



Department of
Human Resources

311 West Saratoga Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Annual Report dated May 20, 2011:

Annual Report on Homelessness

Prepared for:

**The Governor and the Maryland General
Assembly**

As required by:

Human Services Article § 6-426(b)

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lt. Governor

Theodore Dallas
Secretary

May 20, 2011

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor of the State of Maryland
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley:

Pursuant to the Human Services Article of the Maryland Annotated Code §6-426 (b) (1), enclosed is the State Fiscal Year 2010 Report on the Homelessness Prevention Program. The FY 2009 Annual Report on Homeless Services in Maryland is also included as an attachment. These reports summarize the efforts of the State and our community partners to restore our citizens to permanent sustainable housing.

We appreciate your continuing support for these important programs. They play a key role in our efforts to end homelessness in our great state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Theodore Dallas'.

Theodore Dallas
Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Maryland General Assembly

DHR is accredited by:



Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lt. Governor

Theodore Dallas
Secretary

May 20, 2011

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

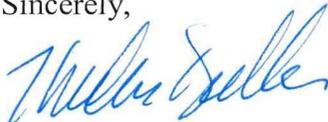
The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Pursuant to the Human Services Article of the Maryland Annotated Code §6-426 (b) (1), enclosed is the State Fiscal Year 2010 Report on the Homelessness Prevention Program. The FY 2009 Annual Report on Homeless Services in Maryland is also included as an attachment. These reports summarize the efforts of the State and our community partners to restore our citizens to permanent sustainable housing.

We appreciate the continuing support provided by the General Assembly for these important programs. They play a key role in our efforts to end homelessness in our great state.

Sincerely,



Theodore Dallas
Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Maryland General Assembly

**Annual Report
on Homeless Services
in Maryland**

Fiscal Year 2009

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

**Maryland Department of Human Resources
Office of Grants Management**

State of Maryland

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Human Resources

Theodore Dallas
Interim Secretary

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Carolyn Edmonds
Director

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Executive Summary

The Department of Human Resources, Office of Grants Management (OGM) collects information from emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and other agencies that provide services to homeless people. Once a year, they send a survey questionnaire to shelter providers in Maryland designed to gather information regarding the nature and scope of the needs of the homeless in the state. Homeless shelters throughout the state, regardless of how they receive funds, voluntarily report on the services they provide. The results of the survey is published as the *Annual Report on Homelessness Services in Maryland (the Report)*, which is presented herewith for the state fiscal year 2009 – July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 (FY 2009).

In addition to survey results, the Report provides an overview of the homeless services which are specifically funded through OGM and provides data concerning subpopulations of the homeless population.

This Report is based on information gathered from surveying existing homeless shelters. Following the end of the state fiscal year (June 30), survey forms are sent to all known providers of emergency shelters, emergency motel placements, and transitional housing programs. The surveys are requested from emergency shelter and transitional housing program providers regardless of the programs' funding sources. A total of 148 providers responded.

I. Introduction

Homelessness in America occurs in urban, suburban and rural areas. The homeless population is made up of families, individuals, youth, and the elderly. The factors that contribute to homelessness can be complex and vary for individuals and families. People who are in danger of becoming homeless may not make enough money to afford decent, livable housing, may suffer from mental illness and addiction, may have been victims of domestic violence, or may not have the education or skills to secure employment of any substantial nature.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) states that persons are considered homeless if they:

1. “lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
2. who have a primary nighttime residence that is -
 - A. a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
 - B. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or

- C. a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.”¹

For agencies that serve the homeless, this population is very difficult to count. The most recent national information is from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Community Planning and Development 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, dated June 18, 2010. The report states that “Nearly 1.56 million people used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program during the 12-month period (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009). Two thirds were homeless as individuals, and one-third were homeless as members of families.”²

- According to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, “107,000 veterans are homeless on any given night. Over the course of a year, approximately twice that many experience homelessness. Only eight percent of the general population can claim veteran status, but nearly one-fifth of the homeless population are veterans”³ Nationwide 11.1% of shelter residents are veterans.⁴ According to the 2009 point-in-time survey of sheltered adults, 287 or 17% of individuals residing in Baltimore City shelters indicated they were veterans. This was a significant increase from the 2007 census data where 74 individuals were veterans⁵
- HUD reports that 8% of the current homeless population is 55 years of age or older.⁶ Of the 12,000 different homeless individuals served by Health Care for the Homeless in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Montgomery County, and the City of Frederick in 2009, 252 individuals were 65 years of age and older.⁷
- Domestic Violence Victims living in poverty are often forced to choose between an abusive relationship and homelessness. According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, July 2009, “Fifty percent of the cities surveyed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors identified domestic violence as a primary cause of homelessness (U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2005). Approximately 63% of homeless women have experienced domestic violence in their adult lives.”⁸

¹ US Code Title 42 Chapter 119 Subchapter I

<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/topics/homelessness/definition>

² the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,

<http://www.huduser.org/publications/pdf/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>

³ <http://www.nchv.org/background.cfm>

⁴ the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,

<http://www.huduser.org/publications/pdf/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>

⁵ Counting Matters: Baltimore Homeless Point-In-Time Census Report 2009

[http://www.morgan.edu/documents/academics/sap/baltimorehomelesscensus2009\(0\).pdf](http://www.morgan.edu/documents/academics/sap/baltimorehomelesscensus2009(0).pdf)

⁶

⁷ <http://hchmd.org/demographics.shtml>

⁸ <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/why.html>

- According to the 2009 HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 22.2% of sheltered homeless persons are under the age of 18.⁹ The National Center on Family Homelessness reports that there are approximately 575,000 to 1.6 million unaccompanied youth on the streets and in shelters in the United States (sometimes referred to as runaway youth). These young people are unattached to families and range in age from 16 to 22 years. Family conflict and violence is the primary cause of their homelessness, and nearly half (46%) have been abused. In Maryland, according to the same study, 12,810 children were homeless in 2008.

II. The Department of Human Resources' Homeless Services

The Office of Grants Management (OGM) of the Department of Human Resources provides funding and oversight of local government and community-based organizations for homeless services. The programs are described below along with the numbers served in the 2009 State fiscal year:

- **The Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)**

This program provides grants to persons who are evicted. The funds also support counselors who work with tenants and landlords to prevent evictions. HPP provides services in all Maryland jurisdictions. Funding is available for short-term mediation and links to resources that help families and individuals at risk of eviction stay in their homes. In SFY 2009, 1,803 households received assistance in maintaining their housing.

- **The Emergency and Transitional Housing Services Program (ETHS)**

The Emergency and Transitional Housing Services Program (ETHS) provides State funding for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs throughout Maryland. Funding is provided for shelter beds and support services, such as food and transportation. Funds are also used to provide eviction/foreclosure prevention assistance. ETHS operates through local governments, with significant involvement of local homelessness services agencies in each jurisdiction. In SFY 2009, 22,527 people were served in the program.

- **The Housing Counselor & Aftercare Program (HCP)**

The Housing Counselor and Aftercare Program (HCP) operates in five Maryland jurisdictions: Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Montgomery County and Washington County. HCP provides funds to assist low-income families who are homeless or in imminent danger of becoming homeless. Counselors help families establish credit references and apply for subsidized housing. The counselors also help families to access local, public and private resources available to them for payment of their first and last month's rent, security deposit,

⁹ the 2009 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress,
<http://www.huduser.org/publications/pdf/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>

utility payment, or donation of furniture. In SFY 2009, 2,072 households were served by the program.

- **The Service-Linked Housing Program (SLH)**

The Service-Linked Housing Program provides funds to hire local resident advocates who help link low-income residents of permanent housing to community services in 13 jurisdictions: Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Caroline County, Carroll County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Washington County. Advocates, through staff referrals and case management, help link residents who are facing issues such as job loss, lack of health care, substance abuse, mental illness and other issues that can lead to episodes of homelessness. The Resident Advocate helps to link residents to appropriate resources. In SFY 2009, the program helped 2,611 households to maintain their permanent housing.

- **Homeless Women-Crisis Shelter Home Program (HW-CSP)**

The Homeless Women-Crisis Shelter Home Program provides shelter, room and board, counseling, and referral services to homeless women and children. In addition to safe accommodations and meals, the shelter offers a 24-hour crisis hotline. Other services include: direct resource referral for housing, physical and mental health care, education, training, employment services, and case management. This program is located in 13 jurisdictions in Maryland: Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Calvert County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Garrett County, Harford County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, St. Mary's County, Wicomico County and Worcester County. In FY 2009, the Homeless Women-Crisis Shelter Home Program helped approximately 2,785 women and children receive emergency shelter and related services.

III. The Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness

The Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) was established in 2002 to address homelessness as a multidimensional problem. The ICH recognizes that homelessness encompasses a variety of situations.

ICH devises strategies by which State agencies can collaborate to help those without shelter and prevent homelessness in Maryland. The Secretary of the Department of Human Resources serves as Chair of the Council. The primary tool to accomplish this mandate is the Maryland 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

The ICH consists of 12 cabinet level agencies that work cooperatively to serve this very vulnerable population. Those agencies include:

- The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED)
- The Maryland Department of Aging (MDA)
- The Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD)

- The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)
- The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
- The Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR)
- The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSC)
- The Governor's Office for Children (GOC)
- The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
- The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

The Maryland ICH is leading the implementation of the Maryland 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

IV. Results of the Annual Survey on Homeless Shelters and Programs in Maryland

A. Methodology

This report is based on information gathered from surveying existing homeless shelters. Following the end of the state fiscal year (June 30), survey forms are sent to all known providers of emergency shelters, emergency motel placements, and transitional housing programs. The surveys are requested from emergency shelter and transitional housing program providers regardless of the programs' funding sources. A total of 148 providers responded. Data was requested for State Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

B. Assumptions and Definitions

This report is a count of the number of homeless persons served by the 148 providers responding to the survey. Counting the number of people who are homeless is a difficult task, as some may be transient and many live on the streets and choose not to obtain services at a shelter; these individuals may not be captured in this report. Due to the difficulties inherent in counting the entire homeless population, the Office of Grants Management gathers and reports information only on people who have stayed in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs or who have received emergency motel placements. The data in this report reflects the extent of shelter services provided to people who are homeless as reported by emergency shelter and transitional housing providers on the Homelessness Services Survey form. Daytime drop-in services, referral services, food or clothing assistance, transportation assistance, and eviction prevention are not included in this report.

It is important to note that response to the survey is voluntary. Each year a different number of providers return surveys. Providers who submit a survey this year may not have submitted a survey last year and vice versa. Data may vary substantively solely due to these sampling variations without any fundamental changes in the underlying characteristics of the target population.

An assumption inherent in this report is that some duplication exists in the reported number of people served by shelters. For example, shelter providers are asked to provide an unduplicated count of the number of people provided with shelter. However, people who stay in more than one shelter during the fiscal year are counted by each individual shelter. Although data collection systems are improving, the prevention of duplicate counting remains challenging. The extent of duplication is unknown.

For the purpose of this report, people are considered homeless if they received overnight shelter in an emergency shelter, motel, or transitional housing facility. While acknowledging the existence of people who are living in overcrowded or unsuitable housing and those who do not access needed shelter, this report includes counts for those who are only served at overnight shelters.

This report does not include data from a shelter without beds for day time shelter or “drop-in centers” if those centers do not have overnight accommodations. It is important to emphasize that the **number of people served** in this report is not a count of all homeless people in Maryland. It is also not an absolute count of the number of different people (unduplicated) served by shelter providers during the fiscal year.

A **bednight** is the most accurate and unduplicated, unit of measure to study the use of homeless shelters. Each night a shelter bed is filled by a person is considered one bednight. If one bed is used for an entire week then the total number of bednights for the week is seven. If a shelter with five beds is fully occupied for a week, the total number of bednights is thirty-five (seven multiplied by five).

Each time an individual is refused shelter or a motel placement, because of a program's lack of space or funds; it is counted as a “**turn-away occasion**”. The number of turn aways is thought to be an indicator of unmet need.

Shelter providers were asked whether they provide **emergency shelter, transitional housing, or undesignated shelter**, and whether they are open year-round or only part of the year. In general, stays in **emergency shelters** are short term. Stays in **transitional shelters** are longer term, from three months to two years, and may include additional services, such as residence counseling, and/or case management. Some providers pay for emergency motel placements for people, providing bednights when the facility lacks sufficient bed space for all the people who seek shelter. Undesignated beds are those beds used as either transitional or emergency shelter.

The **average length of stay** in shelters is calculated by dividing the number of bednights by the number of people served. Using this method, the average length of stay for all types of placements combined (emergency shelter, transitional housing, and motel placements), and the average length of a stay for each of the three types of placements (emergency shelter, transitional housing, and motel placements) is provided. The data, however, applies only to nights spent in the fiscal year period of the survey (July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009).

Local homeless service agencies are also asked to submit demographic information about people served. Shelter providers are asked to provide data pertaining to the **ages, household composition, gender, and ethnicity** of the population served. However, some providers do not keep demographic data on their customers, so demographic totals for each jurisdiction may not equal the reported total number of people served.

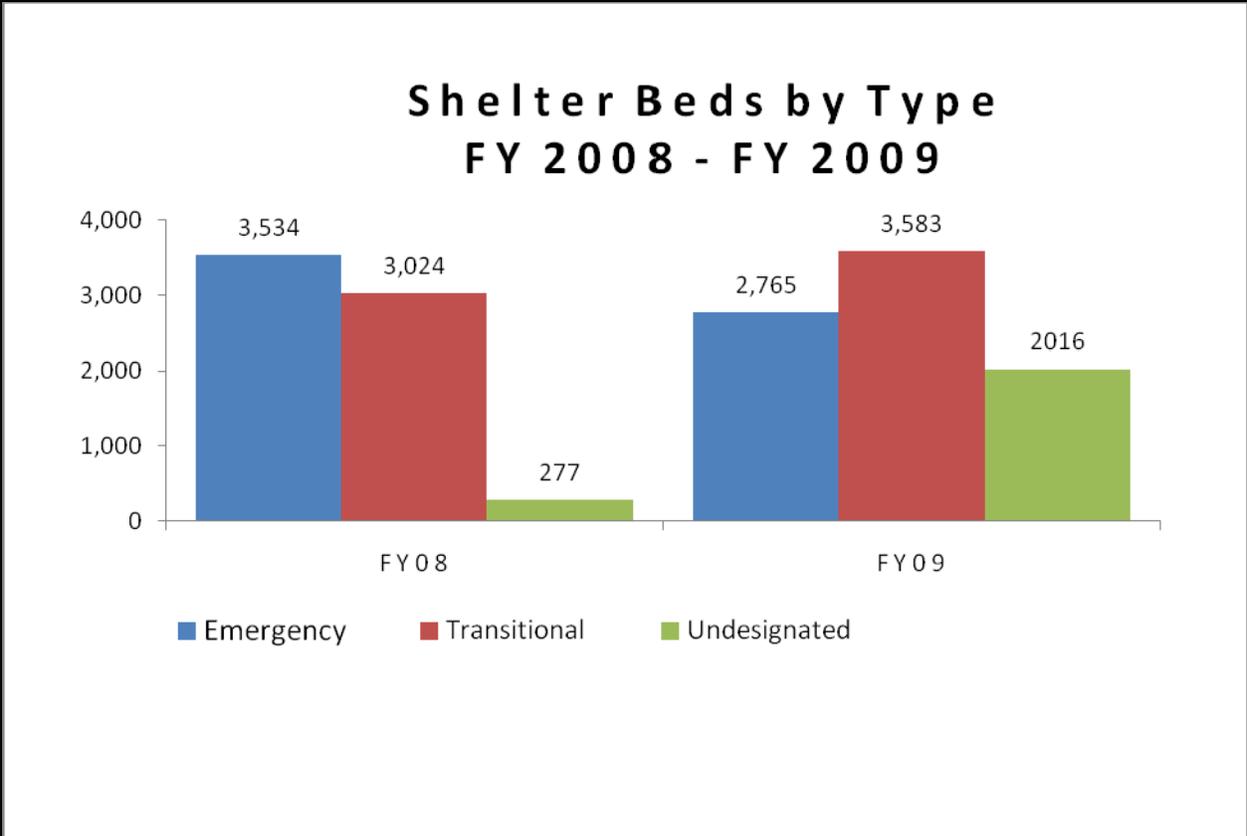
V. Data Collection Results

A. Shelters

Each year new shelters open and others close. This report includes data from surveys received from 148 providers of emergency shelter, transitional shelter, and motel placements in Maryland in FY 2009. Some agencies operate multiple emergency shelters or transitional housing programs and combine their data on a single survey. Other agencies submit surveys specific for each emergency shelter or transitional housing program.

B. Shelter Beds

In FY 2009, there were 8,820 emergency, transitional, and undesignated beds in Maryland shelters, an increase of 1,985 beds from FY 2008. There were more transitional shelter beds than emergency housing beds available in Maryland. In comparing data from FY 2008, there was a decrease in the number of emergency shelter beds by 769, an increase in transitional housing beds by 559, and a increase in “undesignated” beds by 1,739. Some shelters categorize their beds as “undesignated” when the beds are used as either transitional housing or emergency shelter depending on their need. The graphs below show the number of shelter beds by type and total number of shelter beds in Maryland for the past 2 fiscal years.



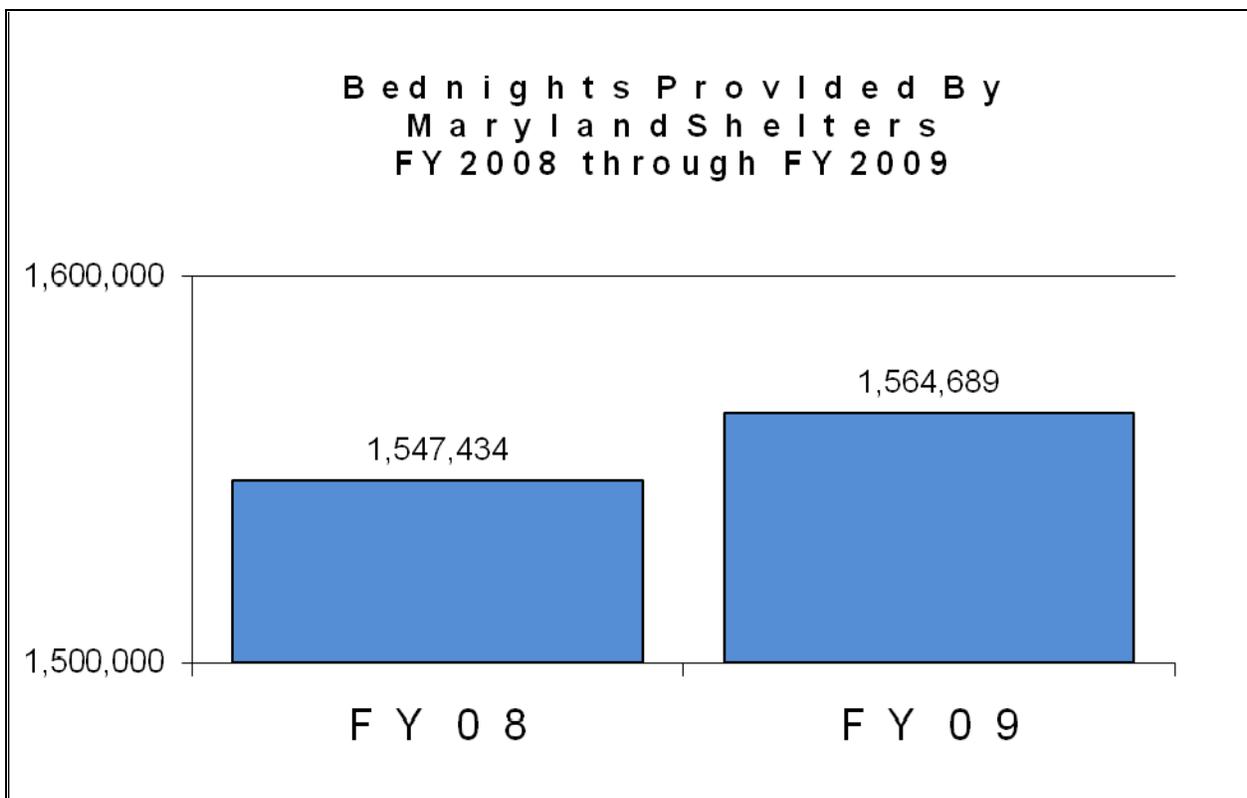
The table below shows the number and type of shelter beds reported available in each Maryland jurisdiction in FY 2009. There were 1,985 more shelter beds reported available in FY 2009 than FY 2008.

SELTHER BEDS IN MARYLAND
by Jurisdiction
State Fiscal Year 2009

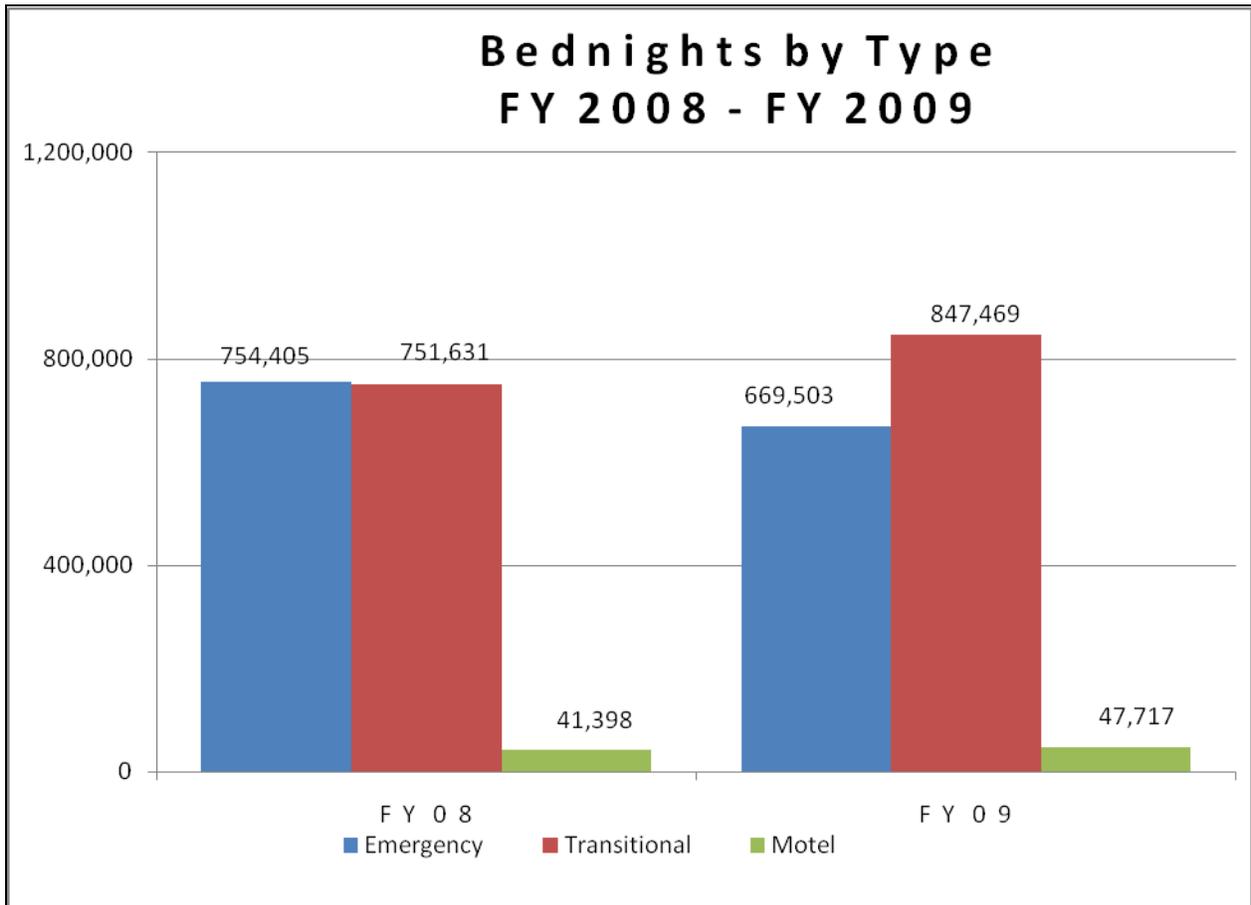
Jurisdiction	Emergency	Transitional	Undesignated	Winter	Total	Change from FY 08
Allegany	0	12	0	0	12	-110
Anne Arundel	95	76	10	0	181	-295
Baltimore City	875	1402	84	183	2544	265
Baltimore County	429	207	0	0	636	229
Calvert	37	21	0	0	58	-1
Caroline	10	48	0	0	58	46
Carroll	66	25	0	0	91	-118
Cecil	65	49	217	0	331	156
Charles	81	13	0	35	129	31
Dorchester	9	7	0	0	16	0
Frederick	0	749	917	0	1,666	1,332
Garrett	15	9	0	0	24	-15
Harford	56	65	281	33	435	314
Howard	34	20	53	25	132	-20
Kent	7	0	33	0	40	31
Montgomery	383	300	0	25	708	-277
Prince George's	339	337	400	85	1,161	465
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Mary's	31	100	13	2	146	8
Somerset	0	8	0	0	8	0
Talbot	0	6	0	6	12	6
Washington	186	98	0	62	346	41
Wicomico	0	19	0	0	19	-113
Worcester	47	12	8	0	67	10
TOTAL	2,765	3,583	2,016	456	8,820	1,985

C. Bednights

Counting bednights measures the number of nights each shelter bed was occupied. This data is reported by the type of shelter bed (emergency, transitional, or motel placement). In FY 2009, a total of 1,564,689 bednights were reported as provided. This is an increase of 17,255 bednights as compared to FY 2008.



Bednights provided by transitional shelters comprised 54.2% of all bednights reported in FY 2009. There were 847,469 transitional bednights, 669,503 emergency bednights, and 47,717 motel bednights. The graph below shows the number of bednights provided over the past two years by type of shelter bed.



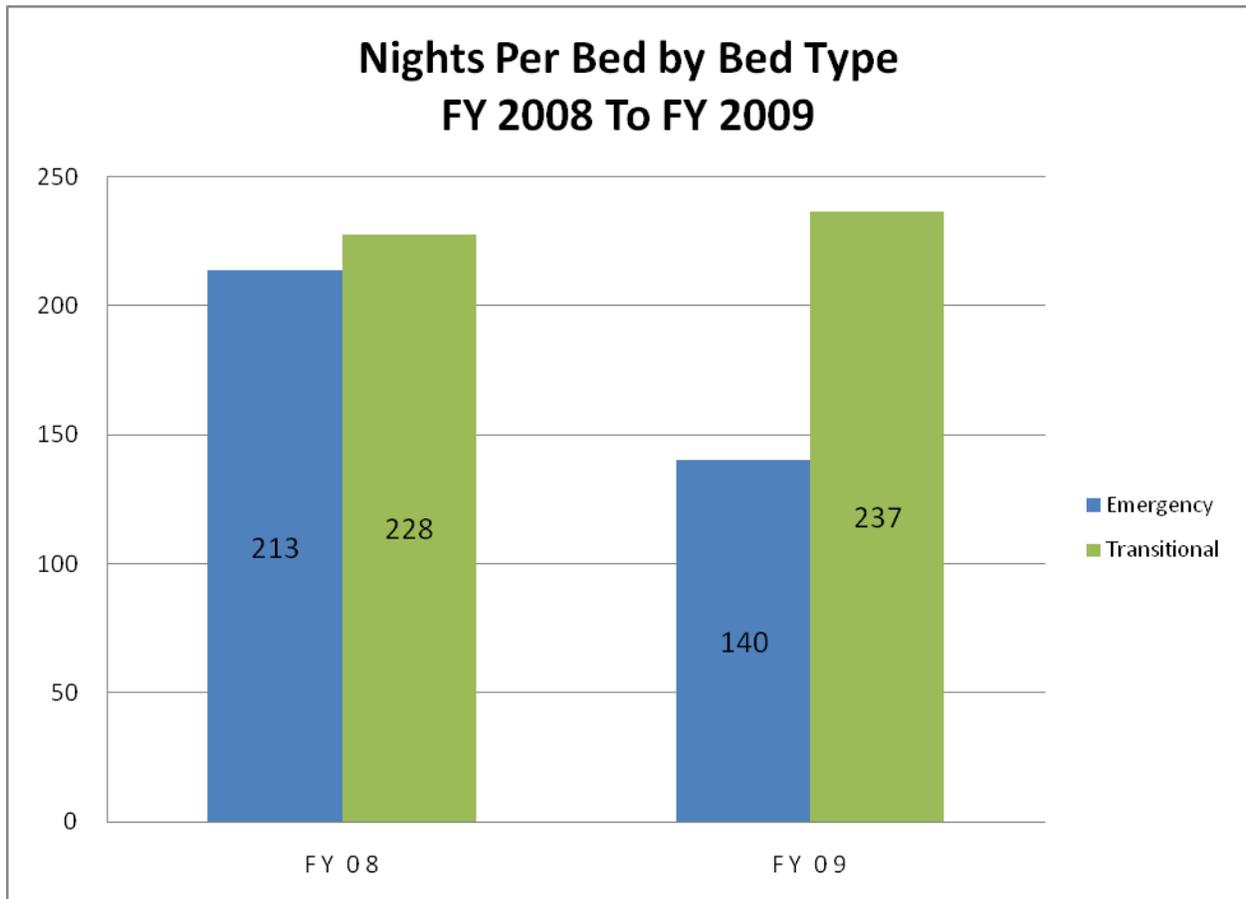
The following table shows the number of bednights reported in FY 2009, by type of bednight, for each jurisdiction in Maryland.

Bednights Provided by Jurisdiction FY 2009

Jurisdiction	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Shelter	Motel Placements	Total Bednights	Change from FY 2008
Allegany	0	2,984	92	3,076	-14,522
Anne Arundel	30,185	25,995	0	56,180	-4,028
Baltimore City	230,518	418,253	1,925	650,696	204,805
Baltimore County	105,692	38,961	439	145,092	15,094
Calvert	7,137	6,708	0	13,845	-1,590
Caroline	1,167	8,826	84	10,077	4,695
Carroll	11,516	8,428	0	19,944	-27,449
Cecil	10,815	35,461	11,049	57,325	16,239
Charles	15,746	3,204	166	19,116	-3,885
Dorchester	1,777	2,349	0	4,126	1,344
Frederick	0	35,899	19,257	55,156	-21,729
Garrett	789	635	181	1,605	-541
Harford	12,998	17,312	4,075	34,385	-1,667
Howard	21,677	3,054	7,533	32,264	-9,210
Kent	181	120	166	467	132
Montgomery	80,194	85,319	0	165,513	-96,573
Prince George's	84,491	96,593	961	182,045	8,165
Queen Anne's	0	0	33	33	-11
St. Mary's	11,675	27,571	804	40,050	-8,508
Somerset	0	1,129	80	1,209	567
Talbot	0	966	0	966	-502
Washington	34,381	18,956	236	53,573	-5,317
Wicomico	0	5,446	636	6,082	-35,258
Worcester	8,564	3,300	0	11,864	-2,996
TOTAL	669,503	847,469	47,717	1,564,689	17,255

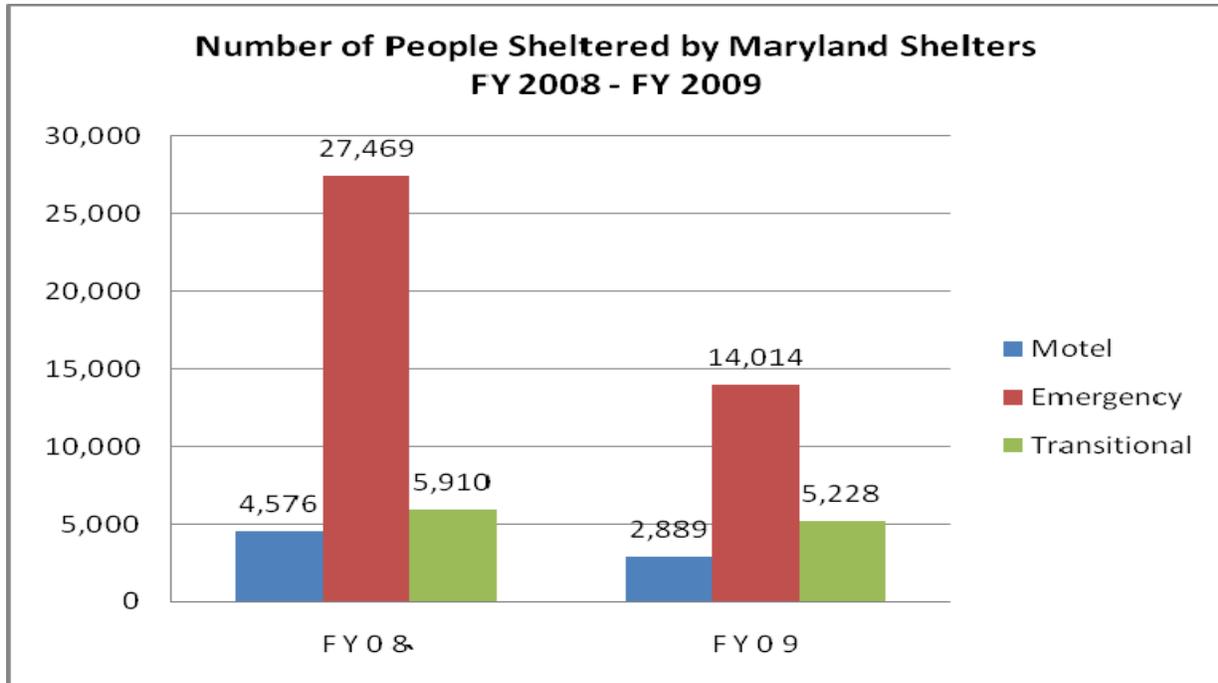
D. Occupancy

It is important to relate the number of available beds to the number of bednights. These two indicators are not affected by duplication so comparing the two can be useful. There were 29% more beds available and 1.1% more bednights provided in FY 2009 as compared to FY 2008. The number of nights per bed increased for all categories of housing in FY 2009 compared to FY 2008.



E. Number Of People Sheltered

The total number of people who were served by Maryland's homeless shelter providers in FY 2009 was 22,131. This is a 41% decrease from 37,955 people served in FY 2008. The chart below shows the number of people sheltered, by type of shelter, over the last two years.



The number of people served (22,131), as reported by survey respondents was less in FY 2009 than was reported for FY 2008. In 2008 174 surveys were returned, whereas in 2009 only 148 surveys were provided. Moreover, not all of the 148 providers answering surveys answered surveys last year. In many cases the number of beds available for the same provider varies from year to year. These variations in response rates and capacity among providers accounts for the large variation relative to FY 2008.

The table below shows the number of people served as reported by emergency shelters, transitional housing, and by motel placements in twenty-three counties and Baltimore City.

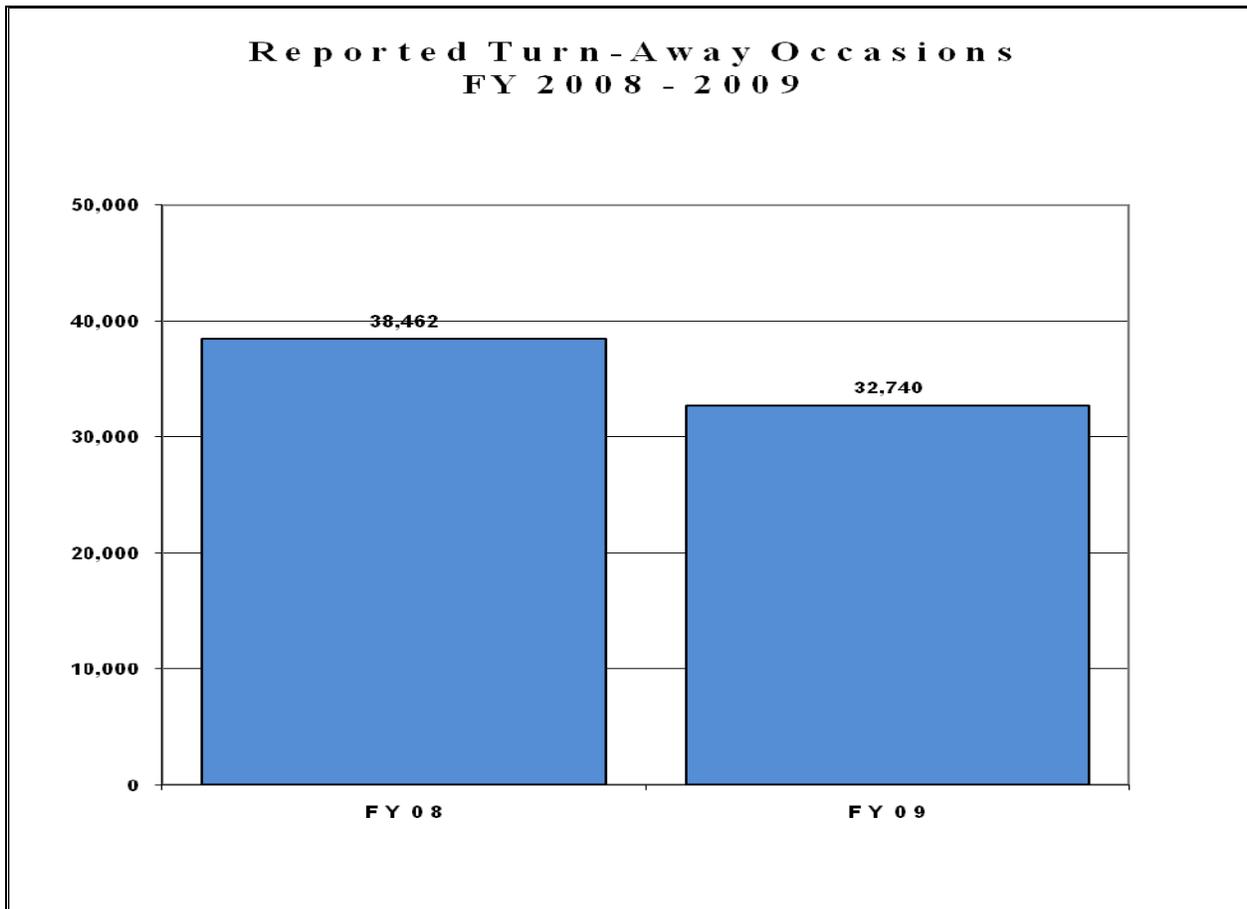
Number of People Sheltered by Jurisdiction FY 2009

Jurisdiction	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Motel Placements	Total Served	Change from FY 08	Percent of State
Allegany	0	48	18	66	283	0.3%
Anne Arundel	585	128	0	713	732	3.2%
Baltimore City	4,291	2,587	251	7,129	3,243	32.2%
Baltimore County	1,897	266	86	2,249	3,408	10.2%
Calvert	163	34	0	197	416	0.9%
Caroline	54	56	27	137	152	0.6%
Carroll	252	68	0	320	-553	1.4%
Cecil	320	243	413	976	-64	4.4%
Charles	262	13	55	330	-181	1.5%
Dorchester	147	19	0	166	87	0.8%
Frederick	0	285	305	590	-894	2.7%
Garrett	77	7	96	180	-2	0.8%
Harford	332	140	728	1,200	159	5.4%
Howard	328	19	321	668	40	3.0%
Kent	13	4	87	104	21	0.5%
Montgomery	1,851	365	0	2,216	-2,087	10.0%
Prince George's	1,530	455	112	2,097	43	9.5%
Queen Anne's	0	0	13	13	-7	0.1%
St. Mary's	176	128	97	401	-124	1.8%
Somerset	0	7	11	18	-9	0.1%
Talbot	0	51	0	51	12	0.2%
Washington	1,470	199	160	1,829	-650	8.3%
Wicomico	0	81	109	190	-1,615	0.9%
Worcester	266	25	0	291	-138	1.3%
TOTAL	14,014	5,228	2,889	22,131	-15,824	100.0%

F. Turn-Away Occasions

Shelter providers reported that on 32,740 occasions people were refused shelter or motel placements because of lack of space or lack of funds during FY 2009. There were 5,722 less turn-away occasions reported for FY 2008.

An accurate count of turn-away occasions demonstrates the unmet need for homeless shelter beds. Most providers are members of a network of homeless services and do not receive walk-in applicants for their services. Persons in need of shelter are referred to the providers through the local Department of Social Services. Consequently, several providers do not collect turn-away occasion data. When shelters report that turn-away occasion data is not collected, the number of turn-away occasions is reported as zero when data is compiled for this report. Some shelter providers estimate the number of turn-away occasions. Estimates by shelter providers are included in the data compiled for this report. The chart below shows the number of turn-away occasions reported in each jurisdiction as well as the change in the reported total number of turn-away occasions for FY 2009 when compared to FY 2008. However, this data does not show an accurate accounting due to the fact that certain shelters do not collect turn-away information and on the report enter zero. Also, the degree to which duplication exists in the reporting of turn-away occasions, as a person or family looks to several shelters before finding a bed, is unknown.

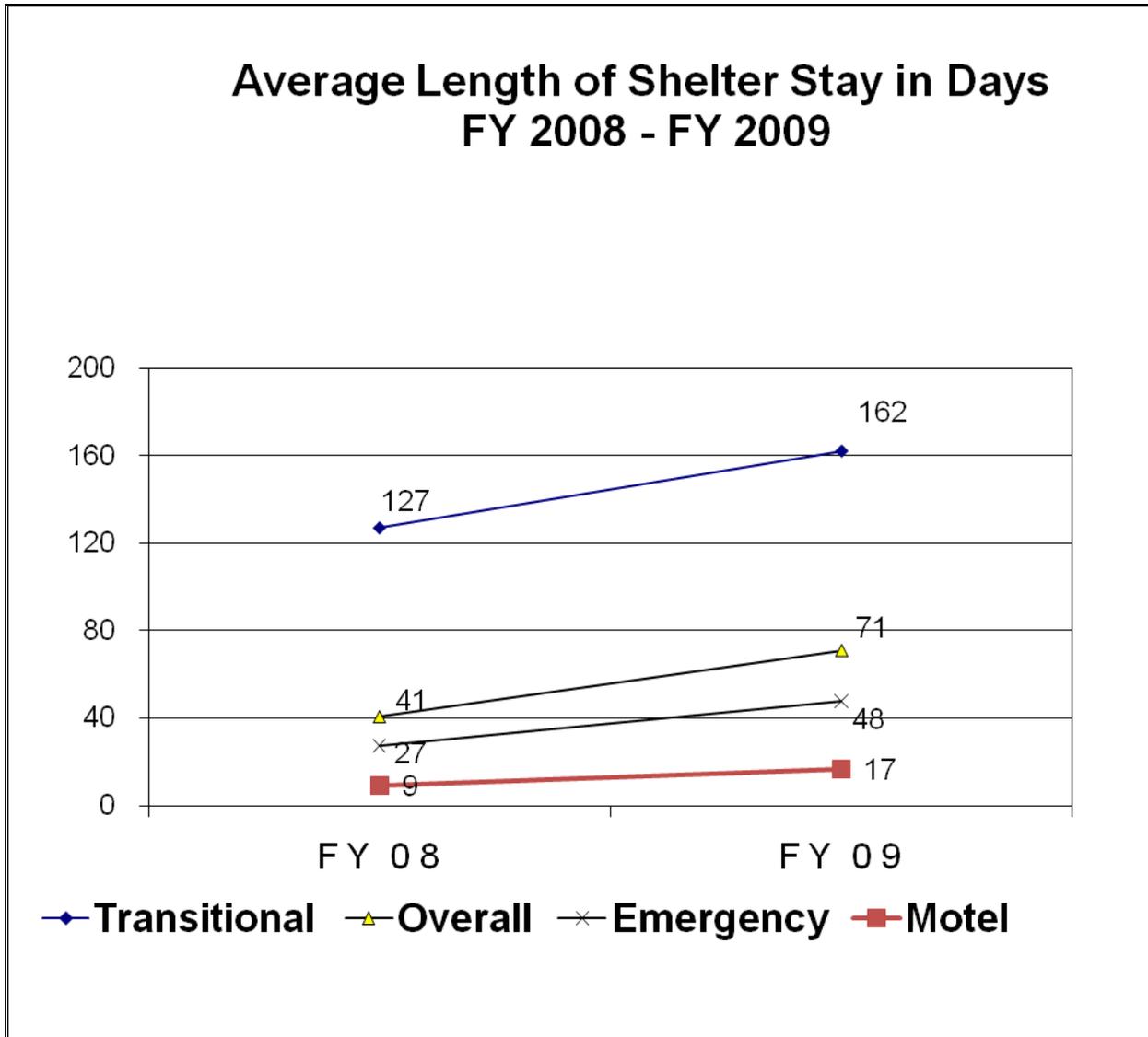


Turn-away Occasions by Jurisdiction FY 2008 and FY 2009

Jurisdiction	2008 Turn-away Occasions	2009 Turn-away Occasions	Change from FY 2008
Allegany	346	390	44
Anne Arundel	1,245	500	-745
Baltimore City	16,007	20,085	4,078
Baltimore County	3,216	1,210	-2,006
Calvert	0	0	0
Caroline	5	0	-5
Carroll	547	444	-103
Cecil	2,250	1,534	-716
Charles	2,930	1,116	-1,814
Dorchester	332	54	-278
Frederick	376	343	-33
Garrett	25	35	10
Harford	2,067	1,426	-641
Howard	2,233	3,226	993
Kent	12	0	-12
Montgomery	1,630	308	-1,322
Prince George's	1,049	60	-989
Queen Anne's	25	0	-25
St. Mary's	422	364	-58
Somerset	31	0	-31
Talbot	11	31	20
Washington	147	83	-64
Wicomico	1,605	0	-1,605
Worcester	1,951	1,531	-420
TOTAL	38,462	32,740	-5,722

G. Average Length of Stay

The overall average number of nights in FY 2009 that a person stayed in a homeless service placement was 71. The average stay in an emergency shelter was 48 nights, 17 nights for a motel placement, and 162 nights in a transitional shelter. The graph below illustrates the change in average length of shelter stays during the past two years, by type of shelter.



It is important to emphasize that the average length of stay is determined by dividing the number of bednights by the number of people served. The number of people served includes some duplication, whereas the number of bednights does not.

For FY 2009, the average length of stay increased by 21 for emergency shelter; the average length of stay for transitional housing increased by 35 nights, and; the average length of stay increased by 8 nights for motel placements, as compared to FY 2008. Transitional shelter providers report that longer stays afford people the opportunity to acquire resources to move out of the shelter system permanently, particularly given the lack of affordable housing throughout Maryland.

H. Demographics

Age, household composition, gender of adults, and ethnicity are the four demographic characteristics collected from shelters. Demographic numbers provided for each jurisdiction may not equal the total number served because some providers do not collect and report some or any demographic data.

1. Age

Providers are asked to report the number of people served in four age categories (0-17, 18-30, 31-50, 51-61, and 62+). Not all providers surveyed collect or report age data for people they serve. Of the providers reporting demographic data from FY 2009, Children ages 0 – 17 represented 30.4% of homeless people served by those providers. The largest age category for homeless people served is the 31 to 50 year olds who represented 36.7 % of homeless people served in FY 2009.

The chart below shows the age breakdown by jurisdiction.

Age Breakdown by Jurisdiction FY 2009

Jurisdiction	0 – 17	18 – 30	31 – 50	51 - 61	62 +	Totals
Allegany	33	20	12	1	0	66
Anne Arundel	372	133	175	34	3	717
Baltimore City	1,346	887	2,545	1,119	183	6,080
Baltimore County	821	532	897	340	67	2,657
Calvert	55	57	67	15	3	197
Caroline	41	14	21	0	0	76
Carroll	39	84	116	35	4	278
Cecil	373	187	313	83	11	967
Charles	94	98	111	18	9	330
Dorchester	20	34	76	27	9	166
Frederick	278	120	130	44	8	580
Garrett	40	54	62	14	3	173
Harford	248	280	553	96	29	1,206
Howard	299	49	316	4	0	668
Kent	23	9	42	9	1	84
Montgomery	681	481	753	256	45	2,216
Prince George's	913	411	633	119	22	2,098
Queen Anne's	0	0	6	0	0	6
St. Mary's	150	94	133	22	2	401
Somerset	9	2	4	2	1	18
Talbot	0	6	19	12	4	41
Washington	514	375	599	212	33	1,733
Wicomico	58	44	68	17	3	190
Worcester	41	72	142	36	0	291
State Total	6,448	4,043	7,793	2,515	440	21,239
Percent of Total	30.4%	19.0%	36.7%	11.8%	2.1%	

2. Household Composition

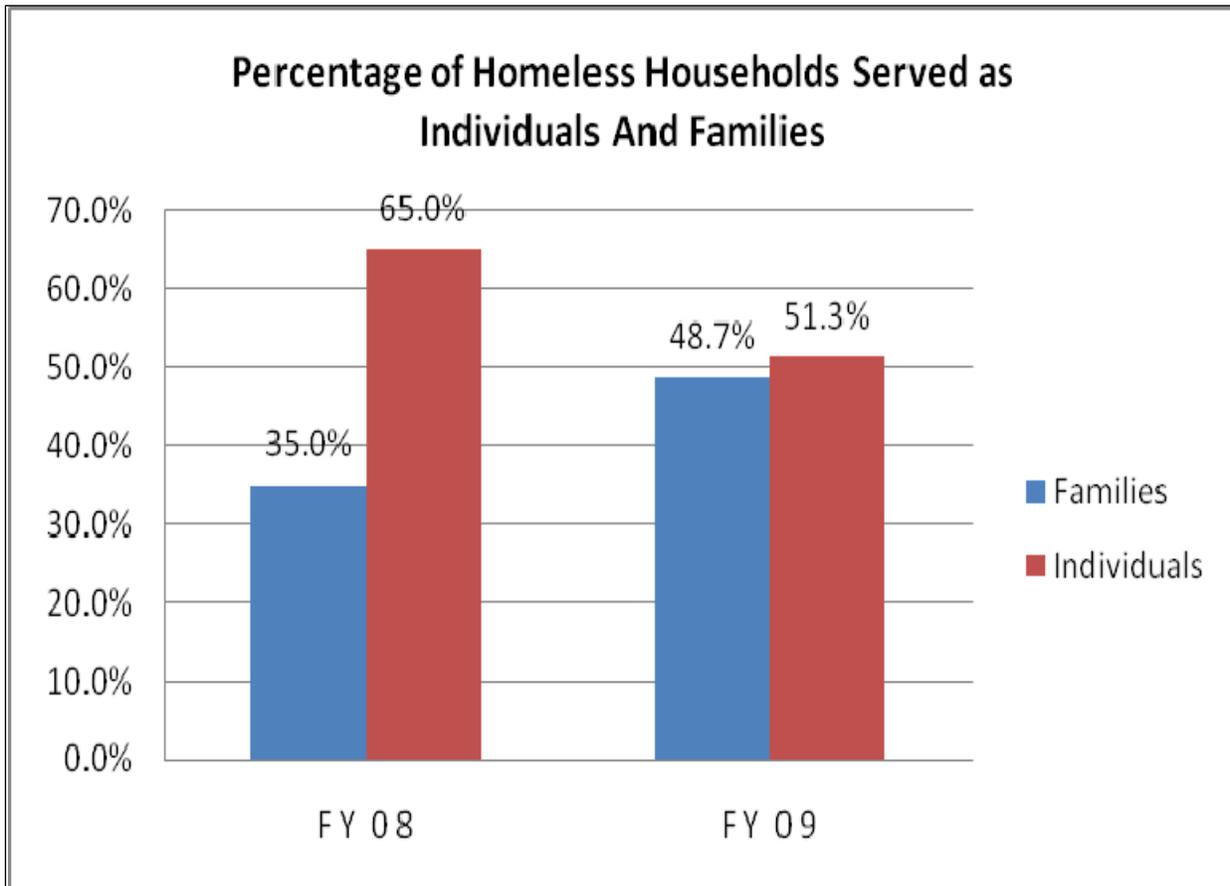
Studying the household composition of homeless people served helps to gain insight into the types of programs needed to best serve them. Individuals and families may require different sets of resources. Providers are asked to identify the people they served as individuals or as members of a family.

Of the agencies collecting and reporting family status data, the number of people in families

receiving shelter services represents 49% of homeless people served by those agencies. The table below shows the breakdown of family status by jurisdiction for FY 2009.

Family Status by Jurisdiction FY 2009					
Jurisdiction	Individuals	Family Members	Total	% Individuals	% Family Members
Allegany	13	30	43	30%	70%
Anne Arundel	161	552	713	23%	77%
Baltimore City	4,872	2,147	7,019	69%	31%
Baltimore	682	1,567	2,249	30%	70%
Bert	126	71	197	64%	36%
Caroline	461	663	1,124	41%	59%
Carroll	249	71	320	78%	22%
Cecil	325	646	971	33%	67%
Charles	193	68	261	74%	26%
Dorchester	123	43	166	74%	26%
Frederick	138	452	590	23%	77%
Garrett	63	110	173	36%	64%
Harford	580	415	995	58%	42%
Howard	148	520	668	22%	78%
Kent	49	39	88	56%	44%
Montgomery	1,150	690	1,840	63%	38%
Prince George's	696	1,401	2,097	33%	67%
Queen Anne's	9	4	13	69%	31%
St. Mary's	137	264	401	34%	66%
Somerset	4	14	18	22%	78%
Talbot	51	0	51	100%	0%
Washington	906	923	1,829	50%	50%
Wicomico	91	99	190	48%	52%
Worcester	225	66	291	77%	23%
State Total	11,452	10,855	22,307	51%	49%

The graph below shows the proportion of homeless people served as individuals in relation to the number of homeless people served as family members. The sample of surveys submitted for 2009 shows a significantly larger proportion of families served and a reduction in the proportion of individuals served relative to the surveys submitted for 2008.



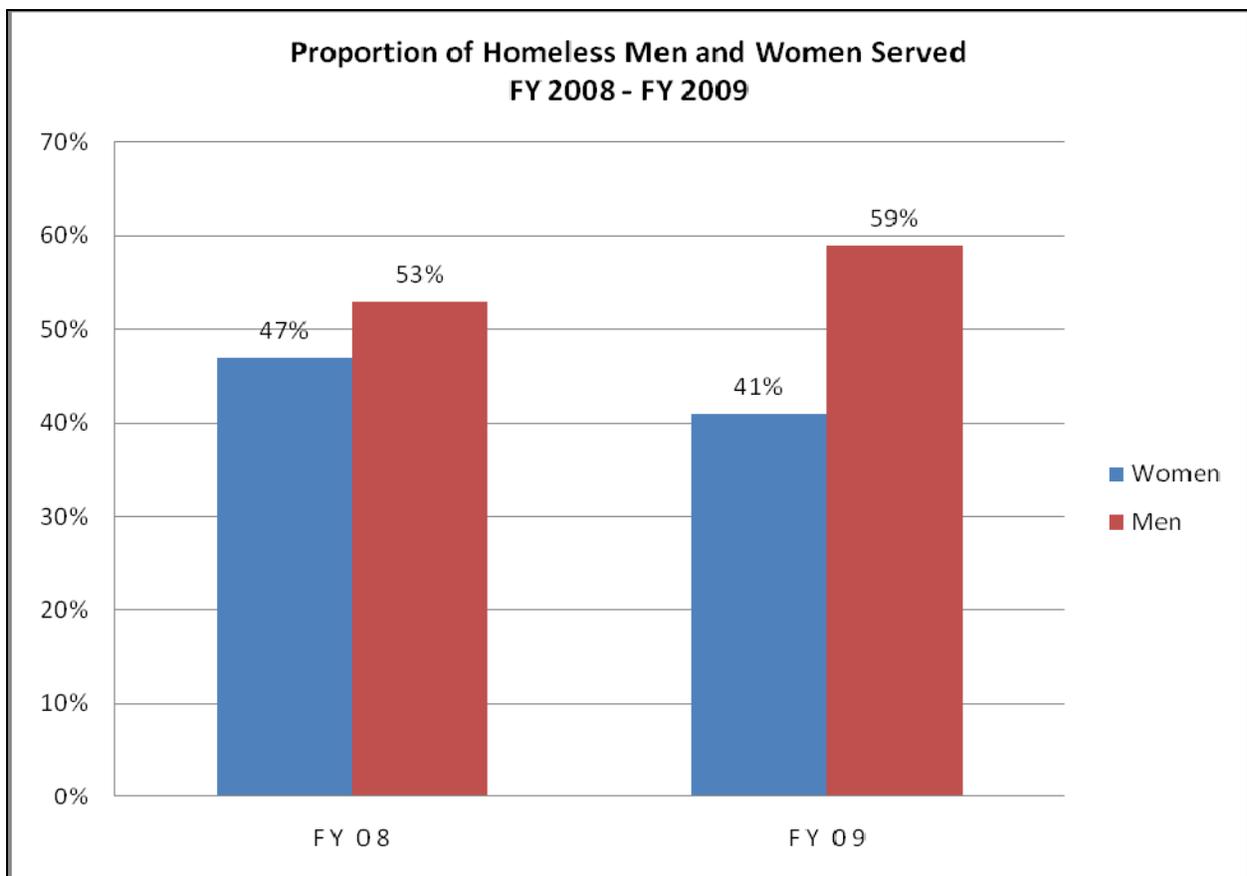
3. Gender of Adults

Providers were asked to report the gender of adults (18 years old and older) who were served. Of the agencies that collect and report gender data, women represent 41 percent of adults served in FY 2009. The chart below shows the gender breakdown of homeless people served.

Gender of Adults by Jurisdiction FY 2009				
Jurisdiction	Men	% Men	Women	% Women
Allegany	11	26%	32	74%
Anne Arundel	97	28%	249	72%
Baltimore City	3,972	70%	1,722	30%
Baltimore County	1,022	56%	798	44%
Calvert	61	35%	112	65%
Caroline	35	7%	454	93%
Carroll	206	73%	75	27%
Cecil	244	40%	365	60%
Charles	117	45%	144	55%
Dorchester	107	64%	59	36%
Frederick	113	37%	189	63%
Garrett	47	35%	86	65%
Harford	526	57%	400	43%
Howard	130	35%	239	65%
Kent	30	46%	35	54%
Montgomery	1,027	64%	570	36%
Prince George's	554	65%	294	35%
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0
St. Mary's	131	52%	120	48%
Somerset	5	56%	4	44%
Talbot	30	73%	11	27%
Washington	763	62%	471	38%
Wicomico	65	49%	67	51%
Worcester	144	58%	106	42%
State Total	9,437	59%	6,602	41%

Note: The numbers shown in the chart above for each jurisdiction may not be equal to the total number of adults served for each jurisdiction because some shelter providers do not collect and report gender data.

The graph below shows the proportion of homeless men and women adults (18 years old and older) from FY 2008 through FY 2009 for shelter providers that collect and report gender data.

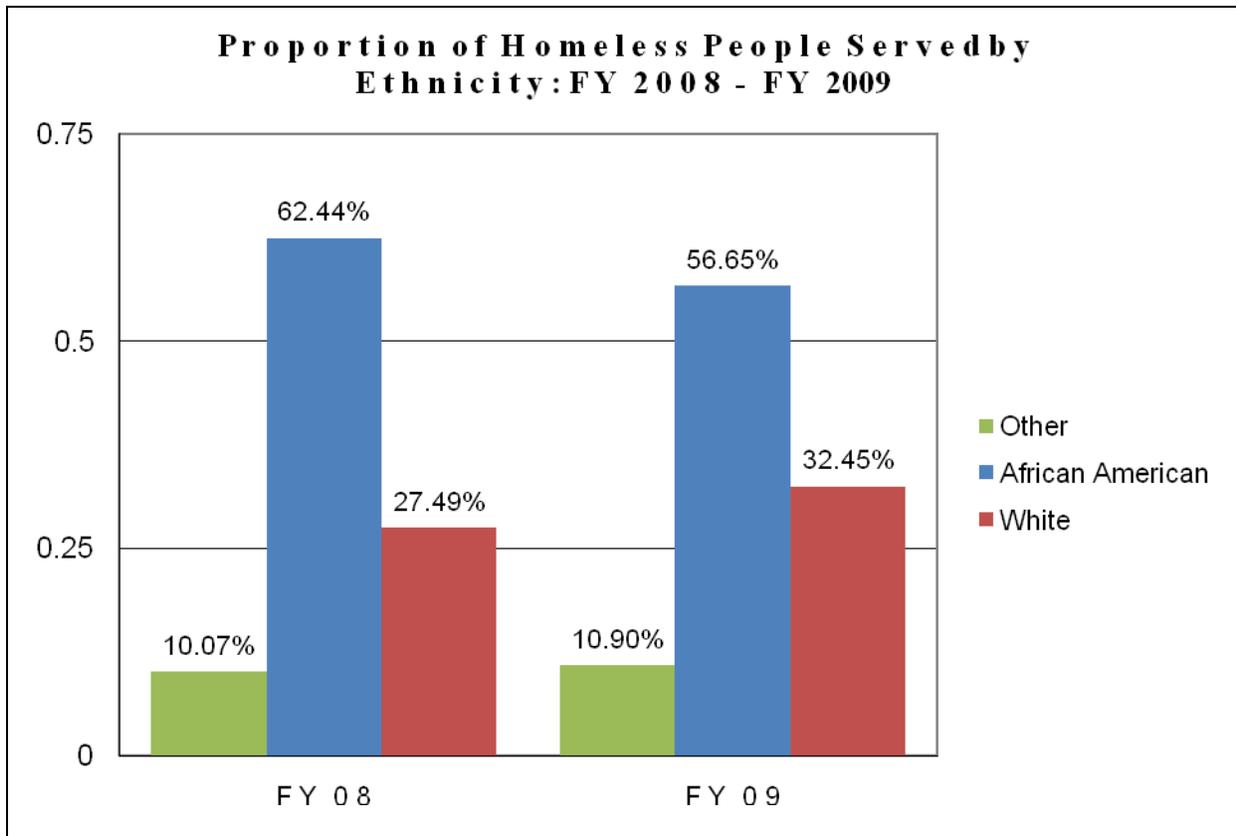


4. Ethnicity

The chart below is a breakdown of the ethnicity of people served by jurisdiction for FY 2009. Please note that not all local providers collect and report ethnicity data. Demographic numbers provided for each jurisdiction may not equal the total number served because some providers do not collect and report some or any demographic data.

Ethnicity Breakdown by Jurisdiction FY 2009					
Jurisdiction	White	African American	Hispanic	Other	Unknown
Allegany	60	3	0	3	0
Anne Arundel	227	394	44	48	0
Baltimore City	958	4,892	131	169	5
Baltimore County	807	1,587	56	129	78
Calvert	132	61	2	2	0
Caroline	367	90	69	4	0
Carroll	271	41	4	4	0
Cecil	615	193	11	21	6
Charles	109	215	2	4	0
Dorchester	66	91	9	0	0
Frederick	339	211	35	3	2
Garrett	169	2	1	1	0
Harford	856	461	65	84	91
Howard	177	419	19	53	0
Kent	27	39	0	0	1
Montgomery	378	1,237	466	126	9
Prince George's	141	1,847	24	61	325
Queen Anne's	3	3	0	0	7
St. Mary's	180	182	0	39	0
Somerset	8	7	0	0	0
Talbot	23	17	1	0	0
Washington	1,098	516	97	29	87
Wicomico	96	90	1	3	0
Worcester	171	106	6	8	0
State Total	7,278	12,704	1,043	791	611
Percent	32.5%	56.6%	4.7%	3.5%	2.7%

The chart below shows the ethnicity of sheltered homeless people served in agencies that collect and report ethnicity data from FY 2008 through FY 2009.



VI. Conclusion

The number of people sheltered during this reporting period has decreased by 41.7%. Nonetheless, the general trend of the data from the report period, State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2009 (July 2008 to June 2009), suggests that there are more shelter beds available and slightly higher utilization rates for available beds relative to SFY 2008. The number of shelter beds available has not increased uniformly throughout the service area, however. Continued high levels of demand are expected this fiscal year due to the continuing economic recession.