

# Results of the 2006

Count of Homeless Persons in Calgary

Enumerated in Emergency and Transitional Facilities,  
by Service Agencies, and On the Streets • 2006 May 10

Community & Neighbourhood Services  
Policy & Planning Division



THE CITY OF  
**CALGARY**  
COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD  
SERVICES



**Results of the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons in Calgary:  
Enumerated in Emergency and Transitional Facilities, by Service Agencies,  
and On the Streets – 2006 May 10**

The City of Calgary has conducted a census of absolutely homeless persons every two years since 1992. The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides information that is used for The City's ongoing research and planning activities. The findings have also been published as a public report since 1996. The 2006 report provides a profile of homeless persons enumerated in facilities, by service agencies, and on the streets on the night of 2006 May 10. It also summarizes The City of Calgary's role in homelessness and affordable housing, describes the methodology used for the count, presents summary results for all previous counts including time series graphs illustrating the changing characteristics of the homeless population enumerated during each count, and includes four appendices.

For further information about The City of Calgary's *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* please e-mail [homeless.count@calgary.ca](mailto:homeless.count@calgary.ca) or call 268-5122.



## Acknowledgements

The City of Calgary's *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* could not occur without the support of countless individuals, both internal and external to The City, who contribute to organizing and undertaking the count. The efforts of the dedicated staff of the 51 facilities and nine service agencies who participated in *2006 Count of Homeless Persons* are greatly appreciated. A huge thank you is also extended to the 157 volunteers – representing social service agencies, shelter facilities, community groups, Mount Royal College and University of Calgary students, local and provincial government, and City of Calgary staff – who participated in the street count.

While the agencies and people involved are too numerous to mention all by name, a number of special thanks must be made. Sincere appreciation is expressed to the Aboriginal community for recruiting over 30 volunteers for the street count, and also to the staff of the Salvation Army's Centre of Hope for providing the staging area for the street count. The contributions made to the street count volunteer training session by Scott Calling Last of the Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS), Carrie Neilson, Steve Donaldson, and Garth Rabel of The City of Calgary (Community and Neighbourhood Services, EMS, and Fire respectively), and Jennifer Finley of the Canadian Mental Health Association are greatly appreciated. Thanks also go to Marilyn Gunn, Executive Director of the Community Kitchen Program of Calgary, for securing food and supplies for the street count. And finally, special thanks go to Sharon Stroick, coordinator of the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons*, for the time and effort devoted to that year's count, the results of which were a huge advantage in planning and conducting this year's count. Trend analysis calculations and corrections made to previous count results (in the weather and trends sections of this report) are gratefully acknowledged.



## Executive Summary

- The City of Calgary has conducted a census of absolutely homeless persons every two years since 1992. The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides a periodic snapshot of the size and characteristics of the “visible” homeless population in Calgary.
- **The 2006 Count of Homeless Persons was conducted on 2006 May 10. A total of 3,436 homeless persons were enumerated.**
- Included in the count are homeless persons who stay in emergency and transitional facilities, homeless persons who are served by non-shelter service agencies such as hospital emergency departments, police, transit, and emergency social services, and homeless persons who are living “on the streets” on the night of the count.
- The 2006 count surveyed 51 facilities and nine service agencies. A total of 157 volunteers conducted the street count.
- On the night of the count **82 percent (2,823) of homeless persons enumerated were staying in facilities, 5 percent (184) were counted by service agencies, and 12 percent (429) were staying on the streets.** Of those in facilities, 49 percent were staying in emergency beds and 51 percent were staying in transitional beds.
- **More male than female homeless persons were counted.** Male homeless persons represented over three-quarters of those counted (78 percent), though differences were seen depending on the location enumerated. In facilities, 77 percent of those enumerated were male and 23 percent were female. Of those enumerated by service agencies, 84 percent were male and 16 percent were female, and on the streets 81 percent were male and 19 percent were female.
- Overall, **the most common age group for homeless persons enumerated was 25 to 44** with 46 percent of all homeless persons counted observed to be in this age group. While the age distribution of those enumerated by service agencies is difficult to analyze due to the high percentage of those who could not be assessed by age, a comparison of persons enumerated in facilities and on the streets shows some notable differences. Though the majority of persons staying in *facilities* were working age adults aged 25 to 44, all age groups were represented. Among those counted *on the streets* an even greater majority were working age adults aged 25 to 44, while the rest of the homeless population staying on the streets was mainly in the young adult (ages 18 to 24) and middle-aged adult (ages 45 to 64) categories. Few children (3), youth (14), and seniors (8) were counted on the streets.

- **Homeless persons enumerated were most frequently Caucasian; over two-thirds of all persons counted were observed to be Caucasian.** However, Aboriginal persons were disproportionately represented among the homeless population compared to Calgary's population overall. Of the 3,436 homeless persons enumerated, 68 percent were Caucasian, 17 percent were Aboriginal, and 9 percent were members of a visible minority group (the remaining 6 percent could not be assessed by population group).
- **A total of 145 homeless families were enumerated** on the night of the count (families are defined as a couple, a couple with one or more children, or a lone adult with one or more children), with 83 percent of these staying in facilities, 1 percent counted by service agencies, and 16 percent counted on the streets.
- In terms of the shelter options currently available in Calgary, **the 51 facilities surveyed who are currently providing emergency and transitional housing for homeless persons have the capacity to house 3,077 individuals.** Over one-third of facilities surveyed indicated that they were operating at or over capacity on the night of the count.
- The number of homeless persons enumerated in Calgary on the night of the count indicates that homelessness continues to grow in the city, as it has for each subsequent count since the first in 1992. **There were 32 percent more homeless persons enumerated in 2006 than in 2004.**
- Cities across Canada (and more broadly in all of North America) continue to struggle to find solutions to prevent homelessness, to care for those who are homeless, and to assist those who are homeless in finding appropriate permanent housing options.
- In addition to the considerable efforts of the community serving homeless persons in Calgary, The City of Calgary operates affordable housing units and is working to create a greater number of units to allow those individuals and families who are currently or at risk of being homeless to move into housing that is more permanent. The City also supports the work of homelessness prevention through funding provided to social programs by the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program.

## Fast Facts about the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons

<b>Homeless Persons Enumerated in Calgary on the Night of 2006 May 10</b>	
<b>All Homeless Persons Enumerated</b>	
Total number of homeless persons enumerated	3,436
Percent increase over previous count in 2004	32.3%
<b>Homeless Persons Enumerated in Facilities</b>	
Number of homeless persons enumerated in facilities	2,823
Number in emergency beds	1,383
Number in transitional beds	1,440
Percent of <i>all persons enumerated</i> who were staying in <i>facilities</i>	82.2%
Percent increase counted in facilities over previous count in 2004	15.7%
<b>Homeless Persons Enumerated by Service Agencies</b>	
Number of homeless persons enumerated by service agencies	184
Percent of <i>all persons enumerated</i> who were counted by <i>service agencies</i>	5.4%
Percent increase counted by service agencies over previous count in 2004	513.3%
<b>Homeless Persons Enumerated On the Streets</b>	
Number of homeless persons enumerated on the streets	429
Percent of <i>all persons enumerated</i> who were counted <i>on the streets</i>	12.5%
Percent increase counted on the streets over previous count in 2004	237.8%

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## 1.0 Introduction

The City of Calgary's *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides a periodic snapshot of the size and characteristics of the "visible" homeless population in Calgary. Included in the count – which in 2006 took place on the evening of May 10 – are homeless persons who stay in emergency and transitional facilities, those served by non-shelter service agencies, and those living "on the streets" on the night of the count. *Homeless persons are considered to be those who do not have a permanent residence to which they can return whenever they so choose.*

In 2006, the count involved the participation of 51 facilities who provide shelter to homeless persons, nine service agencies who potentially serve homeless persons, and 157 volunteers who conducted the "street count" in a broad geographic area which included the downtown core, other residential and commercial areas, parks, river pathways, and more remote natural areas. Information was collected about a number of observed characteristics of homeless individuals who were enumerated, including observed age, sex, population group (i.e., Caucasian, Aboriginal, or Visible Minority), the number of homeless families enumerated, and the child welfare status of youth enumerated (for homeless individuals enumerated at youth facilities only). The count also collected information about emergency and transitional bed capacity and utilization and about persons turned away from shelters on the night of the count.

The results of the count are used for The City of Calgary's ongoing research and planning activities. They are also intended to provide information to aid community agencies, service providers, and policy and decision makers in planning services for the homeless, including additional emergency, transitional, and affordable housing. The findings provide the community, The City of Calgary, and other stakeholders with an indication of the changing size of the homeless population over time, as well as the changing characteristics of the homeless population. It should be emphasized though, that the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides a snapshot in time only, and cannot represent every homeless person in the city.

## 2.0 The City of Calgary's role in affordable housing and homelessness

Homelessness is a complex issue requiring shared involvement from all levels of government, and the private and non-profit sectors. While the operational funding of shelters and related support services is a provincial responsibility<sup>1</sup>, The City of Calgary is deeply committed to the range of efforts which create and sustain a vibrant, healthy, safe and caring community, and is committed to addressing homelessness within its mandate, resources and ability.

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<sup>1</sup> Municipalities are not mandated to provide for the basic needs of residents such as food, shelter, health care, or education, which are provincial responsibilities.

The City of Calgary's response to homelessness is two-fold, with a focus on funding preventive programs<sup>2</sup> through the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program, and a commitment to increasing the supply of safe and affordable housing<sup>3</sup>, which is a key element in both the prevention and cure of homelessness.

With an understanding that the cost of shelter is one factor that can place people at risk of becoming homeless, Calgary City Council identified affordable housing as a Council priority and endorsed a *Corporate Affordable Housing Strategy*. Council also approved a definition of *affordable housing* (City of Calgary, 2002a), which uses income data from the 2001 Canada Census (Statistics Canada, 2003a) and which is being used for The City of Calgary's ongoing research and planning activities:

Affordable housing adequately suits the needs of low- and moderate-income households at costs *below* those generally found in the Calgary market. It may take a number of forms that exist along a continuum – from emergency shelters, to transitional housing, to non-market rental (also known as social or subsidized housing), to formal and informal rental, and ending with affordable home ownership.

Affordable housing projects are targeted to households with 65 percent or less of the area median income.<sup>4</sup> For The City of Calgary, affordable housing initiatives would be targeted to those with a gross income below \$37,621. For housing to be affordable, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has defined that a household should not spend more than 30 percent of gross income on [rental] shelter costs (1991: 4).<sup>5</sup>

The City of Calgary's definition of affordable housing can also be presented graphically as an "affordable housing continuum," as shown in Box 1 (*opposite page*). The City recognizes that the provision of affordable housing is an important factor in providing housing options and enabling those who are able to move through the affordable housing continuum.

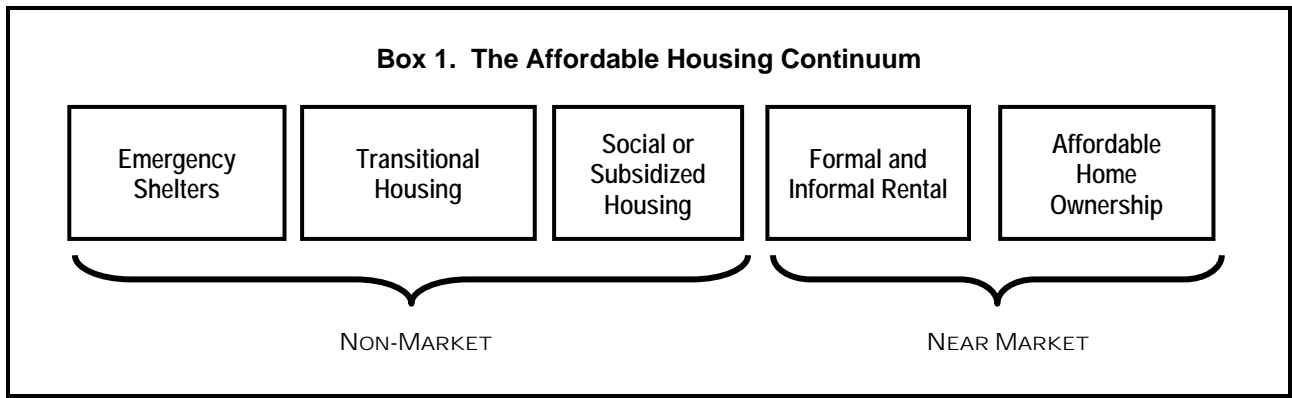
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<sup>2</sup> An investment of \$1 in preventive social services has been found to yield up to a \$7 return in avoided costs such as policing, justice, addiction treatment, and in increased productivity in employment and contribution to the community (City of Calgary, 2005a). The cost of homelessness specifically (including health care, justice, social services, and shelter costs) has been estimated at \$30,000 to \$40,000 per person per year (Eberle, Kraus, Pomeroy, and Hulchanski, 2001). The City of Calgary's contribution to FCSS funds which support local agencies and organizations that serve homeless persons is over one million dollars annually.

<sup>3</sup> Creating affordable housing is listed as a priority within Calgary City Council's priority areas for 2006 through 2008. Council has identified a target of increasing the non-market rental affordable housing supply by 600 units over this period. To achieve this goal, Council has approved \$15 million in capital dollars and an additional \$5 million from the recent savings from the Provincial education property tax reduction.

<sup>4</sup> As reported in the 2001 Canada Census, the median annual household income in Calgary for the year 2000 was \$57,879 (Statistics Canada, 2003a). Sixty-five percent of median income is \$37,621.

<sup>5</sup> For home ownership to be affordable, no more than 32 percent of gross household income should be spent on housing costs which include principal, interest, taxes, and heating expenses (CMHC, 2002: 13).



In addition to the *Corporate Affordable Housing Strategy*, consultation with Calgarians in the spring of 2004 led to the creation of a *Homelessness Strategy* which sets out a framework for when and how The City of Calgary will participate in addressing homelessness. The City's role is to participate in the *prevention* and *cure* of homelessness. A stratified random sample of Calgarians felt that while the *care* of homeless persons (in terms of the operation of shelter facilities) is the responsibility of the provincial government, when need for additional shelter space has been documented, The City should work with the other orders of government to ensure that the necessary care for the homeless population is available (City of Calgary, 2004c: 3). The City of Calgary's *Homelessness Strategy* defines parameters for situations where civic and moral responsibility may result in The City contributing to *care* (shelter) initiatives (2004d: 2).

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons in Calgary* captures information about persons staying in housing which falls into the first two categories of the affordable housing continuum shown in Box 1 (emergency shelters and transitional housing). The City of Calgary has also undertaken research about low-income households that are living in rental market housing or in their own homes who may be at risk of homelessness through a series of *Research Briefs* on housing needs and *Research Summaries* on affordable housing and homelessness. These documents, as well as the *Corporate Affordable Housing Strategy* and the *Homelessness Strategy*, can be found on The City of Calgary website, and can be viewed or downloaded as 'pdf' files. Go to [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca) and select the "A to Z" index. The entry for *Affordable Housing* will link to the web page where these reports can be found.

## 3.0 Methodology

### 3.1 Overview

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* is a periodic snapshot of the size and characteristics of the visible homeless population in Calgary on a given night. The following definition of *homelessness* is used for the count:

*Homeless persons are considered to be those who do not have a permanent residence to which they can return whenever they so choose<sup>6</sup>.*

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* enumerates persons who, on the night of the count, sleep outdoors or spend the night in emergency or transitional facilities because they do not have a permanent home to return to whenever they so choose.

In order to capture as full a snapshot of the homeless population on the night of the count as possible, two enumeration methods are utilized. A survey of shelter facilities and service agencies counts homeless persons who stay in emergency and transitional shelter beds, and all homeless persons who are served by organizations such as hospital emergency departments, police, transit, and emergency social services on the night of the count<sup>7</sup>. A street count, conducted by teams of trained volunteers assigned to specific geographic areas, counts homeless persons who, on the night of the count, are living out of doors on downtown streets, in residential and commercial areas, in parks, on river pathways, and in more remote natural areas.

The participation of shelter facilities, service organizations, and volunteers is critical to the success of the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*. For the 2006 count, 51 facilities/programs and nine service agencies participated in the facilities and services enumeration, and 157 volunteer street enumerators conducted the street count.

Facilities and service agencies are invited to participate in the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* based on a number of criteria. The count aims to include all facilities in the city which provide emergency beds and/or transitional housing for homeless persons<sup>8</sup>. Also surveyed are all non-shelter services which could potentially be used by persons who are homeless on the night of the count. Those agencies who have participated in previous years are included, and any agencies no longer in operation since the previous count are identified and omitted from the census.

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<sup>6</sup> This definition was formalized for the count undertaken for the first published report of the research findings in 1996 (City of Calgary, 1996: 2; 1998: 1, 2000: 2, and 2002b: 2).

<sup>7</sup> Facilities and service agencies participating in the count are instructed (on their respective enumeration forms) to only count those who do not have a permanent residence to which they can return. This is particularly relevant for facilities in the Addictions Sector that serve a range of clients in addition to homeless persons.

<sup>8</sup> While both emergency and transitional beds had been surveyed prior to the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons*, a change to a more formal process of including all known transitional facilities which provide shelter to homeless persons, in addition to emergency shelters, was made for the 2004 count. This change was made to align the supply data listed in the community's action plan, *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths out of Homelessness*, with the demand data collected by the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*.

In addition, any new operators of emergency or transitional housing for homeless persons are identified.<sup>9</sup> A list of all facilities and service agencies surveyed in 2006 is available in Appendix A.

After all potential facilities and service agencies are identified, a formal letter inviting their participation is sent a number of weeks in advance of the count date, along with background information about the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*, and the enumeration form and instructions. Facilities and service agencies are given the opportunity to review the forms and the enumeration procedure prior to the count date in order to have any questions or problems resolved by the Count Coordinator and research staff prior to the count. They are also given the opportunity to request a volunteer enumerator to help them on site on the night of the count.<sup>10</sup> On the night of the count, participating facilities and service agencies complete these enumeration forms. At the same time, volunteer teams conduct the street count and complete their own forms. All enumeration forms are then returned to The City of Calgary for review and analysis. A report on the findings is published and made public, usually two to three months after the count date.

### **3.2 History**

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* has evolved over time, beginning in 1992 with a simple count of the number of persons who had slept in an identified shelter facility or who were observed sleeping on the streets, to a more detailed census process involving, in 2006, the participation of 35 agencies who provide shelter through one or more facilities for homeless persons (a total of 51 facilities), nine service agencies who potentially serve homeless persons, and 157 volunteers who conducted the street count.

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* collects information about a number of observed characteristics of individuals who are enumerated. The 2006 count provides information on observed age, sex, population group (i.e., Caucasian, Aboriginal, or Visible Minority), the number of homeless families enumerated, and the child welfare status of youth enumerated (for homeless individuals enumerated at youth facilities only). Additionally, the count has also evolved to capture data on the number of persons refused shelter on the night of the count, and beginning in 2004, data on emergency and transitional bed utilization and capacity.

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<sup>9</sup> During the planning stages of the *2006 Count of Homeless Persons*, the Calgary Homeless Foundation was updating their listing of emergency, transitional, and non-market housing providers, including the number of beds/units provided by each, first published in *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths out of Homelessness*. A preliminary list of providers of emergency and transitional shelter was shared with The City of Calgary to assist in identifying any new facilities as participants in the 2006 count.

<sup>10</sup> In 2006 none of the facilities or service agencies requested a volunteer enumerator to assist them at their location.

A number of important methodological enhancements were made to the process in 2004. Beginning in 2004, the number of facilities serving the homeless population who were surveyed was increased to align with those included in the inventory compiled in the community-led action plan on homelessness titled, *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths Out of Homelessness*. This change was made to provide a more accurate picture of the number of homeless persons who are using available services and receiving the support needed to help them to advance along the affordable housing continuum into a more stable housing situation. While prior to the 2004 count, some transitional housing for homeless persons had been included in the data collected, the focus was on surveying primarily emergency shelters (some of which also provided transitional beds). With greater knowledge of the range of emergency and transitional housing available, a new and more comprehensive baseline, including homeless persons enumerated in both emergency and transitional beds, was set in 2004.

In 2006, changes made to the enumeration forms allowed an analysis of age by population group (i.e., Caucasian, Aboriginal, or Visible Minority) that was previously not possible. This change provides a greater depth of information about homeless persons who are Caucasian, Aboriginal, or members of a visible minority group.

### **3.3 Timing**

The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* is conducted every two years on a Wednesday in mid-May. The timing of this date – mid-month, mid-week – was arrived at by consultation with service providers who advised that the count should be conducted on a date when the effects of income receipt (e.g., income support program payments) on persons enumerated would be minimized.<sup>11</sup> Conducting the count at approximately the same time every two years also enables a comparison of the findings over time.

It should be noted however, that the timing of the count date does not account for seasonal variation. Local service providers and front line workers have expressed concern that a May count date “may minimize the extent of homelessness by counting at a time when street homelessness is less visible” (Crawley, 2001: 9).

In addition to the date of the count, the duration of the count is also standardized. The street count begins at 9 p.m. and ends by midnight. This time period is chosen because by 9 p.m. most persons who plan to stay at a facility would already have to be at the facility to be accepted through their intake process for that evening. Homeless persons encountered by street team volunteers during the 9 p.m. to midnight period are those most likely to be staying on the street. Service agencies are asked to enumerate homeless persons during the hours of 6 p.m. the evening of the count, to 6 a.m. the

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<sup>11</sup> The Canadian Council on Social Development reports that the timing for The City of Calgary’s first Count of Homeless Persons in 1992 was determined “by members of the Street Liaison Committee, based on their experience that peak need generally occurs on a week night during the third week of the month, just prior to the issuing of various income support payments” (2001:21-22).

morning after the count date. Given the type of service and location of service agencies (most are not located in the downtown area and street count zones), it is unlikely that persons served by these agencies would be counted elsewhere (i.e., in facilities or on the streets).

### **3.4 Geographic scope**

Each year, the geographic area covered by the street count is re-evaluated to ensure that all outdoor areas known to be frequented by homeless persons during the night are covered. Consultation with expert stakeholders (e.g., community agencies, Calgary EMS, and others who work with or provide services to homeless persons) is undertaken to modify the street count boundaries to include the known areas where homeless persons have been observed. The street count area was expanded slightly in 2006<sup>12</sup>.

### **3.5 Volunteer participation**

In 2006, a number of methods were used to recruit volunteers for the street count. These focused on recruiting volunteers who have had some experience with persons who are homeless, for example, as outreach workers or shelter facility staff, and also volunteers from previous year's counts. An invitation to participate as a volunteer was extended to the Interagency Committee and the Community Action Committee, two groups comprised of agencies and other stakeholders serving persons who are homeless in the city. Additionally, flyers were distributed at an Aboriginal service agency fair, and to students at both the University of Calgary and Mount Royal College who were enrolled in related courses (e.g., social work and social planning). Almost one-third of the street count volunteers were made up of City of Calgary staff, many of whom have participated in previous year's counts.

All registered street count volunteers take part in a mandatory orientation session prior to the count. One person on each street count volunteer team (comprised of 3 or 4 volunteers) – ideally a person who has participated in the street count in previous years or has experience working with persons who are homeless or other vulnerable or at risk populations – is designated as a Team Leader and receives additional training to enable them to lead their team through the enumeration process. The general orientation session attended by all street count volunteers outlines the purpose of the count, the enumeration process, and how to accurately complete the enumeration forms. It also emphasizes safety, emergency, and check-in procedures for the night of the count, and advises volunteers how to approach and speak with people that they encounter who may be homeless persons, street workers, persons in crisis, and others. Volunteers are provided with a set of screening questions to help them identify persons who are homeless and to avoid “double counting” of those who indicate they are either staying at a facility that night or have already been counted.

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<sup>12</sup> See Appendix B for a map of all street count zones canvassed in 2006.

### **3.6 Limitations**

It is important to note that while the enumeration methods utilized were designed to be as accurate as possible, it is not possible to count every single person that is homeless in Calgary. The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* is a snapshot of the size and characteristics of the homeless population on one night every two years. As is the case in any city in which a one-night count of homeless persons is conducted, the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* cannot capture the true magnitude of homelessness in the city.

The number of homeless persons reported is underestimated because not every homeless person is “visible” and because the count is a one-night snapshot that cannot determine the number of *different individuals* who may be homeless over a given period of time. Those that are not visible and therefore cannot be enumerated include persons who, on the night of the count, do not have a permanent residence to return to if they so choose, but instead, may be “couch surfing” (i.e., staying at the homes of friends or family), sleeping in vehicles or abandoned buildings where they would not have been enumerated, camping in remote areas that would be difficult or unsafe to be reached by the street count volunteer teams, or living outside of the geographic areas that are surveyed as a part of the street count.

Other complementary research, undertaken by the Interagency Committee for the Absolute Homeless, has attempted to give a more complete *annual* picture of homelessness in Calgary. The Interagency Committee for the Absolute Homeless used client data collected in 2000 and 2002 by a number of shelters<sup>13</sup> in Calgary to track full-year utilization across the shelter system. This study indicated that in 2000, 11,000 different individuals were housed by these shelters, increasing to 14,181 individuals in 2002 (Perras and Huyder, 2003). While more current annual shelter utilization data is not available, these numbers provide an indication of the actual magnitude of homelessness in Calgary in addition to the one-night snapshot offered by the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*.

Another limitation of the count methodology is the recognized variability in the definitions of transitional beds used by individual agencies and facilities. When a decision was made in 2004 to include not only providers of emergency beds, but also all known providers of transitional beds for homeless persons, and to report the two categories separately, it was recognized that while there is general consensus on the definition of *emergency beds*, it would be more difficult to define and collect information about homeless persons occupying *transitional beds*. An analysis of emergency and transitional bed capacity and occupancy required a better understanding of how facilities defined transitional beds; therefore, the 2004 Facility Enumeration Form asked for each facility’s own definition. The 2004 report showed that definitions varied widely,

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<sup>13</sup> The shelters who participated in this study were: the Calgary Alpha House Society, the Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre (all 3 locations that were in operation at that time), the Inn from the Cold Society, the Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry (including the Sunalta shelter later operated by Alberta Seniors, and now operated by the Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre), and the Salvation Army’s Booth Centre and Centre of Hope.

even among sectors (City of Calgary, 2004b). Each facility defined transitional beds according to its own mandate or as required by various funding agencies that support the provision of those beds. Some transitional beds are intended for very short term occupation, while others are provided for a much longer duration.

Requesting all facilities to divide their reporting into emergency and transitional beds implies a more homogeneous definition of transitional beds than actually exists; however when members of the Community Action Committee, representing the various sectors serving the homeless population, were consulted about this issue they felt that the distinction in reporting emergency and transitional beds was important enough to maintain, even knowing the limitations<sup>14</sup>. The results for transitional bed capacity and occupancy and the characteristics of homeless persons occupying transitional beds must therefore be interpreted with caution. In the future, should the community create clear definitions of various housing types for homeless persons and agree across sectors and individual facilities to using these definitions, all efforts would be made to align data collection and reporting for the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* to those definitions to enable a measure of bed supply and demand that is of most meaning and value to the community.

Finally, it should be noted that while the data collected on characteristics of the homeless population is valuable in providing information about the composition of the homeless population, the reported characteristics are based on observation and not on self-reporting by homeless persons<sup>15</sup>. More precisely, the characteristics of sex, age group, whether an individual is Caucasian, Aboriginal, or a member of a visible minority, and whether they are part of a family, are designed to be recorded based on observation by the person enumerating that individual. This may be more difficult for some variables than others; for example, it is acknowledged that there may be difficulty in determining whether or not a homeless person enumerated is Caucasian, Aboriginal, or a member of a visible minority group. Even with the limitation of assigning characteristics based on observation, the data collected are valuable and useful in particular when looking at trends in homeless subpopulations over time (e.g., women, youth, visible minorities, families).

Despite the preceding limitations, the information obtained from the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides valuable data collected by standard methods every two years that allows both the number and observed characteristics of homeless persons in Calgary to be assessed over time. The count provides data that can be used by governments, the community, and other stakeholders in working together to find solutions to homelessness through awareness, advocacy, and service planning.

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<sup>14</sup> CAC was consulted about this issue at their 2006 April 11 meeting.

<sup>15</sup> While a street count volunteer may learn through conversation a homeless person's actual age or other details, and facility staff may have those details on file, it is assumed that for the most part those characteristics are based on observation *only*, and any analysis must take into account this limitation.

## 4.0 A profile of persons who were homeless in Calgary on 2006 May 10

On the night of 2006 May 10, a total of 51 facilities (operated by 35 different agencies that provide shelter for homeless persons), nine service agencies, and teams comprised of a total of 157 street count volunteers covering over 50 geographic zones in the city conducted the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* <sup>16</sup>.

The results of the *2006 Count of Homeless Persons* are presented in this section in detail, first for *all* homeless persons enumerated – the amalgamated total enumerated in facilities, by service agencies, and on the streets – and then in a separate section for facilities, services, and the streets individually.

### **4.1 All homeless persons enumerated – in facilities, by service agencies, and on the streets**

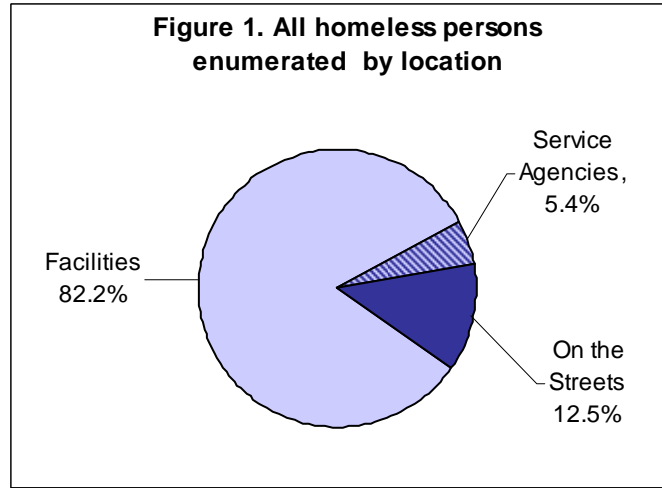
The following section provides detailed results about *all* homeless persons enumerated – that is, the combined number of persons enumerated in facilities, by service agencies, and on the streets – on the night of 2006 May 10. Data collected that is common to all three types of enumeration locations and presented in the following section includes the observed age, sex, and population group (i.e., Caucasian, Aboriginal, or Visible Minority) of all individuals enumerated, and the number of families enumerated.

#### **4.1.1 Location enumerated and sex**

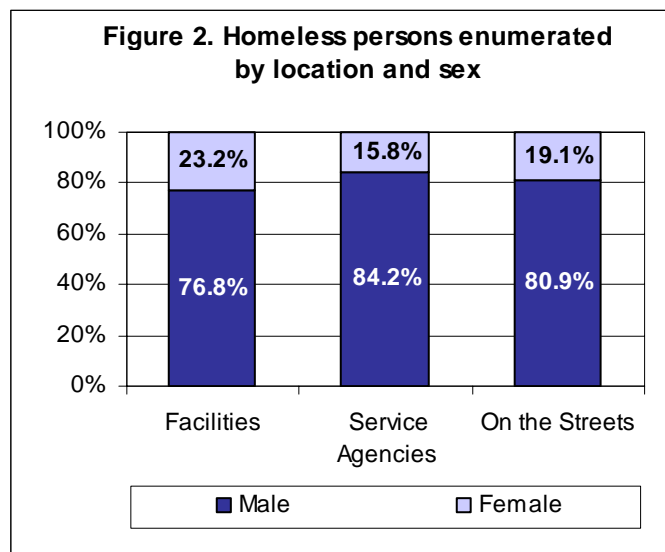
<b>Table 1. All homeless persons enumerated by location and observed sex</b>						
Location Enumerated	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Facilities	2,168	76.8%	655	23.2%	2,823	82.2%
Service Agencies	155	84.2%	29	15.8%	184	5.4%
On the Streets	347	80.9%	82	19.1%	429	12.5%
<b>Total – All Locations</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>77.7%</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<sup>16</sup> See Appendix A for a list of all participating facilities and service agencies, and Appendix B for a map of the geographic area canvassed for the street count.

As Table 1 (*previous page*) shows, a total of 3,436 persons were homeless on the night of the count. As seen in both Table 1 and Figure 1 (*below*), 82 percent of those counted were staying in facilities, 5 percent were counted by service agencies, and 12 percent were staying on the streets<sup>17</sup>.



As Table 1 also shows, of the 3,436 persons who were homeless on the night of the count, 78 percent were male and 22 percent were female, though the proportion of male and female persons counted varied by location. In facilities, 77 percent of those enumerated were male and 23 percent were female. Of those enumerated by service agencies, 84 percent were male and 16 percent were female, and on the streets 81 percent were male and 19 percent were female (see Figure 2, *below*).

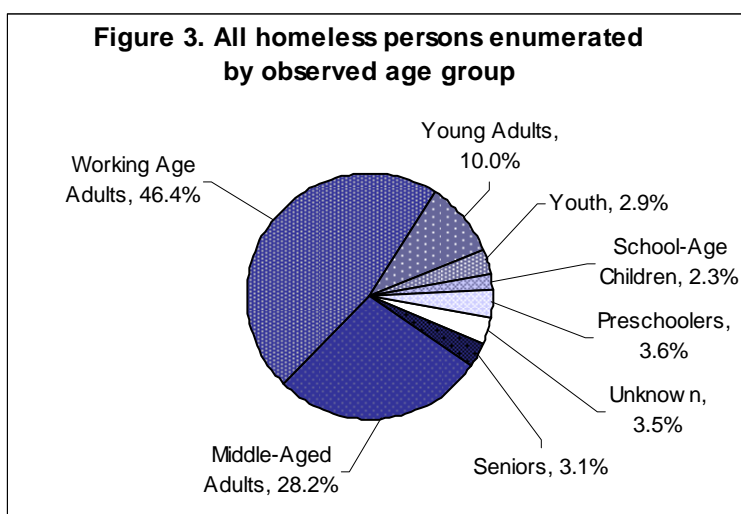


<sup>17</sup> Percentages in both the tables and the narrative analyses provided throughout this report may not sum to totals because of rounding.

#### 4.1.2 Observed age group and location enumerated

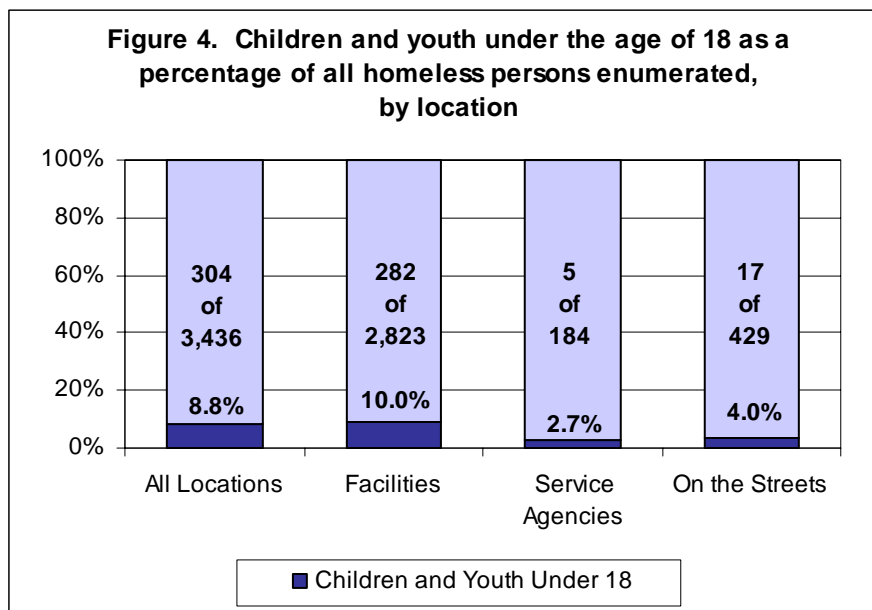
Table 2. All homeless persons enumerated by observed age group and location								
Observed Age Group	Location Enumerated						Total Persons Enumerated	
	FACILITIES		SERVICE AGENCIES		ON THE STREETS		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	124	4.4%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	125	3.6%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	73	2.6%	2	1.1%	3	0.7%	78	2.3%
Youth (age 13-17)	85	3.0%	2	1.1%	14	3.3%	101	2.9%
<b>Sub-Total – Children and Youth Under 18</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
Young Adults (age 18-24)	268	9.5%	8	4.3%	67	15.6%	343	10.0%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	1,307	46.3%	54	29.3%	232	54.1%	1,593	46.4%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	865	30.6%	13	7.1%	91	21.2%	969	28.2%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	97	3.4%	1	0.5%	8	1.9%	106	3.1%
Unknown Age	4	0.1%	103	56.0%	14	3.3%	121	3.5%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>2,823</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As both Table 2 (above) and Figure 3 (below) show, of all 3,436 persons who were homeless on the night of the count, 4 percent were preschoolers, 2 percent were school-age children, 3 percent were youth, 10 percent were young adults, 46 percent were working age adults, 28 percent were middle-aged adults, and 3 percent were seniors. A total of 4 percent of all persons enumerated could not be assessed by age.



When assessing age by location enumerated, the distribution varied. While the age distribution of those enumerated by service agencies is difficult to analyze due to the high percentage of those who could not be assessed by age, a comparison of persons enumerated in facilities and on the streets shows some notable differences. Though the majority of persons staying in facilities were working age adults (46 percent), all age groups were represented. Among those staying on the streets an even greater majority were working age adults (54 percent), while the rest of the homeless population staying on the streets was mainly in the young adult and middle-aged adult categories. Few children (3), youth (14), and seniors (8) were counted on the streets.

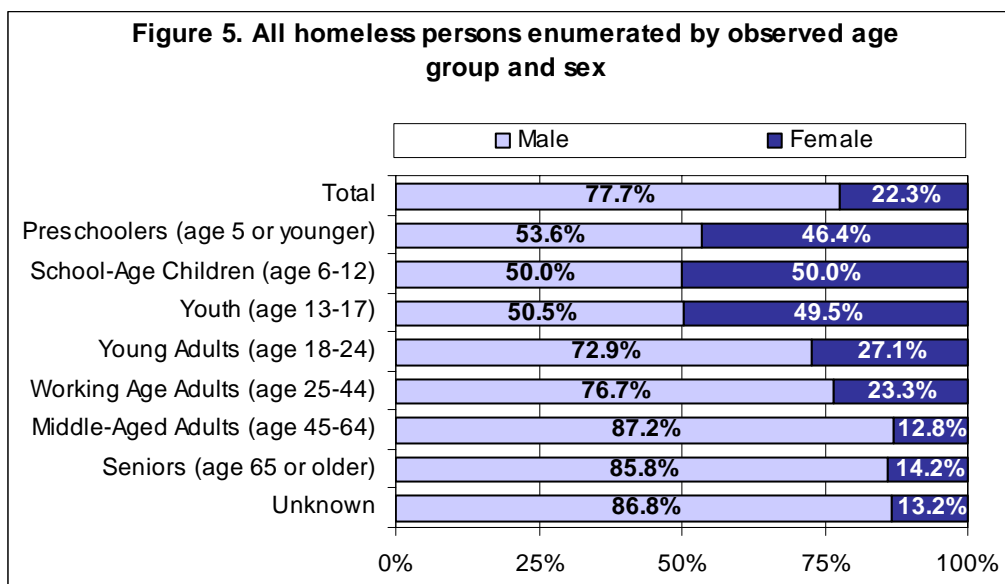
Of particular concern though is the number of children and youth who are homeless overall. As Table 2 (*previous page*) shows, 304 children and youth under the age of 18 were enumerated, representing 9 percent of all homeless persons counted. The vast majority of children and youth were counted in facilities. Children and youth under 18 made up 10 percent of homeless persons counted in facilities, 3 percent of those counted by service agencies, and 4 percent of those on the streets (see Figure 4, *below*).



### 4.1.3 Observed age group and sex

Observed Age Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	67	53.6%	58	46.4%	125	3.6%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	39	50.0%	39	50.0%	78	2.3%
Youth (age 13-17)	51	50.5%	50	49.5%	101	2.9%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	250	72.9%	93	27.1%	343	10.0%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	1222	76.7%	371	23.3%	1,593	46.4%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	845	87.2%	124	12.8%	969	28.2%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	91	85.8%	15	14.2%	106	3.1%
Unknown Age	105	86.8%	16	13.2%	121	3.5%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>77.7%</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As both Table 3 (above) and Figure 5 (below) show, when assessing the observed age group and sex of persons enumerated, while 78 percent of the total number of homeless persons enumerated were male and 22 percent were female, the results were divided differently within age groups.



Generally among the younger age groups, the proportion of male and female persons enumerated was fairly evenly split, while among the older age groups, the majority of persons counted were male. Among preschoolers, 54 percent were male and 46 were female, 50 percent of school-age children were male and 50 percent were female, 50 percent of youth were male and 50 percent were female, 73 percent of young adults were male and 27 percent were female, 87 percent of middle-aged adults were male and 13 percent were female, and 86 percent of seniors were male and 14 percent were female. Of those persons whose age could not be assessed, 87 percent were male and 13 percent were female.

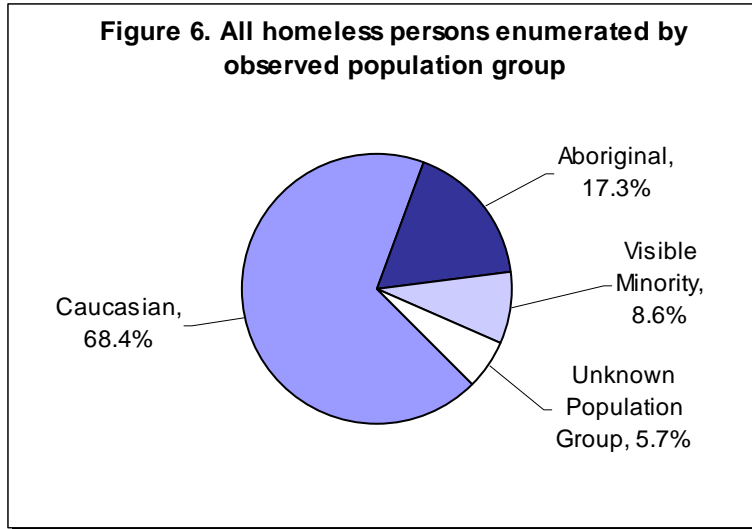
#### 4.1.4 Observed population group and location enumerated

Table 4. All homeless persons enumerated by observed population group and location								
Observed Population Group	Location Enumerated						Total Persons Enumerated	
	FACILITIES		SERVICE AGENCIES		ON THE STREETS		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Caucasian	2,081	73.7%	35	19.0%	234	54.5%	2,350	68.4%
Aboriginal	398	14.1%	35	19.0%	160	37.3%	593	17.3%
Visible Minority	277	9.8%	7	3.8%	12	2.8%	296	8.6%
Unknown Population Group	67	2.4%	107	58.2%	23	5.4%	197	5.7%
<b>Total – All Population Groups</b>	<b>2,823</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

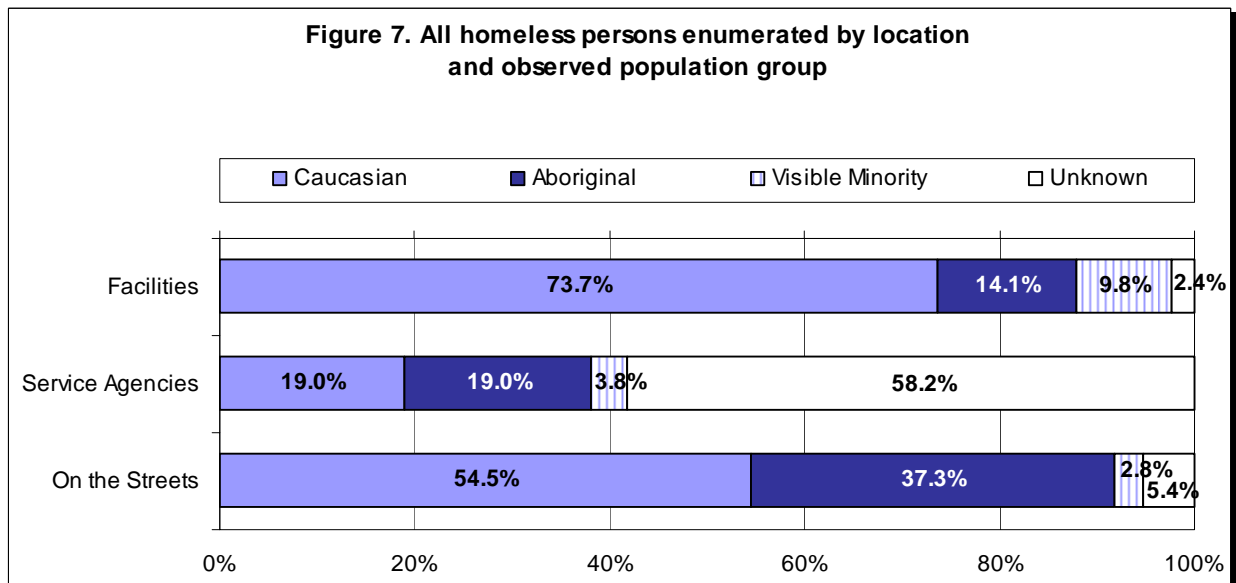
As both Table 4 (*above*) and Figure 6 (*next page*) show, of the 3,436 persons who were homeless on the night of the count 68 percent were Caucasian, 17 percent were Aboriginal, and 9 percent were members of a visible minority group. This variable could not be assessed for 6 percent of the total number of homeless persons enumerated<sup>18</sup>.

Of note is the disproportionately high percentage of homeless persons who were observed to be Aboriginal. While 17 percent of all homeless persons enumerated were observed to be Aboriginal, just 2 percent of all Calgary residents identify as Aboriginal (Statistics Canada, 2003a). The percentage of Aboriginal homeless persons counted on the streets was even higher at 37 percent.

<sup>18</sup> Of the 107 homeless persons counted by service agencies for whom population group could not be assessed, 103 were counted by the Calgary Remand Centre. The Calgary Remand Centre used a computer database to enumerate persons who were in custody with no fixed address on the night of 2006 May 10, and the reporting method used could assess only the sex of those enumerated and no other characteristics.



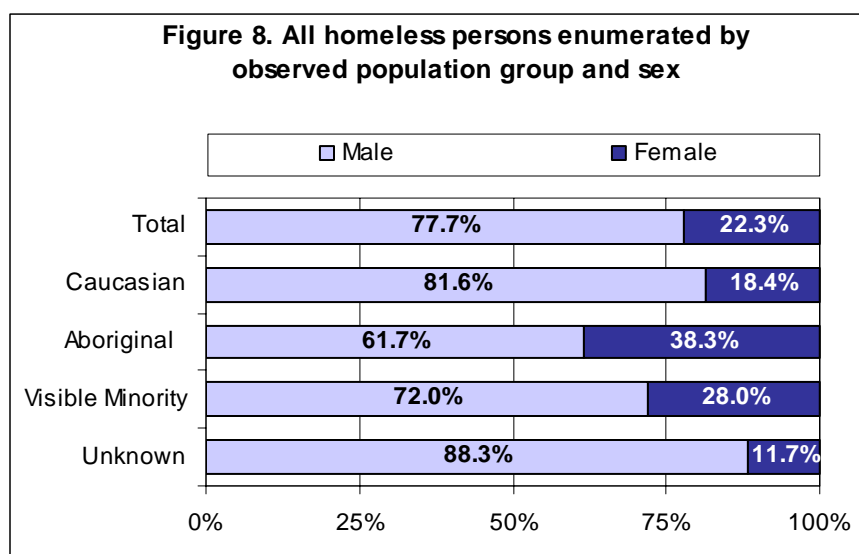
While it is difficult to analyze the population group of homeless persons enumerated by service agencies because most could not be assessed by this variable, population group differences were seen between those counted in facilities and those counted by service agencies (see Figure 7, below). Of the 2,823 homeless persons counted in facilities, 74 percent were Caucasian, 14 percent were Aboriginal, and 10 percent were visible minorities (2 percent of those counted in facilities could not be assessed by this variable). On the streets, 55 percent of persons counted were Caucasian, 37 percent were Aboriginal, and 3 percent were visible minorities (while 5 percent could not be assessed by this variable).



#### 4.1.5 Observed population group and sex

<b>Table 5. All homeless persons enumerated by observed population group and sex</b>						
Observed Population Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Caucasian	1,917	81.6%	433	18.4%	2,350	68.4%
Aboriginal	366	61.7%	227	38.3%	593	17.3%
Visible Minority	213	72.0%	83	28.0%	296	8.6%
Unknown Population Group	174	88.3%	23	11.7%	197	5.7%
<b>Total – All Population Groups</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>77.7%</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As shown previously in Table 1, of all homeless persons enumerated at facilities, 78 percent were male and 22 percent were female. Within population groups though, the proportion of male and female homeless persons varied. As Table 5 (above) and Figure 8 (below) show, among homeless persons observed to be Caucasian, 82 percent were male and 18 percent were female. Among homeless persons observed to be Aboriginal, there were a much greater percentage of females counted; 62 percent were male and 38 percent were female. Among homeless persons observed to be visible minorities, the percentage of female persons was also higher than among Caucasian persons, with 72 percent of visible minority homeless persons being male and 28 percent being female.



#### 4.1.6 Observed population group and age group

<b>Table 6. All homeless persons enumerated by observed age group and population group</b>								
Observed Age Group	Observed Population Group (Unknown Population Group not shown)						Total Persons Enumerated	
	CAUCASIAN		ABORIGINAL		VISIBLE MINORITY		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	43	1.8%	56	9.4%	19	6.4%	125	3.6%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	31	1.3%	27	4.6%	17	5.7%	78	2.3%
Youth (age 13-17)	66	2.8%	24	4.0%	11	3.7%	101	2.9%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	239	10.2%	65	11.0%	28	9.5%	343	10.0%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	1,128	48.0%	295	49.7%	139	47.0%	1,593	46.4%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	759	32.3%	106	17.9%	69	23.3%	969	28.2%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	83	3.5%	10	1.7%	11	3.7%	106	3.1%
Unknown Age	1	0.0%	10	1.7%	2	0.7%	121	3.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

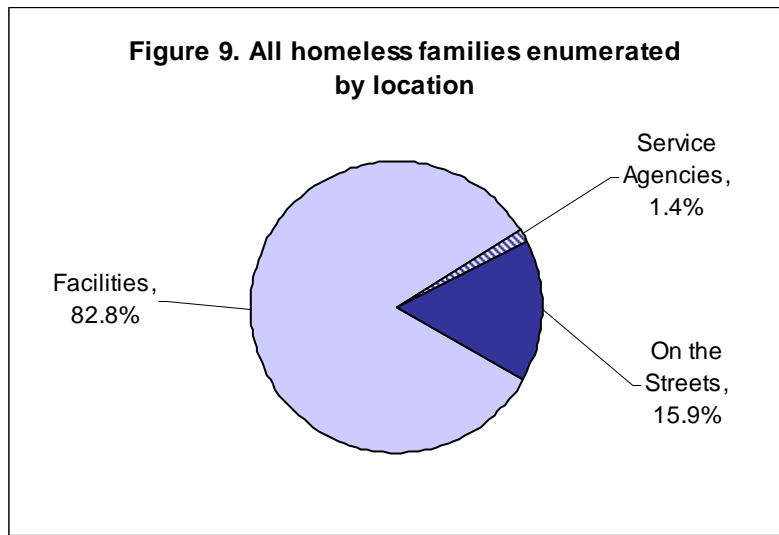
Table 6 (above) shows that the age distribution within population groups varies slightly from that seen in the homeless population overall. Within the Aboriginal and Visible Minority groups, a greater proportion of the homeless population enumerated were observed to be in the younger age groups (under 18). Meanwhile, in the Caucasian group, a lesser proportion of the homeless population were observed to be under 18 than was seen in the total homeless population overall.

#### 4.1.7 Families

Table 7. All homeless families enumerated by location		
Location Enumerated	Total Families Enumerated <sup>1</sup>	
	Number	Percent
Facilities	120	82.8%
Service Agencies	2	1.4%
On the Streets	23	15.9%
<b>Total – All Locations</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Notes:  
 1 "Total Families Enumerated" represents the total number of family units. It is not known how many individual homeless persons were part of a family. Families are defined as a couple, a couple with one or more children, or a lone adult with one or more children.

As shown in Table 7 (above) and in Figure 9 (below) a total of 145 homeless families were enumerated on the night of the count. Of these 83 percent were staying in facilities, 1 percent were counted by service agencies, and 16 percent were counted on the streets. Families are defined as a couple, a couple with one or more children, or a lone adult with one or more children.



## **4.2 Homeless persons enumerated in facilities**

The following section provides detailed results about homeless persons enumerated in facilities that provide shelter to homeless persons – in both emergency and transitional beds – on the night of 2006 May 10. Results are presented by type of bed occupied – emergency or transitional – and for the total number of persons enumerated in facilities overall. Homeless persons staying in emergency or transitional shelter facility beds made up 82 percent of the total number of homeless persons enumerated on 2006 May 10.

The emergency and transitional bed definitions found in *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths Out of Homelessness* are useful for explaining the general differences between emergency and transitional beds. *The Calgary Community Plan* defines “emergency” and “transitional” beds as follows (Calgary Homeless Foundation 2003: 9):

- *Emergency Shelters* – Provide temporary accommodation for homeless individuals and families who would otherwise sleep in the streets, generally including supports such as food, clothing and counselling.
- *Transitional Housing* – Provides short or long-term accommodation while assistance is obtained to address problems such as unemployment, addictions, mental health issues, educational deficits, physical and cognitive disabilities, and domestic violence. Transitional housing units typically provide access to a mix of support services that enable an individual to move towards self-sufficiency. Privately owned, for-profit, affordable rental units are *not* included in this category.

While there is general consensus on how individual agencies and facilities define emergency beds, the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons* found that the definition of transitional beds used by facilities varies widely, even among sectors, either according to each agency’s own mandate or as required by various funding agencies that support the provision of those beds (City of Calgary, 2004b). Definitions provided by agencies differed in the level and type of support provided as well as the permitted length of stay. While this is a recognized methodological issue, agency representatives consulted in 2006 asked that separate data collection for emergency and transitional beds continue. The detailed results for the transitional bed category must therefore be interpreted with caution.

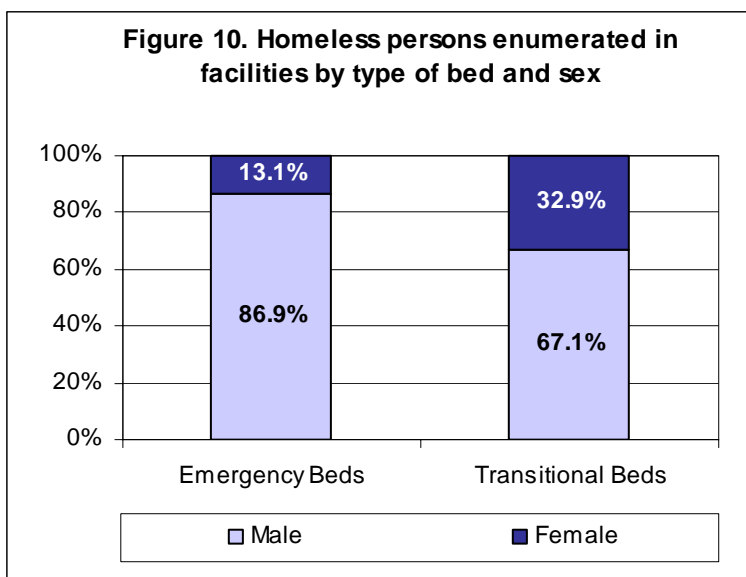
Facility staff were asked to consider their agency’s own definition of transitional beds when reporting the number of available and occupied transitional beds on the night of the count. The Facility Enumeration Form instructed facility staff *not* to record any information about persons who reside at the facility on a permanent basis.

#### 4.2.1 Type of bed occupied and observed sex

<b>Table 8. Homeless persons enumerated in facilities by type of bed occupied and sex</b>						
Type of Bed Occupied	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated in Facilities	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Emergency Beds	1,202	86.9%	181	13.1%	1,383	49.0%
Transitional Beds	966	67.1%	474	32.9%	1,440	51.0%
Total – All Beds	2,168	76.8%	655	23.2%	2,823	100.0%

As Table 8 (*above*) shows, 2,823 homeless persons were staying in facilities on the night of the count. Of those, 49 percent were staying in emergency beds and 51 percent were staying in transitional beds.

As shown previously in Table 1, of all homeless persons enumerated at facilities, 77 percent were male and 23 percent were female. Within bed types though, the proportion of male and female homeless persons varied. Among homeless persons staying in emergency beds 87 percent were male and 13 percent were female, and among those staying in transitional beds 67 percent were male and 33 percent were female (see Figure 10, *below*).

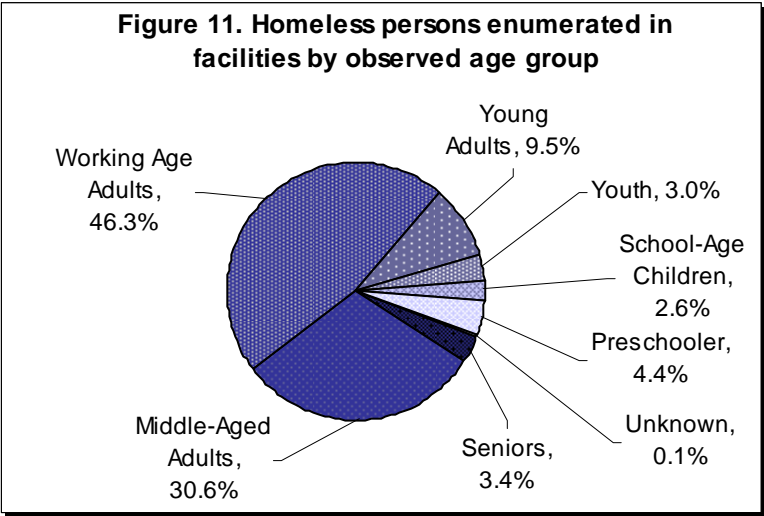


**4.2.2 Observed age group and type of bed occupied**

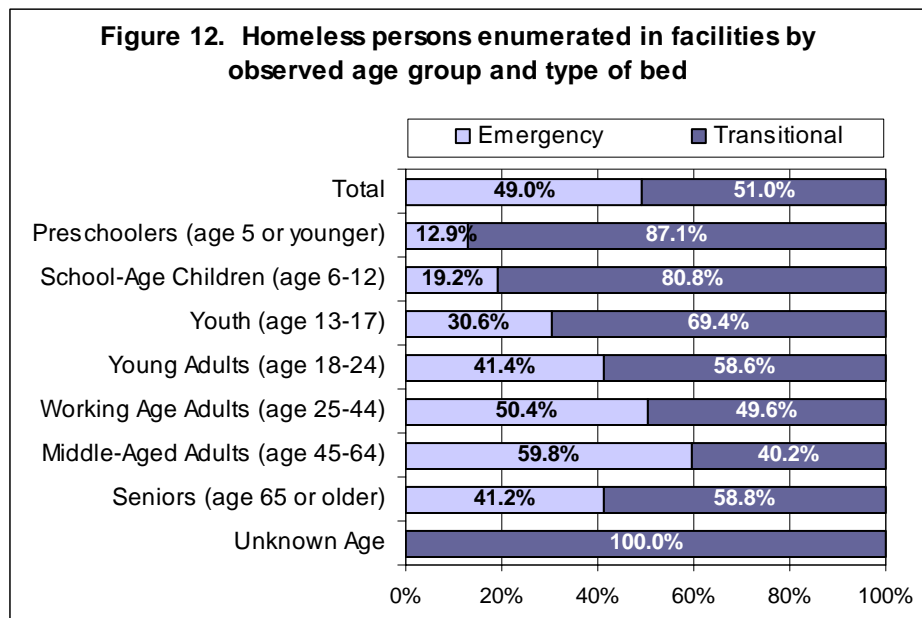
**Table 9. Homeless persons enumerated in facilities by observed age group and type of bed occupied**

Observed Age Group	Type of Bed Occupied				Total Persons Enumerated in Facilities	
	EMERGENCY		TRANSITIONAL		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent in Emergency Beds	Number	Percent in Transitional Beds		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	16	12.9%	108	87.1%	124	4.4%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	14	19.2%	59	80.8%	73	2.6%
Youth (age 13-17)	26	30.6%	59	69.4%	85	3.0%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	111	41.4%	157	58.6%	268	9.5%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	659	50.4%	648	49.6%	1,307	46.3%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	517	59.8%	348	40.2%	865	30.6%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	40	41.2%	57	58.8%	97	3.4%
Unknown Age	0	0.0%	4	100.0%	4	0.1%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>49.0%</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>51.0%</b>	<b>2,823</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As Table 9 (above) and Figure 11 (below) show, of the 2,823 persons staying in emergency and transitional facilities on the night of the count, 4 percent were preschoolers, 3 percent were school-age children, 3 percent were youth, 9 percent were young adults, 46 percent were working age adults, 31 percent were middle-aged adults, and 3 percent were seniors. Less than 1 percent of those enumerated could not be assessed by age.



While the total number of homeless persons enumerated in facilities was divided almost equally among emergency and transitional beds (see Table 9, *previous page*) with 49 percent in emergency beds and 51 percent in transitional beds, among age groups occupancy in the two bed types varied (see Figure 12, *below*). A greater percentage of homeless persons in the younger age groups were staying in transitional beds compared to emergency beds, while in the older age groups a greater percentage were in emergency beds.



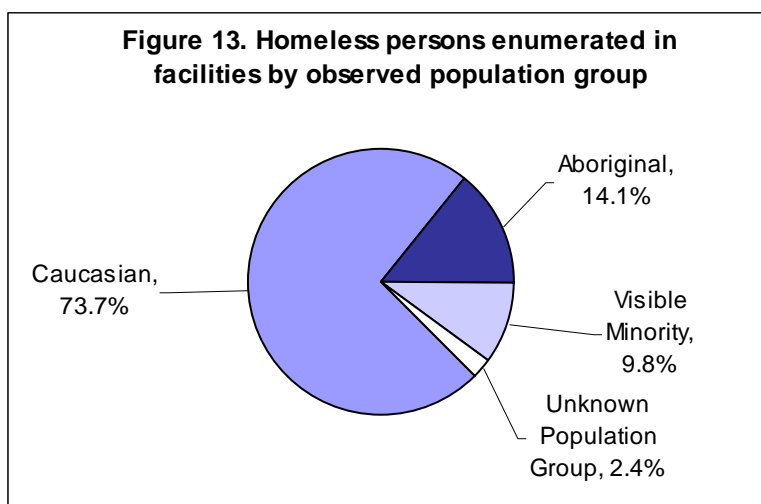
The percentage of homeless persons staying in emergency beds compared to transitional beds was lowest among preschoolers at 13 percent, increasing with each subsequent older age group to a high of 60 percent of middle-aged adults and then dropping to 41 percent of seniors.

### 4.2.3 Observed population group and type of bed occupied

**Table 10. Homeless persons enumerated in facilities by observed population group and type of bed occupied**

Observed Population Group	Type of Bed Occupied				Total Persons Enumerated in Facilities	
	EMERGENCY		TRANSITIONAL		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent in Emergency Beds	Number	Percent in Transitional Beds		
Caucasian	1,039	49.9%	1,042	50.1%	2,081	73.7%
Aboriginal	164	41.2%	234	58.8%	398	14.1%
Visible Minority	130	46.9%	147	53.1%	277	9.8%
Unknown Population Group	50	74.6%	17	25.4%	67	2.4%
Total – All Population Groups	1,383	49.0%	1,440	51.0%	2,823	100.0%

As Table 10 (above) and Figure 13 (below) show, when assessing the observed population group (i.e., whether the individual was observed to be Caucasian, Aboriginal, or a Visible Minority) of the 2,823 persons enumerated in facilities, 74 percent were Caucasian, 14 percent were Aboriginal, 10 percent were visible minorities, and 2 percent could not be assessed by this variable.



#### 4.2.4 Observed population group and age group

<b>Table 11. Homeless persons enumerated in facilities by observed age group and population group</b>								
Observed Age Group	Observed Population Group (Unknown Population Group not shown)						Total Persons Enumerated in Facilities	
	CAUCASIAN		ABORIGINAL		VISIBLE MINORITY		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	43	2.1%	56	14.1%	19	6.9%	124	4.4%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	28	1.3%	27	6.8%	17	6.1%	73	2.6%
Youth (age 13-17)	52	2.5%	22	5.5%	11	4.0%	85	3.0%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	199	9.6%	38	9.5%	27	9.7%	268	9.5%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	976	46.9%	178	44.7%	129	46.6%	1,307	46.3%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	704	33.8%	70	17.6%	61	22.0%	865	30.6%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	78	3.7%	6	1.5%	11	4.0%	97	3.4%
Unknown Age	1	0.0%	1	0.3%	2	0.7%	4	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,081</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,823</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 11 (above) shows that the age distribution within population groups varies slightly from that seen in the homeless population staying in facilities overall. Within the Aboriginal and Visible Minority groups, a greater proportion of the homeless population enumerated were observed to be in the younger age groups (under 18). Meanwhile, in the Caucasian group, a lesser proportion of the homeless population were observed to be under 18 than was seen in the total homeless population overall.

#### 4.2.5 Observed age and known child welfare status (youth facilities only)

Consultation with shelter providers during the planning of the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* in previous years indicated that for those in the youth serving sector, it would be valuable to collect and report the number of homeless youth who are with and without Child Welfare status<sup>19</sup>.

The tables in the following section present detailed results for only those facilities who indicated on their Facility Enumeration Form that they serve youth exclusively (by checking the youth sector box and completing the tables specific to youth facilities only).<sup>20</sup>

<b>Table 12. Homeless persons enumerated in (youth) facilities by observed age group and child welfare status</b>						
Observed Age Group	Child Welfare Status and Type of Bed Occupied (completed by youth facilities only)				Total Persons <i>with</i> and <i>without</i> Child Welfare Status in Youth Facilities	
	PERSONS <i>WITH</i> STATUS		PERSONS <i>WITHOUT</i> STATUS		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent with CW Status	Number	Percent without CW Status		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.3%
Youth (age 13-17)	34	45.9%	40	54.1%	74	92.5%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	3	60.0%	2	40.0%	5	6.3%
Unknown Age	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total – All Ages in Youth Facilities</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52.5%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As Table 12 (*above*) shows, there were 80 homeless youth enumerated in facilities which serve homeless youth exclusively on the night of the count. Of these, 48 percent had Child Welfare status and 52 percent did not have Child Welfare status.

When assessing the age of those enumerated in youth facilities, the vast majority were youth aged 13 to 17 with 92 percent of those counted falling into this age category. An additional 1 percent were school aged children, and the final 6 percent were young adults.

<sup>19</sup> Staff at youth shelters identify those children or youth staying at the facility who have Child Welfare status (i.e., through Calgary and Area Child and Family Services).

<sup>20</sup> The 80 homeless youth represented in these tables are those staying in youth shelters only, and do not represent all youth enumerated in facilities on 2006 May 10.

**4.2.6 Observed age, known child welfare status, and type of bed occupied (youth facilities only)**

**Table 13. Homeless persons enumerated in (youth) facilities by observed age group, child welfare status, and type of bed occupied**

Observed Age Group	Child Welfare Status and Type of Bed Occupied (completed by youth facilities only)								Total Persons <i>with</i> and <i>without</i> Child Welfare Status in Youth Facilities	
	PERSONS <i>WITH</i> STATUS				PERSONS <i>WITHOUT</i> STATUS					
	Emergency		Transitional		Emergency		Transitional		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.3%
Youth (age 13-17)	19	55.9%	15	44.1%	5	12.5%	35	87.5%	74	92.5%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	5	6.3%
Unknown Age	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total – All Ages in Youth Facilities</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>52.6%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>47.4%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>88.1%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Of the 38 homeless persons staying at youth facilities who had Child Welfare status, 53 percent were staying in emergency beds and 47 percent were staying in transitional beds. Of the 42 homeless persons staying at youth facilities who did not have Child Welfare status, 12 percent were in emergency beds and 88 percent were in transitional beds.

#### 4.2.7 Observed population group and known child welfare status (youth facilities only)

<b>Table 14. Homeless persons enumerated in (youth) facilities by observed population group and child welfare status</b>						
Observed Population Group	Child Welfare Status and Type of Bed Occupied (completed by youth facilities only)				Total Persons <i>with</i> and <i>without</i> Child Welfare Status in Youth Facilities	
	PERSONS <i>WITH</i> STATUS		PERSONS <i>WITHOUT</i> STATUS		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent with CW Status	Number	Percent without CW Status		
Caucasian	27	50.9%	26	49.1%	53	66.3%
Aboriginal	7	41.2%	10	58.8%	17	21.3%
Visible Minority	4	40.0%	6	60.0%	10	12.5%
Unknown Population Group	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total – All Ages in Youth Facilities</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52.5%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As Table 14 (above) shows, of the 80 persons counted at youth shelters, 66 percent were Caucasian, 21 percent were Aboriginal, and 12 percent were visible minorities.

#### 4.2.8 Observed population group, known child welfare status, and type of bed occupied (youth facilities only)

<b>Table 15. Homeless persons enumerated in (youth) facilities by observed population group, child welfare status, and type of bed occupied</b>										
Observed Population Group	Child Welfare Status and Type of Bed Occupied (completed by youth facilities only)								Total Persons <i>with</i> and <i>without</i> Child Welfare Status in Youth Facilities	
	PERSONS <i>WITH</i> STATUS				PERSONS <i>WITHOUT</i> STATUS				Number	Percent
	Emergency		Transitional		Emergency		Transitional			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Caucasian	15	55.6%	12	44.4%	5	19.2%	21	80.8%	53	66.3%
Aboriginal	2	28.6%	5	71.4%	0	0.0%	10	100.0%	17	21.3%
Visible Minority	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	6	100.0%	10	12.5%
Unknown Population Group	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total – All Ages in Youth Facilities</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>52.6%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>47.4%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>88.1%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 4.2.9 Persons refused shelter and reasons for refusal

Facilities were asked to provide information about all individuals who were turned away on the night of 2006 May 10 (including their sex, observed population group, whether or not they were referred to another facility, and the reason for refusal). Persons turned away are not counted as a part of the total number of homeless persons enumerated in order to avoid potentially double counting any homeless persons. It is not known if persons refused shelter at one location later found shelter at another facility (and were enumerated at that facility) or were counted by service agencies or on the streets.

<b>Table 16. Persons refused shelter by observed population group and sex</b>						
Observed Population Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Refused Shelter	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Caucasian	48	60.0%	32	40.0%	80	44.2%
Aboriginal	18	56.3%	14	43.8%	32	17.7%
Visible Minority	8	80.0%	2	20.0%	10	5.5%
Unknown Population Group	35	59.3%	24	40.7%	59	32.6%
<b>Total – All Population Groups</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>60.2%</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>39.8%</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As shown in Table 16 (above), a total of 181 persons were refused shelter on the night of the count. Of these, 60 percent were male and 40 percent were female. When assessing the observed population group, 44 were observed to be Caucasian, 18 percent were Aboriginal, and 6 percent were visible minorities. For 33 percent of those refused shelter, facility staff were unable to determine whether they were Caucasian, Aboriginal, or a member of a visible minority group.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup> A number of facilities, when contacted, reported that because persons were refused shelter by phone, facility staff would not be able to assess persons on the basis of whether they were Caucasian, Aboriginal, or a member of a visible minority group.

**Table 17. Persons refused shelter by observed population group and referral**

Observed Population Group	Referred to Another Facility						Total Persons Refused Shelter	
	YES		NO		UNKNOWN		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Yes	Number	Percent No	Number	Percent Unknown		
Caucasian	63	78.8%	17	21.3%	0	0.0%	80	44.2%
Aboriginal	20	62.5%	12	37.5%	0	0.0%	32	17.7%
Visible Minority	10	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	5.5%
Unknown Population Group	50	84.7%	1	1.7%	8	13.6%	59	32.6%
Total – All Population Groups	143	79.0%	30	16.6%	8	4.4%	181	100.0%

Table 17 (*above*) shows that of the 181 persons refused shelter at a facility on the night of 2006 May 10, 79 percent were referred to another facility, while 17 percent were not referred to another facility. It could not be determined whether a referral to another facility was made for 4 percent of those refused shelter.

**Table 18. Persons refused shelter by reasons for refusal and sex**

Reason for Refusal	Observed Sex				Total Persons Refused Shelter	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Facility is full	91	83.5%	56	77.8%	147	81.2%
Barred from facility	11	10.1%	4	5.6%	15	8.3%
Alcohol	2	1.8%	1	1.4%	3	1.7%
Drugs	0	0.0%	3	4.2%	3	1.7%
Behaviour	2	1.8%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Outside of target population	1	0.9%	2	2.8%	3	1.7%
Other	0	0.0%	6	8.3%	6	3.3%
Unknown Reason for Refusal	2	1.8%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Total – All Reasons for Refusal	109	100.0%	72	100.0%	181	100.0%

Table 18 (previous page) shows that the most common reason individuals were refused shelter at a facility on the night of the count was because the facility was full, with 81 percent of refusals made for this reason. In addition, 8 percent of persons refused shelter were turned away because they were barred from the facility, 2 percent for reasons related to alcohol, 2 percent for reasons related to drugs, and 1 percent due to behaviour. A further 2 percent were refused shelter because they fell outside the target population of the facility, and another 3 percent were turned away for other reasons such as “no space for family” and “no [Child Welfare] status.” For 1 percent of refusals, the reason shelter was refused was unknown.

#### 4.2.10 Facility capacity and occupancy

Table 19. Facility capacity and occupancy by bed type						
	Type of Bed				Total Facility Beds	
	EMERGENCY		TRANSITIONAL		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Facility Capacity	1,442	46.9%	1,635	53.1%	3,077	100.0%
Facility Occupancy	1,383	49.0%	1,440	51.0%	2,823	100.0%
Fill Rate (percentage of bed capacity occupied)	95.9%		88.1%		91.7%	

As Table 19 (above) shows, facilities reported the capacity to shelter a total of 3,077 persons on 2006 May 10. There were a total of 2,823 persons staying in facility beds on that night, indicating that facilities overall were operating at 92 percent of the total capacity overall (though 18 individual facilities were operating at or over capacity on the night of 2006 May 10<sup>22</sup>).

Of the total capacity to shelter homeless persons, 47 percent of beds available were *emergency* beds and 53 percent were *transitional* beds. As previously reported, of all persons occupying facilities on the night of the count 49 percent were staying in *emergency* beds and 51 percent were occupying *transitional* beds. For emergency beds, facilities overall were operating at 96 percent of their total bed capacity; for transitional beds, facilities overall were operating at 88 percent of their total capacity. Again, while fill rates indicate that facilities overall were operating under capacity, it must be noted that 18 individual facilities providing emergency and/or transitional beds were actually operating at or over capacity on the night of the count.

<sup>22</sup> See Appendix C for a listing of all individual facilities' bed capacity and occupancy on the night of 2006 May 10.

It should also be noted that transitional bed capacity may be slightly underreported due to the way a couple of facilities reported capacity (i.e., as *apartments* rather than a total number of *beds*). In these cases the bed capacity reported for those agencies is equal to the number apartments, rather than the actual number of beds within the facility, as the capacity would vary depending on the persons or families occupying those units.

It should also be noted that, for particular sectors – the addictions sector most notably – some facilities serve both persons who are homeless and those who *do* have a home to return to but are staying there while they receive treatment or other services. Some individual facilities may have been operating at or near full capacity on the night of 2006 May 10, but appear to have been operating under capacity since their reported occupancy on the night of the count includes only those persons who were homeless.

### **4.3 Homeless persons enumerated by service agencies**

The following section provides detailed results about homeless persons enumerated by service agencies that potentially serve homeless persons – including all hospital emergency departments in the city, emergency social services and children’s services, the Calgary Police Service’s Arrest Processing Unit, the Calgary Remand Centre, and Calgary Transit – on the night of 2006 May 10. Service agency staff are instructed to count all persons determined to be homeless because they do not have a permanent residence to return to whenever they so choose. Homeless persons enumerated at service agency locations made up 5 percent of the total number of homeless persons enumerated on the night of the count.

#### **4.3.1 Service agencies’ enumeration hours**

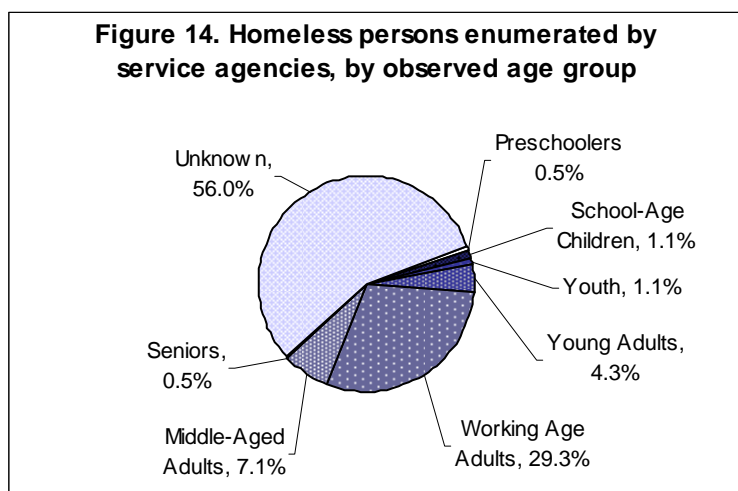
Service agencies were instructed to begin their count of homeless persons at 6 p.m. on 2006 May 10, and to end at 6 a.m. the next day. If agencies were unable to enumerate persons during this exact period, they were asked to record their actual enumeration hours. As shown in Table 20 (*below*), most service agencies actual enumeration hours were as instructed.

<b>Table 20. Actual enumeration hours for service agencies participating in the count</b>	
<b>Service Agencies</b>	<b>Actual Enumeration Hours</b>
Alberta Children’s Hospital – Emergency Department	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Alberta Human Resources and Employment – Income Support Contact Centre	4:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority – Social Services Response Team	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Calgary Police Service – Arrest Processing	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Calgary Remand Centre	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Calgary Transit – Remote Transit Routes and LRT Stations	4:00 p.m. to 12:45 a.m.
Foothills Hospital – Emergency Department	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Peter Lougheed Hospital – Emergency Department	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Rockyview General Hospital – Emergency Department	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

### 4.3.2 Observed age group and sex

<b>Table 21. Homeless persons enumerated by service agencies by observed age group and sex</b>						
Observed Age Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated by Service Agencies	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Youth (age 13-17)	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	4	50.0%	4	50.0%	8	4.3%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	43	79.6%	11	20.4%	54	29.3%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	11	84.6%	2	15.4%	13	7.1%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%
Unknown Age	91	88.3%	12	11.7%	103	56.0%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

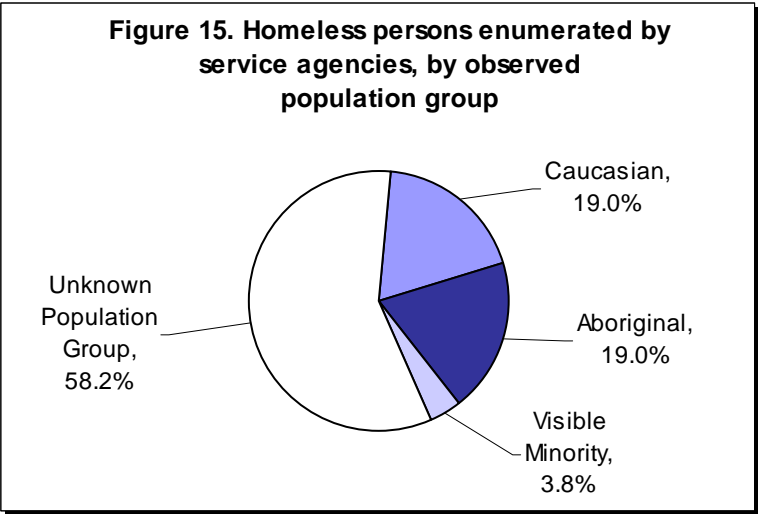
As Table 21 (above) shows, a total of 184 homeless persons were enumerated by service agencies on the night of the count. Of those, 84 percent were male and 16 percent were female. When assessing the observed age of the persons enumerated, 1 percent were preschoolers, 1 percent were school-age children, 1 percent were youth, 4 percent were young adults, 29 percent were working age adults, 7 percent were middle-aged adults, and 1 percent were seniors. Because none of the persons enumerated by the Calgary Remand Centre were assessed by age, 56 percent of all persons enumerated by service agencies could not be assessed by age (see Figure 14, below).



**4.3.3 Observed population group and sex**

<b>Table 22. Homeless persons enumerated by service agencies by observed population group and sex</b>						
Observed Population Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated by Service Agencies	
	MALE		FEMALE			
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female	Number	Percent
Caucasian	27	77.1%	8	22.9%	35	19.0%
Aboriginal	28	80.0%	7	20.0%	35	19.0%
Visible Minority	6	85.7%	1	14.3%	7	3.8%
Unknown Population Group	94	87.9%	13	12.1%	107	58.2%
Total – All Population Groups	155	84.2%	29	15.8%	184	100.0%

As both Table 22 (above) and Figure 15 (below) show, of the 184 homeless persons enumerated by service agencies, 19 percent were Caucasian, 19 percent were Aboriginal, and 4 percent were visible minorities. However, it must be noted that 58 percent of all homeless persons enumerated by service agencies could not be assessed by age; 103 of these persons were counted by the Calgary Remand Centre who were not able to assess the population group (or age) of any of the homeless persons counted on the night of the count due to the enumeration method used<sup>23</sup>.



<sup>23</sup> The Calgary Remand Centre used a computer database to enumerate persons who were in custody with no fixed address on the night of 2006 May 10, and the reporting method used could assess only the sex of those enumerated and no other characteristics.

#### 4.3.4 Observed population group and age group

<b>Table 23. Homeless persons enumerated by service agencies by observed age group and population group</b>								
Observed Age Group	Observed Population Group (Unknown Population Group not shown)						Total Persons Enumerated On the Streets	
	CAUCASIAN		ABORIGINAL		VISIBLE MINORITY		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Youth (age 13-17)	2	5.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	5	14.3%	3	8.6%	0	0.0%	8	4.3%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	21	60.0%	26	74.3%	6	85.7%	54	29.3%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	6	17.1%	6	17.1%	1	14.3%	13	7.1%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%
Unknown Age	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	103	56.0%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

While an analysis of age distribution within observed population groups for those enumerated by service agencies is difficult due to a lack of information about many of those counted, of those persons whose age and population group could be assessed, no substantial differences in ages were seen among the three population groups.

#### **4.4 Homeless persons enumerated on the streets**

The following section provides detailed results about homeless persons enumerated on the streets – including the downtown area, residential and commercial areas, parks, river pathways, and more remote natural areas – on the night of 2006 May 10. Homeless persons enumerated on the streets made up 12 percent of the total number of homeless persons enumerated on the night of the count.

Homeless persons on the streets were enumerated by teams of street count volunteers who canvassed over 50 geographic zones in the downtown area and beyond<sup>24</sup>. It is not known how many of those enumerated on the night of the count may on other nights find shelter; a number of volunteer street teams reported seeing makeshift “tent camps” set up in more remote areas, indicating a more permanent stay on the streets.

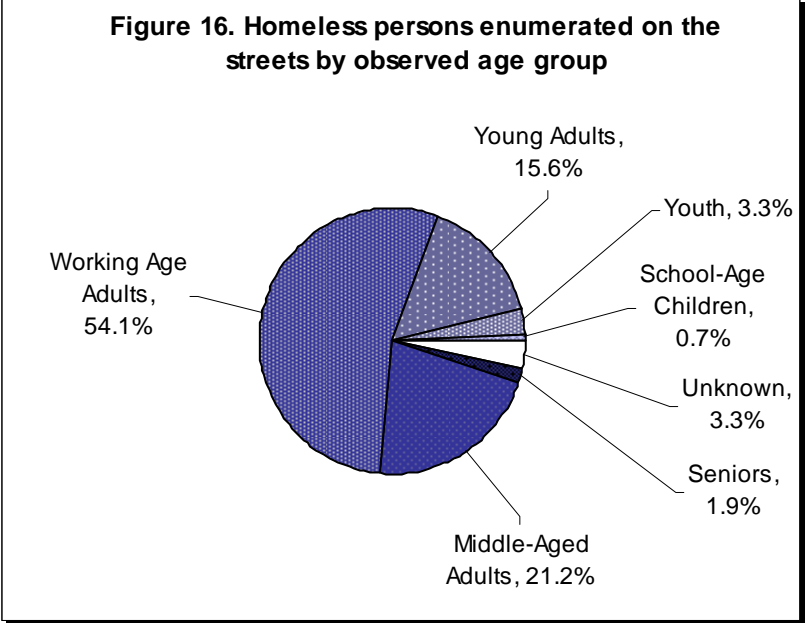
##### ***4.4.1 Observed age group and sex***

<b>Table 24. Homeless persons enumerated on the streets by observed age group and sex</b>						
Observed Age Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated On the Streets	
	MALE		FEMALE		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	3	0.7%
Youth (age 13-17)	9	64.3%	5	35.7%	14	3.3%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	47	70.1%	20	29.9%	67	15.6%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	188	81.0%	44	19.0%	232	54.1%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	79	86.8%	12	13.2%	91	21.2%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	8	100.0%	0	0.0%	8	1.9%
Unknown Age	14	100.0%	0	0.0%	14	3.3%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>80.9%</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As Table 24 (*above*) shows, a total of 429 homeless persons were enumerated on the streets on the night of the count. Of those, 81 percent were male and 19 percent were female.

<sup>24</sup> See Appendix B for a map of the street count zones covered in 2006.

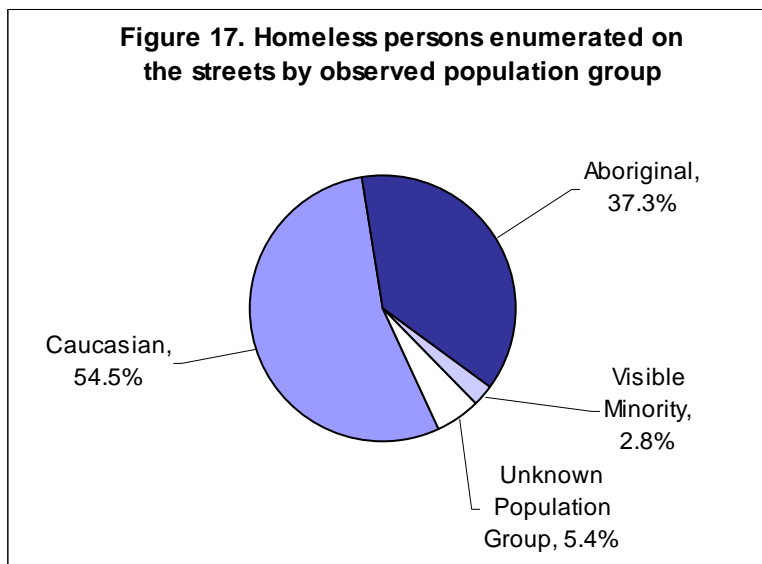
When assessing the observed age of the persons enumerated on the streets, 1 percent were school-age children, 3 percent were youth, 16 percent were young adults, 54 percent were working age adults, 21 percent were middle-aged adults, and 2 percent were seniors. No children aged 5 or younger were enumerated on the streets, and 3 percent of those enumerated could not be assessed by age (see Figure 16, below).



#### 4.4.2 Observed population group and sex

Table 25. Homeless persons enumerated on the streets by observed population group and sex						
Observed Population Group	Observed Sex				Total Persons Enumerated On the Streets	
	MALE		FEMALE			
	Number	Percent Male	Number	Percent Female	Number	Percent
Caucasian	198	84.6%	36	15.4%	234	54.5%
Aboriginal	119	74.4%	41	25.6%	160	37.3%
Visible Minority	10	83.3%	2	16.7%	12	2.8%
Unknown Population Group	20	87.0%	3	13.0%	23	5.4%
Total – All Population Groups	347	80.9%	82	19.1%	429	100.0%

As Table 25 (above) and Figure 17 (below) show, of the 429 homeless persons enumerated on the streets, 55 percent were Caucasian, 37 percent were Aboriginal, 3 percent were visible minorities, and 5 percent could not be assessed by this variable.



#### 4.4.3 Observed population group and age group

<b>Table 26. Homeless persons enumerated on the streets by observed age group and population group</b>								
Observed Age Group	Observed Population Group (Unknown Population Group not shown)						Total Persons Enumerated On the Streets	
	CAUCASIAN		ABORIGINAL		VISIBLE MINORITY		Number	Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Preschoolers (age 5 or younger)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
School-Age Children (age 6-12)	3	1.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.7%
Youth (age 13-17)	12	5.1%	2	1.3%	0	0.0%	14	3.3%
Young Adults (age 18-24)	35	15.0%	24	15.0%	1	8.3%	67	15.6%
Working Age Adults (age 25-44)	131	56.0%	91	56.9%	4	33.3%	232	54.1%
Middle-Aged Adults (age 45-64)	49	20.9%	30	18.8%	7	58.3%	91	21.2%
Seniors (age 65 or older)	4	1.7%	4	2.5%	0	0.0%	8	1.9%
Unknown Age	0	0.0%	9	5.6%	0	0.0%	14	3.3%
<b>Total – All Ages</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 26 (above) shows that the age distribution within population groups varies slightly from that seen in the homeless population overall who were counted on the streets.

## **4.5 Weather conditions on the night of the count**

Weather conditions in the days preceding the count and on the actual night of the count may affect the results, in particular the percentage of homeless persons counted on the streets. In the days leading up to the 2006 May 10 count, the temperature had been at or above the normal high for five days of the preceding week, with no precipitation on five days of that week, and just trace amounts of precipitation on the remaining two days. On the day of the count, the observed high was 16 degrees Celsius, the low was -1.7 degrees, and by the end of the count (at midnight) the temperature was 9 degrees (Environment Canada, 2006). There was no precipitation at all on 2006 May 10, a first in the history of the count.

As shown in Table 27, among all count years, the highest percentages of persons counted on the streets as compared to the total count overall – 13 percent in 2000 and 12 percent in 2006 – were found when the weather on the count date was seasonably warm with either zero or limited precipitation. The high percentage of homeless persons enumerated on the streets during the 2000 and 2006 counts versus other years may indicate that during warmer dry periods a greater proportion of homeless persons may choose not to seek shelter in facilities, deciding instead to remain outdoors for the night. It should also be noted though, that weather is only one factor that may account for a greater number of persons counted on the streets.

**Table 27. Weather conditions and the proportion of homeless persons enumerated on the streets**

Count Year	Number of Persons Enumerated on the Streets	Street Count as a Percent of All Homeless Persons Enumerated	Weather Conditions
1992	5 (of 447)	1.1%	Unseasonably cold and snowing
1994	41 (of 461)	8.9%	Unseasonably cool, with steady heavy rain
1996	30 (of 615)	4.9%	Unseasonably cool, with rain throughout the evening
1998	38 (of 988)	3.8%	Seasonably warm, but with early evening thundershowers and rain throughout the night
2000	168 (of 1,296)	13.0%	Seasonably warm, with late evening showers
2002	117 (of 1,737)	6.7%	Unseasonably cool, with wet snow tapering off to light rain in the afternoon; clear at night
2004	127 (of 2,597)	4.9%	Unseasonably cool, with wet snow tapering off by mid-day; clear at night
2006	429 (of 3,436)	12.5%	Seasonably warm, with no precipitation; partly to mostly cloudy at night

**Source:** Weather data is taken from City of Calgary (2002*b*: 2; 2000: 2; 1998: 3; 1996: 4 [for the years 1992, 1994 and 1996]). Street count data is taken from City of Calgary (2002*b*: 9, Table 8; 2000: 7, Table 5 with note \*\*; 1998: 4, Table 2 with note \*\*; 1996: 8, Table 4 [for the years 1996 and 1994]; 1992: Attachment).

**Note:** Some street count data collected by Community and Social Development staff at The City of Calgary for 1992 (0 persons), 1994 (34 persons), and 1996 (15 persons) was erroneously attributed to CUPS Community Outreach, which first assisted with the street count in 1998 (0 persons), as reported in City of Calgary (1998: 4, Table 2 with note \*\*). When street count data was reported as a separate figure in 2000 and 2002, the attribution error in the 1998 report was repeated and the data for CUPS have erroneously been reported as “non-shelter facility” data instead of as part of the street count (City of Calgary, 2000: 7, Table 5 with note \*\*; 2002*b*: 9; Table 8). In both this report and the 2004 report, the error has been corrected in all instances where trend data is reported.

## 4.6 Unusual circumstances affecting the count

Both facilities and service agencies, as well as street count volunteer teams, were provided a space on their respective enumeration forms to record any unusual circumstances that may have affected the count – at their facility, service location, or geographic area canvassed – on the night of 2006 May 10.

The following tables present the “unusual circumstances” specific to facilities and the street count geographic areas which may have affected the count, as determined by facilities and street count volunteer teams (none of the service agencies recorded any unusual circumstances).

<b>Table 28. Unusual circumstances affecting the count - facility comments<sup>1</sup></b>	
Facility	Comments
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Association	Please note that due to an influenza outbreak at the shelter the week of May 1st and at the beginning of the week of May 8th, our numbers were lower than normal as we had been restricted for several days to not take new clients due to possible norovirus/flu at the shelter. May 9th and 10th we were beginning to take new clients as the flu had stopped at the shelter.
Inn from the Cold Society	The weather was very mild so many of our single males chose to sleep outside. Also over the past 3 months we have had unusually high numbers of families so often no singles were able to get shelter with us and they know that we still have quite a few families with us so they tend to stay away when there is little chance of getting shelter.
Victory Outreach Foundation	Due to Stampede expansion we are reluctant to admit clients into our Victoria park location. We ourselves have to vacate our facilities by mid July 2006. However our Forest Lawn women's house is full.
Note: 1 - There were additional comments provided by facilities in the space reserved for "unusual circumstances affecting the count", such as comments about occupancy, individual clients who sought shelter at their facility, and general observations about the weather; however, only those comments which describe actual circumstances which could have potentially affected the count at a particular facility or facilities in general are included.	

<b>Table 29. Unusual circumstances affecting the count - street count volunteer team comments<sup>1</sup></b>	
Team Number	Comments
7A	...[area] active with many males circulating until a police van stopped in parking lot behind St. Louis
8 A,B	...didn't quite finish - very large [assigned] route
23	One group we came across told us of another "group of guys doing crack" that we would find under a bridge - due to safety concerns we chose to avoid this area of our zone.
29	Soccer game in progress.... lots of campers and motorhomes
39	...saw 2 sleeping areas with people there but am not sure how many - really poor visibility off the path
40	Saw 3-4 people in the bush...but were unable to physically get to them
42 A,B	Ran into 3 police - lots of security at Sait area/Burns gardens
Note: 1 - There were additional comments provided by street count volunteer teams in the space reserved for "unusual circumstances affecting the count", such as comments about camps found, details about individual homeless persons spoken with, and general observations; however, only those comments which describe actual circumstances which could have potentially affected the count in a particular geographic area or in general are included.	

## 4.7 Additional comments received about the count

A small number of facilities and services provided additional comments, mainly to explain the type of service their shelter provides or to identify their target population. The relevant comments provided are found in Table 30 (*below*)<sup>25</sup>.

<b>Table 30. Additional comments about the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons received from facilities</b>	
Facility	Comments
AADAC - Renfrew Recovery Centre	Please note: we do not <u>only</u> serve the homeless.
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	This year The Calgary Drop In & Rehab Centre has changed its policy, and it is now refusing clients when capacity is reached. For previous homeless counts, no one was refused from the Calgary Drop In & Rehab Centre. This year 5 people were refused service.
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre- Centre 110	This shelter only houses men, who have been approved for residency. It can only be accessed after applying at the 423 - 4th street location.
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	In order to access this shelter, clients must go to the 423 - 4th St. SE location and be transported from there to Centre 2032. No clients would be refused at the C2032 location directly.
Highbanks	Highbanks receives an average of 1 call / week from young families looking for supported housing.
Kerby Centre - Rotary House	Our capacity is 11 due to funding, we have the licensed beds for 24 if resources & need increase.
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes	Please note all of these youth <u>do not</u> have child welfare status.
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth	Please note all of these youth <u>do not</u> have child welfare status.
McMan Youth Services - Wellington Place	Please note all of these youth <u>do not</u> have child welfare status.
Métis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge	The Rainbow Lodge Transitional Housing Program consists of 32 three bedroom independent units divided into eight 4-plex buildings. As such, if the program were to have each unit filled to the maximum allowable capacity as per standards set by Calgary and Area Child & Family Service (max two people per bedroom), the complex would be able to house up to 192 individuals. This though is unlikely as children of a different sex are only permitted to share a bedroom until one reaches the age of six, and many of the families are single parent households. As such, although this maximum capacity is capable under optimum and highly unlikely circumstances, there is little or no likelihood of this occurring. As such, the maximum capacity has been indicated as the actual number of present families. Lastly, this program is only available to those provided and appropriate referral from designate agencies. As such, there can be no daily or immediate refusals.
Servants Anonymous Society	Due to several women and their children leaving our program that week we had available space but needed to consult our waitlist to fill unoccupied beds.
Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services	We have 8 two-bedroom apartments and 2 one-bedroom apartments.

<sup>25</sup> One facility and one service agency provided additional comments which are not included in Table 30 because they were not relevant to the data reported.

## 5.0 Trends in homelessness: 1992-2006

### 5.1 Summary

The following section incorporates the findings from the *2006 Count of Homeless Persons* into a historical analysis illustrating trends over time. Results from each count – since the first count conducted in 1992 – are included. It should be noted that the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* is a census, and as such, both the number of agencies that participate and the geographic areas canvassed as a part of the street count evolve over time based on changing shelter operations and new knowledge of both facilities and geographic areas where homeless persons are known to be residing. These changes have meant that since the first count in 1992, both the number of facilities and agencies included in the census, and the geographic area covered by the street count have grown.

Additionally, as noted in the methodology section, as initiated by the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons* which then served as a new baseline for the count results, many facilities that provide transitional housing for homeless persons which had previously not been included in the count because the focus had been on emergency shelters for the most part, are now included. This change was made to provide a more accurate picture of the number of homeless persons who are using available services and receiving the support needed to help them to advance along the affordable housing continuum into a more stable housing situation. The change also allowed the demand data collected by the count to be aligned with supply data collected as a part of the community's action plan on homelessness published in 2003 titled, *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths Out of Homelessness* (Calgary Homeless Foundation, 2003).

The data in the following sections are presented first (in Table 31) as a grand total for all homeless persons counted – in facilities, by service agencies, and on the streets – in each year, and then in detail in the subsequent tables for individual facilities, service agencies, and the street count for each year. All historical data is taken from previous reports on the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*, as summarized in the report for the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons* (City of Calgary, 2004b: 46-51).

#### **Box 2. Error Correction – Historical Street Count Numbers**

In 1998, some street count data collected by Community and Social Development staff at The City of Calgary for 1992 (0 persons), 1994 (34 persons), and 1996 (15 persons) were erroneously attributed to Calgary Urban Projects Society (CUPS Community Outreach). In fact, CUPS Community Outreach first assisted The City with the street count in 1998 (0 persons), as reported in City of Calgary (1998: 4, Table 2; see also Table 2, note <sup>(\*)</sup>). When street count data were reported as a separate figure in 2000 and 2002, the attribution error in the 1998 report was repeated (City of Calgary, 2000: 7, Table 5 with note <sup>(\*)</sup>; 2002b: 9, Table 8). Thus, data collected by Community and Social Development in 1994 and 1996 were erroneously reported as "non-shelter facility" data for CUPS Community Outreach, instead of being included as part of the street count totals for those years. In the reports for both the 2004 and 2006 counts, the error has been corrected in all instances where trend data is provided.

### 5.1.1 All homeless persons enumerated, 1992-2006

Table 31. All homeless persons enumerated by location, 1992-2006									
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004 <sup>1</sup>		2006
							A	B	
Facilities	421	410	576	910	1,091	1,605	2,440	1,985	2,823
Service Agencies	21	10	9	40	37	15	30	184	21
On the Streets	5	41	30	38	168	117	127	127	429
Total	447	461	615	988	1296	1737	2597	2,142	3,436
Percent Increase from Previous Count	n/a	3.1%	33.4%	60.7%	31.2%	34.0%	49.5%	23.3%	32.3%

Note:  
 1 The facility enumeration component changed in 2004 to include not only all providers of emergency beds but also all known providers of transitional beds (where the emphasis had previously been on emergency shelters only in earlier counts, though some of these providers did have transitional beds as well and these had also been included in previous counts). For 2004, both the actual number of homeless persons counted (2004 A) and the estimated number that would have been counted if only those facilities included in the 2002 count plus any new emergency facilities had been counted (2004 B), are presented. This analysis of "what might have been" in 2004 had the facilities surveyed remained essentially the same as in 2002, was undertaken and reported with the results of the 2004 count (City of Calgary, 2004b: 87-91) to provide more information in a year where the enumeration method was in transition. It is included again for information only, and in the context of an analysis of growth rates, but no further analysis of "what might have been" is necessary as a new and more comprehensive baseline (see 2004 A) was set which was intended to be used for all future counts.

As shown in Table 31 (above), the number of homeless persons enumerated during each successive *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* has increased by over 20 percent per count, and sometimes by substantially more, except in 1994 where the increase over the 1992 count was just 3 percent. As noted previously, the number of facilities and service agencies surveyed each year has increased, and the geographic area covered by the street count has been enlarged over the years.

An analysis of growth rate trends must take into account the increase in facilities surveyed which occurred in 2004 due to new information about service provision in the city that allowed additional providers of transitional beds for homeless persons to be identified and included in the count. While a new and important baseline for future reporting was established, it also disproportionately increased the total number of homeless persons enumerated in 2004 compared to 2002. Therefore the growth rate of 49 percent must be interpreted as partly due to the increase in facilities surveyed. Had a comparable number of facilities been surveyed in 2004 to 2002, the growth rate "might have been" 23 percent (see Table 31).

From the 2004 to the 2006 count, the number of homeless persons enumerated increased by 32 percent continuing the "over 30 percent" increase seen in most previous years.

### 5.1.2 Homeless persons enumerated in facilities, 1992-2006

The table below presents the number of homeless persons enumerated in facilities which were in operation during the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* for each year from 1992 to 2006. Table 32 includes all facilities currently in operation, as well as those that are no longer in operation. Where facility names have changed, or the agency operating the facility has changed, this information is noted in the table.

Table 32. Summary of results for all facilities surveyed, 1992-2006 (page 1 of 4)								
Facilities Surveyed, 1992-2006	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
AADAC – Renfrew Recovery Centre						17	7	10
Aspen Family and Community Network Society <i>(new count participant in 2006)</i>								8
Aventa							7	14
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter <i>(operating prior to the 2004 count as Calgary Native Women's Shelter)</i>			20	23	20	21	20	26
Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Avenue 15	13	15	16	10	9	11	8	12
Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Haven's Way <i>(new count participant in 2006)</i>								5
Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Safe House <i>(operating in 2004 as Street Teams / Safe House Society, and prior to that as Alberta Safe House Society)</i>	4	8	8	10	9	9	9	9
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence – Gateway House <i>(amalgamated total for both facilities in 2004)</i>							51	6
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence – The Brenda Strafford Centre <i>(amalgamated total for both facilities in 2004)</i>								42
Calgary Alpha House Society <sup>1</sup>	26	41	50	82	58	78	108	79
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society – Margaret Chisholm Resettlement Centre <i>(new count participant in 2006)</i>								26
Calgary Dream Centre							29	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 110 <i>(*data for Centre 110 is included in the figure reported for the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society – Riverfront Centre for 2002; prior to 2006 count, agency called the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society)</i>				88	48	*	54	51
<b>Notes:</b> 1 Calgary Alpha House Society admitted 58 individuals on 17 May 2000; however, not everyone stayed overnight.								

**Table 32. Summary of results for all facilities surveyed, 1992-2006 (page 2 of 4)**

Facilities Surveyed, 1992-2006	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 2032 <i>(previously called the Sunalta Shelter; operated in 2002 by the Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society with the numbers included in the Mustard Seed total for 2002, and in 2004 by Alberta Seniors, Housing Services Division; prior to 2006 count, agency called the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society)</i>					150	*	102	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 2507 <i>(prior to 2006 count, agency called the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society)</i>							124	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Riverfront Centre <i>(amalgamated totals for all centres for 1992-1996, and 2002; prior to 2006 count, agency called the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society)</i>	120	110	182	139	159	691	656	761
Calgary Drop-In Centre Society, Mayland Centre <i>(facility closed in 2000)</i>				54	72			
Calgary John Howard Society – Raido House							5	8
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Association	27	32	28	24	37	33	34	29
Connection Housing <i>(no longer in operation)</i>			18					
Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society – Residential Program							56	54
Elizabeth Fry Society – Berkana House							10	8
Fresh Start Addictions Centre							1	23
Harbour Light <i>(no longer in operation)</i>	38							
Highbanks							8	8
Horizon Housing Society – Art Smith House							8	7
Horizon Housing Society – Bob Ward Residence							30	30
Horizon Housing Society – Horizon on 8th							31	28
Horizon Housing Society – House of Good Cheer							7	8
Horizon Housing Society – Marguarite House							7	8
Horizon Housing Society – Roberts House							9	7
Inn from the Cold Society <sup>2</sup>					25	57	47	67
Kerby Centre – Rotary House							4	9
<u>Notes:</u>								
2 In 2002, Inn from the Cold Society enumerated four families (consisting of four adults and seven children) who ultimately stayed with friends for the night.								

**Table 32. Summary of results for all facilities surveyed, 1992-2006 (page 3 of 4)**

Facilities Surveyed, 1992-2006	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
McMan Youth Services – Hope Homes <i>(amalgamated total for all facilities/program in 2004)</i>							17	13
McMan Youth Services – Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth <i>(amalgamated total for all facilities/program in 2004)</i>								6
McMan Youth Services – Wellington Place <i>(amalgamated total for all facilities/program in 2004)</i>								5
Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge <i>(new count participant in 2006)</i>								87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society <i>(includes the Sunalta Shelter in 2002, operated in 2000 by the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society, and later operated by Alberta Seniors, Housing Services Division in 2004, and again by the Calgary Drop-In Centre Society in 2006, now called the Calgary Drop- In &amp; Rehab Centre)</i>		5	14	103	111	119	123	124
Native Addictions Services Society							8	9
Oxford House Foundation of Canada							103	88
Potential Place <i>(new count participant in 2006)</i>								10
Recovery Acres (Calgary) Society							19	32
Salvation Army – Anchorage Centre <i>(facility closed in 2001)</i>			18	62	49			
Salvation Army – Booth Centre	139	160	176	269	256	184	181	184
Salvation Army – Centre of Hope						305	312	333
Salvation Army – The House <i>(facility closed in 2001)</i>				13	17			
Servants Anonymous Society							18	23
Simon House Residence Society							57	53
Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services <i>(excluded in 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002 as a provider of "long-term housing" but included again as a provider of "transitional" housing in 2004, as it was in 1992 and 1994)</i>	24	18					17	20
Trinity Foundation of Alberta – Manchester <sup>3</sup> <i>(invited to participate in 2006)</i>								0
Victory Outreach Foundation							5	6
Wood's Homes – Exit Youth Shelter						15	9	11
<b>Notes:</b>								
3 In 2006, Trinity Foundation of Alberta – Manchester was invited to participate on the advice of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, as it was thought that this facility provided transitional housing; however, the returned Facility Enumeration Form reported that this facility does not provide any transitional (or emergency) shelter.								

**Table 32. Summary of results for all facilities surveyed, 1992-2006 (page 4 of 4)**

Facilities Surveyed, 1992-2006	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Youville Women's Residence							17	24
YWCA of Calgary – Mary Dover House		0	26	8	54	34	83	65
YWCA of Calgary – Safe Haven							2	3
YWCA of Calgary – Sheriff King Family Home <sup>4</sup>	30	21	20	25	17	31	37	17
<b>Total – All Facilities</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>2,440</b>	<b>2,823</b>
Percent Increase from Previous Count	n/a	-2.6%	40.5%	58.0%	19.9%	47.1%	52.0%	15.7%
<u>Notes:</u>								
4 In 2000, YWCA of Calgary – Sheriff King Family Home reported they were undergoing renovations and were operating under capacity.								

### 5.1.3 Homeless persons enumerated by service agencies, 1992-2006

Table 33 (*next page*) shows the number of homeless persons enumerated by service agencies which were in operation during the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* for each year from 1992 to 2006. Included are all service agencies currently in operation, as well as those that are no longer in operation. Where organization names have changed this information is noted in the table.

As shown in Table 33, the change in the number of homeless persons enumerated by service agencies during each count varies significantly. Of particular note in explaining the substantial growth rate experienced in 2006 over 2004 is the participation of the Calgary Remand Centre which had been invited to participate in the 2004 count but declined; this agency's count made up 56 percent of all homeless persons counted by service agencies in 2006.

**Table 33. Summary of results for all service agencies surveyed, 1992-2006**

Service Agencies Surveyed, 1992-2004	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Alberta Children's Hospital – Emergency Department							0	1
Alberta Family and Social Services <sup>1</sup> (after 1996, changed to Calgary and Area Child and Family Services)	2	2	0					
Alberta Human Resources and Employment – Income Support Contact Centre							2	4
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority <sup>2</sup> (operating prior to the 2004 count as Calgary Rocky View Child and Family Services; only children and youth counted in 2004 and beyond, while adult cases handled by the AHRE Income Support Contact Centre)				9	6	7	0	1
Calgary General Hospital (no longer in operation)	3	0	0					
Calgary Police Service – Arrest Processing	16	5	9	25	11	6	20	11
Calgary Remand Centre (first invited to participate in 2004 but declined that year)								103
Calgary Transit – Remote Transit Routes and LRT Stations							7	60
Calgary Urban Project Society (No overnight housing)						0		
Foothills Hospital – Emergency Department		0	0	4	1	2	1	0
Holy Cross Hospital (no longer in operation)	0	0	0					
Latour Centre (no overnight housing)		3						
Peter Lougheed Hospital – Emergency Department		0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Red Cross (no overnight housing)		0	0	2	19	0		
Rockyview General Hospital – Emergency Department		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total – All Service Agencies</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>184</b>
Percent Increase from Previous Count	n/a	-52.4%	-10.0%	344.4%	-7.5%	-59.5%	100.0%	513.3%

### 5.1.4 Homeless persons enumerated on the streets, 1992-2006

Table 34 (below) shows the number of homeless persons enumerated on the streets during the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* for each year from 1992 to 2006. As previously noted, the geographic area canvassed for the street count is evaluated each year and the street count area expanded as necessary. (See Appendix B for a map showing the zones covered in the 2006 count.)

As shown in Table 34, the number of homeless persons enumerated on the streets increased substantially in 1994, again in 2000, and again in 2006.

Table 34. Summary of results for the street count, 1992-2006								
	Total Number of Homeless Persons Enumerated, by Year							
	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Total – All Homeless Persons Enumerated On the Streets	5	41	30	38	168	117	127	429
Percent Increase from Previous Count	n/a	720.0%	-26.8%	26.7%	342.1%	-30.4%	8.5%	237.8%

### 5.2 Total Facility Capacity and Occupancy, 2004 and 2006

In 2004, the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* began collecting information about the number of available and occupied emergency and transitional beds at facilities that provide shelter for homeless persons. The following section shows how total capacity and occupancy differed at the time of the 2004 and 2006 counts. It should be noted that 5 more facilities were counted in 2006 than in 2004.

Table 35. Total facility capacity and occupancy by bed type, 2004 and 2006					
		2004	2006	Increase in beds 2004-2006	
				Number	Percent
Facility Capacity	Emergency Beds	1,106	1,442	336	30.4%
	Transitional Beds	1,558	1,635	77	4.9%
	Total	2,664	3,077	413	15.5%
Facility Occupancy	Emergency Beds	1,135	1,383	248	21.9%
	Transitional Beds	1,305	1,440	135	10.3%
	Total	2,440	2,823	383	15.7%

### 5.3 Homelessness among sub-populations

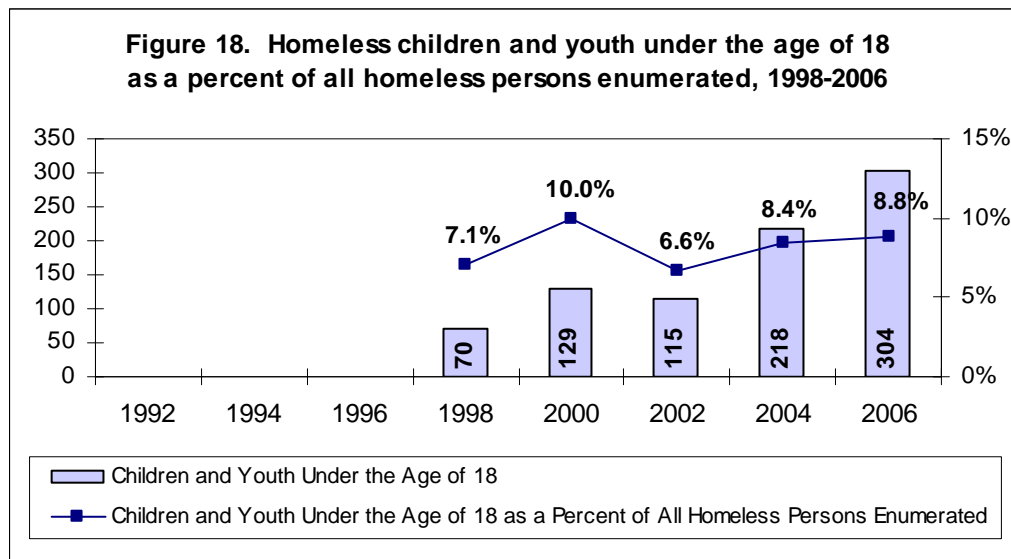
The *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* provides a snapshot of not only the number of persons who are homeless in the city over time, but also a profile of the observed characteristics of that population. The homeless population in Calgary is a diverse group, including both men and women and persons of all ages and racial/ethnic groups.

The following section provides a set of time series graphs illustrating a selection of characteristics of the homeless population enumerated during each count. The first count only recorded the number of homeless persons enumerated and whether persons were staying in a shelter or on the streets, therefore, most of the time series graphs begin after 1992.

It must be noted again that the number of facilities enumerated increased dramatically in 2004 setting a new baseline for all future counts; the data in the following section must be interpreted accordingly.

#### 5.3.1 Children and Youth

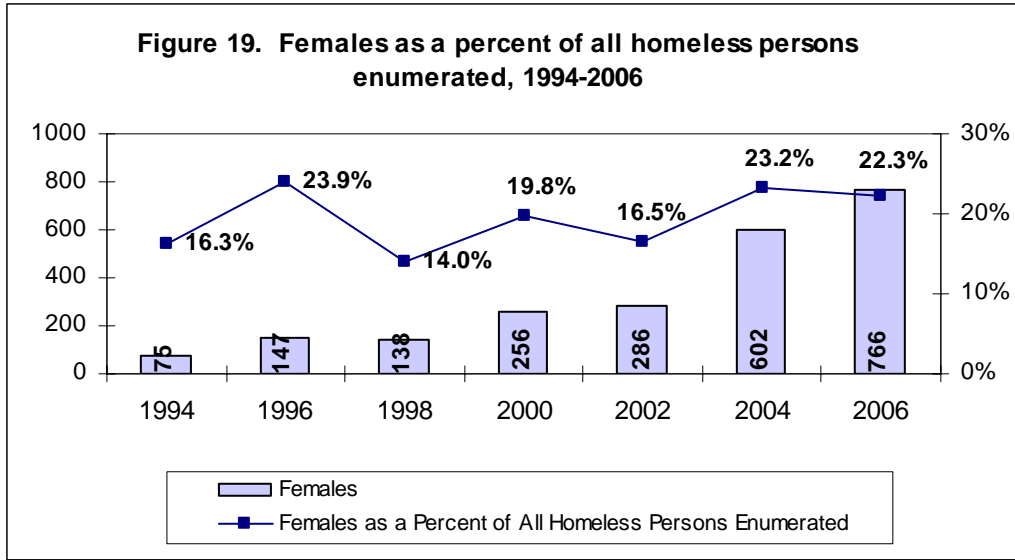
There were 304 homeless persons enumerated on the night of 2006 May 10 who were observed to be under the age of 18. Children and youth under 18 represented 9 percent of all homeless persons counted. Figure 18 (*below*) shows both the number of homeless children and youth enumerated and the percentage of all homeless persons enumerated that they comprised during each count where comparable data is available.<sup>26</sup>



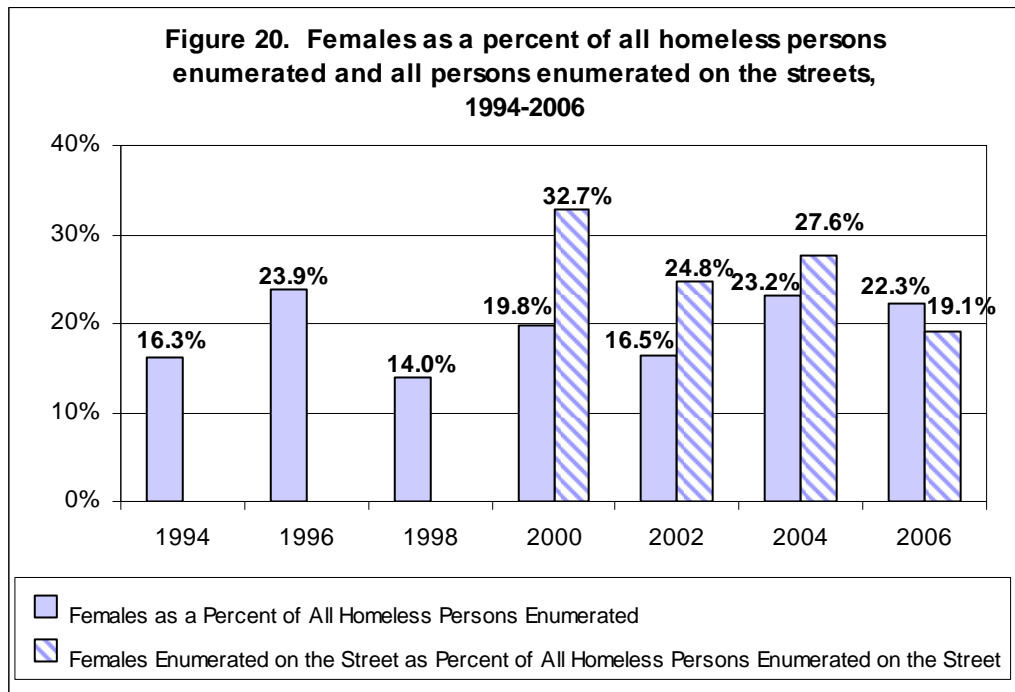
<sup>26</sup> Age data was not collected in the 1992 count, and while the 1994 and 1996 count did collect age data, the categories used are not comparable to the 1998 count and beyond.

### 5.3.2 Women

Homeless persons who are female have made up a sizable portion of the total homeless population in each count where data is available.

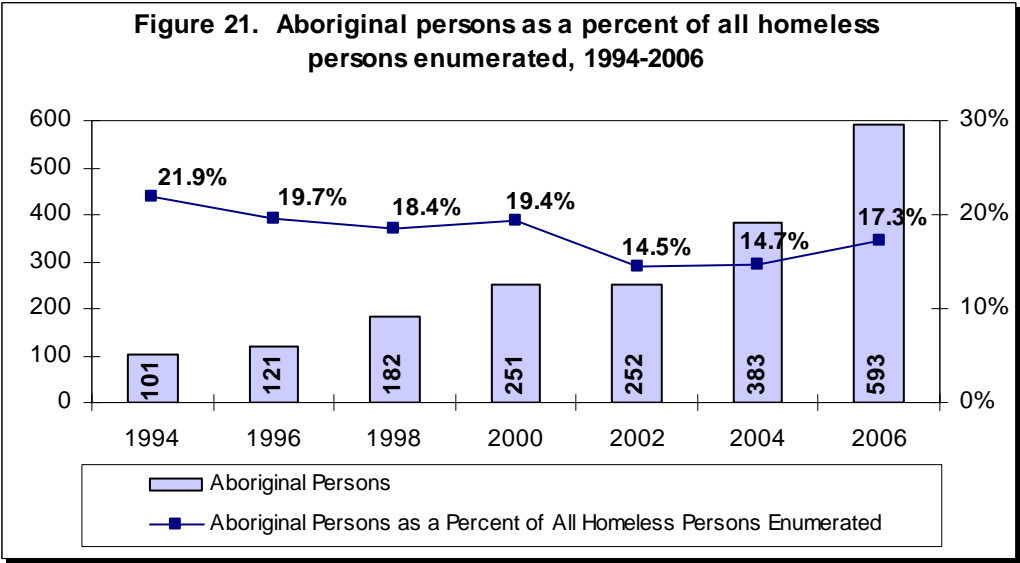


In particular, female homeless persons have tended to be over-represented on the streets as compared to the count overall; however, in 2006 this pattern changed and a smaller percentage of female persons were enumerated on the streets (19 percent) than were counted overall (22 percent).



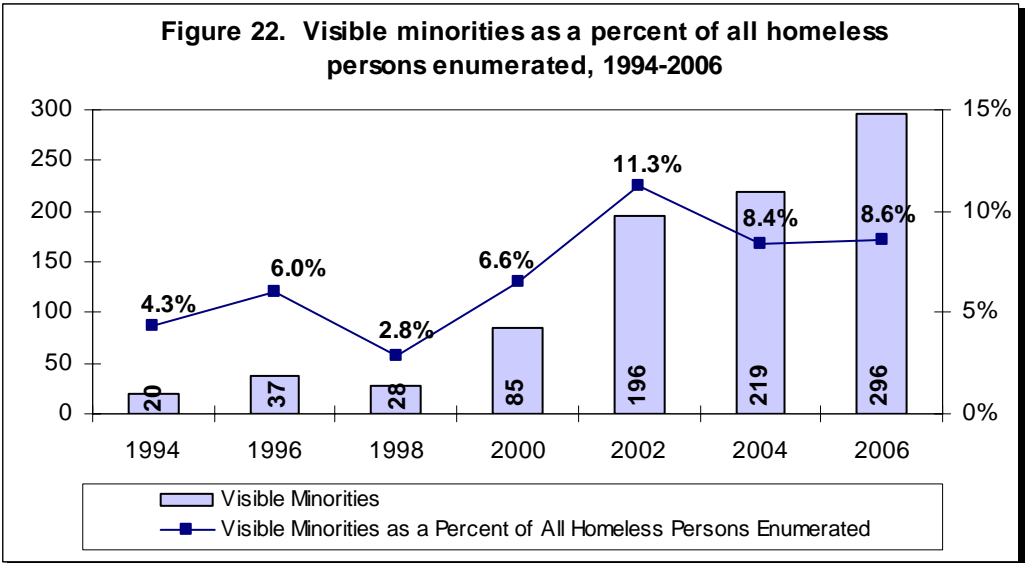
### 5.3.3 Aboriginal Persons

Persons who are observed to be Aboriginal are disproportionately represented among the homeless population counted. While the percentage of Calgarians overall who identify as Aboriginal is 2 percent, among the homeless population Aboriginal persons make up a much larger percentage, ranging from a high of 22 percent of all persons counted in 1994 to a low of 15 percent in 2002. A total of 17 percent of all homeless persons enumerated in 2006 were observed to be Aboriginal.



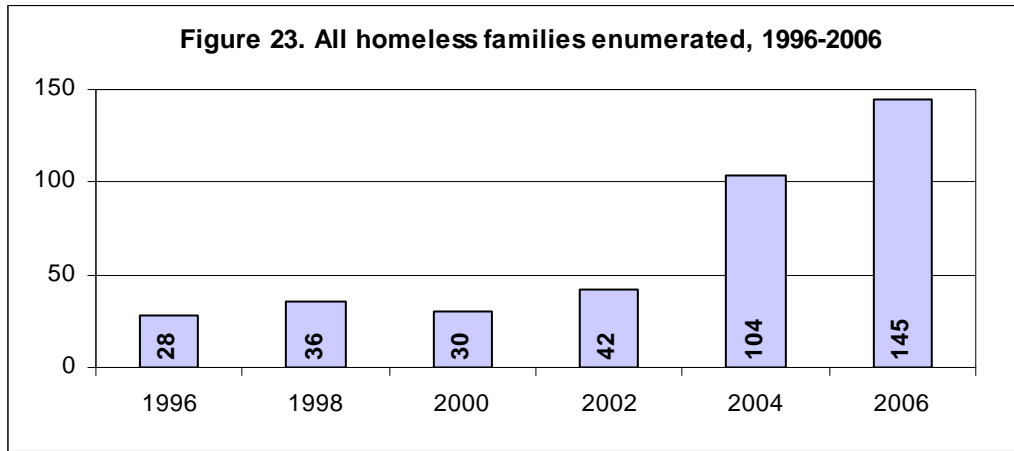
### 5.3.4 Visible Minorities

Homeless persons who are observed to be members of a visible minority group represented 9 percent of all persons enumerated in 2006. Over the eight counts this group has made up a high of 11 percent of all persons counted in 2002 and a low of 3 percent in 1998.



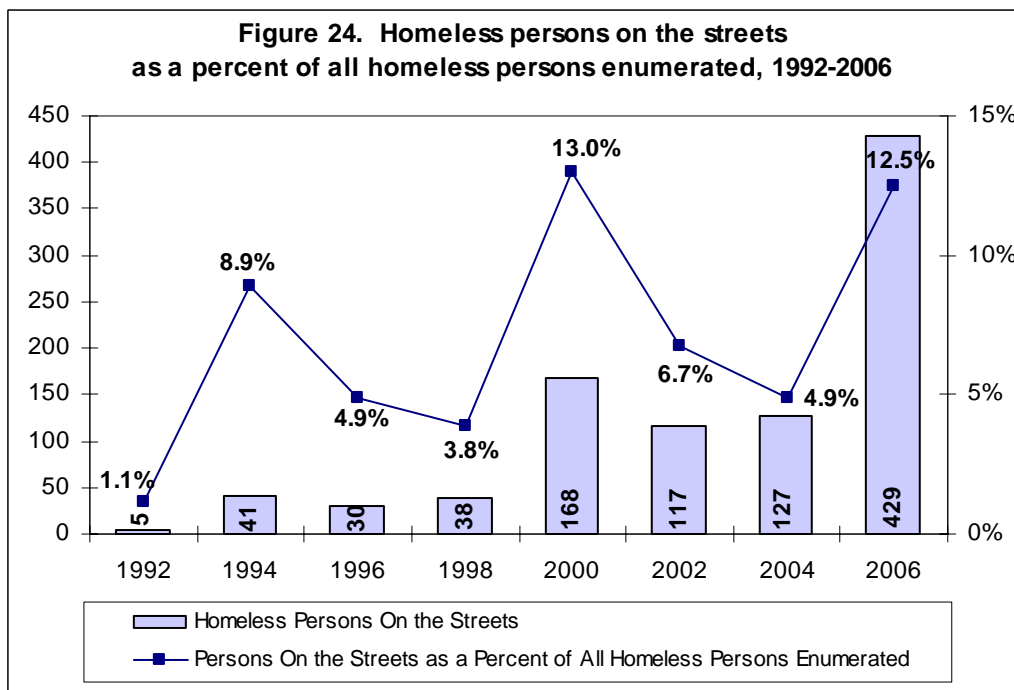
### 5.3.5 Families

The number of families enumerated during the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* increased substantially over the past two counts. Families are defined as a couple, a couple with one or more children, or a lone adult with one or more children.



### 5.3.6 Homeless persons on the streets

Figure 24 (*below*) shows the percentage of homeless persons counted on the streets as a percent of all homeless persons enumerated during each count. In 2006 the percentage of homeless persons counted on the streets increased to almost the high of 13 percent seen in 2000.



## 6.0 Conclusions

On the night of 2006 May 10, The City of Calgary conducted the eighth *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons*. A total of 51 facilities, 9 service agencies, and 157 street count volunteers participated in the count, which found that 3,436 persons were homeless in Calgary on the night of the count.

Of the 3,436 homeless persons enumerated, 2,823 (82 percent) were counted in facilities (1,383 in emergency shelter beds and 1,440 in transitional housing beds), 184 (5 percent) were counted by service agencies, and 429 (12 percent) were counted on the streets.

Overall, the majority of homeless persons enumerated were male, though the proportion of male and females homeless persons varied somewhat depending on the count location (i.e., in facilities, service agencies, or on the streets). Overall, 78 percent of homeless persons counted were male and 22 percent were female.

The most common age group for all homeless persons enumerated was 25 to 44 with 46 percent of all homeless persons counted observed to be in this age group. While the age distribution of those enumerated by service agencies is difficult to analyze due to the high percentage of those who could not be assessed by age, a comparison of persons enumerated in facilities and on the streets shows some notable differences. Though the majority of persons staying in *facilities* were working age adults aged 25 to 44, all age groups were represented by at least 3 percent of the total population in facilities. Among those counted *on the streets* an even greater majority were working age adults aged 25 to 44, while the rest of the homeless population staying on the streets was mainly in the young adult (18 to 24) and middle-aged adult (45 to 64) categories. Few children, youth, and seniors were counted on the streets.

More than two-thirds of all homeless persons enumerated were Caucasian, though persons who were observed to be Aboriginal made up a disproportionately high percentage of the homeless population in comparison to the percentage of Calgary's population overall who identify as Aboriginal. Of the 3,436 homeless persons enumerated, 68 percent were Caucasian, 17 percent were Aboriginal, and 9 percent were members of a visible minority group (the remaining 6 percent could not be assessed by this variable). In particular the percentage of homeless persons observed to be Aboriginal who were staying on the streets was disproportionately high at 37 percent, compared to 14 percent in facilities and 17 percent overall.

The number of homeless persons enumerated in Calgary on the night of the count indicates that homelessness continues to grow in the city, as it has for each subsequent count since the first in 1992. The number of homeless persons enumerated in 2006 was 32 percent higher than the previous count in 2004, continuing the growth rate trend of over 30 percent seen in most count years.

In terms of the shelter options currently available in Calgary, the 2006 count found that the 51 facilities surveyed who are currently providing emergency and transitional housing for homeless persons have the capacity to house 3,077 individuals. Over one-third of facilities surveyed indicated that they were operating at or over capacity on the night of the count.

Cities across Canada (and more broadly in all of North America) continue to struggle to find solutions to prevent homelessness, to care for those who are homeless, and to assist those who are homeless in finding appropriate permanent housing options.

The *2006 Count of Homeless Persons* adds an eighth year of data to the *Biennial Count of Homeless Persons* series, providing information about both the size and characteristics of the homeless population in the city to assist the community, all levels of government, and other stakeholders in planning and delivering services and supports for persons who are homeless in Calgary.

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## Appendix A. Facilities and services agencies surveyed in 2006

1	AADAC – Renfrew Recovery Centre
2	Aspen Family and Community Network Society
3	Aventa
4	Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter
5	Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Avenue 15
6	Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Safe House
7	Boys and Girls Club Community Services – Haven's Way
8	Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence – The Brenda Strafford Centre
9	Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence – Gateway House
10	Calgary Alpha House Society
11	Calgary Catholic Immigration Society – Margaret Chisholm Resettlement Centre
12	Calgary Dream Centre
13	Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 110
14	Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 2032
15	Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Centre 2507
16	Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre – Riverfront Centre
17	Calgary John Howard Society – Raido House
18	Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Association
19	Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society – Residential Program
20	Elizabeth Fry Society – Berkana House
21	Fresh Start Addictions Centre
22	Highbanks
23	Horizon Housing Society – Art Smith House
24	Horizon Housing Society – Bob Ward Residence
25	Horizon Housing Society – Horizon on 8 <sup>th</sup>
26	Horizon Housing Society – House of Good Cheer
27	Horizon Housing Society – Marguarite House
28	Horizon Housing Society – Roberts House
29	Inn from the Cold Society
30	Kerby Centre – Rotary House
31	McMan Youth Services – Hope Homes
32	McMan Youth Services – Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth
33	McMan Youth Services – Wellington Place
34	Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge
35	Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society

**Table 36. Facilities surveyed for the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons (page 2 of 2)**

36	Native Addictions Services Society (Sunrise)
37	Oxford House Foundation of Canada
38	Potential Place Society
39	Recovery Acres (Calgary) Society
40	Salvation Army – Booth Centre
41	Salvation Army – Centre of Hope
42	Servants Anonymous Society
43	Simon House Residence Society
44	Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services
45	Trinity Foundation of Alberta – Manchester <sup>1</sup>
46	Victory Outreach Foundation
47	Wood's Homes – Exit Youth Shelter
48	Youville Women's Residence
49	YWCA of Calgary – Mary Dover House
50	YWCA of Calgary – Safe Haven
51	YWCA of Calgary – Sheriff King Family Home

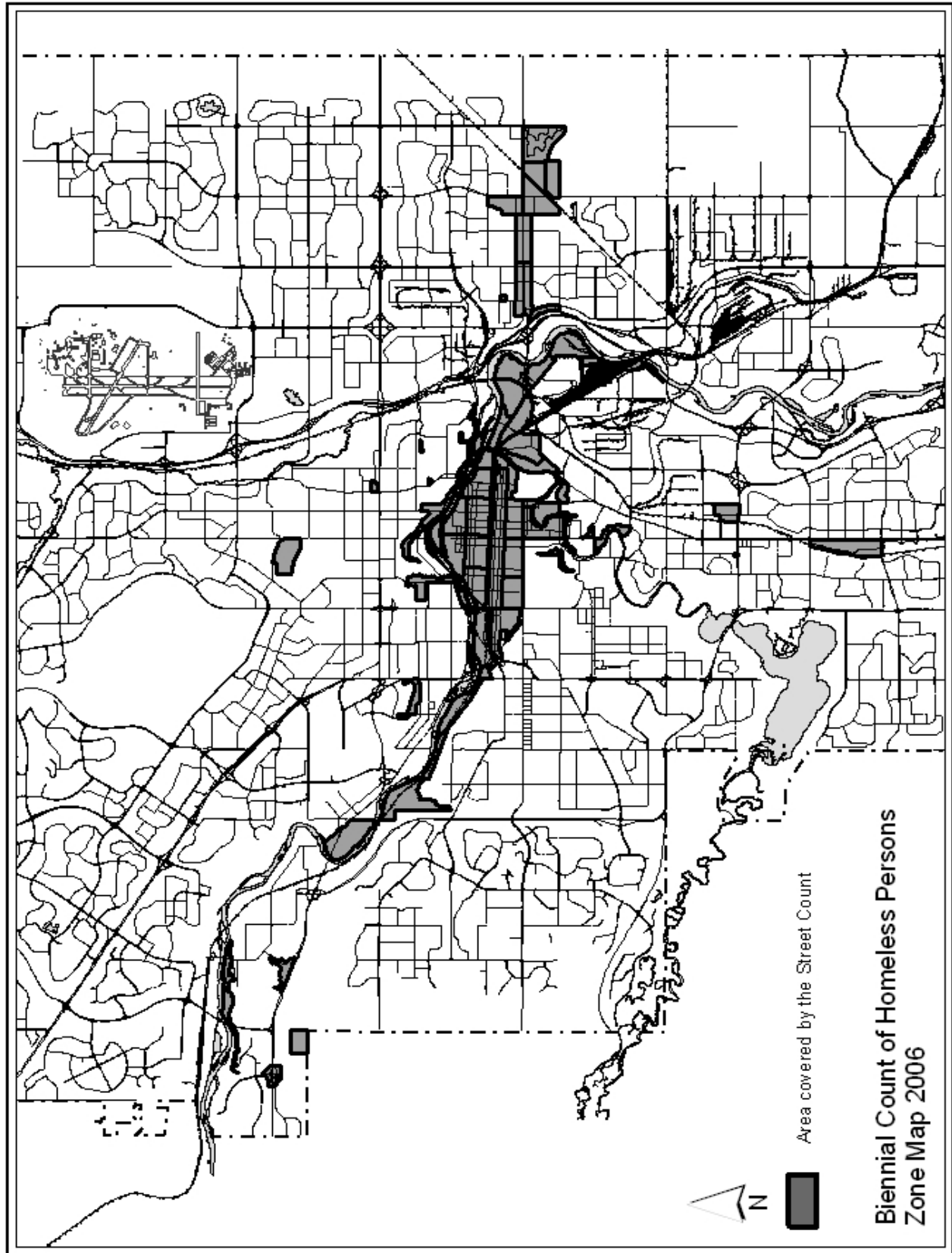
Notes:

1 The Trinity Foundation of Alberta's Manchester facility was invited to participate in the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons on the advice of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, as it was thought that this facility provided transitional housing; however, the returned Facility Enumeration Form reported that this facility does not provide any transitional (or emergency) shelter.

**Table 37. Service agencies surveyed for the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons**

1	Alberta Children's Hospital – Emergency Department
2	Alberta Human Resources and Employment, Income and Community Support Services (Alberta Works) – Income Support Contact Centre
3	Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority – Social Services Response Team
4	Calgary Police Service – Arrest Processing
5	Calgary Remand Centre
6	Calgary Transit – Remote Transit Routes and LRT Stations
7	Foothills Hospital – Emergency Department
8	Peter Lougheed Hospital – Emergency Department
9	Rockyview General Hospital – Emergency Department

Appendix B. Zone map for the 2006 street count





## Appendix C. Emergency and transitional bed capacity and occupancy, by sector

Consultation with community and government stakeholders during the planning of the *2004 Count of Homeless Persons*, as well as with agency members of the Community Action Committee during the planning stages of the 2006 count, indicated that there is value in an analysis of “demand data” (occupancy) that aligns with “supply data” (capacity) arranged by the eight sectors serving the homeless population who are involved in implementing *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths Out of Homelessness* (Calgary Homeless Foundation, 2003: 38-42).<sup>27</sup>

As *The Calgary Community Plan* is now two years old the listing of agencies/facilities included within the eight sectors has changed. For the 2006 count, facility staff were asked to indicate on the Facility Enumeration Form which sector that facility supports. A number of facilities identified more than one sector. Table 38 (*next page*) presents a summary of all sectors served by each facility. Tables 39 through 46 are organized by sector and list the facility capacity and occupancy for each facility that reported serving that sector.

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<sup>27</sup> Sectors are defined by the community of agencies serving homeless persons in Calgary and agencies supporting the various sectors. *The Calgary Community Plan 2004-2008: Building Paths Out of Homelessness* (Calgary Homeless Foundation, 2003: 38-42) set out supply data for the eight sector groups that were current at that time. Since then, a number of the sector names have been modified, and the supply data has changed.

**Table 38. Sectors served by all facilities participating in the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons**

Facility	Sector(s) Served							
	Aboriginal	Absolutely Homeless	Addictions	Families	Mental Health	Seniors	Women Fleeing Violence	Youth
AADAC - Renfrew Recovery Centre			✓					
Aspen Family and Community Network Society	✓							✓
Aventa	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Avenue 15								✓
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Safe House								✓
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Haven's Way								✓
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence - The Brenda Strafford Centre							✓	
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence - Gateway House							✓	
Calgary Alpha House Society	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society - Margaret Chisholm Resettlement Centre				✓				
Calgary Dream Centre	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Calgary John Howard Society - Raido House								✓
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Association							✓	
Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society - Residential Program							✓	
Elizabeth Fry Society - Berkana House	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Fresh Start Addictions Centre			✓					
Highbanks				✓				

**Table 38. Sectors served by all facilities participating in the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons**

Facility	Sector(s) Served							
	Aboriginal	Absolutely Homeless	Addictions	Families	Mental Health	Seniors	Women Fleeing Violence	Youth
Horizon Housing Society - Art Smith House					✓			
Horizon Housing Society - Bob Ward Residence					✓			
Horizon Housing Society - Horizon on 8th					✓			
Horizon Housing Society - House of Good Cheer					✓			
Horizon Housing Society - Marguarite House					✓			
Horizon Housing Society - Roberts House					✓			
Inn from the Cold Society				✓				
Kerby Centre - Rotary House						✓		
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes								✓
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth	✓							✓
McMan Youth Services - Wellington Place								✓
Métis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Native Addictions Services Society (Sunrise)	✓		✓					
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Potential Place Society					✓			
Recovery Acres (Calgary) Society			✓					
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Servants Anonymous Society			✓					
Simon House Residence Society	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services							✓	
Victory Outreach Foundation	✓		✓				✓	
Wood's Homes - Exit Youth Shelter								✓
Youville Women's Residence	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 38. Sectors served by all facilities participating in the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons**

Facility	Sector(s) Served							
	Aboriginal	Absolutely Homeless	Addictions	Families	Mental Health	Seniors	Women Fleeing Violence	Youth
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Family Home	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
YWCA of Calgary - Mary Dover House		✓						
YWCA of Calgary - Safe Haven								✓

**Table 39. Facilities that reported serving the *aboriginal sector*<sup>1</sup>**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aspen Family and Community Network Society - Aspen Apartments	1	11	12	0	8	8
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	27	0	27	26	0	26
Calgary Alpha House Society - Drop-In Centre / Detox	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Dream Centre	0	111	111	0	100	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Elizabeth Fry Society - Berkana House	2	8	10	0	8	8
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth	0	7	7	0	6	6
Métis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>2</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry	82	48	130	82	42	124
Native Addictions Services Society (Sunrise)	0	36	36	0	9	9
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	0	108	108	0	88	88
<b>Total</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>1,628</b>

**Notes:**

- 1 The number of beds listed for both capacity and occupancy is the total number of beds, not just the number intended for or occupied by persons who are Aboriginal.
- 2 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

**Table 40. Facilities that reported serving the *absolutely homeless sector*<sup>1</sup>**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	27	0	27	26	0	26
Calgary Alpha House Society - Drop-In Centre / Detox	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Dream Centre	0	111	111	0	100	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>2</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	82	48	130	82	42	124
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	0	108	108	0	88	88
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	131	53	184	131	53	184
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	179	179	358	179	154	333
Simon House Residence Society	19	38	57	19	34	53
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Home	0	17	17	0	17	17
YWCA of Calgary - Mary Dover House	6	77	83	4	61	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>1,287</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>2,273</b>

Notes:

- 1 The Absolutely Homeless Sector was previously called the Singles Sector.
- 2 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

**Table 41. Facilities that reported serving the addictions sector**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
AADAC - Renfrew Recovery Centre	0	40	40	0	10	10
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Calgary Alpha House Society - Drop-In Centre / Detox	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Dream Centre	0	111	111	0	100	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Elizabeth Fry Society - Berkana House	2	8	10	0	8	8
Fresh Start Addictions Centre	0	33	33	0	23	23
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>1</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	82	48	130	82	42	124
Native Addictions Services Society (Sunrise)	0	36	36	0	9	9
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	0	108	108	0	88	88
Recovery Acres (Calgary) Society	30	6	36	26	6	32
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	131	53	184	131	53	184
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	179	179	358	179	154	333
Servants Anonymous Society	0	22	22	0	23	23
Simon House Residence Society	19	38	57	19	34	53
Victory Outreach Foundation	0	10	10	0	6	6
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,329</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>2,470</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>2,276</b>
<b>Notes:</b>						
1 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.						

**Table 42. Facilities that reported serving the *family sector***

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	27	0	27	26	0	26
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society - Margaret Chisholm Resettlement Centre	0	75	75	0	26	26
Elizabeth Fry Society - Berkana House	2	8	10	0	8	8
Highbanks	0	8	8	0	8	8
Inn from the Cold Society	45	22	67	45	22	67
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>1</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	131	53	184	131	53	184
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	179	179	358	179	154	333
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Home	0	17	17	0	17	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>780</b>

Notes:

1 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

**Table 43. Facilities that reported serving the *mental health sector***

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Calgary Alpha House Society	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Dream Centre	0	111	111	0	100	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Elizabeth Fry Society - Berkana House	2	8	10	0	8	8
Horizon Housing Society - Art Smith House	0	8	8	0	7	7
Horizon Housing Society - Bob Ward Residence	0	30	30	0	30	30
Horizon Housing Society - Horizon on 8th	0	28	28	0	28	28
Horizon Housing Society - House of Good Cheer	0	8	8	0	8	8
Horizon Housing Society - Marguarite House	2	8	10	0	8	8
Horizon Housing Society - Roberts House	0	10	10	0	7	7
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>1</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	82	48	130	82	42	124
Potential Place Society	0	11	11	0	10	10
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	131	53	184	131	53	184
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	179	179	358	179	154	333
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Home	0	17	17	0	17	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>1,238</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>2,147</b>

**Notes:**

1 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

**Table 44. Facilities that reported serving the seniors sector**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Calgary Alpha House Society	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Dream Centre	0	111	111	0	100	100
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Kerby Centre - Rotary House	0	11	11	0	9	9
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>1</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	82	48	130	82	42	124
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	0	108	108	0	88	88
Salvation Army - Booth Centre	131	53	184	131	53	184
Salvation Army - Centre of Hope	179	179	358	179	154	333
Simon House Residence Society	19	38	57	19	34	53
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>2,294</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>2,174</b>

**Notes:**

1 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

**Table 45. Facilities that reported serving the women fleeing violence sector**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aventa	0	36	36	0	14	14
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	27	0	27	26	0	26
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence - The Brenda Strafford Centre	0	42	42	0	42	42
Brenda Strafford Centre for the Prevention of Domestic Violence - Gateway Place	0	6	6	0	6	6
Calgary Alpha House Society	51	20	71	64	15	79
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Association	0	40	40	0	29	29
Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society - Residential Program <sup>1</sup>	0	19	19	0	54	54
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>2</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Mustard Seed (Calgary) Street Ministry Society	82	48	130	82	42	124
Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services <sup>3</sup>	0	10	10	0	20	20
Victory Outreach Foundation	0	10	10	0	6	6
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Home	0	17	17	0	17	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>1,289</b>

Notes:

- 1 The 19 transitional beds listed for Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society are actually apartment units with varying numbers of bedrooms (for a total of 48 bedrooms). As the number of persons filling those apartments depends on the composition of the families staying at the facility, the total capacity is simply represented by the total number of apartments, though it is recognized that this underestimates the actual capacity.
- 2 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.
- 3 The 10 transitional beds listed for Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services are actually apartments, 8 with 2 bedrooms and 2 with one bedroom. As the number of persons filling those apartments depends on the composition of the families staying at the facility, the total capacity is simply represented by the total number of apartments, though it is recognized that this underestimates the actual capacity.

**Table 46. Facilities that reported serving the youth sector**

Facility	Bed Capacity			Bed Occupancy		
	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Capacity	Emergency Beds	Transitional Beds	Total Bed Occupancy
Aspen Family and Community Network Society	1	11	12	0	8	8
Awo Taan Native Women's Shelter	27	0	27	26	0	26
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Avenue 15	15	0	15	12	0	12
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Safe House	0	9	9	0	9	9
Boys and Girls Club Community Services - Haven's Way	0	6	6	0	5	5
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 110	0	60	60	0	51	51
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2032	160	0	160	142	0	142
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Centre 2507	125	0	125	125	0	125
Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Riverfront Centre	550	210	760	515	246	761
Calgary John Howard Society - Raido House	1	7	8	1	7	8
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes	0	13	13	0	13	13
McMan Youth Services - Hope Homes for Aboriginal Youth	0	7	7	0	6	6
McMan Youth Services - Wellington Place	1	4	5	1	4	5
Metis Calgary Family Services - Rainbow Lodge <sup>1</sup>	0	87	87	0	87	87
Wood's Homes - Exit Youth Shelter	15		15	11	0	11
Youville Women's Residence	0	36	36	0	24	24
YWCA of Calgary - Sheriff King Home	0	17	17	0	17	17
YWCA of Calgary - Safe Haven	0	7	7	0	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>1,313</b>

Notes:

1 The 87 transitional beds reported by Métis Calgary Family Services – Rainbow Lodge as their total capacity is actually the total occupancy on the night of the count. Métis Calgary Family Services reported that their program consists of 32 three-bedroom apartment units and that the actual total capacity would vary depending on the composition of the families staying there. Their facility was considered full at the time of the count, so the maximum capacity was indicated as the actual number of families staying there at that time.

## Appendix D. Monetary equivalent of volunteer contributions to the street count

As shown in Table 47, 157 volunteers participated in the street count portion of the *2006 Count of Homeless Persons* (street enumerators and street count volunteer registration team members). These volunteers contributed 990 hours of their time, the value of which – given a monetary equivalent using the Volunteer Activity Pay Scale used by The City of Calgary – amounts to \$16,588. In addition, a number of the “giveaways” for the street count were acquired at a substantially reduced cost.

<b>Table 47. Value of volunteer contributions made to the 2006 street count</b>					
Volunteer Activity Contributed to the 2006 Count of Homeless Persons	Pay Scale (\$ per hour)	Number of Volunteers	Average Hours Needed per Volunteer, by Activity <sup>1</sup>	Total Number of Volunteer Hours Given	Total Value of Volunteer Time Donated (\$)
<b>Volunteer Enumerator for Street Count</b> (pre-registration, sign-in and orientation, enumeration for census, reporting results at staging area after the street count)	\$16.75	145	6	870	\$14,572.50
<b>Facility Support at Staging Area</b> (hospitality preparation, volunteer registration, team check-in during and after the street count, results verification, and staging area clean-up)	\$16.80	12	10	120	\$2,016.00
<b>Total</b>	n/a	<b>157</b>	n/a	<b>990</b>	<b>\$16,588.50</b>
<u>Notes:</u>					
1 For all street count volunteers, this includes the actual number of hours spent volunteering on the night of the count plus one additional hour for pre-registration and team organization in advance of the count.					
<u>Source:</u> Calculations derived from City of Calgary (2005 <i>b</i> ).					

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