



Health Conditions Among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S.

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This document provides additional details about the data and methodology used in the California Policy Lab study “**Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S.**” The study analyzes 64,508 responses to the VI-SPDAT, or Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool. The VI-SPDAT is a 27 question survey developed to help homelessness service providers prioritize scarce housing and housing assistance resources and was developed by OrgCode Consulting.¹

Orgcode's VI-SPDAT Data

Orgcode provided all of the VI-SPDAT data used in the analysis. These data are an important source of information about a virtually unknown population living in crisis on the streets. Like all data sets, these data have certain features that are important to understand when interpreting the results of the analysis. In particular, there are several aspects of the data collection process that could bias the results “upward,” making the population appear more vulnerable, or “downward,” making the population appear less vulnerable.

First, all responses to VI-SPDAT questions are self-reported, and individuals may not answer every question. Before the data was sent to CPL, OrgCode coded non-responses as “no,” which prevents CPL from independently measuring how many questions were not answered. This presents a potential downward bias of unknown magnitude on all responses.

Second, OrgCode recommends that workers wait to administer the VI-SPDAT until the third contact with an unsheltered individual, and up to two weeks for sheltered individuals to allow trust to be built between the two people. Actual practice can vary from place to place and may bias the answers in either direction. Neither CPL nor OrgCode has a way to measure how consistently unsheltered or sheltered individuals were assessed within each community. It is possible that some providers may only choose to assess sheltered or unsheltered individuals whom they believe in advance will qualify for or be prioritized for homelessness services, which could bias the results upward.

Lastly, the sample is a “convenience sample” of data voluntarily provided to OrgCode by individual communities for the purposes of research and is not meant to be nationally representative.

The full sample includes a total of 64,746 de-identified VI-SPDAT assessments from single adults age 25 and older. We removed 238 observations from the analysis for individuals identifying as transgender due to concerns about the size of the sample. Otherwise, all observations were used in our analysis. Service providers in 15 states representing all regions of the country collected the assessments over a three-year period from 2015 through 2017. While non-disclosure agreements between these communities and OrgCode prohibit identification of individual communities, OrgCode categorized responses by community type (urban, rural, suburban) and geographical region (West, Midwest, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest).

Regional and Demographic Differences in Outcomes

“Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S.” reveals large differences in outcomes based on shelter status for the VI-SPDAT respondents. In order to determine how much of those differences could be explained by factors other than shelter status, we ran a series of regressions using gender, age, race and ethnicity, community type, and geography as predictors for each outcome in the study. These models allow us to simultaneously estimate the effect of shelter status and any of the model’s covariates on the outcome variables. We were particularly interested in examining differences by geography, gender, and race and ethnicity.

Table A.1 shows the results from a series of linear regression models for the continuous outcomes analyzed in the policy brief. The models show no statistically significant differences by community type (urban, rural, suburban) and only one difference by geographical region (West, Midwest, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest) when controlling for sheltered status and individual demographics. Individuals living in the Southeast on average have 0.2 more police contacts in the previous six months than individuals in other areas of the country. While statistically significant, the geographic difference in predicted police contacts is much smaller than the effect of shelter status (18.47) or age (-1.03 to -1.8 depending on age).

Table A.2 shows the results from a series of logistic regression models for the binary outcomes analyzed in the policy brief. These models use the same covariates as the linear models in Table A.1 and show no statistically significant differences by geographical region or community type for any of the outcomes.

There are clear demographic differences within the OrgCode sample compared to the general population, especially among African Americans who are overrepresented in our sample. Tables A.1 and A.2 however consistently show that the largest share of the differences in reported outcomes can be attributed to shelter status and gender. Differences by race or ethnicity are comparatively small for most outcomes; for police contacts and jail spells in the previous six months, there are no differences between white, black, and Latinx respondents.

Main Results and Sub-Analyses

Tables A.3 through A.9 provide the full sample results discussed in **“Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S.”** and breakdowns by age, gender, and race and ethnicity by shelter status for each outcome. Geographic region and community type are excluded after Table A.3 since the observed differences are statistically insignificant as described in the preceding section. All outcomes come directly from the VI-SPDAT, and are defined there as follows.

Physical Health Conditions

Physical health conditions are assessed by the following six questions.

1. Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health?
2. Do you have any chronic health issues with your liver, kidneys, stomach, lungs or heart?
3. If there was space available in a program that specifically assists people that live with HIV or AIDS, would that be of interest to you?
4. Do you have any physical disabilities that would limit the type of housing you could access, or would make it hard to live independently because you’d need help?
5. When you are sick or not feeling well, do you avoid getting help?
6. For female respondents only: Are you currently pregnant?

Mental Health Conditions

Mental health conditions are assessed by the following four questions.

1. Have you ever had trouble maintaining your housing, or been kicked out of an apartment, shelter program or other place you were staying, because of
 - a. A mental health issue or concern?
 - b. A past head injury?
 - c. A learning disability, developmental disability, or other impairment?
2. Do you have any mental health or brain issues that would make it hard for you to live independently because you'd need help?

Substance Abuse Conditions

Substance abuse conditions are assessed by the following two questions.

1. Has your drinking or drug use led you to being kicked out of an apartment or program where you were staying in the past?
2. Will drinking or drug use make it difficult for you to stay housed or afford your housing?

Trimorbidity

Individuals who self-report at least one physical health, mental health and substance abuse condition are considered to be trimorbid.

Abuse and Trauma

Respondents are asked the following question.

Has your current period of homelessness been caused by an experience of emotional, physical, psychological, sexual, or other type of abuse, or by any other trauma you have experienced?

Length of Time Since Stable Housing

Respondents are asked to report in days how long they have lived without stable housing. Our analysis converts this variable into years, and further categorizes individuals as having less than one year since stable housing, one to three years since stable housing, and more than three years since stable housing.

Shelter Use in Prior Two Years

Unsheltered individuals are asked to self-report the number of nights spent in a shelter over the previous two years at the time of VI-SPDAT assessment.

Police Contacts, Jail Spells, Emergency Room Visits, and Ambulance Rides in Prior Six Months

Individuals being assessed with the VI-SPDAT are asked to report the number of the following events in the previous six months.

1. Police Contacts: Talked to police because you witnessed a crime, were the victim of a crime, or the alleged perpetrator of a crime or because the police told you that you must move along?
2. Nights in Jail: Stayed one or more nights in a holding cell, jail or prison, whether that was a short-term stay like the drunk tank, a longer stay for a more serious offence, or anything in between.
3. Emergency Room Visits: Received health care at an emergency department/room.
4. Ambulance Rides: Taken an ambulance to the hospital.

The California Policy Lab builds better lives through data-driven policy. We are a project of the University of California, with sites at the Berkeley and Los Angeles campuses.

This research publication reflects the views of the authors and not necessarily the views of our funders, our staff, our advisory board, or the Regents of the University of California.

Endnotes

- 1 www.orgcode.com
- 2 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2018-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>

Table A.1. Linear Regression on Continuous Outcomes

	VI-SPDAT Score	Days Since Permanent Stable Housing	Nights in Shelter in the Past Two Years	Events occurring in the previous six months			
				Police Contacts	Nights in Jail	ER Visits	Ambulance Rides
Unsheltered	5.292*** (0.02)	2,343.700*** (19.29)		18.470*** (0.10)	6.353*** (0.05)	3.371*** (0.05)	1.306*** (0.03)
Male	-0.999*** (0.02)	-1,464.122*** (20.73)	27.263*** (1.22)	-0.028 (0.10)	0.028 (0.05)	-0.419*** (0.05)	-0.261*** (0.04)
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.057 (0.05)	-239.891*** (52.96)	1.38 (3.09)	0.045 (0.26)	-0.094 (0.13)	-0.980*** (0.14)	-0.384*** (0.09)
Black	0.339*** (0.02)	212.605*** (19.21)	-4.338*** (0.99)	0.12 (0.09)	0.021 (0.05)	0.176*** (0.05)	0.069* (0.03)
Hispanic	0.327*** (0.03)	214.838*** (35.26)	-10.890*** (3.11)	0.042 (0.17)	-0.09 (0.08)	-1.009*** (0.09)	-0.381*** (0.06)
Native American	0.618*** (0.08)	-276.063** (87.11)	-7.24 (4.68)	0.881* (0.43)	0.242 (0.21)	0.115 (0.23)	0.03 (0.15)
Age 35-44	0.065** (0.02)	-91.009*** (26.05)	-8.621*** (1.65)	0.119 (0.13)	-0.018 (0.06)	1.136*** (0.07)	0.372*** (0.04)
Age 45-54	0.105*** (0.02)	64.337* (25.66)	-40.994*** (1.60)	0.156 (0.13)	0.067 (0.06)	1.527*** (0.07)	0.986*** (0.04)
Age 55-64	-0.767*** (0.03)	-71.972* (28.98)	-35.678*** (1.77)	-1.032*** (0.14)	-0.153* (0.07)	1.130*** (0.08)	1.456*** (0.05)
Age 65-74	-0.659*** (0.04)	102.386* (42.08)	-21.214*** (2.85)	-1.790*** (0.21)	-0.410*** (0.10)	0.669*** (0.11)	0.997*** (0.07)
Age 75+	-0.697*** (0.07)	21.979 (76.51)	-33.976 (19.52)	-1.800*** (0.38)	-0.304 (0.18)	-0.298 (0.20)	0.823*** (0.13)
Rural	0.023 (0.03)	2.362 (33.70)	-2.867 (2.12)	-0.007 (0.17)	-0.077 (0.08)	-0.05 (0.09)	-0.024 (0.06)
Suburban	-0.018 (0.03)	6.665 (29.89)	-3.591 (1.96)	0.052 (0.15)	-0.046 (0.07)	-0.021 (0.08)	0.023 (0.05)
Midwest	-0.019 (0.03)	15.604 (29.58)	-2.221 (1.98)	-0.028 (0.15)	-0.018 (0.07)	0.013 (0.08)	0.013 (0.05)
Northeast	-0.015 (0.03)	23.575 (31.46)	-1.673 (2.40)	-0.051 (0.15)	0.068 (0.07)	-0.035 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.05)
Southeast	-0.003 (0.02)	19.706 (23.75)	-0.509 (1.32)	0.233* (0.12)	0.062 (0.06)	-0.015 (0.06)	0.008 (0.04)
Southwest	-0.002 (0.02)	-3.565 (23.16)	0.057 (1.20)	0.199 (0.11)	0.038 (0.06)	-0.064 (0.06)	-0.006 (0.04)
(Intercept)	5.340*** (0.03)	1,396.626*** (32.17)	44.610*** (1.76)	2.180*** (0.16)	0.422*** (0.08)	3.576*** (0.08)	0.851*** (0.06)
Observations	64,508	64,507	25,780	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508

Note: **VI-SPDAT Score** is the total score for the assessment. **Events Occurring in the Previous Six Months** are as follows: **Police Contacts** are the number of times respondents "Talked to police because you witnessed a crime, were the victim of a crime, or the alleged perpetrator of a crime or because the police told you that you must move along?" **Nights in Jail** are the number of times respondents "Stayed one or more nights in a holding cell, jail or prison, whether that was a short-term stay like the drunk tank, a longer stay for a more serious offence, or anything in between." **ER Visits** are the number of times respondents "Received health care at an emergency department/room." **Ambulance Rides** are the number of times respondents have "Taken an ambulance to the hospital." Reference categories for all models are as follows: Gender - female; Race - white; Age - 35-45; Community Type - Urban; Geography - West. Standard errors in parentheses. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001

Table A.2. Logistic Regression on Binary Outcomes

	Physical Health (Housing Loss)	Mental Health (Housing Loss)	Substance Abuse (Housing Loss)	Trauma (Housing Loss)	Physical Health (Overall)	Mental Health (Overall)	Substance Abuse (Overall)	Trimorbidity (Overall)
Unsheltered	1.876*** (0.02)	1.581*** (0.02)	2.239*** (0.02)	0.569*** (0.02)	1.817*** (0.02)	1.370*** (0.02)	3.054*** (0.02)	4.396*** (0.05)
Male	-0.135*** (0.02)	-0.271*** (0.02)	-0.335*** (0.03)	-0.675*** (0.02)	-0.258*** (0.02)	-0.408*** (0.02)	-0.439*** (0.02)	-1.249*** (0.03)
Asian/Pacific Islander	-0.441*** (0.07)	0.201*** (0.06)	-0.045 (0.07)	0.193*** (0.05)	-0.428*** (0.07)	0.287*** (0.06)	-0.172** (0.07)	-0.453*** (0.09)
Black	0.033 (0.02)	0.100*** (0.02)	0.108*** (0.02)	0.093*** (0.02)	0.091*** (0.02)	0.162*** (0.02)	0.148*** (0.02)	0.364*** (0.03)
Hispanic	-0.613*** (0.05)	0.148*** (0.04)	-0.195*** (0.05)	0.167*** (0.04)	-0.448*** (0.05)	0.420*** (0.04)	-0.170*** (0.05)	0.181* (0.07)
Native American	0.016 (0.10)	0.183* (0.09)	0.002 (0.10)	0.368*** (0.08)	-0.007 (0.10)	0.576*** (0.10)	-0.057 (0.11)	-0.207 (0.13)
Age 35-44	0.436*** (0.03)	-0.028 (0.03)	-0.018 (0.03)	-0.012 (0.03)	0.505*** (0.03)	-0.069** (0.03)	0.077* (0.03)	0.276*** (0.04)
Age 45-54	0.392*** (0.03)	-0.023 (0.03)	-0.089** (0.03)	-0.093*** (0.03)	0.472*** (0.03)	-0.024 (0.03)	0.043 (0.03)	0.346*** (0.04)
Age 55-64	0.242*** (0.04)	-0.353*** (0.03)	-0.247*** (0.04)	-0.637*** (0.03)	0.301*** (0.04)	-0.952*** (0.03)	-0.088* (0.04)	0.238*** (0.05)
Age 65-74	0.494*** (0.05)	-0.705*** (0.05)	-0.437*** (0.06)	-0.893*** (0.05)	0.589*** (0.05)	-1.400*** (0.04)	0.153** (0.05)	0.099 (0.07)
Age 75+	0.467*** (0.11)	-1.287*** (0.14)	-0.729*** (0.15)	-1.098*** (0.09)	0.833*** (0.09)	-1.902*** (0.09)	0.376*** (0.10)	0.009 (0.27)
Rural	0.004 (0.04)	-0.008 (0.04)	0.018 (0.04)	0.058 (0.03)	-0.001 (0.04)	-0.031 (0.03)	-0.016 (0.04)	-0.058 (0.06)
Suburban	0.052 (0.04)	-0.039 (0.03)	0.001 (0.04)	-0.039 (0.03)	0.051 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.03)	0.003 (0.04)	-0.062 (0.05)
Midwest	-0.023 (0.04)	-0.008 (0.03)	0.015 (0.04)	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.035 (0.04)	-0.021 (0.03)	-0.022 (0.04)	-0.054 (0.05)
Northeast	-0.064 (0.04)	0.042 (0.04)	-0.003 (0.04)	0.007 (0.03)	-0.043 (0.04)	0.014 (0.03)	-0.046 (0.04)	-0.043 (0.06)
Southeast	0.007 (0.03)	0.016 (0.03)	-0.006 (0.03)	-0.003 (0.02)	0.005 (0.03)	-0.015 (0.02)	-0.008 (0.03)	0.063 (0.03)
Southwest	-0.008 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.03)	-0.035 (0.03)	0.038 (0.02)	0.011 (0.03)	-0.033 (0.02)	-0.024 (0.03)	-0.06 (0.03)
(Intercept)	-2.232*** (0.04)	-1.319*** (0.04)	-1.883*** (0.04)	-0.052 (0.03)	-1.988*** (0.04)	0.453*** (0.03)	-1.643*** (0.04)	-3.747*** (0.06)
Observations	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508	64,508

Note: **Housing Loss** outcomes are as follows: **Physical Health:** Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health? **Mental Health:** Have you ever had trouble maintaining your housing, or been kicked out of an apartment, shelter program or other place you were staying, because of a mental health issue or concern? **Substance Abuse:** Has your drinking or drug use led you to being kicked out of an apartment or program where you were staying in the past? **Trauma:** Has your current period of homelessness been caused by an experience of emotional, physical, psychological, sexual, or other type of abuse, or by any other trauma you have experienced? **Overall health conditions** are defined as answering "yes" to at least one question in the following categories: **Physical health conditions:** Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health? Do you have any chronic health issues with your liver, kidneys, stomach, lungs or heart? If there was space available in a program that specifically assists people that live with HIV or AIDS, would that be of interest to you? Do you have any physical disabilities that would limit the type of housing you could access, or would make it hard to live independently because you'd need help? When you are sick or not feeling well, do you avoid getting help? Are you currently pregnant? **Mental health conditions:** Have you ever had trouble maintaining your housing, or been kicked out of an apartment, shelter program or other place you were staying, because of a) a mental health issue or concern b) a past head injury c) a learning disability, developmental disability, or other impairment? Do you have any mental health or brain issues that would make it hard for you to live independently because you'd need help? **Substance abuse conditions:** Has your drinking or drug use led you to being kicked out of an apartment or program where you were staying in the past? Will drinking or drug use make it difficult for you to stay housed or afford your housing? **Trimorbidity:** Individuals who answer "yes" to at least one question regarding physical health, substance abuse, and mental health are considered to have trimorbidity. Reference categories for all models are as follows: Gender - female; Race - white; Age - 35-45; Community Type - Urban; Geography - West. Standard errors in parentheses. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001

Table A.3. Demographics, Region, and VI-SPDAT Score

	Unsheltered		Sheltered		Mean VI-SPDAT Score	
	n	%	n	%	Unsheltered	Sheltered
Age						
25-34	2952	11.45%	8503	21.96%	10.18	4.78
35-44	7467	28.96%	10312	26.63%	9.53	5.21
45-54	9646	37.42%	10248	26.46%	9.80	5.14
55-64	4781	18.55%	6244	16.12%	10.04	3.41
65-74	919	3.56%	2570	6.64%	11.08	3.62
75+	15	0.06%	851	2.20%	12.20	4.05
Gender						
Female	4993	19.37%	8931	23.06%	11.97	4.71
Male	20787	80.63%	29797	76.94%	9.35	4.67
Ethnicity						
Black	9568	37.11%	23342	60.27%	10.33	4.69
Hispanic	618	2.40%	4297	11.10%	11.34	4.51
Asian/Pacific Islander	622	2.41%	1185	3.06%	8.91	4.83
White	14697	57.01%	9531	24.61%	9.55	4.65
Native American	275.00	1.07%	373.00	0.96%	8.83	6.06
Region						
Midwest	1678	6.51%	5410	13.97%	9.86	4.69
Northeast	1066	4.13%	4955	12.79%	9.88	4.65
Southeast	4367	16.94%	8055	20.80%	9.94	4.63
Southwest	5603	21.73%	7569	19.54%	9.83	4.69
West	13066	50.68%	12739	32.89%	9.84	4.70
Community						
Rural	1351	5.24%	3136	8.10%	9.83	4.74
Suburban	1576	6.11%	4243	10.96%	9.86	4.65
Urban	22853	88.65%	31349	80.95%	9.86	4.67
Total	25780	-	38728	-	9.86	4.68

Note: Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Housing recommendations based on VI-SPDAT score are as follows: 0-3, no intervention; 4-7, assess for Rapid Rehousing; 8+ assess for Permanent Supportive Housing. Mean age of unsheltered population is 46.9, median age of unsheltered population is 47. Mean age of sheltered population is 45.8, median age of sheltered population is 45.

Table A.4. Loss of Housing Due to Physical Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, or Trauma and Abuse

	n		Physical health issues led to loss of housing		Mental health issues led to loss of housing		Substance abuse issues led to loss of housing		Trauma or abuse led to loss of housing	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age										
25-34	2952	8503	45.80%	5.99%	48.98%	20.58%	46.31%	3.21%	49.73%	39.42%
35-44	7467	10312	46.08%	14.47%	49.22%	20.15%	50.76%	5.49%	46.52%	40.22%
45-54	9646	10248	47.17%	12.77%	49.76%	20.38%	51.56%	7.46%	44.53%	39.31%
55-64	4781	6244	46.20%	9.08%	49.63%	9.61%	51.35%	6.60%	45.45%	17.38%
65-74	919	2570	46.03%	13.58%	51.03%	5.56%	50.71%	11.52%	50.60%	14.98%
75+	15	851	33.33%	11.87%	60.00%	5.64%	73.33%	13.28%	46.67%	17.63%
Gender										
Female	4993	8931	49.93%	11.33%	58.74%	17.94%	56.30%	6.71%	80.21%	33.64%
Male	20787	29797	45.64%	11.13%	47.33%	17.14%	49.31%	6.12%	37.89%	34.05%
Ethnicity										
Black	9568	23342	47.59%	11.98%	52.11%	17.36%	52.47%	6.21%	48.63%	34.25%
Hispanic	618	4297	47.25%	4.77%	51.46%	17.17%	55.02%	5.24%	51.94%	33.58%
Asian/Pacific Islander	622	1185	42.28%	4.56%	49.04%	20.00%	44.53%	5.40%	42.93%	37.38%
White	14697	9531	45.93%	12.81%	47.85%	16.78%	49.71%	6.90%	44.43%	32.40%
Native American	275	373	44.00%	13.40%	47.27%	21.72%	49.11%	6.38%	40.36%	48.53%
Full sample	25780	38728	46.47%	11.17%	49.54%	17.32%	50.67%	6.26%	46.09%	33.95%

Note: The full text of the questions asked in this table is as follows: Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health? Have you ever had trouble maintaining your housing, or been kicked out of an apartment, shelter program or other place you were staying, because of a mental health issue or concern? Has your drinking or drug use led you to being kicked out of an apartment or program where you were staying in the past? Has your current period of homelessness been caused by an experience of emotional, physical, psychological, sexual, or other type of abuse, or by any other trauma you have experienced? Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.

Table A.5. Physical Health, Mental Health, Or Substance Abuse Conditions

	n		Physical health conditions		Mental health conditions		Substance abuse conditions		Trimorbidity	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age										
25-34	2952	8503	82.76%	12.03%	76.39%	59.28%	73.54%	13.58%	47.19%	1.32%
35-44	7467	10312	82.68%	22.35%	76.39%	58.66%	74.96%	14.35%	48.27%	2.12%
45-54	9646	10248	83.74%	21.01%	78.28%	59.56%	75.33%	13.46%	50.65%	2.41%
55-64	4781	6244	84.29%	16.02%	78.90%	22.98%	76.01%	9.79%	51.35%	0.42%
65-74	919	2570	86.83%	18.48%	82.59%	16.85%	77.15%	14.59%	56.37%	0.54%
75+	15	851	100.00%	25.03%	93.33%	16.69%	86.67%	16.57%	80.00%	0.82%
Gender										
Female	4993	8931	89.91%	19.89%	95.37%	49.31%	88.24%	13.68%	75.99%	2.05%
Male	20787	29797	82.02%	18.10%	73.57%	49.67%	72.08%	13.15%	43.65%	1.48%
Ethnicity										
Black	9568	23342	86.17%	19.57%	82.26%	49.37%	78.46%	13.67%	56.65%	1.78%
Hispanic	618	4297	88.67%	10.31%	86.73%	51.04%	81.72%	9.77%	65.53%	0.35%
Asian/Pacific Islander	622	1185	77.97%	10.38%	70.42%	54.77%	69.45%	11.39%	33.60%	0.84%
White	14697	9531	81.96%	20.60%	74.94%	48.16%	73.26%	13.95%	45.88%	1.76%
Native American	275	373	78.18%	19.57%	71.27%	66.49%	65.09%	17.43%	33.09%	4.56%
Full sample	25780	38728	83.55%	18.51%	77.79%	49.59%	75.21%	13.27%	49.91%	1.61%

Note: Full text of the questions asked in this table is as follows: **Physical health conditions:** Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health? Do you have any chronic health issues with your liver, kidneys, stomach, lungs or heart? If there was space available in a program that specifically assists people that live with HIV or AIDS, would that be of interest to you? Do you have any physical disabilities that would limit the type of housing you could access, or would make it hard to live independently because you'd need help? When you are sick or not feeling well, do you avoid getting help? Are you currently pregnant? **Mental health conditions:** Have you ever had trouble maintaining your housing, or been kicked out of an apartment, shelter program or other place you were staying, because of a) a mental health issue or concern b) a past head injury c) a learning disability, developmental disability, or other impairment? Do you have any mental health or brain issues that would make it hard for you to live independently because you'd need help? **Substance abuse conditions:** Has your drinking or drug use led you to being kicked out of an apartment or program where you were staying in the past? Will drinking or drug use make it difficult for you to stay housed or afford your housing? **Trimorbidity:** Individuals who answer "yes" to at least one question regarding physical health, substance abuse, and mental health are considered to have trimorbidity. Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.

Table A.6. Presence of Physical Health Conditions by Years Since Last Stably Housed

	One year or less		One to three years		Greater than 3 years		Total	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age								
25-34	71.79%	5.67%	76.47%	18.62%	92.09%	39.19%	82.76%	12.03%
35-44	75.56%	8.52%	76.92%	32.49%	92.47%	35.33%	82.68%	22.35%
45-54	74.11%	10.10%	77.80%	30.93%	92.53%	37.35%	83.74%	21.01%
55-64	74.02%	15.11%	79.53%	23.49%	91.62%	31.25%	84.29%	16.02%
65-74	83.90%	19.10%	83.96%	9.20%	88.27%	42.86%	86.83%	18.48%
75+	100.00%	25.00%	100.00%	18.29%	100.00%	42.42%	100.00%	25.03%
Gender								
Female	84.93%	12.92%	89.23%	28.70%	90.14%	38.50%	89.91%	19.89%
Male	74.26%	11.03%	77.14%	27.11%	93.21%	36.14%	82.02%	18.10%
Ethnicity								
Black	78.64%	11.57%	80.59%	29.66%	91.93%	36.93%	86.17%	19.57%
Hispanic	75.53%	8.62%	76.92%	12.54%	94.52%	24.17%	88.67%	10.31%
Asian/Pacific Islander	74.60%	7.02%	68.89%	14.35%	90.72%	29.41%	77.97%	10.38%
Native American	74.17%	6.04%	71.43%	27.61%	89.02%	60.71%	81.96%	20.60%
White	72.65%	13.34%	76.63%	30.09%	92.10%	37.82%	78.18%	19.57%
Full sample	74.51%	11.46%	77.85%	27.47%	92.07%	36.69%	83.55%	18.51%

Note: Table 5 shows the percentage of respondents who answered "yes" to any of the following six questions: Have you ever had to leave an apartment, shelter program, or other place you were staying because of your physical health? Do you have any chronic health issues with your liver, kidneys, stomach, lungs or heart? If there was space available in a program that specifically assists people that live with HIV or AIDS, would that be of interest to you? Do you have any physical disabilities that would limit the type of housing you could access, or would make it hard to live independently because you'd need help? When you are sick or not feeling well, do you avoid getting help? Are you currently pregnant? Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.

Table A.7. Mean and Median Days Since Last Stable Housing

	Days since stably housed - mean		Days since stably housed - median	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age				
25-34	2906.38	415.17	962.5	306
35-44	2148.40	552.85	744	459
45-54	2663.63	517.70	932.5	362
55-64	2831.14	134.33	1042	34
65-74	3944.14	194.08	2490	42
75+	2589.87	382.46	7194	46
Gender				
Female	5855.28	411.24	4954	243
Male	1853.07	409.73	685	244
Ethnicity				
Black	2969.56	419.00	1216	251
Hispanic	4117.81	335.22	3187	220
Asian/Pacific Islander	1509.09	385.82	507	267
White	2412.79	420.22	782	229
Native American	1447.95	531.99	282	384
Full sample	2632.76	410.41	921	243

Note: VI-SPDAT asks respondents "how long has it been since you lived in permanent stable housing?" Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.

Table A.8. Interactions with Police and Jail Spells in the Previous Six Months

	n		Talked to police for any reason		Number of police contacts		Spent at least one night in jail		Number of nights in jail	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age										
25-34	2952	8503	94.71%	45.02%	20.77	2.33	82.49%	8.20%	6.89	0.43
35-44	7467	10312	95.31%	48.20%	20.84	2.45	82.78%	8.53%	6.87	0.37
45-54	9646	10248	93.42%	49.79%	20.72	2.62	81.44%	14.95%	6.79	0.61
55-64	4781	6244	92.25%	21.44%	20.26	1.06	79.82%	6.28%	6.75	0.31
65-74	919	2570	88.44%	16.92%	18.86	0.58	74.94%	2.49%	6.26	0.10
75+	15	851	92.53%	35.41%	20.64	1.78	81.39%	9.37%	6.81	0.35
Gender										
Female	4993	8931	93.91%	40.97%	20.52	2.09	81.43%	9.53%	6.68	0.43
Male	20787	29797	93.51%	40.66%	20.62	2.07	81.36%	9.31%	6.82	0.41
Ethnicity										
Black	9618	23427	93.16%	41.80%	20.65	2.17	80.60%	10.04%	6.81	0.45
Hispanic	625	4310	94.01%	37.44%	21.07	1.72	82.20%	6.66%	6.73	0.26
Asian/Pacific Islander	899	1560	95.34%	40.25%	20.45	1.92	79.42%	6.67%	6.62	0.32
White	14758	9549	93.75%	39.40%	20.55	2.01	81.91%	9.11%	6.80	0.41
Native American	275	373	94.91%	47.72%	21.38	2.67	82.18%	13.14%	6.68	0.82
Full sample	25780	38728	93.59%	40.73%	20.61	2.08	81.38%	9.36%	6.80	0.42

Note: Respondents are asked to give the number of times in the previous six months they "Talked to police because you witnessed a crime, were the victim of a crime, or the alleged perpetrator of a crime or because the police told you that you must move along?" and "Stayed one or more nights in a holding cell, jail or prison, whether that was a short-term stay like the drunk tank, a longer stay for a more serious offence, or anything in between." Indicators created for both variables to report the percentage of respondents who had ever spoken with the police or spent a night in jail in the previous six months. Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.

Table A.9. Emergency Room Visits and Ambulance Trips in the Previous Six Months

	n		At least one visit to ER		Number of ER visits		At least one trip in ambulance		Number of ambulance trips	
	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered	unsheltered	sheltered
Age										
25-34	2952	8503	94.44%	74.00%	5.78	3.50	64.63%	21.11%	1.01	0.98
35-44	7467	10312	95.19%	78.06%	6.84	4.98	68.35%	26.80%	1.76	1.41
45-54	9646	10248	94.75%	72.13%	8.22	4.67	78.69%	25.11%	3.25	1.34
55-64	4781	6244	92.76%	73.46%	9.03	3.38	79.33%	46.83%	4.02	1.64
65-74	919	2570	90.64%	62.10%	9.49	2.84	79.54%	27.24%	4.08	1.15
75+	15	851	100.00%	70.39%	14.00	2.51	100.00%	41.01%	7.73	1.28
Gender										
Female	4993	8931	94.61%	73.32%	8.51	4.13	76.11%	28.51%	3.29	1.31
Male	20787	29797	94.27%	73.73%	7.56	4.12	73.80%	28.72%	2.60	1.32
Ethnicity										
Black	9618	23427	94.00%	73.70%	7.98	4.33	74.35%	29.44%	2.89	1.37
Hispanic	625	4310	94.01%	72.07%	8.40	2.79	74.27%	21.20%	3.37	0.80
Asian/Pacific Islander	899	1560	96.30%	73.84%	7.36	2.73	74.76%	23.04%	2.59	0.82
White	14758	9549	94.48%	73.79%	7.57	4.37	74.16%	30.87%	2.62	1.48
Native American	275	373	94.18%	82.57%	7.83	4.10	73.82%	28.69%	2.58	1.43
Full sample	25780	38728	94.33%	73.63%	7.74	4.12	74.25%	28.67%	2.74	1.32

Note: Respondents are asked to give the number of times they "Received health care at an emergency department/room" and "Taken an ambulance to the hospital." Indicators created for both variables to report the percentage of respondents who had ever received health care at an emergency department/room or been taken to the hospital in an ambulance during the previous six months. Sheltered and unsheltered samples drawn from the same set of 15 areas across the United States. Size and population density of the areas varies. Sample is not constructed to be representative, and is not assumed to be. Missing responses set to "no" in dataset provided, which may downward bias the proportions shown in this table.