



I N E D

## **Point-in-time statistical surveys of the homeless population**

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For the purposes of this paper, the homeless are defined by their housing situation, generally as people who, at a given date, find a bed in emergency or transitional shelters, or sleep in the streets or in other places not meant for human habitation. Collecting data for statistical surveys on people in these situations gives rise to a number of serious problems. Three of the main difficulties are: a) the lack of a sampling frame offering a good coverage of the population in question (addresses or official lists like that of the recipients of the French RMI or minimum guaranteed income) with which to construct a representative sample; b) the low visibility of this population (the homeless are the poorest among the poor, but they are not always easy to distinguish from the housed poor) and their frequent migrations within and sometimes between cities; c) the heterogeneity of this population in terms of socio-demographic characteristics, of their situation in relation to available facilities, and of life history: all these individuals have in common is an "undesired differentness" (Goffman 1963), that of having lost their home.

In this paper, we will try to present point-in-time quantitative studies. The first part will deal with the surveys conducted in the United States, from the point of view of their evolution; the second part will describe, as an illustration, the methodology of the French national point-in-time survey of homeless people, conducted by the National Institute of Statistics in 2001.

## **I. In the United States**

The precursors in the field of quantitative surveys of the homeless are mainly North American. In what follows, we will present a few major American studies, then consider some of the methodological experiments currently under way in Europe.

This section will examine the changes in American survey methods: 1) surveys drawing on the views of experts; 2) night-time censuses of homeless people sleeping in the streets or in shelters; 3) surveys among the users of services for the homeless (soup-kitchens, shelters, outreach programs) and those sleeping in the street; 4) other approaches to point-in-time data collection: studies based on social service computer records and methods of capture-recapture modelling.

### **1. Estimates based on the views of experts**

#### **\* The CCNV estimate**

In 1980, the members of the Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV) drew up a report for the House of Representatives Committee of the District of Columbia (CCNV, 1980, "*A Forced March to Nowhere*"). The data presented concerned shelters in 25 localities and the estimated number of homeless in 14 cities. However, the estimates, which were based on the opinions of individuals or organizations active in the field of aid to the homeless, appear to have been collected without any strict instructions such as would ensure some degree of homogeneity. They vary from city to city both in terms of geographical scale (metropolitan area or city centre) and time scale (number of homeless on a given date or in the course of a year). In most cases, individuals are counted, but at least one of the estimates deals with a number of families without specifying their size. It was by extrapolating from this report that Mary E. Hombs and Mitch Snyder, of the CCNV, estimated the total number of homeless in the United States at 2.2 to 3 million people in 1982 (Hombs and Snyder, 1982).

This figure was given a mixed reception, remaining a reference for activists though widely criticized by specialists and official departments. In a review of the various estimates and of their links with public policies, Anna Kondratas, of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), refers to it as a 'guesstimate' that owes its survival to political considerations (A. Kondratas, 1991).

#### **\* The HUD estimate**

In 1984, the Office of Policy Development of the HUD provided an estimate of 250,000 to 350,000 homeless on an average night in December 1983-January 1984 (HUD, 1984). Although based again on the views of experts, the methodology used ensured a higher degree of homogeneity of the information collected: definition of the population to be covered ('individuals in shelters or public/private places not designed for human habitation'), and of the time scale (a particular night) and period to be taken into account. Published in 1984, election year in the United States, this report was highly criticized by homeless advocates, foremost among them Mitch Snyder. Some of the report's opponents went so far as to compare its authors with Goebbels and its content with Nazi propaganda (Kondratas, 1991).

## **2. Methods based on the street/shelter approach**

These methods are based on a night-time survey conducted simultaneously in the street and in other places not intended for habitation, such as gardens, car parks, and in shelters after closing time, thereby minimizing the risk of double counting. When there are interviews, it is the homeless themselves who are interviewed.

### **\* The Nashville experiment**

The Nashville experiment originated in the concern of a voluntary organization, the Nashville Coalition for the Homeless, – in the face of the growth of the homeless phenomenon. The first count was carried out in December 1983 with a view to describing this population and with the concrete objective of obtaining funds to build a free clinic. These counts took place from 1983 to 1990, at a current rate of two a year, in June and December (Lee 1989 and 1991; Wiegand, 1985 and 1986). Adjustments could thus be made for seasonal variations. The count was carried out on a given night, within a delimited area where the homeless were known to congregate. Since 1986, in addition to shelters located in the city center, shelters and other services located in outlying areas have also been counted.

The information in the shelters was collected by the staff, often Coalition members, with a breakdown of the homeless by sex, race and age group. The street count was conducted by five to eight teams with two to four members each, who toured the sites where the homeless were likely to spend the night. The teams merely recorded their observations and did not enter into direct contact with the homeless. Thus there was no screener to ensure that the individuals observed were indeed homeless. However, many of the investigators were used to working with the homeless and could often recognize them. The street count took place between 3.30 and 5.30 AM, a time when those sleeping in the street were settled for the night and when overlap with the shelters was impossible. To reduce overlap still further, each team was allotted a zone indicated on the map, on which they marked the place where each subject was encountered.

In 1991, drawing upon the experience of 13 such counts, Barrett Lee emphasized the importance of the support provided by the Coalition, which ensured a good reception in the shelters and supplied unpaid investigators who knew the field well, thereby reducing costs. As in most other experiments, he acknowledged the difficulty of enumerating individuals who tend to remain hidden from the public eye. Also to be borne in mind is that the homeless were established in other locations, as well as in 'informal' shelters (such as churches), and that the population covered did not include those who were 'doubled-up' (living with another household). Finally, since the results were based on the observations of the investigators, they were thus both uncertain as regards the decision to count an individual as homeless and limited as regards the information collected.

However, in spite of these limits, the fact that this method was replicated without major modification allows us to assess the trends. Thus, the results indicate a considerable seasonal effect, the decline of the number of the homeless from December till June being doubtlessly caused by migrations related to the attraction of the mild winters in Nashville and to the rejection of its very warm and wet summers, as well as by the presence of temporary jobs in the summer in the area. A global stability of the estimated number of the homeless can be observed during the period 1983-1988, slightly marked, however, by an increase in the number of underaged youth and a decrease in the number of women and Blacks. These last observations contradicted the impression, shared by most at the time, that there had been an increase in the phenomenon (Lee 1989).

### **\* The study on the Chicago homeless**

This research in two waves (September 1985 and February 1986) was conducted in Chicago by Peter Rossi and his team at the Social and Demographic Research Institute, in collaboration with the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). It was funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Pew Memorial Trust, foundations responsible for funding a number of free clinics for the homeless, and by the Illinois Department of Public Aid. The aim was first to design a sampling method for the homeless in a given locality, and second, to estimate their number and describe their living conditions, health care needs and resources (Rossi et al. 1987, Rossi, 1991).

The population to be surveyed was defined as adults who, on a given night, were 'literally homeless', that is, who slept in the street (or other places not meant for human habitation) or in a shelter. Two samples were selected, corresponding to these two sub-populations. The two surveys were conducted on the same night, between closing time and lights out for the shelters, and between 1.00 am and 6.00 AM for the street.

The shelter survey was the most straightforward in its conception. An exhaustive list of shelters was prepared with an estimate of the number of beds in each, and a sample proportional to the size of each shelter was drawn. Within each centre selected, a sample of people was then selected for interviewing (Rossi 1989).

The street survey was more complex. A sample of census blocks was made in which all the people encountered were to be asked whether or not they were homeless (waking them up if necessary!). The investigators were

instructed to survey all the accessible parts of the zone until they reached a physical limit (a locked door, for example). So as to limit the cost of the street survey, all the census blocks of Chicago were stratified according to the likelihood of finding any homeless individuals, as classified by 'experts', for the most part officers from the Chicago Police Department. The investigators were accompanied by off-duty policemen dressed in plain clothes. The interviews were paid \$5.

The militant associations focused their attention on the estimated number of homeless (significantly lower than their own figures) more than on the findings regarding living conditions. They were fiercely critical of Rossi's research, to the point that he defended himself with an article provocatively entitled 'No Good Applied Research Goes Unpunished' (Rossi, 1987). From this experience, Rossi drew the conclusion that it was important to explain beforehand what kind of work was going to be done and obtain the support of the associations. Other researchers, even though they were more favourable to his work, nonetheless questioned the dissuasive effect of employing policemen, even dressed in plain clothes, the lack of respect shown to the homeless (waking them up to ask questions) and the reliability of the "expert" views used to stratify the zones.

Rossi himself suggested a number of technical improvements to his methodology: gaining better knowledge of the specificities of each shelter so as to choose the best time for the interviews (no doubt the morning rather than the evening, some shelters staying open after most of their residents have fallen asleep); making sure that the people sleeping in shelters do not have another residence; improving the quality of the stratification of the zones by identifying shortly before the survey the zones with many homeless rather than relying on the views of experts. In his most recent conclusions, Rossi favoured a multiple approach combining a survey among service providers of the kind conducted by the Urban Institute (see below), with a street survey aimed at covering the homeless who made no use of such services, plus a sample of families with a home so as to study the people who were in fact living 'doubled-up' with friends or relations.

#### **\* The Street and Shelter Night (or S-Night) in the 1990 census**

In the 1990 census, the Bureau of the Census devoted a great deal of attention to counting the shelter population and completed this with a partial street count. Approximately 230,000 people were counted in the course of S-Night (night of 20-21 March 1990), which breaks down into 180,000 in shelters and 50,000 in the street. This operation was limited to the 200 largest U.S cities.

Despite the fact that these figures were widely criticized, mainly by activist organizations, the section pertaining to the shelters seems to be reasonably reliable. By contrast, the count made in the street is an under-estimation, as the statisticians involved openly acknowledge. Indeed, their aim was not exhaustivity but simply to improve coverage of a population theoretically included in the census but which until then had remained even more unaccounted for (Taeuber and Siegel, 1991).

The census did not provide a definition of the homeless. The instructions were to count all persons sleeping in the shelters or in the street and other public places, in the sites mentioned on a list drawn up in advance by administrative services and other local agents. The street count took place between 2.00 AM. and 4.00 AM., that in the shelters from 6.00 PM. to midnight.

Working in teams of two, the census enumerators attempted to count the people sleeping in abandoned buildings, overnight shelters, makeshift housing, welfare hotels, battered women's shelters, emergency rooms, streets, parks and public gardens. In the particular case of abandoned buildings, the enumerators, accompanied by social workers, took up position at the edge of the site, from the middle of the night until the early hours, and recorded all those coming or going.

When the persons were asleep, the enumerators did little more than record their sex, approximate age, and ethnicity or race; otherwise they asked the date of birth and marital status. They were instructed not to intervene in 'money-making activities' (in addition to legal transactions, the euphemism denoted prostitution and drug dealing).

In its conclusions, the Census Bureau drew attention to a number of difficulties specific to the counting process: the scale of the operation entailed the use of census enumerators who were not the usual interviewers and whose training had perforce been brief; it was difficult to recruit a sufficient number of streetwise investigators; the people questioned could not be paid; the respect of confidentiality precluded having a police escort for the census takers. The press took a close interest in the street count, and in many cases actually followed the census takers, to the detriment of their work and its confidentiality. On the other hand, the media did help the Census Bureau to perform its task.

In addition, the selection of locations for the street count was doubtless inadequate. Some locations proved hard or impossible to find. It would have been helpful to have visited the sites the day before S-night. The homeless established in other zones were not surveyed, by definition.

One interesting feature of the S-Night was the hiring by the Census Bureau of various teams of independent researchers to assess the operation. For example, a team was asked to draw up a 'rival' list of shelters in a sample of zones. As regards the street count, five teams were commissioned to make the assessment in the cities of Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Phoenix and New Orleans. Observers, placed in groups of two or three, took note of the arrival and attitude of the census takers, the behaviour of the people at the site before, during and after the interviewers' appearance, and whether they were themselves enumerated (Wright 1992). From their reports it seems that some census takers did not show up, that others failed to follow the instruction to count everyone present and relied on their own judgement or asked the people they met if they were homeless. Others, meanwhile, seem to have remained in their cars, while some counted but did not conduct any interviews. Lastly was mentioned, in Los Angeles particularly, the disturbance generated by the media coverage of this night and the very visible presence of police forces (Cousineau and Ward 1992).

After the census, the independent researchers also conducted a number of interviews with the homeless, in order to obtain an idea of the understanding they had of the census, their reaction to it, and the reasons for their acceptance or rejection of the enumeration. In New York, the assessment directed by Kim Hopper included an additional ethnographic survey. For five consecutive nights, a group of researchers, students, social workers and a doctor conducted an undercover observation with the purpose of describing the use of time and space by the individuals on the site. The study showed the high mobility of these persons, including during the survey, in the middle of the night, the logistic difficulties in particular as to the definition of the "sites" to be investigated, and the complexity of the townscape which provides persons sleeping "in the street" with numerous ways of making themselves invisible and thus ensuring their safety (Hopper, 1992a and b).

For the following United States census, in the year 2000, the Census Bureau gave up the night-time surveys and relied on the networks of services, as described in the following surveys. An identifier was used to unduplicate persons interviewed in several locations.

### **3. Methods based on the use of services for the homeless**

These methods involve a survey among the clients of the shelters and soup kitchens, and sometimes of other, in particular mobile, services. They were developed with a view to overcoming the limits of previous approaches and elaborating longer questionnaires.

#### **\* The Rand Corporation surveys**

A first experiment of this type was attempted in 1984 by a research team of the Rand Corporation in California, in the *Skid Row* district of Los Angeles (Burnam & Koegel, 1988). As this study did not produce national estimates, it is less often quoted than the Urban Institute Survey (described below), but the methodology used is interesting and has inspired several European surveys, in Madrid and in Munich, for example.

Audrey Burnam and Paul Koegel seem to have been the first to try to find a solution to the lack of representativity of the first surveys based exclusively on samples of persons sleeping in shelters. They developed a methodology which enabled them to select respondents in such a way that the probability of being selected was known for each of them (Burnam & Koegel, 1988; Rahimian et alii, 1992). For the first time, a face-to-face questionnaire was used, and the sample was representative of the homeless users of various services in Los Angeles inner city during one month. Three mutually exclusive strata had been defined in order to avoid double-counting: "people who use beds in shelters"; "people who use meal services from missions but do not use bed services"; "people found in indoor congregating areas but who did not receive meal or bed services". The difficulty of this method was the process of determining the *a priori* proportion of the population in each strata.

This survey, conducted in 1984, was replicated in 1985, once again in Los Angeles. In 1991, a survey using the same method was used as a baseline survey for a panel of homeless persons, the *Course of homelessness study*.

#### **\* The Urban Institute survey**

In 1983, against a background of economic crisis, Congress voted the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, which was to be administered by the Federal Emergency Management Administration. Three years later, Congress voted a further measure to feed the homeless, the Prepared Meals Provision. The latter were given food stamps which they could use to obtain food from soup kitchens, some of these kitchens being attached to a shelter. The Urban Institute, a private non-profit research organization, was commissioned to assess the measure. In a report to the Food and Nutrition Service of the Ministry of Agriculture, Martha Burt and Barbara Cohen estimated at between 567,000 and 600,000 the number of homeless people on an average night in 1987 (Burt and Cohen, 1989). This figure was obtained by extrapolating from a statistical survey conducted in cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants in 1984 (Burt and Cohen, 1988, Burt, 1991).

This focus on major cities was due to financial constraints and to the necessity of limiting research to locations with the highest proportions of homeless. The cities were selected at random after stratification according to size

and census area. The six cities with a population of over one million were all included in the sample, while the other cities were selected with a probability proportional to the number of poor as indicated in the 1980 census, in order to produce a sample of 20 cities in all.

The survey was carried out among users of the services provided by the shelters and soup kitchens. The Urban Institute drew up a comprehensive list of these services and produced a sample proportional to their size, after stratification by size and type of service (meal, shelter with meal, shelter without meal). Service users were then sampled in each shelter and soup kitchen.

For the soup kitchens, a complex screener was used to distinguish the homeless from other users. The former were defined as having no permanent place of residence, or as sleeping in a shelter, a hotel paid by the social services in one form or another, a place not meant for habitation, or with family or friends with whom there was no regular arrangement to be housed for at least five days a week. The questionnaire examined a large number of themes, since counting the homeless was not the main object of the survey. The length of the questionnaire was also one of the reasons for interviewing the subjects during the day. Interviews were paid \$5, which may explain the high response rate (97%). The results were weighted to allow for sample stratification, non-responses, differences in the degree of service use, and double-counting. However, the weighting used to adjust the results according to the frequency of service use depended entirely on the reliability of the retrospective information supplied by the respondents about their use of the services during the previous 7 days.

The decision to survey the shelters and soup kitchens, due to insufficient means for a large-scale street survey and the nature of the subject (food), turned out to be both effective and inexpensive. In the words of Martha Burt, it was "the best design accident in all US homeless research".

More recently, the extrapolation that led from the survey results to a national figure was re-examined by the same authors, who estimated the total national homeless population somewhere between 350,000 and 600,000, depending on the chosen hypothesis (Burt 1991).

In her most recent conclusions, Martha Burt favours surveys covering a longer period (although this increases the risk of memory error) and including also outreach services such as the distribution of food, blankets and health care by itinerant teams, in order to cover some of the homeless who do not use the other services.

#### **\* The Research Triangle Institute (RTI) survey**

This survey, financed by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, is part of an investigation whose aim is to improve the understanding of drug-related problems in the Washington, D. C. area: the Metropolitan Area Drug Survey (DC\*MADS). The surveys on drug users conducted during the previous twenty years had always been confined to households and hospitals, and this approach had given rise to criticism. The RTI survey used three sampling frames: the streets, the shelters and the other services (Dennis and Iachan 1993). What was different compared with the work of the Urban Institute was the coverage of a number of external sites such as encampments.

Two types of stratification were necessary: one spatial, the other temporal. The latter made it possible to calculate estimates on a given date and over a given period and thus highlight seasonal variations.

The coverage of the study was not limited to the 'literally homeless', but included people who had spent the previous night in an emergency shelter, in accommodation paid for with municipal emergency housing funds, in a place not intended for habitation, plus people who usually slept in one of the above regardless of where they had spent the previous night, and all those using soup kitchens and emergency food banks. A screener was used in the street and encampment settings to exclude those who were not homeless; the screener was also administered in the soup kitchen sites though the purpose was only to identify the literally homeless without excluding the others; finally (and in contrast to other surveys), the assumption was made that all people sleeping in shelters were literally homeless.

To develop estimates of the number and characteristics of the homeless population on an 'average' day between February and June 1991, four samples of 16 days were selected in February, March, April and June, at a rate of 4 days per week. Spatially, one or two samples (with replacements) were taken from each sample frame: two samples of shelters, one of soup kitchens, one of encampment clusters, and two of streets divided into census tracks and blocks (Dennis and Iachan, 1993).

The shelters were stratified by size and selected in proportion to their size. The sample of users was then selected with equal probability. The sample of soup kitchen users was selected in two stages: first, meals (breakfast, lunch, supper) were selected with probabilities equal to the number of meals served, with an equal number of subjects being interviewed at each meal. The sampled shelters and soup kitchens were randomly assigned to the dates selected in the time sample.

The survey design was modified during the survey: due to security problems, cost and low rate of interview completion, the street survey was replaced by a survey in soup kitchens and encampments. The encampments were identified by local experts and verified before the survey. The geographical areas for the street sample were selected using a method similar to Rossi's and assigned randomly to the selected dates.

Corrective factors had to be introduced to solve the problem of double counting and to allow for multiple use of services. These adjustments were based on the answers respondents gave when asked about their present or expected use of shelters, soup kitchens and encampments during the 24 hours that corresponded to the day selected in the time sample.

Among the population interviewed, 56% used the shelters. The coverage rate rose to 93% if one added the users of soup kitchens who did not sleep in shelters, and to 94% when those surveyed in encampments were added; the remaining 6% came from the street area survey. In fact, the proportions interviewed on each site varied according to the sub-population under consideration: youths, drug users, families, veterans... As for response rates, they ranged from 75% in the soup kitchens to 99% in the encampments. The organizers attribute this high response rate to the fact that the respondents received payment for their participation, but one may question the way in which the refusals were counted in some cases.

#### **\* The National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients (NSHAPC)**

This survey was conducted in 1996 by the Census Bureau. It extended the methodology first employed in the Urban Institute's 1987 study. The survey covered the entire United States, encompassing suburban and rural areas as well as central cities (Burt et alii, 2001, p. 16 and sq). The sample was based on 76 metropolitan and rural areas (the 28 largest metropolitan statistical areas or MSAs, 24 small and medium sized MSAs selected at random to be representative of the geographical region and size, and 24 rural areas selected at random to be representative of the geographical region). Sixteen types of homeless assistance programs were included. Estimates were made of homelessness at a single point in time and over the course of a year. The clients were divided into "currently homeless", "formerly homeless", and "never homeless" people who use homeless assistance programs other than shelters, such as soup kitchens or drop-in centres. The definition of homeless status was close to the definition of "literal homelessness", except that it was based on week-long experience rather than on a single day. The data was weighted to be nationally representative of clients of homeless assistance programs during an average week from October 18 through November 14, 1996, that is, the week before the client was interviewed. The weights ensured that a person would not be overrepresented even if he or she used several homeless assistance programs during the course of the seven-day period. The sample size was 4,133 persons (unweighted), among whom 2,938 were currently homeless, 677 formerly homeless, and 518 never-homeless clients.

In conclusion, apart from the complexity of sample designing for service user surveys, the main problem, for which none of the methods really offers a solution, is that of reaching the most isolated individuals, those who make the least use of services, and who as a result are often difficult to locate.

#### **4. Other methods**

##### **\* Record-based studies**

Record-based studies can also be used to obtain estimates of the population sleeping in shelters. These can be extended to the population of other services for the homeless, but if they are not restricted to shelters on a given night, an identifier must be used in order to prevent the double-counting of people who use several services in the course of the day. If these studies are based only on the information contained in the records, they can only provide a limited amount of information. On the other hand, they do provide estimates of the number of users on a given night, and their basic characteristics, at a low cost. This method will be described in greater detail when we address the case of longitudinal approaches (see workshop in Copenhagen).

##### **\* Modelisation methods: capture-recapture analysis**

Capture-recapture methods have been employed since the sixteenth century (Cowan 1991). The name derives from their use in the assessment of wildlife populations. More recently, these models have been applied to populations of mobile humans, such as migrant agricultural workers. Some attempts have been made to apply them to the homeless, most of them in the UK, under the name of contact-recontact method (for UK studies using these methods, see Fisher et al. 1994, Bloor et alii, 1994; Shaw et alii, 1996; Williams et alii, 1995). The method is also applied in deviant situations such as drug consumption or prostitution, and used to measure the coverage rate obtained in a census or an exhaustive study.

The method requires at least two independent observations (or sources) of the same population. In order to model the size of the population  $N$ , it is necessary to know:  $n$ , the number of persons observed the first time (or in the first source);  $m$ , the number of persons observed the second time (or in the second source); and  $M$ , the

number of persons who were present on both sites, both times.  $N$  is then estimated by  $(n * m) / M$ . Each person must be identified (by some kind of identifying information) in order to establish  $M$  (Sudman et al. 1988).

If the concept that underpins this method is straightforward, the requirements ensuring the validity of the model are nonetheless relatively strict. The observations must be collected in such a way as to ensure that every individual in the population has the same probability of being selected during each period (though not necessarily from one period to another). Yet the homeless form a population that is extremely heterogeneous in terms of characteristics but also behaviour. The solution lies in the stratification of each observation (or source), but this means that the appropriate variables must be known.

The second requirement concerns the independence of the counts. Yet the very same people (those living marginally, who do not use services and are adept at finding hiding places in the street) are likely to be missed on each occasion. Furthermore, when association records are used as a source, the fact that different associations entertain relationships with each other means that their records are not truly independent.

The third requirement is that the population under study does not change between the two captures. This rule can only be relaxed if the number of observations increases. If the reference population does change, using the model in its simplest form also produces a bias.

These conditions of the basic model can be overcome in part by log-linear modelling (Fisher et al. 1994; Cormack, 1999). Another difficulty can arise from differences in the definitions of the homeless used in the different sources (a screener can then be used to increase the consistency of the definitions).

Difficulties of the same type have been observed with different populations (drug users), and they therefore seem to be a consequence of the methodology adopted. It also seems that the precision of the estimates is not very good. For example, in Glasgow, the number of homeless people sleeping rough has been estimated to be between 1,005 and 3,491 (95 % confidence interval).

Capture-recapture or contact-recontact surveys have not been used very often in the United States.

## **II The French National Survey of users of shelters and hot meal distributions (2001)**

We also find in Europe many statistical surveys or record-based studies on the subject of the homeless. Most of them concern only a restricted geographic zone. They often focus on mental health. The most significant of these surveys are described in the papers of the different partners. Besides, several data inventories concerning the homeless, whether they come from service providers, from the administration or from direct surveys of the service providers or of the homeless were carried out by FEANTSA (Avramov 1999; Edgar and alii, 2002; see also [www.feantsa.org](http://www.feantsa.org) for national "research reports" and "statistical updates" for various countries, including those not represented in the CUHP team).

We will describe here the statistical methodology of the French national survey of users of shelters and hot meal distributions, conducted by the National Institute of Statistics in 2001. Point-in-time data resulting from the use of service records will be presented in greater detail in the following Danish paper about service-based longitudinal data.

### **\* The origin of the French national survey: the CNIS and the INED pilot surveys in the Paris region**

A number of projects have been conducted since 1993; the first were part of the research work undertaken by the *Conseil National de l'Information Statistique* (CNIS) on homeless population statistics. INED has thus undertaken a methodological experiment on the "street and shelter" and "service users" survey methods. This involved conducting two surveys over a limited area and examining how they could be applied on a larger scale. A "street and shelter" survey was attempted and led to the same difficulties for the street part as those stated above in the North American case. The "service users" survey was carried out in Paris *intra muros* between 6 February and 10 March 1995 and involved 591 individuals aged over 18, users of shelters and food distribution services. The method was derived from the one used by the Urban Institute and by the Research Triangle Institute (for a detailed description in English of the methodology, see Marpsat & Firdion, 1999).

The INED survey took place during the day, over the course of one month, interviewing users of night shelters and food and meal distributions, including mobile or outreach services. It was a two-stage sample-survey of service users in Paris *intra-muros*. Because the list of each type of service had to be comprehensive, the survey focuses on three types of services: free meal distributions and soup kitchens (whose service is a meal); emergency shelters (whose service is the provision of a bed for the night); CHRS and long-stay shelters (whose service is the provision of a bed for the night).

The sampling method used was to draw a random sample of individual services from among the sites of the zone over a given period, and to interview the person who received them. Once these services have been enumerated and sampled, one calculates the probability of being included for the individuals sampled, allowing for the multiplicity of the sampling frame.

The primary sampling units are the 'site-days', that is, the total of services supplied by a given site on any particular day of the survey. Sampling is thus done by place and by day. The selection of the sites is proportional to the number of services they provide per week (to allow for closed days). For each of the four weeks of the survey, four of the five open days were selected at random and assigned to the sampled sites. Six sites were designated for each day of the survey, resulting in ninety-six primary units (site-days) corresponding to fifty-six different sites.

To reduce the variance due to the heterogeneity of the service users, sampling without replacement was carried out after an implicit stratification, whereby for each of the two frames the night shelters were classified according to the category of population they served, and then in descending order of size. The food distribution sites were directly classified by size.

The sampling of the secondary units (the services) was carried out at random on the basis of six services per primary unit (site-day) in the survey. The relationship between service and service user is established by calculating the weighting, which adjusts for the probability of the user being included in the different sampling frames.

A total of 591 questionnaires (out of the originally planned 606) were answered anonymously in three partially overlapping sampling frames: 219 questionnaires in emergency shelters; 137 questionnaires in CHRS or other long-stay shelters; 235 questionnaires on food distribution sites.

The weightings were adjusted so as to allow, as far as was possible, for errors concerning site capacities and the number of interviews completed each day, as well as for the degree of overlap between the sampling frames in the course of a day.

The data is representative of the service users on an average day or (according to the set of weightings) an average week of the data collection period. The aim was to improve our understanding of the characteristics of the homeless, of the process of becoming homeless, the financial and non-monetary resources of those involved, their ties with other people and their use of specialist services. The survey also made it possible to obtain estimations of the population concerned at a given point in time. These experiments were conducted in close collaboration with voluntary and other organizations which care for the homeless.

INED conducted another survey in 1998, involving 461 homeless youths between 16 and 24 years old in Paris and the nearest suburbs.

A methodology derived from INED's methodology was used for sampling and weighting a survey on the mental health of the homeless people in Paris, conducted by a team of psychiatrists in 1996 (Kovess & Mangin-Lazarus, 1999; Kovess, 2002). The national survey conducted by the French National Institute of Statistics (INSEE) in 2001 (see below) used a method derived from the methodologies developed by INED and the US Census Bureau.

In 2002, a (small) survey of homeless people contacted by outreach services tried to evaluate the proportion of those not reached by the INED and INSEE surveys of users of shelters and food distributions (Marpsat and alii, 2002).

#### **\* The INSEE national survey of users of shelters and hot meal distributions (2001)**

In 2001, the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) conducted a national survey of the users of shelters and hot meal distributions. For a detailed description of the methodology, see Brousse & alii, 2004 (forthcoming) or Brousse & alii, 2002; for a description of the sampling and of the weighting, in English, see Ardilly and Le Blanc, 2001.

Among the service users, the homeless population was defined as persons who had spent the night preceding the interview in accommodations provided by the NGOs or other service providers, or in a place not intended for habitation such as public space. Accommodations include the "centres maternels", or mother and child shelters; this is not the case in the INED survey, which explains the higher rate of homeless women in the INSEE survey. The geographical field is that of population centres of 20,000 inhabitants and over.

The sampling was done in three stages: first the population centres, then the service site-days, then the services (a night, a meal) in each service-site (by selecting the individuals using them, since the set of weights provides results pertaining to individuals and not services).

This survey was conducted in the beginning of 2001 in 80 metropolitan areas with a population of 20,000 or more. The data collection took place from January 15 to February 12, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Monday January 22<sup>nd</sup>. 4,109 persons were sampled by more than 300 interviewers. The final sample contained 4,014 questionnaires. On average, each interview lasted about an hour.

The metropolitan areas were selected on the basis of a size criterion defined as a combination of the population of the area and of the number of beds available for persons in great difficulty, as identified in the records of the NGOs and of the Ministry of Health. 80 metropolitan areas were selected, comprising about 80 % of the population of urban centres of more than 20,000 inhabitants.

A list of the sites of the shelters and hot meal distributions was elaborated one year before the survey and updated just before the survey started. This list was drawn up not only in the 80 urban centres selected but also in 80 smaller centres ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 inhabitants. 2,700 sites of services were thus listed and answered a telephone survey. One third did not belong to the field, as was discovered during the telephone survey, because they offered neither beds nor hot meals. A sample frame of 1,464 service sites was thus obtained in the 80 selected population centres of 20,000 inhabitants or more. A site could offer several services, such as beds and food distribution, hence the number of services in the sample frame was 2,398. The sample comprised 1,225 “service x days”, corresponding to 1,225 different services (some large sites being visited more than once). 1,036 visits were made by the interviewers in the 846 service sites sampled.

The sampling of services (that is, the sampling of the individuals receiving them, in a selected service site, on a given day) was done on the basis of a list if there was one (for example, a list of beds) or according to the position of the individual in the line waiting to reach the table where meals were being distributed, etc.

To weigh the data, it was necessary to know how the respondent had used the different services (beds, hot meals) in the week before the survey. These questions were thus part of the questionnaire. The “weight sharing” method (see graph or Ardilly and Le Blanc, 2001) was used to establish several sets of weights. One set corresponds to an “average day” of the reference period (that is, the data collection period, from January 15 to February 12, 2001) and another one to an “average week”.

The first INED survey (1995) had oversampled the meal distributions and the emergency shelters in order to have a higher number of people sleeping in the street or in emergency shelters in the sample. This was not done in the INSEE survey where the total sample was much larger.

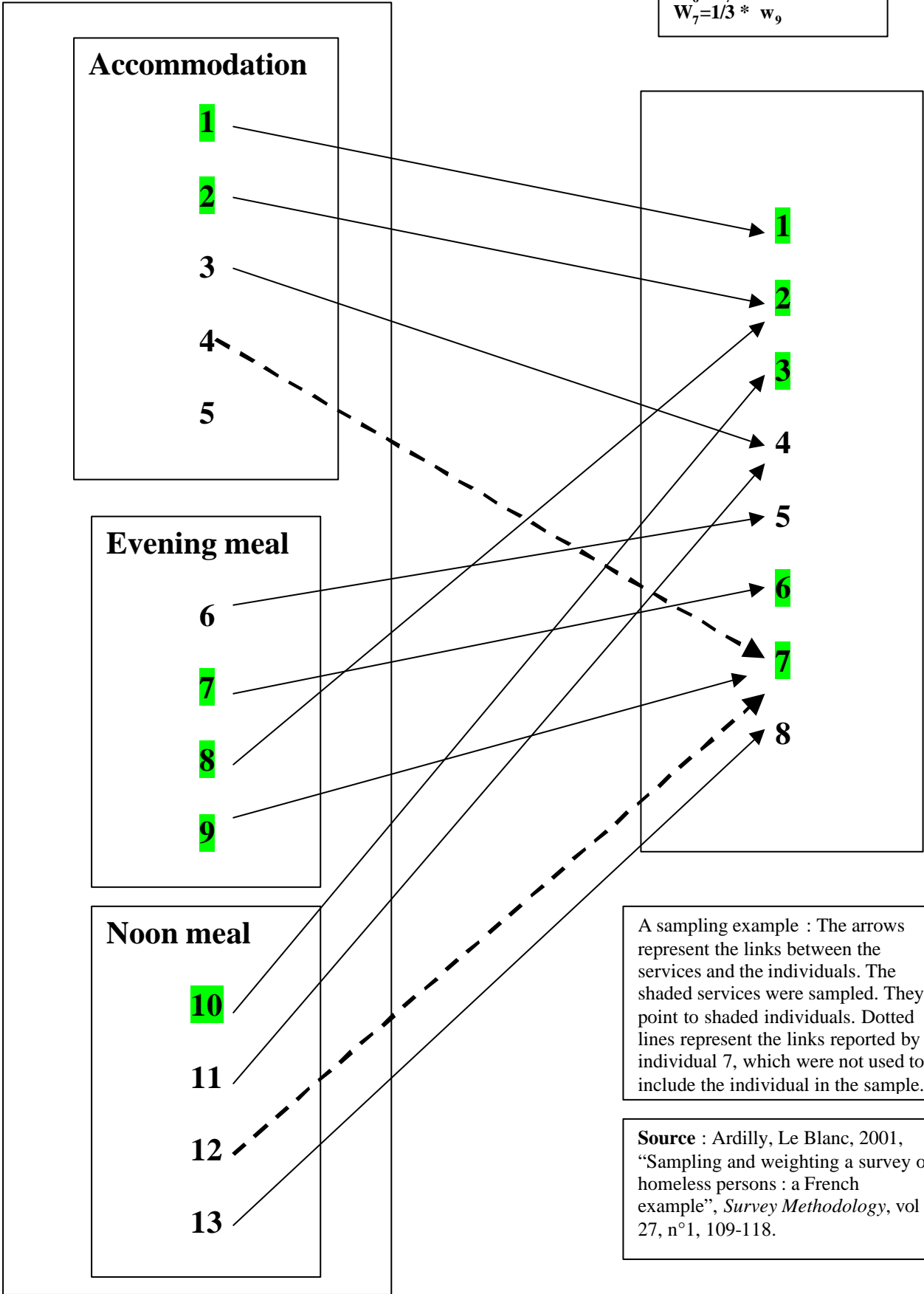
This kind of methodology could be used in any other city or country where such services are developed. An extension could be to consider some parts of the public space (railway stations, for example) as “service sites” and sample them accordingly (with the added difficulty of determining how many homeless people are in the place considered, since homeless people are not always easy to distinguish from other people).

As stated earlier, INED conducted a small survey of homeless people in 2002, in Paris, but also in Nice and in Nantes, to interview people contacted by outreach services and who were not likely to make frequent use of shelters and meal distributions. The conclusion was that few people never used these services at all, with the exception of those who had taken to the streets only a few days before.

**The INSEE survey: the weight sharing method**

**Services**  
 $w_1, \dots, w_{13}$

**Individuals**  
 (weight sharing method)  
 $W_1 = w_1$   
 $W_2 = 1/2 * (w_2 + w_8)$   
 $W_3 = w_{10}$   
 $W_6 = w_7$   
 $W_7 = 1/3 * w_9$



A sampling example : The arrows represent the links between the services and the individuals. The shaded services were sampled. They point to shaded individuals. Dotted lines represent the links reported by individual 7, which were not used to include the individual in the sample.

**Source :** Ardilly, Le Blanc, 2001, "Sampling and weighting a survey of homeless persons : a French example", *Survey Methodology*, vol 27, n°1, 109-118.

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**(for more information, also see the national papers, the bibliographical database and the FEANTSA website)**

## **Appendix : a few questions to describe a point-in-time statistical survey or a record-based data collection, with answers taken from the example of the 1995 INED survey**

(of course more precisions are needed to compare data from different sources, see the Eurostat questionnaire and Cécile Brousse's report, forthcoming))

### **IDENTIFICATION OF THE SOURCE**

- **Country**

*France*

- **Name of the source**

*Survey of users of shelters and food distributions in Paris*

- **Year**

*1995*

- **Organization(s) in charge (please indicate: NGO, Research Institute or University, Statistical Institute...)**

*INED (National Institute of Demographic studies), Paris, France*

- **Who is/has been funding the survey, data collection etc. ?**

*Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Health and Social and Urban Affairs*

*Commission of the European Community*

*A NGO (Abbé Pierre Foundation)*

### **METHOD**

- **Type of source and size:**

- survey of homeless persons (number of homeless interviewed) *Yes, 591 persons*

- survey of service providers about homeless persons (number of sites covered/of service providers interviewed)

- service records or files (size of the files, exhaustive or sample ?)

.....

- **Field targeted from the point of view of the "spatial" definition and of the "time" definition**

*Adults who are sleeping the night of the survey in a shelter or in a place unfit for human habitation (including street, car parks, stations and other places not intended for habitation), aka "literally homeless"*

- **Field covered: if it is a statistically representative survey (or an exhaustive survey or file), what field is covered exactly?**

*The sample is representative of the people using services such as shelters (emergency and long-stay) and food distributions. Some of them are housed, and some of the "literally homeless" who are not service users are not covered.*

- **Does it provide an estimate of the number of homeless people for a given statistical area ?**

*It provides an estimate of the number of homeless people, in the narrow sense of « sleeping in shelters or in places not designed for habitation » who are service users in Paris*

- **Do you have an idea (quantitative, qualitative) of the coverage of the data (difference between field targeted and covered)?**

*We have a qualitative idea (due to in-depth interviews) and a quantitative idea (a 1996 street survey in which we found very few people not using any of the said services at all, during the whole time of the survey; a 2002 survey of people contacted by outreach services which asked them if they had used shelters and food distributions on the same day/the previous day/ the previous week/in their lifetime.*

- **Method applied (example: capture-recapture, stratified sample survey, computer files, etc.)**

*Two-stage stratified sample survey*

- **Are weightings necessary?**

*Weightings are necessary to adjust for multiple users of services (who have a non-zero probability of being in several sample frames) and to give an estimate of the numbers.*

- **Does the data adjust for multiple users (e.g. in the case of several sampling frames) and/or double counts ? (weightings, unduplicating...)**

*The weightings adjust for multiple users and double-counting*

- **What is the extent of the information that can be gained?**

*Any questionnaire is possible (education, family circumstances, health, use of services, coping strategies, etc.)*

## **GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE**

- **What is the geographical coverage of the data? If it is not national, could the same method be applied at the national level (or for administrative regions, large cities...)?**

*The data is valid for Paris. The same method can be and has been used nationally in 2001 (with a sample stage of geographical areas) or for administrative regions or cities.*

## **TIME ISSUES (REPLICABILITY, POINT OR PERIOD PREVALENCE...)**

- **Is the method replicable?**

*The method is replicable and has in fact already been replicated.*

- **Periodicity of the source**

*If the data is to be updated, the survey has to be replicated*

- **Are the estimates period or point-prevalence, or both?**

*The French survey gives only a point prevalence (one average day of the survey period) or could, at the most, be used to give a one-week prevalence. We cannot estimate prevalence of one month or a year. The national INSEE survey has modelled some prevalences for longer periods.*

- **Reference period of the results?**

*The data gives results for an average day of the data collection period (or, with another set of weightings, an average week)*

- **Does the source take into account seasonal fluctuations?**

*It does not, but it could be used that way by repeating the survey at different dates*

- **Is the problem of interviewing people speaking another language (than the country's main language) taken into consideration?**

*No, non-French speakers were “replaced” though we know how many people couldn’t be interviewed for this reason.*

- **Is there a control group?**

*No.*

## **OTHER**

### **Comments : .....**

*-In countries or regions with a weak institutional framework, the method must be adapted. In some places, public areas such as train stations could be sampled as a type of service site.*

*- The definition of homelessness is the « literal » one. For example, it is not possible with this method to take into account persons living temporarily with friends or acquaintances (we can only reach those using special services: food distributions, or other services if the list is extended). This method must be complemented by others addressing other housing difficulties.*

*- the main limitations of the data are: the quality of the “day” weighting is higher than that of the “week” weighting, though the latter is more representative of rare users; non-French speakers are not taken into account; it would be better to define homelessness according to the place where the person has slept the previous night (or during the previous week)...*

## Point-in-time data

A classification of the main statistical sources of information on homelessness and homeless people in each country of the CUHP network

**FRANCE**

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of the general population
<p><b>Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions</b></p>	<p><i>NATIONAL :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the ES (Etablissements sociaux) survey “on a given night” of the users of emergency and CHRS (long-stay) shelters. Conducted by the Department of social affairs every second year.</li> </ul>	<p><i>LOCAL :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- INED 1995 survey in Paris (users of shelters and food distributions aged 18 or more)</li> <li>- INED 1998 survey in Paris and nearest suburbs (users of shelters, food distributions and day centers aged 16 to 24)</li> <li>- INED 2002 survey in Paris, Nantes and Nice (homeless people contacted by outreach services)</li> <li>- DRASSIF survey (1998, 1999, 2000) in emergency shelters</li> </ul> <p><i>NATIONAL :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- INSEE 2001 survey in cities of 20,000 inhabitants or more (users of shelters, food distributions and day centres aged 18 or more)</li> <li>- FNARS 2001 survey on its clients</li> </ul>	<p><i>NATIONAL :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On previous homeless episodes: a question in a Credoc survey ; some questions in the INSEE Health survey</li> <li>- On the housing of family or friends: questions in the Housing survey</li> </ul>

## HUNGARY

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of the general population
<p><b>Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>The analysis of the homeless providing institutions in 1997</i> – 47 homeless care institutions were examined, in Budapest, its agglomeration and two medium sized towns near Budapest. The questionnaire was filled out by the institutions.</li> <li>- <i>Analysis of night shelters in Budapest in 1996</i> An analysis of the registration data (name and date of birth at the entrance) was carried out in a night shelter with 80 beds opened between October and April, and of four night shelters in 1995.</li> </ul> <p><b>NATIONAL :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Survey on homelessness in 2001-2002</i> - A questionnaire was sent to the service providers of all night and temporary shelters - two third of the questionnaires were completed and sent back, and all cities above 50 000 inhabitants have sent back answers.</li> <li>- <i>The analysis of the health care system for homeless in 2001</i> – the research analysed the demand and the supply of the following homeless providing institutions: (1) the service of ‘family doctors’ (general practitioners) and specialists for the homeless, (2) different ‘nursing institutions’ (sickrooms, special nursing departments of institutions, etc., (3)</li> </ul>	<p><b>LOCAL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Yearly survey of homeless people in Budapest</i> From 1999 on, every 3rd of February between 5 pm -12 pm the homeless population is surveyed.</li> <li>- <i>Local homeless survey in Nyíregyháza in 1999</i> - One of the biggest cities in Hungary is Nyíregyháza, where local empirical research was carried out in 1999, analysing the answers of 105 homeless people.</li> <li>- <i>Empirical research of homelessness in 1997</i> - 2180 people interviewed during the Mobile Prevention of Hungarian Maltese Charity Service. The examination was conducted through the year, since February 1997.</li> <li>- <i>Questionnaire of ‘mobile tea-services’ from 1997 on</i> - in the stations of the ‘mobile tea-services’ the homeless were asked to fill out a short questionnaire. Similar survey was carried out regarding the rough sleepers other cities as well, for example in Ózd in 1999.</li> <li>- <i>The health condition of homeless people in Budapest in 1994</i> - The research compared two sets of data: one about 342 homeless people who were asked in 14 shelters and other places, another about 911 people who represented the adult inhabitants (18 years old or more) of Budapest, who had a registered permanent residence.</li> <li>- <i>‘Walking-sample selection’ method and sample of service users in 1992-93</i> - 457 homeless people were interviewed in main railway stations, and Deák square and some communal kitchens in Budapest. The size of the other sample was 723</li> </ul>	<p><i>There is no special survey of general population but some of them focus on the endangered vulnerable groups (e.g. families, persons in arrears), the last was conducted in 2002.</i></p>

	<p>elderly homes for the homeless people, (4) rehabilitation homes for homeless. The sample represented every county and the capital selecting at least two institutions from each of them.</p> <p>- <i>Research on persons frozen to death in 2001</i> - A group of researchers examined the reasons and the circumstances of the deaths because of the cold in 2001, using three different methods: analysis of the statistical data on those who froze to death, content analysis of the articles about those deaths in the newspapers and elaboration of the case studies based on in depth-interviews with people who had connections with the persons who froze to death.</p> <p>- <i>Communal kitchens in 1995</i> - by the special department of Ministry of Welfare.</p>	<p>people, who used the ISOLA night shelter.</p> <p>- <i>Pomáz – Budaörs comparative health study in 1992</i> – the data of the medical examination of 200 people from Budaörs homeless shelter (n=117) and the patients of the Working Therapy Institute in Pomáz (n=83). were compared in 1992.</p> <p>- <i>Empirical survey in the shelter in Budaörs, 1992</i> - the data of 160 homeless people in the Budaörs night shelter, which was the biggest shelter in Hungary in that time were analysed.</p> <p><b>NATIONAL :</b></p> <p>- <i>Survey on homelessness in 2001-2002</i> (see first column) 150 homeless under 30 years interviewed. In 9 settlements, (other) 408 homeless people were asked to examine their habits in the use of shelters.</p> <p>- <i>Complex pilot program to support the reintegration of homeless people into the labour market, 2001</i> - Sixteen homeless providing institutions of four regions and centers of working affairs in concerned counties who are responsible for services of unemployed people participated in the pilot program. The 1200 applicants who wanted to participate in the program were asked to fill a datasheet (education, profession, working career, working experiences, thoughts on his place on the labour market, health, social status), motivation tests (social connections, motivations, safety needs) and they were personally interviewed as well (needs and tasks of satisfying of needs). Eventually 317 homeless people were selected to participate in the program, and all of them were interviewed again in the framework of the research.</p> <p>- <i>Empirical research in 93 shelters in different Hungarian cities between January 1992 and May 1993</i></p> <p>- <i>The empirical research carried out in 11 shelters in Hungary, the number of sample was 545 homeless people in 1992</i></p>	
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ITALY

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of the general population
Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions	<p><b>NATIONAL :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Commissione d'indagine sulla povertà e l'emarginazione 1993</i>: Survey on social workers and experts to estimate the size of four categories of population in extreme poverty</li> </ul>	<p><b>NATIONAL :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Commissione d'indagine sulla povertà e l'emarginazione 1993</i>: Sample survey on the four categories of population in extreme poverty</li> <li>- <i>Commissione di indagine sull'esclusione sociale and Fondazione Zancan 2000</i>: Sample survey of homeless (identified on the basis of a survey in a given night, <i>s-night</i> approach)</li> </ul>	none

*Commissione d'indagine sulla povertà e l'emarginazione 1993, Rapporto sulle "povertà estreme" in Italia, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento Affari Sociali, Roma. [Summary report in: Terzo rapporto sulla povertà in Italia, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Roma, s. d.]*

*Commissione di indagine sull'esclusione sociale and Fondazione Zancan 2000, Indagine sulle persone senza dimora, Commissione di indagine sull'esclusione sociale - Dipartimento per gli Affari sociali, Presidenza del Consiglio, Roma (Summary report in Commissione d'indagine sull'esclusione sociale, Politiche contro la povertà e l'esclusione sociale, ed. by C. Saraceno, Carocci, Roma, 2002)*

NETHERLANDS

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of the general population
Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions	<p><b>NATIONAL :</b></p> <p>Wolf, J., A. Elling en I. de Graaf. <i>Monitor Maatschappelijke Opvang. Deelmonitoren vraag, aanbod en gemeentelijk beleid</i>. Utrecht: Trimbos-instituut, 2000.</p> <p>Wolf, J., Nicolas, S., Hulsbosch, S., te pas, S. Hoogenboezem, G., van Oort, M. <i>Monitor Maatschappelijke Opvang. Jaarbericht 2003</i>. Utrecht: Trimbosinstituut 2003.</p> <p>Heyendael, P.H.J.M., M.H.R. Nuy en H.G. Brouwers. <i>PLOTT-fase III: De bevindingen van het mentaal systeem. Eindresultaten van het Prognostisch Landelijk Onderzoek Thuislozen en Thuislozenzorg</i>. PLOTT-publicatie nr. 8. Nijmegen: Instituut voor Sociale Geneeskunde, 1990.</p> <p>Zwet, G.R. van der, R.R. van der Meijden en L. Burgers. <i>Dak- en thuislozen: aantallen, opvang en gemeentelijk beleid. Een inventariserend onderzoek</i>. Den Haag: VNG/SGBO, 1990.</p>	<p><b>NATIONAL</b></p> <p>Bruin, D. de, C. Meijderman, e.a. <i>Zwerven in de 21<sup>e</sup> eeuw. Een exploratief onderzoek naar de geestelijke gezondheidsproblematiek en overlast van dak- en thuislozen in Nederland</i>. Utrecht: Centrum voor Verslavingsonderzoek, 2003.</p> <p><b>LOCAL :</b></p> <p>Korf, D.J., S. Diemel, P.Rensen e.a. <i>Een sleutel voor de toekomst. Tel- en consumentenonderzoek onder daklozen in Amsterdam in 1999</i>. Amsterdam: Thela Thesis, 1999.</p> <p>Reinking D, Kroon H, Smit F. <i>Opgevangen in Utrecht; dakloosheid en zelfverwaarlozing in de regio MW-Utrecht</i>. Utrecht: Trimbos-instituut, 1998.</p> <p>Reinking D, Nicholas S, Leiden I. van, Bakel H. van, Zwikker M., Wolf J. <i>Daklozen in Den Haag. Onderzoek naar omvang en kenmerken van de daklozenpopulatie</i>. Utrecht: Trimbos-instituut, 2001.</p> <p>Hoogenboezem, G. <i>Wonen in een verhaal. Dak- en thuisloosheid als sociaal proces</i>. Utrecht : Uitgeverij De Graaff, 2003.</p>	none

SPAIN

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of general population
Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions	<p><b>NATIONAL</b> Martín Barroso et al. (1985) DIS (1975)</p> <p><b>LOCAL</b> Proyecto inclusión (Muñoz et al, in course)</p>	<p><b>NATIONAL</b> DIS (1975) Martín Barroso et al. (1985) Cabrera et al. (2003)</p> <p><b>LOCAL</b> Proyecto inclusión (Muñoz et al, in course) Muñoz et al. (2003) Cabrera (1998) Vega (1996) Muñoz et al. (1995) Rico et al. (1994)</p>	none

Cabrera, P. (1998). Huéspedes del aire. Sociología de las personas sin hogar en Madrid. Madrid: UPCO.

Cabrera, P. and Rubio, M.J. (2003). El sueño de Vladimir. En “Il Sogno de Vladimir” (Proyecto “El sueño de Vladimir” eds.). Madrid: Unión Europea

D.I.S. (1975). Los transeúntes. Desarraigo y marginación social. Documentación social, 20.

Martín Barroso, C. (1985). Transeúntes y albergues. Documentación Social, 60-61.

Muñoz, M; Vázquez C. and Cruzado, J.A. (1995). Personas sin hogar en Madrid: informe psicosocial y epidemiológico. Madrid: Comunidad de Madrid.

Muñoz, M; Vázquez, C. and Vázquez, JJ. (2003). Los límites de la exclusión: estudio de los factores económicos, psisociales y de salud que afectan a las personas sin hogar en Madrid. Madrid: Témpora.

Rico, P; Vega, L. and Aranguren, L. (1994). Trastornos psiquiátricos en transeúntes: un estudio epidemiológico en Aranjuez (Madrid). Revista de la Asociación Española de Neuropsiquiatría, 14 (51), 633-649.

Vega, L. (1996). Salud mental en población sin hogar. Oviedo: Principado de Asturias.

**DENMARK**

	Interviews of service providers, use of service files (record-based data) or administrative data	Interviews of homeless people	Interviews of the general population
<b>Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions</b>	<p><i>LOCAL</i></p> <p>Eskelinen, L., Hummelgaard, H., Koch, A., Madsen, J.K. (1994): Socialt udstødte i Københavns Kommune [Socially excluded in the Municipality of Copenhagen]. Copenhagen: Institute of Local Government Studies – Denmark.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>

**UNITED KINGDOM**

	<b>Interviews of service providers or service files</b>	<b>Interviews of homeless people</b>	<b>Interviews of the general population</b>
<b>Point-in-time data (or very short period), including with retrospective questions</b>	<p><i>LOCAL</i></p> <p>Surveys “on a given night” : Rough Sleeper counts organised by voluntary sector in particular cities under the auspices of the Rough Sleepers Unit (now Homelessness Directorate)</p> <p>Use of services own files to provide information on type of clients. Many have collect detailed data on education, family background, health etc. Crisis, Centrepoint among others (Smith has undertaken this for Crisis and Centrepoint, as has University of York research team)</p>	<p><i>LOCAL</i></p> <p>Funded by trusts such as Joseph Rowntree or Nuffield. . Surveys not weighted. Sometimes a quota sample, or a random sample, or interviews with all residents that fulfil particular criteria (.e. g. from the city, aged under 20 years Bruegel and Smith 1999)</p>	<p><i>LOCAL</i></p> <p>Bruegel and Smith interviewed 150 not homeless young people to compare with 200 young homeless people in London. Not a random sample and not weighted – areas were chosen to be similar post code and similar deprivation as the young people interviewed in the hostel. These were semi structured quantitative interviews.</p> <p><i>NATIONAL</i></p> <p>Survey of English Housing asks a general question about episodes of homelessness in the previous ten years.</p> <p>Difficult to extract homeless data from general surveys although it is possible to extract housing conditions and ‘doubling up’ data. (both Smith and Simister, 2000, unpublished)</p>

