



**DENVER
RESCUE
MISSION**

FACT SHEET: Homelessness

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On any given night, there are 11,061 homeless men, women and children in Metro Denver.

PROFILE: Of the over 11,061 homeless people in the Denver metro area, approximately:

- 46.5% are people in households with children
- 26.8% are children and teens
- 13.0% are veterans
- 44.5% are experiencing their first episode of homelessness
- 4.5% are chronically homeless

CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS: When survey respondents were asked to indicate "all that apply" regarding reasons for their homelessness, the following were the top 10 reasons listed:

- Lost job (34.7%)
- High housing costs (rent or mortgage) (31.2%)
- Alcohol or substance abuse (29.5%)
- Relationship or family breakup (19.1%)
- Mental illness (16.2%)
- Eviction/Foreclosure (12.6%)
- Illness (10.5%)
- Domestic violence (9.9%)
- Discharged from jail (8.0%)
- Legal (8.0%)

Source: O'Brien, Tracey, [Homelessness in Metropolitan Denver: Ninth Annual Point-In-Time Study](#). Denver: Metro Denver Homeless Initiative and United Way, 2009.

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