

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Department of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: March 27, 2009

RE: Homelessness of Adults with Serious Mental Illness

This week's brief report provides information on the proportion of adults with serious mental illness served by Vermont community mental health programs during CY2008 who were also served by community programs for the homeless during the same year. Homelessness among adults with serious mental illness is one of the National Outcome Measures (NOMS) identified by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). States are required to report rates of homelessness on an annual basis.

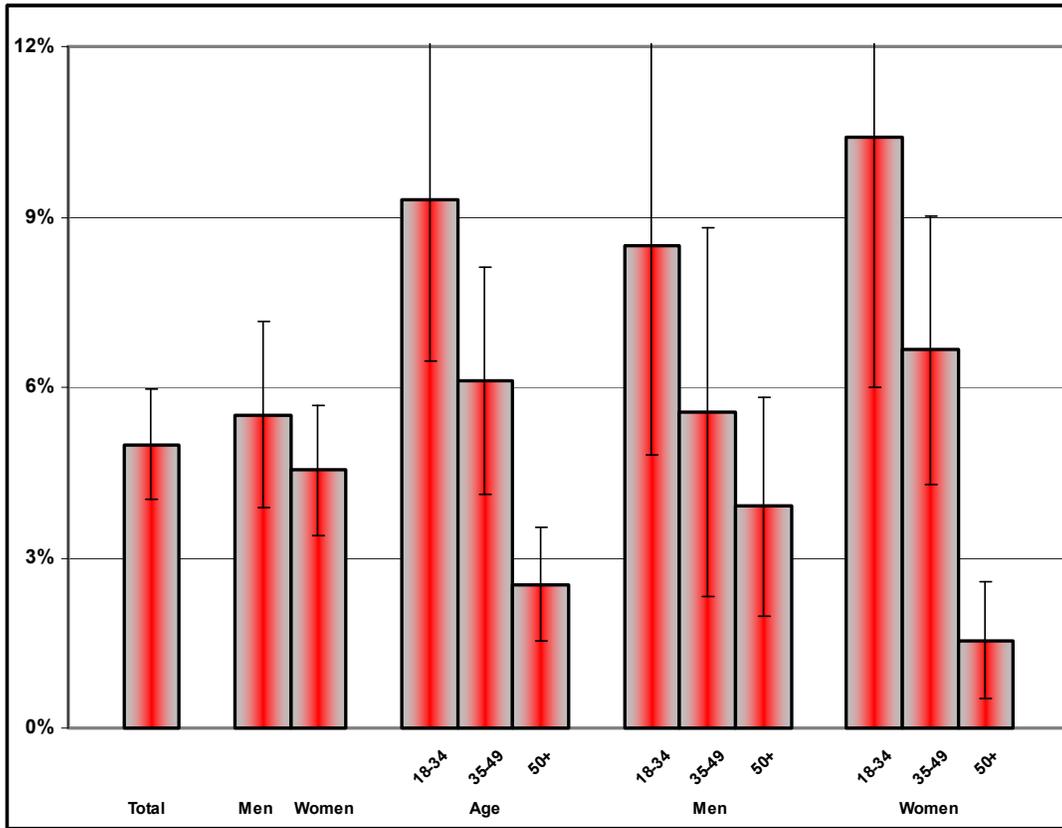
Four data sets were used in this analysis. These include three homeless services databases, and one mental health services database. An anonymous extract from the Vermont Department of Mental Health Monthly Service Report database provided basic demographic information for all individuals served by Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs for adults with serious mental illness during CY2008. Anonymous extracts from three homeless services databases provided basic demographic information on all individuals served by the Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) Emergency Shelter database, the Service Point Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and/or the Housing Works HMIS. The AHS and Service Point databases include basic demographic information for all individuals served during 2008. The Housing Works database includes basic demographic information for all individuals served during project years that ended in 2008.

As you will see, 5% ($\pm 1.0\%$) of all CRT clients received homeless services during CY2008. Homeless service utilization decreased with increasing age, from 9.3% ($\pm 2.8\%$) for the 18-34 age group, to 6.1% ($\pm 2.0\%$) for the 35-49 age group and 2.5% ($\pm 1.0\%$) for the 50+ age group. The difference between homeless service utilization rates of men and women was not statistically significant.

CRT clients were more than ten times (11.3 ± 2.2) as likely as members of the general population to receive homeless services. There were no significant differences in relative rates of homeless service utilization among age groups. The relative rate of homeless service utilization was highest for women aged 35-49 (15.7 ± 5.6), and lowest for men aged 35-49 (8.8 ± 5.1).

We look forward to your suggestions for further analysis of these data. Please send your questions, comments, and interpretation of these findings to 802.863.7249 or pip@vdh.state.vt.us.

Rates of Homelessness in Vermont Adults with Serious Mental Illness: CY2008



	Homeless		Adults with Serious Mental Illness		Relative Rates	
	Number	% of General Population	Number	% in Homeless program		
Total	2,177 ± 18	0.44% ± 0.004%	3,018 ± 24	5.0% ± 1.0%	11.3 ± 2.2	
Men	1,020 ± 13	0.41% ± 0.005%	1,424 ± 16	5.5% ± 1.6%	11.2 ± 2.8	
Women	1,156 ± 13	0.49% ± 0.005%	1,594 ± 18	4.5% ± 1.1%	11.4 ± 3.4	
Age	18-34	1,024 ± 14	0.78% ± 0.011%	542 ± 8	9.3% ± 2.8%	12.0 ± 3.6
	35-49	740 ± 11	0.53% ± 0.008%	1,052 ± 15	6.1% ± 2.0%	11.6 ± 3.8
	50+	412 ± 6	0.19% ± 0.003%	1,424 ± 17	2.5% ± 1.0%	13.4 ± 5.3
Men	18-34	580 ± 11	0.89% ± 0.017%	313 ± 6	8.5% ± 3.7%	11.6 ± 5.0
	35-49	303 ± 6	0.42% ± 0.008%	515 ± 10	5.6% ± 3.2%	15.7 ± 5.6
	50+	137 ± 3	0.12% ± 0.002%	596 ± 10	3.9% ± 1.9%	13.0 ± 8.6
Women	18-34	444 ± 8	0.67% ± 0.012%	229 ± 5	10.4% ± 4.4%	12.8 ± 5.5
	35-49	437 ± 9	0.63% ± 0.013%	537 ± 11	6.7% ± 2.4%	8.8 ± 5.1
	50+	275 ± 5	0.27% ± 0.005%	828 ± 13	1.5% ± 1.0%	14.6 ± 7.2

Based on analysis of an anonymous extract from the Vermont Department of Mental Health Monthly Service Report database, including all individuals served by Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs for adults with serious mental illness during CY2008, and anonymous extracts from the Vermont Agency of Human Services Emergency Shelter database, the Service Point Homeless Management Information System, and the Housing Works Management Information System. Because these data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation (PPE) was used to determine caseload size and overlap (with 95% confidence intervals).

Analysis performed by the Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project.