahoe	0	0	14	0	1	15

Approximately six volunteers, including County staff, participated in the unsheltered census count on both the west slope and South Lake Tahoe area of El Dorado County. This is a 70% decrease in volunteer participation from the previous biennial unsheltered homeless count, with many potential volunteers indicating the early morning hours and the cost of gas as barriers to their participation. Each of the six volunteers had experience with multiple prior Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Surveys and had received training materials prior to the morning of the count. Three teams of two volunteers and County staff were provided with maps and assigned to the areas indicated above. For safety reasons community volunteers were instructed to remain in their vehicles and to not enter rural encampments during the count.

Provider Response Rate

Emergency shelter and transitional housing programs throughout El Dorado County provided staff to collect sheltered homeless count data for clients staying in their facilities or receiving motel vouchers during the night of the count.

Participating Emergency Shelter Programs Response Rate: 100%
(7 out of 7 programs)

- H.E.L.P. Motel Vouchers
- United Outreach Motel Vouchers
- New Morning Youth Shelter
- Community Resource Center
- The Center for Violence Free Relationships
- Tahoe Youth and Family Services
- South Lake Tahoe Women's Center

Transitional Housing Programs Response Rate: 100%
(10 out of 10 operating programs)

- H.E.L.P. Mentor House
- United Outreach Grace Place
- El Dorado County Department of Health Services – New Directions
- Mother Theresa's Maternity Home
- Emerging Hope – Hope House
- Progress House
- Tree House Ministries
- THP Plus
- Vitality Lake Tahoe
- South Lake Tahoe Women's Center

Overall Provider Response Rate: 100%
(17 out of 17 operating programs)

Survey Data Collected

Volunteers administered surveys to homeless persons at service site locations throughout El Dorado County during the period of January 27, 2011 through January 31, 2011. The purpose of this component of the homeless count is to gather demographic data on a sample of the local homeless community and to determine an estimate of the chronically homeless, which is a HUD reporting requirement. Volunteers, service providers and formerly homeless persons participated in the administration of the survey and received one-hour training and detailed written instructions.

Total Surveys Collected:	231
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- Total persons meeting HUD definition of homelessness: 90
- Total persons meeting expanded definition of homelessness: 130
- Total persons that were not homeless: 11

Survey Collection Sites:	22
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- Upper Room Dining Hall, Placerville
- Community Resource Center, Placerville
- United Outreach, Grace Place, Placerville
- Green Valley Community Church, Saturday CAFÉ, Placerville
- Pioneer Bible Church Food Distribution Program, Somerset
- Kokopelli Ranch, Somerset
- SHARE Food Closet, Placerville
- Bread and Broth, South Lake Tahoe
- Christmas Cheer, South Lake Tahoe
- Tahoe Youth and Family Services, South Lake Tahoe
- New Morning Youth and Family Services, Placerville
- El Dorado County Department of Human Services, Placerville and South Lake Tahoe
- South Lake Tahoe Women's Center, South Lake Tahoe
- The Center for Violence Free Relationships, Placerville
- Vitality Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe
- Mother Theresa Maternity Home, Placerville
- Hope House Transitional Home, Placerville
- H.E.L.P. Mentor House, Placerville
- THP Plus Transitional Housing Program, Placerville
- Marshall Hospital, Placerville
- Tree House Ministries, Camino
- El Dorado County Community Health Center, Placerville

Geographic Distribution of Surveys Collected:

- 61% from Placerville locations
- 29% from South Lake Tahoe locations
- 11% from Southern El Dorado County locations

Survey Data Results

This section provides a complete breakdown of the responses from all the questions on the Homeless Survey. The term “sample size” refers to the number of homeless persons who responded to the specific question on the survey. The results of the data collected in this section are broken down to reflect the number persons who meet the HUD definition of homelessness and the number of persons that meet the expanded definition of homelessness, as referenced on page 3 of this report.

1. Date of Birth (used to derive age)

HUD Definition

Sample size = 80

- Under 21 years 16% 13 persons
- 22 – 30 years 21% 17 persons
- 31 – 40 years 20% 16 persons
- 41 – 50 years 26% 21 persons
- 51 – 60 years 13% 10 persons
- 61 years + 4% 3 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 192

- Under 21 years 16% 32 persons
- 22 – 30 years 27% 51 persons
- 31 – 40 years 17% 32 persons
- 41 – 50 years 23% 44 persons
- 51 – 60 years 15% 29 persons
- 61 years + 2% 4 persons

2. Gender: Are you? Male, Female or Transgender

HUD Definition

Sample size = 90

- Male 61% 55 persons
- Female 39% 35 persons
- Transgender 0% 0 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample size = 220

- Male 54% 119 persons
- Female 46% 101 persons
- Transgender 0% 0 persons

3. Where will you or did you spend the night of Thursday, January 27nd?

HUD Definition

Sample size = 90

- Emergency Shelter 15% 14 persons
- Domestic Violence Shelter 8% 7 persons
- Transitional Housing 39% 35 persons
- Unsheltered 32% 29 persons
- Motel Voucher 6% 5 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample size = 220

- Emergency Shelter 8% 14 persons
- Domestic Violence Shelter 3% 7 persons
- Transitional Housing 16% 35 persons
- Unsheltered 13% 29 persons
- Motel Voucher 2% 5 persons
- Motel-Self Paid 4% 9 persons
- Substance Abuse Treatment Facility 31% 69 persons
- Halfway House 0% 1 person
- Family or Friends 23% 51 persons

If You are Staying with Family or Friends, Can you Stay There Permanently?

- Yes 5%
- No 81%
- Don't Know 14%

4. In the next week, are you being evicted, asked to leave or thrown out of the place you are staying?

HUD Definition

Sample size = 82

- Yes 6% 5 persons
- No 76% 62 persons
- Don't Know 18% 15 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample size = 196

- Yes 11% 22 persons
- No 69% 135 persons
- Don't Know 20% 39 persons

5. If you have been homeless more than once, have you been homeless before in the last 12 months?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 89

- Yes 59% 52 persons
- No 40% 36 persons
- Don't Know 1% 1 person

How many times:

- One 14 persons
- Two 11 persons
- Three 6 persons
- Four 1 person
- Five 1 person
- Six 0 persons
- Seven 1 person
- Eight 0 persons
- Nine 1 person
- Ten or More 2 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample size = 208

- Yes 54% 111 persons
- No 45% 94 persons
- Don't Know 1% 3 persons

How many times:

- One 34 persons
- Two 26 persons
- Three 12 persons
- Four 2 persons
- Five 2 persons
- Six 1 person
- Seven 1 person
- Eight 0 persons
- Nine 1 person
- Ten or More 2 persons

6. Including now, what is the total number of times you have been homeless in the last three years? (Since January 2008)

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 87

- Never 9% 8 persons
- One Time 34% 30 persons
- Two Times 24% 21 persons
- Three Times 9% 8 persons
- Four Times 7% 6 persons
- Five or More 17% 14 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 207

- Never 15% 32 persons
- One Time 32% 66 persons
- Two Times 23% 48 persons
- Three Times 11% 22 persons
- Four Times 7% 15 persons
- Five or More 12% 24 persons

7. How long have you been homeless this time?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 90

- Not Homeless 11% 9 persons
- Less than 4% 4 persons
Seven Days
- More than 10% 9 persons
Seven Days
but less than
One Month
- More than 42% 38 persons
One Month
but less than
One Year
- One to 19% 17 persons
Three Years
- More than 13% 12 persons
Three Years
- Don't Know 1% 1 person

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 215

- Not Homeless 18% 38 persons
- Less than 8% 17 persons
Seven Days
- More than 9% 20 persons
Seven Days
but less than
One Month
- More than 36% 78 persons
One Month
but less than
One Year
- One to 18% 39 persons
Three Years
- More than 9% 19 persons
Three Years
- Don't Know 2% 4 persons

8. What is your situation?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 89

- Single Person 65% 57 persons
- Single Parent 20% 18 persons
with Children
Under 18
- Part of a 11% 10 persons
Couple with
Children
Under 18
- Part of a 3% 3 persons
Couple without
Children
Under 18
- In Another 1% 1 person
Situation

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 217

- Single Person 60% 131 persons
- Single Parent 22% 48 persons
with Children
Under 18
- Part of a 12% 26 persons
Couple with
Children
Under 18
- Part of a 4% 8 persons
Couple without
Children
Under 18
- In Another 2% 4 persons
Situation

9. Not including yourself, how many relatives were you with last night?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 59

- Alone 69% 41 persons
- With One 31% 18 persons
 Relative

Respondents with relatives reported to be with the following (Sample Size = 38):

- Spouse 10% 4 persons
- Child 82% 31 persons
- Grandchild 0% 0 persons
- Other 8% 3 persons
 Relative(s)

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 141

- Alone 65% 91 persons
- With 35% 50 persons
 Relatives

Respondents with relatives reported to be with the following (Sample Size = 80):

- Spouse 11% 9 persons
- Child 70% 56 persons
- Grandchild 1% 1 person
- Other 18% 14 persons
 Relative(s)

10. Have you served in the U.S. Military?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 90

- Yes 4% 4 persons
- No 96% 86 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 218

- Yes 6% 12 persons
- No 94% 206 persons

11. Were you activated, into active duty, as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 86

- Yes 3% 3 persons
- No 96% 82 persons
- Don't Know 1% 1 person

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 205

- Yes 3% 6 persons
- No 96% 197 persons
- Don't Know 1% 2 persons

**12. Do you think you have or have you been told that you have ANY of the following:
(respondents were asked to check all that apply)**

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 83

- Serious Mental Illness 15% 17 persons
- Serious Medical or Physical Condition 15% 17 persons
- HIV / AIDS 0% 0 persons
- Developmental Disability 4% 5 persons
- Alcohol or Drug Abuse 38% 42 persons
- Victim of Domestic Violence 10% 11 persons
- Currently Pregnant 1% 1 person
- None of These 17% 19 persons
- Other 2% 2 persons

Respondents with co-occurring disorders:

- Co-Occurring Disorders 23% 19 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 205

- Serious Mental Illness 12% 40 persons
- Serious Medical or Physical Condition 14% 44 persons
- HIV / AIDS 0% 0 persons
- Developmental Disability 4% 11 persons
- Alcohol or Drug Abuse 38% 114 persons
- Victim of Domestic Violence 12% 36 persons
- Currently Pregnant 3% 9 persons
- None of These 15% 45 persons
- Other 2% 5 persons

Respondents with co-occurring disorders:

- Co-Occurring Disorders 31% 63 persons

13. In the past year (12 months), what medical services did you or your family use?

HUD Definition

Medical Services	Sample Size	No		Yes		Needed, but could not get	
Medical clinic	64	18	28%	44	69%	2	3%
Private doctor	54	29	54%	24	44%	1	2%
Hospital - Emergency Room	63	25	40%	38	60%	0	0%
Hospital - Inpatient/Surgery	55	46	83%	8	15%	1	2%
Mental health care	56	37	66%	18	32%	1	2%
Alcohol/drug treatment	73	34	47%	38	52%	1	1%
Dental	64	40	63%	15	23%	9	14%
Prescriptions	67	24	36%	40	60%	3	4%

The number of times a Respondent used medical services:

Medical Services	1 - 5 Times	6 - 9 Times	10 - 19 Times	20 - 29 Times	30+ Times
Medical clinic	22	3	5	1	0
Private doctor	11	2	3	2	0
Hospital - Emergency Room	24	1	4	0	0
Hospital - Inpatient/Surgery	6	0	0	0	0
Mental health care	11	0	0	1	0
Alcohol/drug treatment	19	0	0	0	0
Dental	10	0	0	0	0
Prescriptions	13	3	9	0	2

Expanded Definition

Medical Services	Survey Sample	No		Yes		Needed, but could not get	
Medical clinic	150	49	33%	96	64%	5	3%
Private doctor	130	74	57%	51	39%	5	4%
Hospital - Emergency Room	149	55	37%	94	63%	0	0%
Hospital - Inpatient/Surgery	127	106	83%	19	15%	2	2%
Mental health care	128	88	69%	39	30%	1	1%
Alcohol/drug treatment	170	63	37%	106	62%	1	1%
Dental	151	88	58%	42	28%	21	14%
Prescriptions	153	56	36%	88	58%	9	6%

The number of times a Respondent used medical services:

Medical Services	1 - 5 Times	6 - 9 Times	10 - 19 Times	20 - 29 Times	30+ Times
Medical clinic	46	6	7	2	1
Private doctor	23	3	6	2	1
Hospital - Emergency Room	57	3	4	0	0
Hospital - Inpatient/Surgery	13	0	0	0	0
Mental health care	15	0	2	1	0
Alcohol/drug treatment	50	0	0	0	0
Dental	24	0	1	0	0
Prescriptions	26	4	16	0	2

14. If you needed medical services in the past year (12 months) that you could not get, what were the reasons?

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 119

- Transportation 24% 28 persons
- Cost 21% 25 persons
- No insurance 26% 31 persons
- Don't know 6% 7 persons
- Where to go
- Services not covered by insurance 9% 11 persons
- No one would take my insurance 4% 5 persons
- Don't Know 5% 6 persons
- Not Applicable 3% 4 persons
- Other 2% 2 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 269

- Transportation 21% 58 persons
- Cost 23% 63 persons
- No insurance 25% 66 persons
- Don't know 4% 10 persons
- Where to go
- Services not covered by insurance 9% 25 persons
- No one would take my insurance 4% 10 persons
- Don't Know 9% 24 persons
- Not Applicable 2% 6 persons
- Other 3% 7 persons

Chronic Homeless Individuals

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 90

- Chronic Homeless Individuals 16% 14 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 220

- Chronic Homeless Individuals 29% 63 persons

Chronic Homeless Families

HUD Definition

Sample Size = 90

- Chronic Homeless Families 2% 2 families

Number of Persons in Chronically Homeless Families:

- 4 persons

Expanded Definition

Sample Size = 220

- Chronic Homeless Families 8% 17 families

Number of Persons in Chronically Homeless Families:

- 50 persons

HUD Definition

In order to meet the HUD definition for chronic homelessness, the following criteria must be met⁶:

- Must be an unaccompanied individual (18 or older) with a disabling condition, - OR - a family with at least one adult member (18 or older) with a disabling condition⁷;
- The disabling condition must meet the criteria of being a “diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions”;
- Must have been continuously homeless for a year or more - OR - have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years; and
- Must be sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation or in an emergency shelter.

⁶ HUD’s Homeless Assistance Programs. (January 2008). *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, 2nd rev, p.9.

⁷ HUD CDP Web Mail dated October 22, 2010 on *Changes for 2011 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of Homeless People*, provided new guidance on including chronically homeless families in the Homeless Count. Previously the definition of chronic homelessness included individuals only.

Expanded Definition

As HUD restricts the collection of this data in this category only to individuals living on the street or in homeless shelters, some communities also collect data based on an expanded definition of homelessness. The following criteria must be met under the expanded definition established by the El Dorado County Continuum of Care:

- Must meet the expanded definition of homelessness referenced on page 3, including people who sleep in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the street, in cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned building; people in transitional housing or emergency shelter programs; and people that are doubled-up in housing (multiple family units living in a home or apartment intended to house one family), “couch-surfing” (brief periods of stay moving between the couches of acquaintances, friends and family members), or temporarily living with friends or family.
- Must have been continuously homeless for a year or more - OR - have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

2011 Homeless Count Data

According to HUD, chronically homeless people “comprise a high proportion of non-shelter users”⁸ which makes this population more difficult to count during homeless surveys. The number of chronically homeless persons or families that are reported as chronically homeless will represent an undercount for this reason.

⁸ HUD’s Homeless Assistance Programs. (January 2008). *A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People*, 2nd rev, p.9.