



Children made up 64% of the total homeless individuals living in families in Cuyahoga County since 2005. Children under five make up the largest age group of homeless children. Of very young children under four, most (72.8%) stayed in shelter only once, for a relatively short duration, with 53% staying less than one month. However, children under four were somewhat more likely than those over four to stay in shelter more than once.

Homeless adults living in families were overwhelmingly (94%) female. These data lend credence to the picture of the average homeless family as a single mother and her children. On average, adults were 32 years old at their first shelter entry. Of the adults and children

who entered the shelter system, 85% identified as Black/African American. These numbers are significantly higher than the national HMIS data in which just over half of

Data and tracking are essential elements of any strategy to address homelessness. They provide a clearer picture of the characteristics of homeless families, patterns of service use and the scope of family homelessness. The HMIS provides valuable information about