

Kelso
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**A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE
SKID ROW POPULATION**

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Prepared for

**The Division of Social Services
Department of Health and Social Services
State of Alaska**

Prepared by

**The Center for Alcohol and Addictions Studies
University of Alaska, Anchorage**

**Principal Investigation:
Altam Associates**

A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE
SKID ROW POPULATION

A study of the downtown Anchorage Skid Row population based on interviews with selected samples of the population concerning demographic background characteristics, family history, education and employment, drinking and drug related behavior, housing and mobility, social service agency contacts, health and nutrition and support systems.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the present study was to provide a current comprehensive description of the Anchorage Fourth Avenue Skid Row population. The description of the overall population and its various subgroups was based on the response of a sample of 206 respondents to questionnaire items administered by direct interview. In order to delineate the characteristics of the designated population, the interview questions focused on the following categories: demographic information, life history, education and employment history, drinking and drug related behavior, housing and mobility, social service provider contacts, health and nutrition, and support systems. This approach was designed to yield information as to the socio-cultural characteristics and support system/ecological niche used by the Skid Row persons which, in turn, has implications for existing and future intervention strategies designed to address this social problem.

In order to achieve a representative sample, interviewees were identified and sought out from a variety of sources, including; "the street", residences, social service programs, bars, and from knowledgeable informants. For the purpose of validating the information supplied by interviewees, certain hospital and social service records were also reviewed.

The primary analysis consisted of a comparative examination of the data using a chi-square technique regarding differential response patterns according to sampling procedure, relative mobility, relative employment, and relative utilization of social service agencies.

Overall analysis of the descriptive characteristics of the Skid Row population of the Anchorage Fourth Avenue area indicated the existence of lifestyle behaviors generally consistent with other urban Skid Row areas, but with some notable differences. Alcoholism was found to be prevalent, as was a marginal relationship with the larger society. A certain segment of the overall population was composed of working men with relatively regular sources of income. In addition, the population also included those with somewhat more intermittent sources of income, as well as those with no visible means of support. The superficial street appearance of the population was found to be misleading. Although Skid Row participants were found to be primarily members of Alaskan Native groups, the proportional representation by Natives was about 60% of the total, which is quite different in comparison to the "common knowledge" estimated based on street observation which indicates the figure to be closer to 93%. This percentage of minority persons on

Skid Row is, however, uncharacteristic of other urban Skid Row areas. Other distinguishing characteristics included a younger population, and a greater proportion of females.

Further analysis of the findings indicated that the descriptive characteristics of the Anchorage Skid Row population were able to be distributed along two primary dimensions of employment and mobility, in a manner that allowed the construction of four distinguishable sub-groups of the population. The most debilitated group, the Homeless-Unemployed, fits most closely to the general stereotypic and historical impression of the "public inebriate." This group is composed of males who do not work, who have no recent work history and thus are unable to qualify for any type of consistent financial assistance. These persons have no visible means of support - no income, no way to provide shelter, food or alcohol. The Homeless-Unemployed group drinks alcohol wherever possible and as much as possible. Public social service agencies are their primary support systems, yet these agency interactions are only brief and sporadic - just moment-to-moment and day-to-day. Their lives are conducted publicly on the street--drinking, sleeping, socializing. With no income, they are not usual customers at bars, cafes or hotels. They are frequent users of short-term health services and even enter long-term alcoholism services--but tend to leave prematurely after satisfying their immediate needs. They have many needs for services directly associated with their street life style, which are typified by injuries and health problems associated with alcohol consumption, sleeping and eating from dumpsters, sleeping near steam pipes, and other sanitary problems.

The Highly-Mobile-Working group and the Residential-Employed group were found to be the most healthy and least maladjusted within Skid Row. The former group usually works in Anchorage during the winter season and migrates back to villages, fishing communities and construction jobs when warm weather comes. The Residential-Employed group, on the other hand, contains long-term inhabitants of Anchorage who maintain a residence in the Fourth Avenue area and independently provide for food, recreation, and other social activities.

A fourth group, the Residential-Semi-Employed is the most ill-defined group. It represents not only a mixture of the other groups but appears to be a primary transition group as individuals go through cycles and exchange positions. The interchange between this group and the Homeless Unemployed and the Residential-Employed may be common. It would seem that more intensive adult services provided to this group at this time of transition could be very critical for the character of the Skid Row population.

A social strategy whereby general health care maintenance programs, that would include the services and facilities more common to adult protective care services, would be available to the homeless, unemployed persons in the Skid Row population would seem to be consistent with the descriptive

characteristics of this subgroup. Their participation in the more intensive alcoholism treatment services and other social service programs for only short periods of time precludes the availability of those resources for others with greater rehabilitation potential.

Such maintenance type programs would seem better suited to the needs and characteristics of this homeless, unemployed group and particularly aid in the reduction in the extent to which their lives are conducted in public. Facilities and services that would provide alternatives to the streets, alleys, doorways, and dumpsters for life activities would be useful in this regard. Further, the availability of these maintenance facilities and services for health, sanitation, food, shelter, and nutrition would most logically be located within the territory already designated as the Skid Row area.

Exact enumeration of the Anchorage Skid Row population is impossible, however, the question of size is an important consideration. Based on data collected for this study, reported findings, and on information recorded by social service agencies that interact daily with the various segments of the population, it was estimated that the overall Skid Row population numbers 560 to 700 persons. Of these, about 90 persons would fit into the category of chronic, Skid Row public inebriate. It must be emphasized that these figures represent only working estimates at this time.

The nature of the present investigation was primarily descriptive. The findings suggest that additional research might focus on personal interaction patterns, patterns of personal interaction with social service agencies and private business and a case history approach of selected representatives of the various subgroups of the population. In addition, an analysis of the nature of the matrix of involvement of the various federal, state, regional, local and private agencies and their delegated duties and responsibilities in relation to the needs and characteristics of the Skid Row population and the societal context in which this population exists would also appear to be worthy of attention.

INTRODUCTION

Statement of the Problem

The downtown public inebriates present a pressing social problem to the Anchorage community. During the past year, the Municipality of Anchorage, through a declaration by the Municipal Health Commission, the Administration, the Anchorage Assembly, and with input from the Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Merchant's Association, indicated that the short range high priority in the field of alcoholism would be designated to the public inebriate.

The reasons for the high priority assigned to what has been called the "public inebriate problem" are both social and economic. To some, it is an apparent public health problem, both personal and social, of the homeless men and women which is seen in the downtown areas where such persons congregate. To others, the congregation of men and women, who are often inebriated, seems to beget crime and violence, endangering both the public inebriate and other citizens. Consequently, many citizens avoid the downtown area, a situation which keenly affects merchants who derive their livelihood from their downtown businesses. Furthermore, countless persons, programs, and funds are devoted to provide social services, a remedy which is not totally effective.

Some critical intervention strategy needs to be initiated to alleviate the problem. Yet, despite the pressing nature of this problem, there is currently no organized documentation or needs assessment completed

within the Anchorage community which addresses this population. That is, we have little information about the people who congregate "downtown", other than that we know they are about, and that they tax the system which is attempting to rehabilitate them.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the present study was to provide a current comprehensive description of the Anchorage Fourth Avenue Skid Row population. It is understood that this population is composed of a variety of different persons with variation in personal and social characteristics, although certain perspectives of this societal subpopulation may emphasize certain subgroups more than others. Thus part of the purpose of an overall description of the target population included definition of the various elements, in terms of common and distinguishing characteristics.

The description of the overall population and its various subgroups was based on the responses of a sample of the population to questionnaire items administered by direct interview. In order to delineate the characteristics of the designated population, the survey questions focused on the following categories: demographic information, life history, education and employment history, drinking and drug related behavior, housing and mobility, social service provider contacts, health and nutrition, and support systems. This approach was designed to yield information as to the socio-cultural characteristics and support system/ecological niche used by the skid row persons which, in turn, has implications for existing and future intervention strategies designed to

address this social problem. Primary analysis of the descriptive characteristics was directed by priorities given to the questions of relative mobility, employment and extent of utilization of social agency services by the respondents.

In order to achieve a representative sample, the interviewees were identified and sought out from a variety of sources, including; "the street", residences, social service programs, bars, and from knowledgeable informants. For the purpose of validating the information supplied by interviewees, certain hospital and social service records were also reviewed.

Review of the Literature

The area of the city known as Skid Row is usually adjacent to a downtown area. Traditionally, Skid Row is a place where homeless men seek refuge from societal demands of steady work and permanent residence and typically dilute their sorrows in drink. Historically, the modern form of American Skid Rows emerged from post-Civil War hoboemia (Anderson, 1923) and expanded and progressed to the Skid Row area as we know it today (Lovald, 1963). In fact, as Bahr (1967) has pointed out, the image of Skid Row is even now quickly changing from the congregated street scene to more isolated islands of single room occupancy dispersed in various neighborhoods of the city (Siegal, Peterson and Chambers, 1975). These recent changes in the features of Skid Row have been attributed by Siegal, et al. (1975) to urban renewal, expanded social security coverage, increasing difficulty of finding day-labor, and increases in

technology. The profile of Skid Row has been and still is changing, but the urgency of this problem facing Skid Row persons and those who wish to combat this dilemma is as real as it was in the post-Civil War shanty towns or the hobo camps of the Great Depression. Countless human lives are wasted through social isolation and drunkenness and large amounts of social service dollars are spent in attempts to alleviate or rectify the situation.

The current literature review will focus on some of the studies of Skid Rows throughout the United States, with emphasis on more recent investigations. Attention will also be directed toward research concerning the role of Native Americans in Skid Row life. That is not to say that alcoholism or public drunkenness is characteristic of Native Americans. However, since the present study will need to concern itself, in part, with the participation of Native Americans in Skid Row life, a careful review of the research in this area is warranted.

The Skid Row Population

The population of Skid Rows was for a long time composed almost entirely of aged, homeless, white men (Blumberg, Shipley, and Moor, 1971). Chronic public alcoholism has been considered to be both a major causal and resultant factor in the process of the social isolation of these men. This very social isolation, while from one perspective is a result of Skid Row life, is also in itself a major contributing factor to the entry of individuals into Skid Row life.

Blumberg, Shipley and Moor (1971) have characterized the population in
 school, and 15% had attended some college.
 were found in the sample. The modal education completed was some high
 Protestant, 39% Roman Catholic, 3% agnostic or atheistic. No Jews
 10% Negro; 4% Indian and 1% Oriental. In terms of religion, 56% were
 years of age. Seventy percent of this sample were white; 15% Mexican;
 men, Docter (1967) found that the modal age group was 40-46 (46%)
 already precarious position in society. Among a population of 172
 persons have less "social distance" to travel to Skid Row from their
 of younger minority individuals to the fact that low-income minority
 Siegal, et al., (1975) noted a similar trend and attributed the presence
 as consisting of older white men and younger men from minority groups.
 Rubington (1971), has described the contemporary Skid Row population
 community.
 divorce, death or loss of job after which they enter the Skid Row
 Subsequently, many of these men have a major life disruption such as a
 characterized by their broken marriages, poor employment records, etc.
 have marginal adjustment to society before they enter Skid Row as
 its relationship to social affiliation. He concludes that these men
 Levinson (1974) also speaks to the process of entry onto Skid Row and
 with the developing alcohol problem and the breakdown of the individual.
 This lowering of alcohol consumption criteria occurs simultaneously
 with caste considerations, and progressing to price considerations.
 alcohol consumption criteria which goes through three stages, beginning
 Docter (1967) has indicated that here may be concomitant lowering of

terms of their most common social characteristics. They cite that the Skid Row person is typically: 1) poor or destitute; 2) lives outside of "normal family relationships"; 3) inhabits low-cost housing; 4) is subject to police harassment; 5) is vulnerable to victimization when social security, retirement or welfare checks are involved; 6) has superficial style of social relations; 7) has low status and downward mobility. Spradley (1973) finds similar characteristics to apply to the population and even supports the viability and right of such an ecosystem to co-exist with the society at large.

Alcoholism has often been cited as a problem in Skid Row communities. Health problems associated with the chronic alcohol abuse of this population are extensive. Olin (1966) in a study of 227 chronic drunks at Toronto Jail found tuberculosis, epilepsy, hepatic (liver) abnormalities, underweight and body deformities to be significantly higher in this sample than in normal populations. Jail was seen as the primary intervening variable preventing malnutrition, as 88.2% of the arrestees gained weight in jail. Olin further found that the greater the number of arrests the more likely that the man was incapable of work, but that 90% of the men were physically capable of performing useful labor if necessary therapy was carried out.

It is surprising to find that not all of the participants in this subculture are alcoholics (Straus and McCarthy, 1951). In fact, Straus and McCarthy (1951) found 28% of their New York City Bowery to be either non-drinkers (11%) or moderate controlled drinkers (17%). Docter (1967)

found 46% of his sample to be able to control their alcohol intake.

Social Affiliation

While Blumberg, et al., (1971) and Spradley (1973) cited social isolation as characteristic of Skid Row men, other studies have derived different, or at least, more complex, findings. For example, Bahr and Langfur (1967) found that, among New York Bowery men, those who were the heaviest drinkers maintained greatest attachment to the social environment. Through a questionnaire designed to assess social history of men randomly selected from residents, it was further found that abstainers were the most socially isolated group and entered the Bowery community earlier in life than drinkers. Bahr and Langfur found that in their earlier lives, heavy drinkers were most attached in the areas of recreation, church and family. Both heavy and moderate drinkers typically arrived at the Bowery immediately after they had lost two or more social affiliations, but heavy drinkers suffered these losses an average of seven years earlier than moderate drinkers.

Bahr (1969) in a later study of 199 Bowery men at a voluntary treatment community and 203 men in the Bowery found distinctive differences in regard to affiliation between "early skid" and "late skid" career men. "Late skid rowers" were more likely: to be living with their families at age 30 (55% late; 26% early); to be employed at age 30 (82% late; 65% early); to volunteer for treatment at age 30 (66% late; 54% early); and had higher occupational status than "early skid rowers."

Dumont (1967) and Rubington (1968) also suggest a high affiliative need in Skid Row men centered around a "Tavern Culture" and "Bottle Gangs" respectively. These authors found strong affiliative patterns among their samples and it may be inferred that, in part, the chronic alcoholism is a derivative of the need for social affiliation between these men.

Wallace (1968) suggests that recruitment of individuals into this way of life encompasses a process of isolation from the greater society followed by affiliation with the subculture. He categorizes this process into four stages. These include:

1. The incipient phase which involves dislocation from society;
2. Exposure to Skid Row;
3. Regular participation in Skid Row; and finally
4. Integration into the Skid Row community.

Native Americans and Skid Row

Affiliative patterns are especially strong among Native American Skid Row populations. Brody (1971) cites that social drinking in Skid Row areas is a strong draw for Ottawa Indians. Kuttner and Loring (1967) also cite a presence of strong social affiliation among Native American Skid Rowers and further indicate that the affiliation has a strong familial component. Graves (1971) found similar social drinking patterns among Native Americans.

Chronic, public alcoholism in white populations has been most commonly

attributed to individual traits, life traumas, and weaknesses. Chronic public alcoholism among Native Americans in areas near concentrations of Native Americans has largely been associated with cultural imperatives. That is, Native alcoholism and Native Skid Row involvement has been characterized as a product of contemporary Native culture and of the clash of both historic and contemporary Native culture with the predominant White culture.

In an anthropological survey, Kuttner and Loring (1967) found that close friends and long-term relationships were the norm among urban Sioux Indians on Skid Row. Acquaintance with alcohol was found to begin during teenage years and was made easily available for teens due to extended family structure and a general de-emphasis on parental discipline against drinking. Much drinking was done in "Indian bars" where credit was good and there were few drifters. Income was received on a fairly regular basis from welfare, tribal land claims, seasonal labor and day labor. Drinking was seen as a handicap for this population in the labor market. In addition, a preponderance of drug abuse was found. Unlike non-Indian Skid Rows, women were participants in the drinking culture, causing some hostility between Indian and Negro men especially.

Littman (1970) cited the disintegration of Indian culture, low level of education, and position of the federal government as some of the causes of Indian alcoholism. He also saw the practice of permissiveness and non-assertiveness among Indians as making it difficult for Indians to compete with Whites. He further argues that the system of removing

Native American children from their homes as practiced in the "lower 48" and Alaska was "barbaric", and contributed to the disruption of the Indian family and subsequent alcoholism.

Many authors have attributed the presence of Native Americans in Skid Row areas as a product of inadequate acculturation to competitive urban areas (e.g. Brody, 1971; Horton, 1943; Littman, 1970). In this regard Graves (1971) found that arrest rates for drunkenness were significantly lower among urban Navajo Indians who had greatest opportunity for successfully holding down good jobs and who had strongest social controls against drinking. Economic viability, economically successful parental role-models, greater education, goals compatible with urban opportunities, positive attitudes toward achievement, having non-Navajo friends in the city and having a spouse all were counter-indicators of drunkenness.

Brody (1971) argues that there were many advantages to Skid Row life for the Native American. Among these advantages were the ability to get drunk without negative sanction, enhanced status by co-existence with Whites, provisions for shelter and food, and available labor market in which he is accepted by employers.

"The truth is," states Brody, "...that Skid Row Indians have more to gain, in social terms, than they have to lose, by drinking.... The Skid Row Indian is unlikely to find in the standard argument ... against drinking any real strength until his own socio-economic situation is radically altered." (Brody, 1971, p.74)

Summary

It is apparent that the problem of Skid Row is a national phenomena which has significant impact on both Skid Row dwellers and the communities in which they exist. Alcoholism has been commonly associated with Skid Row, but social isolation from the greater society and social acceptance from the Skid Row society are equally important factors. Makeup of the Skid Row communities has been typified by older, homeless, white men, but recently minority persons have joined the Skid Row community in increasing numbers. Native Americans were found in high proportions in Skid Row areas near Native American communities. However, unlike non-natives, the Native Americans were found to have strong family ties even when part of the Skid Row culture.

METHODOLOGY

The Sample

The subjects interviewed from the Fourth Avenue population were selected from three sources:

1. The resident population. Key informants were used to determine the geographical boundaries of the Fourth Avenue area. A special census enumeration was conducted in the sample area. This information along with similar 1970 census information, was used to designate "residents" of the area and to specify the sampling pattern for this portion of the sample.
2. The street sample. This population included regular "users" of the Fourth Avenue businesses and services, but excluded tourists and those who use the area for casual recreation. Key informants such as merchants and bartenders were used to identify this population.
3. Agency users. This population included those persons who actively used social service agencies. These agencies included the hospitals, alcohol treatment programs, missions, police and social services.

Survey Instrument

The survey instrument was a product of many different factors which included: local and statewide questions of interest determined by interview with social service providers, businessmen and government officials; review of available literature regarding similar investigations; and, available resources for completion of the investigation.

The final instrument was the result of review by social service agency providers and pre-testing on actual potential subjects by study team members and potential interviewers. (See Appendix)

The final questionnaire was divided into eight categories. These categories are:

- 1) Demographic Information
- 2) Family History
- 3) Education and Employment History
- 4) Drinking and Drug Related Behavior
- 5) Housing and Mobility
- 6) Service Provider and Caretaker Contact
- 7) Health, Nutrition and Hygiene
- 8) Support Systems

Questions were assigned on the basis of their content to each of these categories in a mixed format including multiple choice, true - false, and open ended type questions. There were 83 questions, but because many questions were further subdivided there were over 300 codable responses.

Interviewers

Ten interviewers were selected from among persons who had experience working with the Fourth Avenue population. Training of the interviewers consisted of role playing exercises designed to familiarize interviewers

with the interview instrument and ensure uniform interview administration. Periodic monitoring was done by the project coordinators throughout the interview period.

Data Collection

The survey was administered during the first three weeks of March, 1978. Subjects to be interviewed were selected in two ways. The portion from the population residing in the Fourth Avenue area were selected at random by households. The samples from the street and agency populations were selected by key informants who had knowledge of whether a potential interviewee was part of the Fourth Avenue population or not. Military persons, tourists, and occasional users were excluded from the sample.

Interviewers were divided into three survey teams, each responsible for either Agency, Street, or Residential sample groups. Subjects were asked to participate in the study and paid five dollars for their time of about 45 to 60 minutes.

Subjects who were too intoxicated or otherwise incapacitated at the time of initial contact were recontacted whenever possible in order to complete the interview and receive payment. The determination of incapacitation was made with the aid of key informants. Care was taken to avoid duplication of respondents through pre-interview screening and daily coordination between survey teams.

Data Analysis

Certain survey items were not coded and are not part of the analysis

as they required significant treatment and transformation for proper analysis. The items were nevertheless included in the data collection instrument because of their relationship to the central concerns of the study and the long-term benefit of the simultaneous collection of the information.. (See Appendix for coded survey questions.)

The distribution of responses to the coded questions was used to produce an overall description of the sample. (See Appendix for response pattern to all coded survey questions.)

The coded responses were then further analyzed using a chi-square technique. Comparative examination of the data was made regarding differential response patterns according to sampling procedure, relative mobility, relative employment, and relative utilization of social service agencies.

RESULTS

The results of the data collection and analysis are provided in the five major parts of this section. Each part provides a description of the general Skid Row population and/or its elements from a different perspective. Each of the parts and various descriptions are presented in terms of patterns of responses of the Skid Row participants to various categories of survey questions. An integration and interpretation of the findings is presented in the Discussion Section.

The first part of this section presents a general overview of the characteristics of the entire sample independent of sampling site. The next four parts each represent analytic descriptions of the population in terms of apriori perspectives considered to be most important (by

the study sponsors). Thus, the comparative analysis of the entire sample is presented in terms of: 1) sample group--Skid Row residents, street users and frequent social agency users; 2) relative mobility, both within the Anchorage area and between Anchorage and other locations; 3) relative employment status; and, 4) relative utilization of social service agencies.

Overall Sample Description: General Characteristics

The general sample characteristics of age, sex, ethnic group, marital status, religious affiliation, educational level, military history and employment status are presented in Table I. The distribution of responses for each item may be found in the Appendix. There are few findings that are worthy of special mention.

The Anchorage sample of the Skid Row population is relatively younger than other urban Skid Row samples described in the available literature. The modal age was found to be in the range from 26 to 35 compared to the late forties found in many other urban samples. Furthermore, the Anchorage sample was comprised of a greater proportion of female participants compared to other samples. In this sample, about 18% was female. Thus, the general urban Skid Row population characterization of "aged, homeless men" does not apply directly to Anchorage.

An additional sample characteristic that further distinguishes Anchorage from other urban Skid Row populations is the ethnic group composition. In this sample, both Caucasians and Native group members compose relatively large portions of the sample group -- about 40% for Caucasians and about 57% Native or minority group members. In other

TABLE I

Demographic Characteristics of the Entire Sample

Sample Size 206

AGE:	14-17:	.5%	21.2 54.9
	18-25: 11.7	19.7%	
	26-35: 37.1	36.7%	
	36-45: 30.8	23.4%	
	45+ : 20.4	19.7%	
ETHNIC GROUP:	Caucasian:	39.5%	49.3 (inc. Hispanic 54.9)
	Eskimo:	26.8%	33.6 33.6
	Indian:	20.5%	
	Aleut:	10.0%	
	Black:	2.6%	10.5
	Asian:	.5%	.7
MARITAL STATUS:	Married:	13.2%	8.5
	Divorced:	28.4%	27.8
	Widowed:	2.6%	1.3
	Separated:	8.4%	9.4
	Single:	47.4%	53.7
RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION	Catholic:	19.1%	
	Protestant:	16.3%	
	Baptist:	14.9%	
	Other:	25.5%	
	(mostly atheists or those claiming no religion.)		
	Russian Orthodox:	9.9%	
	Lutheran:	9.9%	
	Methodist:	3.5%	
	Jewish:	.7%	
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL:	3rd or less:	1.6%	45.5 vs 35.5
	4th thru 7th:	8.5%	
	8th grade:	13.2%	
	9th thru 11th:	22.2%	
	12th grade:	37.6%	
	past 12th:	16.9%	
VETERANS STATUS:	Veteran:	44.2%	↔ 28.8
	Non-Veteran:	55.8%	↔ 72.2
SEX:	Male:	81.1%	↔ 81.3
	Female:	18.9%	↔ 18.6

urban areas, minority group representation has been very small, but has been increasing recently. While the high percentage of Native or minority group members in the Anchorage sample reflects a difference from other urban Skid Row populations, it was not expected that the local Caucasian representation would be as high as it was.

The relatively high educational level of the entire sample should also be pointed out. About 55% of the sample has completed high school, and of this group, about 17% has completed some college. Finally, it is notable that almost half the population has never been married. Such a large proportion of single persons has often been found in transient and socially maladjusted populations.

The distribution of income obtained from various income sources for the entire sample is reported in Table II. The principal sources of income were steady work and odd jobs for over 55% of the sample. Unemployment compensation and other sources (sale of crafts, etc.) were the next most frequently reported categories of income, mentioned by about 38% of the sample. After these categories, welfare, panhandling, savings and social security were each mentioned as sources of income by 12 to 7% of the sample.

In order to better understand the defining characteristics of the Skid Row population, the next section presents a comparative description of the primary sampling groups. For this analysis, the respondents interviewed at an agency, on the street, and in their residence are referred to as the "Agency", "Street", and "Residential" groups.

TABLE II

Distribution of Income Sources For Entire Sample

SOURCE OF INCOME

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS *

Odd Jobs
 Steady Work
 Unemployment Compensation
 Other
 Welfare
 Panhandling
 Savings
 Social Security
 Pension
 Workman's Compensation

31.4%
 24.2%
 19.6%
 18.3%
 12.3%
 7.9%
 7.0%
 6.7%
 2.5%
 .5%

WMC in last 30 days

75% 35.9 PT Times in
11.8 Full time work

6.6

16.7 Food stamps 14.7 Pub Assst

1% 1%

2 Vets 1 Longmont, 7 Retire

.7

Perm Fund Div 18.4
Native Corp Div 7.6

* Response categories are not mutually exclusive

Comparative Descriptions of Sample Groups

The number of persons surveyed in the Agency, Street, and Residential sample groups was ^{Age} 65, ST 71 and ^{Res} 68, respectively. Their ages were similar to those of the entire sample (see Table I) and their ethnic group distribution, presented in Table III, was not significantly different than that of the entire sample. However, it may be noted that Caucasians were proportionally more heavily represented in the Residential sample than in the Agency or Street samples, but the difference is not statistically significant.

The following results were found to statistically distinguish the three groups when analyzed using a chi-square technique.* All reported trends are statistically significant unless otherwise noted. A table of statistically significant findings for all analyses may be found in the Appendix.

Females were less likely to be in the Agency group and more likely to be in the Street group. Persons in the Agency sample were least likely to have their mother living (43.1%)** while those in the residential sample were most likely to have their mother still alive (72.1%). This finding is of interest as loss of parent has often been linked to alcoholism, and we will see later that the Agency group has a much greater alcohol problem than the Residential group. The Agency group was also more likely to have had someone other than parents involved in their rearing.

* In the study, statistical significance was designated at $p < .05$, or in other words, a 5% possibility of being due to chance and a 95% possibility of being a real difference.

**Percentages indicate a percent of that group, not of the entire sample.

TABLE III

Ethnic Group Representation
in Agency, Street, and Residential Samples
(Expressed in Percentages)

	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Total</u>
Eskimo	9.7	9.7	8.3	27.7
Aleut	4.4	3.4	1.5	9.3
Indian	5.8	9.7	4.4	19.9
Black	1.5	.5	.5	2.5
Caucasian	10.2	11.7	18.4	<u>40.3</u>
				99.7

A number of significant differences were found between the three sample groups in terms of educational and employment history. The Agency group was least likely to be working at the time of the survey (10.6%), followed by the Street (26.5%) and Residential (31.9%) groups. The Residential sample was most likely (19%) to be receiving welfare and the Street sample (5.6%) was least likely. While less than 5% of the Agency or Residential groups admitted to panhandling, 15.5% of the Street group admitted to doing so.

The Residential group tended to receive more income than the Agency group as may be noted in Table IV. The Street group was most heterogeneous in their sources of income, indicating that this group contains persons ranging from unemployed to very high income earners.

In fact, 16.5% of the Street group reported income in excess of \$12,000 per year, and 4.2% reported income greater than \$30,000 annually. On the other end of the scale, however, it may be noted that 34.8%, 27.5%, and 19.1% of the Agency, Street and Residential groups, respectively, reported less than \$100 income per month. Agency group persons were least likely to receive their income regularly; Residential group persons were most likely to have regular sources of income.

14964 in 1991
184.70 in 1991

The Residential group was most likely to make expenditures for housing, while the Agency and Street groups were most likely to spend \$0 per week on housing. Residential group persons were also more likely to have grocery expenses, while Agency persons were least likely to report such expenses. The Street group spent significantly more than the other two groups on alcohol. The total expenditures of the three groups indicated

TABLE IV

Earned Income by Sample Group
(Expressed in Percentages)

Same Value in 1991 \$
Total MOA Survey

<u>Income</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<i>MOA</i>
\$1-100	34.8	22.5	19.1	<i>184 35.6</i>
\$101-250	21.2	9.9	8.8	<i>460 25.7</i>
\$251-500	28.8	28.2	42.6	<i>921 23.6</i>
\$501-1,000	9.1	22.5	23.5	<i>1842 10.4</i>
\$1,001-2,500	3.0	12.7	2.9	<i>4605 2.6</i>
\$2,500+	3.0	4.2	2.9	<i>4005+ 0.3</i>
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0	

that the Street group was more likely to spend greater than \$400 per month, the Residential group between \$201 and \$500 per month, and the Agency group was more likely to have no monthly expenditures.

For drinking and drug related behaviors, the three groups were also found to be distinguishable. Agency persons were the heaviest drinkers and were more likely to drink whatever they could get, whenever and wherever possible. However, Agency persons were also more likely to see their drinking as a problem. Residents were more likely to drink privately and were also most likely to be abstinent. The Street group usually drank at bars and had the least abstainers. Street persons were more likely to purchase alcohol in bars, and the Agency and Residential groups purchased alcohol at package stores (recall, though, that the Residential group often drank at home.)

In terms of housing and mobility, the Resident group was most likely to sleep at a hotel or apartment, the Street group was most likely to sleep at an apartment or "other" location, and the Agency group was most likely to sleep at the "mission" or "other". The Residential group tended to be least mobile, the Agency group the most mobile and the Street group mixed in terms of their mobility. Street persons were least likely to plan to live in Anchorage next fall (44.1% planning to stay) when compared to Agency (52.3%) and Residential (60.9%) persons. In addition, the Street group was most likely to come to Fourth Avenue to drink or to be with friends. (see Mobility section for more complete analysis).

As may be noted in Table V, the Agency group was much more likely to have used multiple social service agencies (78.5%) than either the Street (43.4%) or Residential (50%) groups. The social service agencies involved included C.A.S. Detox, E.M.S., Health Clinic, Studio Club, Salvation Army, Native Health Service Emergency Room, and "other" agencies. The Street group was more likely to use no social service agencies (39%) compared to the Residential group (23%) and the Agency group (2%), suggesting perhaps that this more transient group had other alternative resources than did the other two groups.

Agency persons were the most likely to receive nutritional and medical attention and, as may be noted in Table VI, Agency persons were also the most likely to have been hospitalized during the past year and to have current health problems. Residents were least likely to have self-perceived medical problems, but of those in this group who did perceive themselves as having medical problems, a greater percentage reported not receiving assistance. It should be noted that a small percentage of the Residential sample did feel they could use some help they were not getting, in particular access to food, clothing and jobs. That a portion of the otherwise stable Residential sample may be in need of additional support is further indicated by their diet. Residents were least likely to include green vegetables, potatoes or rice, fish, eggs, or beans in their diet.

The three groups were found to have recognizably different support systems. The Agency group was most likely to depend on social service agencies for economic and social support. The Street group used bars and friends for social support and the Resident group was most likely to use home and family.

TABLE V

Agency Usage Among Agency, Street, and Residential
Sample Groups

(Expressed in Percentages)

<u>Number of Agencies Used</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Residential</u>
0	1.6	33.8	22.6
1	14.8	16.4	27.4
2-4	49.2	32.8	40.3
5-10	21.3	10.4	8.1
10+	13.1	1.5	1.6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100.0	100.0	100.0

TABLE VI

Hospitalization and Health Status

(Expresses in Percentages)

	<u>Sample Group</u>		
	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Residential</u>
Hospitalized during past year:	42.4	20.8	36.8
Perceived health problems:	62.1	36.1	32.4
Received help with these problems:	83.7	79.3	58.1

Summarizing this analysis by sample group, it appears that the Residential group is the most stable and attempts to live independently. The use of welfare assistance by a portion of this group may be seen as intermittent and as an attempt to supplement their income and strive toward independence. The Agency group was the most debilitated. They are more dependent upon a greater number of agencies, have greater drinking problems, and have the least financial resources. The Street group is a curious mixture. Some within this last group appear relatively stable socially and economically, while a small percentage may be the most debilitated of all. This small sub-group sleeps in alleys, dumpsters, and hallways, lives off whatever means it can find, and constitutes what is referred to in Yiddish as luftmenche (air people) - those who live with no visible means of support. It is most important to note that the analytic boundaries between the three groups overlap, and that many persons cycle between the groups as they live their lives.

Relative Mobility and Descriptive Characteristics

The data were again analyzed for the entire sample of 206 persons based on relative mobility - a variable considered to be rather significant in the Anchorage Skid Row in particular. Three groups were identified for the purpose of this analysis. Group I was rather transient within Anchorage (less than three months permanent residence) and rather mobile (defined by considering Anchorage their home for less than one year). Group II was also rather transient but not mobile (greater than one year residence in Anchorage); and, Group III was the least transient (greater than three months permanent residence) and also the least mobile. Thus

the three groups may be summarized as -

Group I:	High Transiency/High Mobility	-- Mobile
Group II:	High Transiency/Low Mobility	-- Transient
Group III:	Low Transiency /Low Mobility	-- Stable

The obvious fourth group (Low Transiency/High Mobility) did not exist in great enough numbers to avail this group of analysis. This is understandable, as this would be an uncommon combination. For ease of discussion the three groups will be referred to as Mobile, Transient, and Stable, respectively.

The three groups were not statistically different in terms of age or ethnic background. While age differences were not statistically significant ($p < .07$), the Mobile group tended to be younger (modal age 26-35, 52.6%) than the Transient or Stable groups. Males were more likely to be represented in the Transient group than were females, and females were proportionally least likely to fall in the Mobile group.

For family history, the Mobile group was least likely to have fathers still living and least likely to have family in Anchorage. The Stable group was most likely to have family in Anchorage and to be married (19.6%) while the Transient group was most likely to be single (42.1%).

The Transient group was most likely to include heavy drinkers; this group also tends to perceive drinking as a problem. Although the Mobile group drinks heavily, drinking was not perceived to be a problem.

The Mobile group was most likely to have definite plans to leave Anchorage in the near future (less than six months) and planned to live in another city (30.6%) or village (25%) or out of state (16.7%). Members of this group tended to frequent the Fourth Avenue area as they saw it

as the only place to be while they lived in Anchorage for purposes of employment. The majority of Transient (56%) and Stable (75%) groups both planned to stay in Anchorage next fall. The Transient group considered Fourth Avenue principally as a place to drink and viewed Anchorage as their home. Many reported living in Anchorage for four or more years. The Transient group (75.5%) was also more likely to have been to jail than the Stable (60.9%) and Mobile (42.1%) groups. The Mobile group was least likely to have slept at home recently while the Stable group was most likely to have slept at home.

Analysis of the relative mobility of the Skid Row sample indicates three general groups. The Mobile group tends to be younger, lives in Anchorage for seasonal employment and frequents the Fourth Avenue area as they perceive it to be a forced alternative for both residence and recreation. The Transient group tends to be the most socially alienated of the three groups, and makes the greatest use of social services. This group appears to have the greatest social problems, including alcohol problems. The Stable group tends to have the lowest rate of drinking, is more likely to have some family support, and is least likely to leave Anchorage in the near future.

In addition to this analysis of the relative mobility of the sample, employment patterns represent another important consideration as a perspective for description of the population.

Employment Status and Descriptive Characteristics

Analysis of the aggregate findings regarding employment status showed

three rough groupings of the sample. For purposes of analysis, Group I was composed of those who reported having steady work; Group II was composed of those who reported receiving unemployment compensation, suggesting that they were recently employed; and, Group III was composed of those who reported neither steady employment nor any indication of recent employment. Thus the three groups may be summarized as follows:

Group I:	Steady work (21.6%) - Employed
Group II:	Receiving unemployment compensation (17.6%) - employabl
Group III:	No steady work or receiving unemp. comp. (60.8%)-unempl

The three groups are referred to as the "Employed", "Employables", and "Unemployed", respectively. The following findings were statistically significant ($p < .05$).

A higher proportion of women than men in the sample comprised the Employed group while men were proportionally more likely to comprise the Employable group. Native Indians (25.6%) and Caucasians (34.6%) were the most likely ethnic groups to be in the Employed group. Distinguishably, the Employable and Unemployed groups constituted relatively greater proportions of Native group members than Caucasians. The exact percentages are not meaningful due to the possible sampling bias, in view of the differences in the relative sizes of the comparison groups.

Those in the Unemployed group were less likely to have completed the twelfth grade than the other two groups, and as can be seen in Table VII, were more likely to receive income from social security, welfare, odd jobs, and other "non-traditional" sources of income such as crafts, boyfriends, and friends. They were also most likely to find themselves broke. Both the Employed and Employable groups tended to receive their

TABLE VII

Employment Categories and Sources of Income
(Expressed in Percentages)

<u>Income Sources</u>	<u>E m p l o y m e n t S t a t u s</u>		
	<u>Employed</u>	<u>Employable</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>
Steady Work	100.0	0.0	0.0
Social Security	0.0	0.0	10.7
Welfare	0.0	2.9	17.4
Odd Jobs	15.9	22.9	38.0
Other	4.5	11.4	26.4

income on a regular basis from steady work or odd jobs. Of those currently married, those living with their spouses were significantly more likely to have work.

In terms of expenditures, those in the Employed group had the largest amount of expenditures in general, and spent more than the other two groups for recreation and housing in particular. Those in the Unemployed group were least likely to have expenditures for anything except alcohol. However, all three groups spent appreciable amounts of money on alcohol. Twenty-five percent of the entire sample reported spending between \$21.00 and \$50.00 per week on alcohol.

In regard to drinking and drug related behavior, those persons in the Employed and Employable groups had significantly easier access to alcohol and were more likely to do their drinking at a bar than those who composed the Unemployed group. Perhaps due to expense, those with steady work were more likely to drink hard liquor and use a private car for transportation than the other two groups. Those in the Unemployed group were more likely to drink any type of alcohol than were the other two groups, and was the only group to drink on the street (e.g., streets, alleys, hallways). As may be noted in Table VIII, there is a tendency for those who are not working to be more likely to hang out on the street.

Few significant findings were found for the relationship between employment status and housing and mobility or utilization of social services. However, the relationship between number of social services used and employment status did approach significance ($p < .06$). In this regard those in the Unemployed group were more likely to use the services of

TABLE VIII

Relationship Between Employment Status and Recent Work, and Street Activity

	<u>Employed</u>	<u>Employable</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>
Been on job since yesterday:	61.4	5.7	11.6
Hung out on street since yesterday:	18.2	37.1	38.8

multiple agencies than were those in the Employed or Employable groups. In addition, they were significantly more likely to eat lunch at the Salvation Army Soupline and also reported more health problems at the time of the survey. The Employable group also made occasional use of the agency meal distribution centers. In contrast, the Employed group was more likely to eat at home than the other two groups.

The three groups are highly distinguishable in respect to support systems. Both the Employable and Unemployed groups were more likely to have hung out on the street with friends, as reported in Table VIII, and were also more likely to have used social services during the week preceding the survey than those who had steady work. The Unemployed group was also more likely to have had contact with a social worker, slept on the street, and been to the hospital in the week preceding the survey, than the other two groups. Interestingly, and unexplainably, they were also more likely to have seen their children.

In contrast, those who were in the Employed group were more likely to have been on the job, and to have seen their families during some period of the year. However, they were also more likely to have been in recent contact with the police (11.4%). These findings suggest that many of the members of the Employed group have families elsewhere in the state and tend to be in Anchorage for employment.

In summary, the data were analyzed for differences between respondents characterized as Employed, Employable, and Unemployed. It was found that both Native Indians and Caucasians composed the Employed group

in relatively large proportions. Of those married, those living with their spouses were more likely to have steady work than those not currently living with their spouses. In general, those with steady work were less likely to drink heavily, financially more stable, more self-reliant, and physically healthier than the other two groups. They were also more prone to recent police contact and more likely to see their families during some periods of the year. This suggests that a portion of those employed migrate to find employment. Those who had neither steady work nor unemployment compensation benefits seemed to be the most socially debilitated. They were more likely to sleep on the street, be broke, be in poor health, drink more heavily than the other two groups, and drink on the street.

Social Service Agency Utilization and Descriptive Characteristics

One final segment of the analysis of the study data concerns closer examination of the nature of the relationship between the extent of social and public service agency utilization and the social/behavioral descriptive characteristics of the Anchorage Skid Row population. Extent of social and public service agency utilization was defined in terms of the number of agencies encountered by respondents. Four groups were designated for analysis:

Group I:	0 agencies used
Group II:	1 agency used
Group III:	2-4 agencies used
Group IV:	5 or more agencies used

The following agencies or agency services considered in this analysis were: detox, hospital, emergency room, E.M.S., health clinic, public assistance,

B.I.A., police, jail, court, Veteran's Administration, Rescue Mission, Salvation Army and Employment Service.

There were no significant differences between the four groups with regard to age or ethnic group. The modal range of agencies used by Native Indians, Eskimos and Caucasians was two-to-four. Women were significantly more likely than men to use no agencies, whereas men were more likely than women to use five or more agencies. The following differences between the four groups were found to be statistically significant.

As can be seen in Table IX, there is a high inverse association between employment status and utilization of multiple agencies. Group I persons--those who reported using no agency services--were most likely to be employed - 41.3%. Almost two-thirds of those working were Groups I and II persons--those who utilized none or only one social service agency. In Groups III and IV, representing extensive agency service utilization, almost two-thirds were unemployed. Further, apparently logically related to employment status and regular sources of income, moderate levels of recreational expenditures were correlated with lower levels of agency service utilization.

Drinking and drug related behavior was clearly associated with agency use. The following alcohol-related responses characterized the high agency users:

1. Can't always get the alcohol they want;
2. Drink on the street or at "other" locations (not home or in bars);
3. Buy alcohol at package store;

TABLE IX

Relationship Between Current Employment Status
and Extent of Agency Use
(Expressed in Percentages)

<u>Current Employment Status</u>	<u>Number of Agencies Used</u>			
	<u>Group I 0 Agencies</u>	<u>Group II 1 Agency</u>	<u>Group III 2-4 Agencies</u>	<u>Group I 5+ Agenc</u>
Working:	41.3	21.7	28.3	8.7
Not Working:	15.3	18.8	44.4	21.5

4. Perceive their own drinking as a problem;
5. Mother and/or father drank heavily.

These five factors clearly establish that there is a strong relationship between alcohol usage and agency dependence. The nature of the association between these responses and high multiple agency utilization depicts the cyclic nature of the alcohol and agency dependence of this segment of the Skid Row population.

Health and nutritional factors have often been related to alcoholism and Skid Row habitation. In this regard, it was found that multiple agency users (Group III and IV) were more likely to report medical problems, hospitalization, and problems keeping clean. However, the reported frequency of agency interaction indicates multiple agency attention to these problems.

Those reporting no agency contacts whatsoever were also associated with more stable economic and social support systems. This relatively more stable group also drinks and socializes in bars to a great extent. In contrast, the support system of the multiple agency users is more agency oriented and socially isolated from a wider range of social and economic behavior of the greater society. An indication of this narrowed range of experience is depicted by the factors in Table X, which are significantly related to more extensive multiple agency use.

This is not to say, for example, that all who use multiple agencies had recently slept on the street. In fact, only about twenty persons surveyed had slept on the street during the past week. However, to continue with

TABLE X

Relationship Between Support System Factors
and Agency Use

(Expressed in Percentages)

<u>Response</u>	<u>Number of Agencies Used</u>				
	<u>Group I</u> <u>0 Agencies</u>	<u>Group II</u> <u>1 Agency</u>	<u>Group III</u> <u>2-4 Agencies</u>	<u>Group IV</u> <u>5+ Agencies</u>	
Employed this past week	Yes: 36.5 No: 15.9	Yes: 19.2 No: 19.6	Yes: 30.8 No: 44.2	Yes: 13.5 No: 20.3	100 100
Used social services this past week	Yes: 5.3 No: 28.6	Yes: 3.5 No: 26.3	Yes: 61.4 No: 31.6	Yes: 29.8 No: 13.5	100 100
Slept on the street this past week	Yes: -0- No: 24.1	Yes: 20.0 No: 19.4	Yes: 40.0 No: 40.6	Yes: 40.0 No: 15.9	100 100
Slept with woman/man this past week	Yes: 31.9 No: 15.0	Yes: 21.7 No: 18.3	Yes: 21.7 No: 43.3	Yes: 36.1 No: 23.3	100 100
Been hospitalized this past week	Yes: 2.0 No: 28.8	Yes: 11.8 No: 22.3	Yes: 52.9 No: 36.0	Yes: 33.3 No: 12.9	100: 100:

this example, of those who did sleep on the street, a much greater proportion (80%) were multiple agency users, and not one out of twenty used no agency services.

In summary, the extent of multiple agency utilization was found to be significantly associated with several critical variables that served to distinguish sub-groups within the Skid Row sample. The most significant variables included employment status, sex, drinking behavior, recreational activity, health and nutrition and, in general, life support systems. The relationship between unemployment, alcohol abuse, deteriorated health and multiple agency dependence appears to be quite strong.

DISCUSSION

This Discussion includes four major areas. First the distinguishing characteristics of the Anchorage Skid Row population will be discussed. Following this presentation of their common characteristics, various descriptions of subgroups are constructed which further delineate the population. The role of social service agencies in the Skid Row ecosystem is discussed separately and finally a "working definition" of the Skid Row public inebriate consistent with the reported findings is suggested.

Group Characteristics: Anchorage Skid Row Population

Direct survey of participants in the Anchorage Fourth Avenue area indicates that this area does indeed represent a Skid Row area in the

traditional use of the term. The participation in this general lifestyle that centers in the Fourth Avenue territory includes a characteristic range of behaviors. Alcoholism was found to be prevalent, as was a marginal relationship with the greater society. Contrary to many voiced notions about the Anchorage Skid Row, a certain segment of this group is indeed composed of working men with relatively regular sources of income. In addition, the population also includes those with somewhat more intermittent income that may be supplemented by some form of federal or state financial assistance, as well as those with no visible means of support. Furthermore, the nature of the whole group within the overall Fourth Avenue lifestyle is not consistent with the superficial street appearance. Although the participants are primarily members of Native groups, the proportion of representation of Natives is about 60% of the total, rather than local "common knowledge" which estimates the figure to be closer to 98% of the total. This percentage of minority persons serves to distinguish the Anchorage Skid Row from other areas studied in the nation, in which the majority of the participants were aged, caucasian males. Additional distinguishing characteristics of the Anchorage Skid Row population includes a younger population, a somewhat greater percentage of females (Blumberg et al., 1971; Rubington, 1971) and a relatively high percentage of veterans.

Utilization of social services was marked among members of this population and this finding is highly consistent with those of earlier studies on other Skid Row areas. Miller, Pokorny and Kanas (1970) and Plunker (1961) have both suggested that specialized rehabilitative service can be

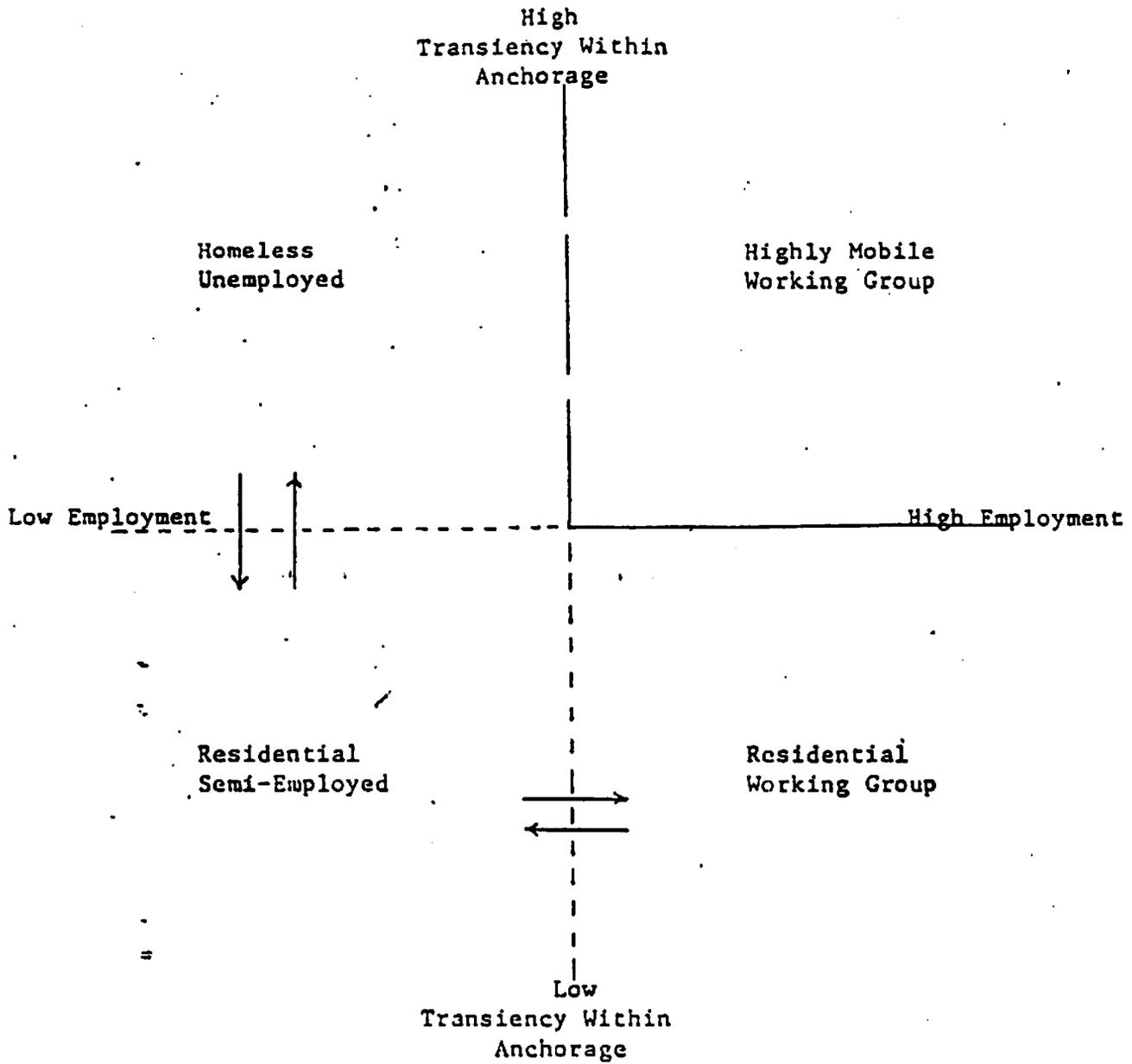
effective in the treatment of Skid Row alcoholics and the general acceptance of this premise has led to many such programs in Anchorage and elsewhere. Some members of the Skid Row population make greater use of those agencies than others. Consistent with this differential agency usage, members of the population differ on their degree of debilitation.

Consistent with the nature of the Skid Row population in other cities, the Anchorage Skid Row population is also able to be sub-divided or classified analytically according to variables such as residential status, employment, transiency, mobility, social service agency utilization, health, nutrition, income, expenditures, drinking habits, family background and, in general, life support systems. Although it is possible to analytically classify subgroups of this population according to these variables at any one point in time, it is important to keep in mind that group classification actually overlap, and that individuals tend to slide from one group to another rather than remain highly stable.

Subgroups of the Population: A Model

The various findings presented in the Results section suggest certain dimensions and patterns which appear to best describe the overall Skid Row population as divided into a number of definable subgroups. As may be seen in Figure I, four subgroups can be constructed which closely fit the data. Using Transiency Within Anchorage as the vertical axis and Employment as the horizontal axis, four groups may be clearly depicted. The groups in clockwise order from the top right are: 1) the

Subgroups of the Fourth Avenue Skid Row Population



—————→
 (potential exchange of members)

 (relatively permeable boundary)

=====

(relatively impermeable boundary)

Highly-Mobile-Working Group; 2) the Residential-Working Group; 3) the Residential-Semi-Employed Group; and 4) the Homeless-Unemployed Group.

The Highly-Mobile-Working group primarily consists of men, away from their families, who come to Anchorage in order to find winter employment. They are perhaps somewhat younger than the rest of the population and tend to be in good health. This group does not heavily utilize social services, but some of them use the free food programs that are available. They appear to have other alternatives available for food and shelter than do the other groups. Their most likely drinking place is in bars. Although this group tends to be involved in minor public incidents involving police, they are the least likely to spend time in jail.

The Highly-Mobile-Working group perceives the Fourth Avenue area as a forced recreational choice while either obtaining employment or working in Anchorage, while away from their immediate family and home towns. Most of the Highly-Mobile-Working group plan to leave Anchorage in the spring to work at home or in other cities or villages.

The Residential-Working group shares the characteristic of relatively regular work with the Highly-Mobile-Working group but maintains a more stable residence in Anchorage. In fact, the Residential-Working group is the most socially stable of the four groups. This group tends to reside in Anchorage year-round and tends to find fairly steady employment. Some members of this group live with their families, but most are single men. This group tends to be independent and does not utilize

social service agency resources as a rule. The Residential-Working group chooses to live in the Fourth Avenue area because of its inexpensive housing and central location, and many of these persons do not use Fourth Avenue recreationally. While many members of this group do drink, they tend to be more moderate in their public drinking behavior, and drink most often at home.

Another subgroup of the Skid Row population that also resides in the Fourth Avenue area may be called the Residential-Semi-employed. This group tends to live in Anchorage year-round, but is not as socially stable as the Residential-Working group. The irregular sources of income for this group includes odd jobs, social security, workmen's compensation, and if Native, financial assistance from agencies such as Cook Inlet Native Association. This use of financial assistance may explain why, in an earlier part of the analysis, the Residential sample group considered as a whole was found to receive a relatively higher percentage of welfare assistance. In fact, the Residential-Semi-employed subgroup may have been responsible for this apparent discrepancy.

The Residential-Semi-employed group does make limited use of free food services and some members of this group report a need for such essentials as clothing, medical attention and jobs. This group may be a critical target for intervention, as an increase in employment and residential stability might help shift this group toward the more stable Residential-Working group. However, failure for this group to find employment is probably associated with their intermittent entry into the most debilitated group, that of the Homeless-Unemployed.

The Homeless-Unemployed group may be the most socially maladjusted of the four groups. Group members tend to be transient within Anchorage, but reside in Anchorage year-round. This group is composed of males who do not work, who have no recent work history and thus are unable to qualify for any type of consistent financial assistance. These persons have no visible means of support - no income, no way to provide for shelter, food or alcohol. The Homeless-Unemployed group drinks alcohol wherever possible and as much as possible. Public social service agencies are their primary support systems, yet these agency interactions are only brief and sporadic - just moment-to-moment and day-to-day. Their lives are conducted publicly on the street--drinking, sleeping, socializing. With no income, they are not usual customers at bars, cafes or hotels. They are frequent users of short-term health services and even enter long-term services, only to leave prematurely. They have many needs for services directly associated with their street life style, which are typified by injuries and health problems associated with alcohol consumption, sleeping and eating from dumpsters, sleeping near steam pipes, and other sanitary problems.

Social Service Agencies and the Skid Row Ecosystem

Public and social service agencies play a principal role in the life style of Skid Row dwellers. Many of those interviewed in the study used five or more agencies on a regular basis. An example of a "typical" person who lives in this ecosystem would best illustrate this point.

Joe Brown (a fictitious character) has lived in Anchorage four years.

Joe is now living in a hotel in the Fourth Avenue area, after a recent one-month stay at the Salvation Army (his third stay there). Breakfasts and dinners are received at The Mission and lunches at the Salvation Army soup line. Joe is a skilled carpenter and was trained at the Skill Center, however, he prefers to work odd jobs; this week he worked for two days. Evenings are spent in the bars on Fourth Avenue and he's welcome there now because for a time he can pay. Last night he passed out drunk and hit his head and was taken by Emergency Medical Services to the hospital. Today he says he feels fine, but is a little too ill to work. Anyway he can't work because he has to see an employment counselor in the early afternoon, so he's decided to spend the day on Fourth Avenue. "After all," he asks, "where else is there to go?" His alcohol consumption is again increasing.

While Joe is a fictitious character, his example illustrates two important points. The first point is simply that the person living in the Skid Row area is involved in a complex sub-culture in which agency usage is an integral component. The second point is that the very existence of the agencies help constitute present day Skid Row and perpetuate a cycle from which the individual has no apparent exit. Furthermore, some persons see little or no reward value in rehabilitation and/or exit from Skid Row which may reflect the function of Skid Row within the societal system of economic and social stratification.

The heaviest use of the agencies was found to be made by the group which was earlier labeled the Homeless-Unemployed. This group frequently uses emergency medical services, hospital emergency room, detox and food providers. In addition, group members enter short- and long-term alcohol treatment services only to drop out after their most im-

mediate needs for sustenance are satisfied. This cycle appears to be frequently repeated. Involved contact with law enforcement activity and jail appears infrequently. Perhaps similar or even greater benefits might be derived for this group from a health care maintenance program of protective care, rather than intensive alcoholism treatment services. The next section suggests a working definition of the Skid Row public inebriate which is based on the findings of this study in regard to this Homeless-Unemployed group.

A Working Definition of the Skid Row Public Inebriate

The Skid Row inebriate would seem to be most closely represented in the model offered in Figure I as the Homeless-Unemployed group. Individuals in this group live transient lifestyles within Anchorage, but do not generally leave the Anchorage area. They tend to be unemployed and depend heavily on agency services, and make the required use of odd jobs and panhandling for their very limited income which is primarily used to purchase alcohol. This group tends to have less education than other groups yet some members are skilled laborers or college educated. These individuals are very dependent on the day-to-day services that are the extensions of several social programs - the detox center (not located in the Skid Row area), the Salvation Army soup-lunch, and the Rescue Mission dinner and shelter services. They tend to utilize these services to "get by", to get from day-to-day. Alcoholism treatment services tend to be entered not as the first step in rehabilitation, but only as further support for "getting by". This is not to say that any individual could not utilize existing treatment services

and enter into a different lifestyle. However, this is not likely, both in view of the nature of the history of the lifestyle of this group and in terms of the history of the reported experience of the social service agencies of Anchorage.

Alcohol abuse and addiction, along with a marginal social position appear to be the two most defining characteristics of the Homeless-Unemployed group. Life for this group is conducted in public -- drinking, sleeping, eating, socializing, or acquiring needed support. Most all activities are most often public events. The obvious consumption of alcohol and the obvious life behavior problems associated with that consumption, and the obvious "publicness" of their lives distinguish this group from the rest of the Skid Row population as well as locate group members as the most socially distant from the greater society.

Summary/Conclusions

The findings of the present study regarding the descriptive characteristics of the Skid Row population of the Anchorage Fourth Avenue area indicate the existence of characteristic lifestyle behaviors, but with some notable exceptions. The general characteristic range of lifestyle behaviors in this area is similar to other urban Skid Row areas. Alcoholism was found to be prevalent, as was a marginal relationship with the larger society. A certain segment of the overall population is composed of working men with relatively regular sources of income. In addition, the population also includes those with somewhat more intermittent sources of income, as well as those with no visible means

of support. The superficial street appearance of the population is misleading. Although the participants are primarily members of Alaskan Native groups, the proportional representation of the Natives is about 60% of the total, which is quite different compared to the "common knowledge" based on street observation which indicates the figure to be closer to 98%. This percentage of minority persons in Skid Row is, however, uncharacteristic of other urban Skid Row areas. Further distinguishing characteristics include a younger population, and a greater proportion of females.

The findings of the present study regarding the descriptive characteristics of the Anchorage Skid Row population were able to be distributed along two primary dimensions of employment and mobility in a manner that allowed the construction of four distinguishable subgroups of the population. The most debilitated group, the Homeless-Unemployed, fits most closely to the general stereotypic and historical impression of the "public inebriate." This group is the most significant user of agency resources, the least likely to have employment and, in general, the most socially and personally debilitated.

The Highly-Mobile-Working group and the Residential-Employed group were found to be the most healthy and least maladjusted within Skid Row. The former group usually works in Anchorage during the winter season and migrates back to villages, fishing communities and construction jobs when warm weather comes. The Residential-Employed group, on the other hand, contains long-term inhabitants of Anchorage who maintain a residence in the Fourth Avenue area and independently provide for food,

recreation, and other social activities.

A fourth group, the Residential-Semi-Employed, is the most ill-defined group. It represents not only a mixture of the other groups but appears to be a primary transition group as individuals go through cycles and exchange positions. The interchange between this group and the Homeless-Unemployed and the Residential-Employed may be common. It would seem that more intensive adult services provided to this group at this time of transition could be very critical for the character of the Skid Row population.

A social strategy whereby general health care maintenance programs, that would include the services and facilities more common to adult protective care services, would be available to the homeless, unemployed persons in the Skid Row population and would seem to be consistent with the descriptive characteristics of this subgroup. Their participation in the more intensive alcoholism treatment services and other social service programs for only short periods of time only to satisfy immediate needs precludes the availability of those resources for others with greater rehabilitation potential.

Such maintenance type programs would seem better suited to the needs and characteristics of this homeless, unemployed group and particularly aid in the reduction in the extent to which their lives are conducted in public. Facilities and services that would provide alternatives to the streets, alleys, doorways, and dumpsters for life activities would be useful in this regard. Further, the availability of these maintenance facilities and services for health, sanitation, food, shelter, and nutrition would

most logically be located within the territory already designated as the Skid Row area. In many cases, it seems that it is the commerce or transgressions across boundary lines that causes more political and public concern than the observation of the condition and human needs in evidence.

Exact enumeration of the Anchorage Skid Row population is impossible. However, the question of size is an important consideration, thus a very rough estimate of the size of the population may be suggested based on data collected for this study, reported findings, and on information recorded by social service agencies that interact daily with the various segments of the population.

Approximately nineteen percent of the survey respondents reported being regular users of the Detoxification Unit of the Comprehensive Alcoholism Services. If regular users of detox services are defined as persons who used detox three or more times during the last year, then according to the actual detox unit records the projected estimate of the overall Skid Row population would be somewhere around 700 persons. This figure would then include all persons in all the various subgroups of the population that may be defined. The basis for the determination of this figure certainly leaves a great deal to be desired. If one were to further assume that not all of the multiple users of the detox services were Skid Row participants, and estimate that about eighty percent was a more appropriate guess, then the total population estimate would become closer to about 560 persons.

The other numerical estimate of interest is the size of the Skid Row

public inebriate subgroup. Study findings indicated that about 60% of the unemployed respondents were also high users of multiple agencies. Given this information, and the findings regarding the drinking behavior, and lifestyle conditions of this homeless and unemployed group, and equating this portion of the group to multiple users of the detox services (three or more times), then the approximate size of the Skid Row public inebriate subgroup would be about 90 persons. This figure also approximates the informed estimates of social service workers in the Skid Row area which set the number for this group somewhere between 75 and 100 persons.

It must be emphasized that these estimates are only estimates. They represent the best guess possible given the available information. They are offered at this time only as tentative working figures and must be regarded in this perspective.

Future Research

The nature of the present investigation was primarily descriptive. The focus of concern was the nature of the target population of Skid Row participants. The time constraints on investigation allowed for only analysis of variables that were readily quantifiable. Further analysis of the same data along with additional data not able to be included in this analysis would allow a more detailed examination of family, education residential, and employment history, as well as a more detailed examination of mobility patterns.

The findings of the present study suggest that additional research regarding the behavior patterns of Skid Row participants might focus on

personal interaction patterns, patterns of personal interaction with social service agencies and private business (hotels, bars, cafes, etc.) as well as a case history approach of selected representatives of the various subgroups of the population.

In addition, the nature of the matrix of involvement of the various federal, state, regional, local and private agencies and their delegated duties and responsibilities in relation to the needs and characteristics of the Skid Row population and the societal context in which this population exists would also appear to be worthy of attention.

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Rebo Study

APPENDIX I:

THE "FOURTH AVENUE STUDY"

APPENDIX I

Percentage Distribution of Responses to Coded Questionnaire Items
for Entire Sample

I. Demographic Information

2. Sex: Male: 81.6 Female: 18.4

3. Age: 14-17: .5 26-35: 36.7
18-25: 19.7 36-45: 23.4
45+: 19.7

4. Race: A. Eskimo: 26.8
33.6 { B. Aleut: 10.0
C & D. Other Indians: 20.5
57.3

D. Black: 2.6 10.5
E. Asian: .5 .7
F. Caucasian: 39.5 49.3
5.6 Hosp
54.9

II. Family History

5a. Is your mother living: Yes: 58.5
No: 41.5

5b. How old were you when she died: 0-7: 23.7 19-25: 11.8
8-12: 13.2 25+: 43.4
13-18: 7.9

6a. Is your father living: Yes: 43.0
No: 57.0

6b. How old were you when he died: 0-7: 18.6 19-25: 16.7
8-12: 13.7 25+: 32.4
13-18: 18.6

II. Family History (Continued)

7. How many children in your family: 1: 6.3 5-7: 27.0
2: 9.0 8+: 32.3
3-4: 24.9

8. Were you adopted out: Yes: 14.8
No: 85.2

9. Was there someone else in the home who helped raise you: Yes: 11.4
No: 88.6

11. Marital Status: A. Married: 13.2 85
B. Divorced: 28.4 29.0
C. Widowed: 2.6 1.3
D. Separated: 0.4 9.4
E. Single: 47.4 53.7

12. Have you ever been married: Yes: 53.2
No: 46.3

12a. How many times were you married: 0: 46.3 3-4: 5.1
1: 33.9 5+: ---
2: 14.7

12c. If married, are you living with your spouse
at the present time: Yes: 36.7
No: 63.3

12d. If married, do you see your spouse during some
periods of the year and not others: Yes: 31.1
No: 68.8

13. Do you see your family during some periods of the
year and not others: Yes: 59.7
No: 40.3

II. Family History (Continued)

14. How many children do you have: 0: 51.6 3-4: 10.6
 1: 10.6 5-7: 5.3
 2: 13.3 8+: .5

15. Do you have any family here in Anchorage: Yes: 51.1
 No: 48.9

III. Educational & Employment History

16. Did you have any religious training: Yes: 68.4
 No: 31.6

16a. Denomination: Catholic: 19.1 Protestant: 16.3
 Lutherans: 9.9 Buddhist: 0.0
 Baptist: 14.9 Methodist: 3.5
 Jewish: .7 Other: 25.5
 Russian Orthodox: 9.9

17. Did you have extensive religious training: Yes: 20.1
 No: 75.9

18. What grade did you complete in school: 3rd or less: 1.6
 4th - 7th: 8.5
 8th grade: 13.2
 9th - 11th: 22.2
 12th grade: 37.6
 12th +: 16.9

Ed level increased
0-6 5.0
7-11 30.5
12+ 25.2

19. Did you go away from home to attend school: Yes: 34.2
 No: 65.8

20. Have you ever lived just "off the land": Yes: 48.4
 No: 51.6

III. Educational & Employment History (Continued)

Some Q
D.H.O

21. Do you have any special job training: Yes: 71.6
 No: 28.4

54.6
45.4

22. Were you in the military: Yes: 42.6
 No: 57.4

22c. What type of discharge: Honorable: 94.8
 Medical: 1.3
 Dishonorable: 0.0

Administrative:
 Other:

23. Are you working now: Yes: 24.2
 No: 75.8

19.9
80.1

Some Q

26. Do you get: (Amounts shown per month)

a. Social Security: Yes: 6.3 \$0: 91.1 \$101-200: .2
 No: 93.7 \$1-25: 1.1 \$200-500: 1
 \$51-100: .5

b. Pension: Yes: 1.6 \$0: 97.9 \$101 - 200: .5
 No: 98.4 \$1-25: .5 \$500+: .5
 \$51-100: .5

c. Workmen's Compensation: Yes: 0.0 \$0: 99.5
 No: 100.0 \$1-25: .5

d. Welfare: Yes: 10.5 \$0: 88.3 \$101-200: 1.6
 No: 89.5 \$1-25: .5 \$200-500: 4.8
 \$51-100: 4.8

e. Steady Work: Yes: 25.3 \$0: 74.3 \$101-200: 1.1
 No: 74.7 \$1-25: 1.1 \$200-500: 7.0
 \$51-100: 1.1 \$500+: 15.5

f. Odd Jobs: Yes: 28.6 \$0: 70.2 \$101-200: 9.0
 No: 71.4 \$1-25: 3.2 \$200-500: 4.8
 \$26-50: 2.1 \$500+: 4.8
 \$51-100: 5.9

III. Educational & Employment History (Continued)

26. (Con't)

g. Pan handling:	Yes:	7.4	\$0:	92.6	\$51-100:	.5
	No:	92.6	\$1-25:	3.7	\$101-200:	1.1
			\$26-40:	1.1	\$201-500:	0.0
					\$500+:	1.1

h. Unemployment Comp:	Yes:	19.0	\$0:	81.0	\$51-100:	1.6
	No:	81.0	\$1-25:	.5	\$101-200:	5.3
			\$26-50:	.5	\$201-500:	11.1

i. Savings:	Yes:	7.4	\$0:	92.5	\$51-100:	1.1
	No:	92.1	\$1-25:	2.1	\$101-200:	1.6
					\$201-500:	2.7

j. Other:	Yes:	17.5	\$0:	82.4	\$51-100:	1.6
	No:	82.5	\$1-25:	1.6	\$101-200:	3.2
			\$26-50:	1.1	\$200-500:	10.2

W PFD

~~21.5~~ 31.1

21.0

17.5

23.9

5.9

0.6

Sum Total:	\$0-100:	25.4	35.8
	\$101-250:	14.3	26.5
	\$251-500:	31.7	21.7
	\$501-1000:	19.6	13.2
	\$1001-2500:	5.8	3.0
	\$2500+:	3.2	0.6

Med in 78.
not inc
PFD

27. Do you receive your income regularly:	Yes:	52.6
	No:	47.4

29. Do you often find yourself broke:	Yes:	82.6
	No:	17.4

MOA Survey

Q = 57.0 0 = 57%
~~1 - 6.31~~ 25.24 = 7.4
~~- 12.63~~ 50.52 = 8.7
~~- 7~~ 25.26 x 4 101.00 = 8.1
 63.16 x 4 252.64 = 9.4
 505.78 = 5.5
 506+ 3.5

III. Educational & Employment History (Continued)

29. How much do you spend a week on:

a. Housing:	\$0:	39.2	\$21-50:	28.6
	\$1-5:	1.1	\$51-100:	27.5
	\$6-10:	.5	\$101:	1.1
	\$11-20:	2.1		

b. Restaurant:	\$0:	54.0	\$21-50:	14.3
	\$1-5:	10.6	\$51-100:	1.1
	\$6-10:	10.1	\$101:	.5
	\$11-20:	9.5		

c. Cigarettes:	\$0:	23.9	\$11-20:	4.8
	\$1-5:	44.1	\$21-50:	.5
	\$6-10:	26.6		

d. Groceries:	\$0:	39.4	\$21-50:	28.7
	\$1-5:	.5	\$51-101:	8.0
	\$6-10:	5.3	\$101:	1.6
	\$11-20:	16.5		

e. Transportation:	\$0:	65.6	\$11-20:	5.3
	\$1-5:	14.8	\$21-50:	4.2
	\$6-10:	9.0	\$51-100:	1.1

f. Drink:	\$0:	33.3	\$21-50:	25.9	25.26 - 63.16
	\$1-5:	9.5	\$51-100:	6.9	63.16 - 126.32
	\$6-10:	10.6	\$101:	1.6	+ 126.32
	\$11-20:	12.2			

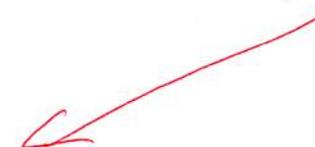
1, 2, 6, 31 7.4
 6, 31 - 12, 63 8.7
 1, 2, 6, 3 - 25, 26 8.1

g. Drugs:	\$0:	89.9	\$21-50:	1.6
	\$1-5:	.5	\$51-100:	1.1
	\$6-10:	1.6	\$101:	.5
	\$11-20:	4.8		

h. Recreation:	\$0:	73.8	\$11-20:	1.7
	\$1-5:	15.0	\$21-50:	1.6
	\$6-10:	5.9		

Total Monthly Expenditures:	\$0:	4.8
	\$1-100:	13.8
	\$101-200:	8.5
	\$201-500:	44.4
	\$501-1000:	24.9
	\$1000+:	3.7

in 1990
Booze #



IV. Drinking & Drug Related Behavior

30. Do you drink: Yes: 88.9
No: 11.1
31. Do you: a. Drink the same all the time: 69.4
b. Go on binges or sprees: 30.6
32. How often do you drink: Daily: 41.3
Few times a week: 31.4
Less: 27.3
35. Do you usually drink: alone: 19.8
with others: 79.1
36. What do you usually drink: beer: 37.8
wine: 8.1
hard liquor: 25.0
combination: 29.1
37. Can you always get the alcohol you want: Yes: 73.8
No: 26.2
38. When alcohol can't be gotten, do you drink stereo, aftershave
or other non-beverage alcohol: Yes: 4.6
No: 95.4
39. Where do you usually drink: Bar: 36.0 Private residence: 24.4
Street: 10.5 Other, or combina-
tion: 29.1
40. Where do you usually get your alcohol: Bar: 33.1
Package Store: 56.4
Both: 10.5
41. Is your drinking a problem: Yes: 46.6 **49.8**
No: 53.4
42. Did your mother or father drink heavily: Yes: 43.3
No: 56.7

IV. Drinking & Drug Related Behavior (Continued)

43. Do you use drugs other than alcohol: Yes: 27.8
No: 72.2
44. If yes, how often: Daily: 28.3
Few times a week: 34.0
Less often: 35.8

No place for \$500

V. Housing and Mobility

45. Where did you sleep last night: Mission: 11.1 Sally: 4.2
Hotel: 24.9 Other: 33.9
Apt.: 25.9
46. How many nights have you stayed at that place:
1: 9.0 8-31: 20.7
2-4: 11.7 1-3 mos: 18.1
5-7: 11.7 3 mos+: 28.7
50. Does your place have hot and cold running water: Hot & Cold: 72.3
Hot: 0.0
Cold: .5
Neither: 27.1
51. How is the temperature of your room: Too cold: 8.1
Too hot: 4.3
About right: 87.6
- 52a. Does anyone ever share your room with you: Yes: 69.4
No: 30.6
- 52b. How many: 0: 23.1 3: 1.8
1: 43.8 4: 2.4
2: 9.5 4+: 19.5
54. How do you get around Anchorage:
A. Walk: Yes: 70.5 D. Taxi: Yes: 11.6
No: 28.9 No: 88.4
B. Bus: Yes: 31.6 E. Other: Yes: 9.5
No: 68.4 No: 90.5
C. Private Car: Yes: 17.4
No: 82.6

V. Housing and Mobility (Continued)

58. Do you think Anchorage is a safe city for you to live in: Yes: 71.0
No: 29.0

59. Do you have definite plans to leave Anchorage this spring or summer:
Yes: 48.7
No: 51.3

60. Where do you plan to live next fall: Anchorage: 52.3
Other city: 21.3
Villages: 14.9
Out of State: 11.5

61a. When do you come downtown to the 4th Ave. area: Nights: 14.3
Days: 28.0
Both: 15.3
Other: 41.8

61b. Why: Only place to go: 1.6 Drink: 15.0
Recreation: 7.0 Other: 50.3
Friends: 26.2

62. How long have you lived in Anchorage: Less than one month: 5.3
1-3 months: 6.9
4-6 months: 5.3
6 mos - 1 year: 4.8 $32.9 = 38.8$
Over 1 year: 77.1

63. Why do you stay in Anchorage: My home: 13.4 Like the area: 27.3
Employment: 31.0 On my way to: .5
No where else: 5.9 Others: 21.9

65. Have you travelled out of the state this past year: Yes: 16.4
No: 83.6

VI. Service Provider and Caretaker Contract

66. How many times this past year have you been arrested:
0: 63.0 2-4: 13.8
1: 22.2 5+: 1.1

VI. Service Provider & Caretaker Contract

67. Have you ever been to prison or jail: Yes: 64.2
No: 34.7

68. Contact with the following this past month:

	Yes/Favorable	Yes/Unfavorable	No
A. Detox:	16.8	2.1	81.1
B. Emergency Room:	17.9	1.1	81.1
C. Hospital:	35.8	3.2	61.1
D. E.M.S.:	9.5	.5	90.0
E. Health Clinics:	17.9	1.6	80.5
F. Public Assistance:	15.8	2.6	81.6
G. New Start:	3.2	1.1	95.8
H. Studio Clubs:	4.7	1.6	93.7
I. Voc. Rehab:	6.3	.5	93.2
J. Police:	8.9	7.4	83.7
K. Jail:	5.3	7.9	86.8
L. Court:	8.9	6.3	84.7
M. V.A.:	9.5	2.1	88.4
N. Sally:	33.7	2.6	63.2
O. Other:	15.8	2.6	81.6
P. Other:	4.2	1.6	94.2

Sum of agencies used: 0: _____ 5-10: _____
1: _____ 10+: _____
2-4: _____

10

VI. Service Provider & Caretaker Contact (Continued)

69. Contact with the following this past week:

	<u>Yes/Favorable</u>	<u>No/Unfavorable</u>	<u>No</u>
Rooming House I	41.6	3.7	54.7
Rooming House II	3.7	.5	95.8
Bars I	60.0	5.8	34.2
Bars II	47.4	5.3	47.4
Cafes I	58.9	2.1	38.9
Cafes II	26.8	.5	72.6
Package Stores I	52.6	1.1	46.3
Package Stores II	12.1	.5	87.4
Farm Shops I	4.7	1.1	94.2
Farm Shops II	.5	0.0	99.5

VII. Health, Nutrition & Hygiene

70. How many meals do you eat a day: 1: 22.8 4+: 1.1
2: 40.7
3: 35.4

71. Breakfast at: Cafe: 13.9 Bar: .9
Mission: 17.6 Room: 31.5
Sally: 5.6 Other: 30.6

72. Lunch at: Cafe: 17.3 Bar: 18.9
Mission: 7.9 Room: 26.0
Sally: 29.9 Other:

73. Dinner at: Cafe: 17.9 Bar: 1.2
Mission: 17.3 Room: 24.9
Sally: 5.8 Other: 32.9

74. Of the following, which do you eat at least once during an average week:

	Yes	No
Meat:	93.7	5.8
Green Vegetables:	88.9	11.1
Potatoes/Rice:	90.5	9.5
Corn:	64.2	35.3
Fruit:	74.2	25.8
Cereal:	54.7	44.7
Milk:	80.5	10.9

VII. Health, Nutrition & Hygiene (Continued)

74. (Continued)

	Yes	No
Fish:	69.5	30.0
Bread:	95.3	4.7
Eggs:	76.2	23.8
Dry Beans:	52.6	46.8

75. When did you have your last bath or shower:

	Yes	No
Today:	46.8	During the last month: 1.6
During the last week:	50.0	Over a month ago: 1.6

76. When were your clothes last washed:

	Yes	No
Today:	14.7	During the last month: 4.7
During the last week:	75.8	Over a month ago: 4.7

77. Where were your clothes last washed: Lau. Automat: 30.5
Sink: 1.2
Own washer: 11.6
Other: 54.7

78. In the past year has _____ given you:

	Checkup	Health Care	Both	Neither
Doctor:	22.6	20.5	33.2	23.7
Dentist:	8.9	9.5	11.1	70.5
Pharmacists:	2.1	31.1	5.3	61.4
Nurse:	7.4	27.4	12.1	53.2
Other:	.5	5.3	3.2	91.1

79. In the past year, have you been hospitalized overnight: Yes: 32.8
No: 67.4

80a. Do you have any current health problem: Yes: 42.6
No: 57.4

Wag
2-9-9

80b. Has anybody helped you with these problems: Yes: 75.3
No: 24.7

VII. Health, Nutrition & Hygiene (Continued)

81. Can you get the following if needed:

	Yes	No
a. Sanitary Services:	96.8	2.7
b. Medical Attention:	96.3	3.7
c. Clothing:	88.9	11.1
d. Shelter:	92.6	7.4
e. Food:	94.7	5.3
f. Any other needs not being met:	35.8	64.2

82. Since last week, have you:

	Yes	No
a. Been with your spouse:	14.8	85.2
b. Been with your children:	9.5	90.5
c. Been on the job:	27.4	72.6
d. Been to the bar:	61.7	36.3
e. Been in contact with the police:	7.4	92.6
f. Been in contact with social services:	30.0	70.0
g. Hung out on the street with friends:	44.2	55.8
h. Been to friend's place:	59.5	40.5
i. Had a drink:	65.8	34.2
j. Been in contact with a social worker:	23.7	76.3
k. Slept at home:	77.4	22.6
l. Slept on the streets:	10.5	89.5
m. Slept at a friend's place:	28.4	71.6
n. Been to the hospital:	26.8	73.2
o. Been to church:	36.3	63.7
p. Slept with woman (if woman, w/man):	36.5	63.5

83. Since yesterday morning, have you:

a. Been with your spouse:	10.0	90.0
b. Been with your children:	4.2	95.8
c. Been on the job:	20.5	79.5
d. Been to the bar:	47.9	52.1
e. Been in contact with the police:	4.2	95.8
f. Been in contact with social services:	15.3	84.7
g. Hung out on the street with friends:	34.7	65.3
h. Been to a friend's place:	37.6	66.8
i. Had a drink:	47.3	52.7
j. Been in contact with a social worker:	12.2	87.8
k. Slept at home:	71.4	28.6
l. Slept on the street:	5.3	94.7
m. Slept at a friend's place:	12.2	87.8
n. Been to the hospital:	12.2	87.8
o. Been to church:	19.0	81.0
p. Slept with woman (if woman, w/man):	21.8	78.2

APPENDIX II

Table of Statistically Significant Items
And Chi-Squared Values

I. Analysis by Agency:

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Squared Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
2	14.247	p=.000
5a	11.885	p=.002
9	8.014	p=.108
23	9.343	p=.009
23d	6.906	p=.031
23g	9.041	p=.010
26 sum	22.963	p=.010
27	30.723	p=.000
29a	31.887	p=.001
29d	25.834	p=.011
29f	37.111	p=.000
29 sum	23.770	p=.008
30	6.496	p=.038
32	15.240	p=.004
36	16.113	p=.013
39	24.655	p=.000
40	36.569	p=.000
41	10.879	p=.004
45	98.407	p=.000
46	28.009	p=.001
50	33.812	p=.000
52	8.660	p=.013
52b	59.981	p=.000
54a	12.301	p=.002
60	13.138	p=.040

I. By Agency (continued)

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
61a	24.082	p=.002
68a	29.299	p=.000
68d	10.048	p=.039
68e	12.568	p=.013
68h	18.105	p=.001
68n	19.344	p=.003
68o	21.751	p=.000
69a	106.229	p=.000
69a(bars)	55.492	p=.000
69b(bars)	45.846	p=.000
69a(pkg. store)	18.075	p=.001
70	19.917	p=.002
71	74.130	p=.000
72	58.168	p=.000
73	79.202	p=.000
74b	8.774	p=.012
74c	9.942	p=.006
74h	16.293	p=.002
74j	6.420	p=.040
74k	14.296	p=.006
79a	28.218	p=.000
78c	25.262	p=.000
78d	16.656	p=.015
79	7.906	p=.019
80	14.364	p=.000
80b	6.726	p=.034
81c	9.134	p=.010

II. Analysis by number of Agencies

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Squared Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
2 (cover sheet)	38.200	p=.000
2 (demographic)	10.435	p=.015
2j	16.471	p=.000
2je	10.985	p=.011
2jj	16.973	p=.000
2je (amt)	25.353	p=.045
28	8.911	p=.030
29h	22.972	p=.028
37	8.516	p=.036
39	25.096	p=.002
40	17.278	p=.008
41	9.251	p=.026
42	10.075	p=.017
44	20.712	p=.014
54c	8.314	p=.039
68a	22.126	p=.001
68b	49.960	p=.000
68c	44.276	p=.000
68b	24.623	p=.000
68e	32.717	p=.000
68f	14.129	p=.028
68g	19.054	p=.004
68j	35.568	p=.000
68k	42.239	p=.000
68l	42.790	p=.000
68n	26.301	p=.000

II. By Agency (continued)

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
81e	6.557	p=.037
81f	12.557	p=.001
82d	54.803	p=.000
82e	6.170	p=.045
82f	11.999	p=.002
82h	8.503	p=.014
82i	37.150	p=.000
82k	17.995	p=.000
82l	8.524	p=.014
82m	14.514	p=.000
82n	13.952	p=.000
82o	11.614	p=.003
82p	9.535	p=.008
83d	84.857	p=.000
83g	11.901	p=.002
83h	9.887	p=.042
83i	63.542	p=.000
83k	22.924	p=.000
83m	14.554	p=.000
83n	6.673	p=.035
83o	19.617	p=.000
83p	7.983	p=.018
Number of agencies	40.819	p=.000

II. By Agency (continued)

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
68n	28.218	p=.000
69a(bars)	15.850	p=.014
73	25.453	p=.044
75	21.989	p=.008
78a	30.806	p=.000
78d	26.650	p=.001
79	18.992	p=.000
80	17.219	p=.000
81f	9.290	p=.025
82c	10.064	p=.018
82f	35.208	p=.000
82j	29.713	p=.000
82l	10.478	p=.014
82n	25.627	p=.000
82p	10.817	p=.012
83c	15.008	p=.001
83d	12.850	p=.005
83j	15.492	p=.001
83l	8.800	p=.032
83n	13.080	p=.004

Table of Statistically Significant Items
And Chi-Squared Values

III. Analysis by Employment

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
2(demographic)	8.173	p=.016
4	29.593	p=.001
12a	14.943	p=.020
12c	11.371	p=.003
18	24.446	p=.006
23	103.964	p=.000
26a	9.077	p=.010
26d	12.800	p=.001
26f	8.608	p=.013
26j	11.636	p=.003
26dd	15.933	p=.043
26(sum)	80.039	p=.000
27	27.827	p=.000
28	23.581	p=.000
29a	24.639	p=.016
29e	21.270	p=.019
29f	22.099	p=.036
29h	32.843	p=.000
29(sum)	29.431	p=.001
36	14.127	p=.029
37	10.654	p=.054
39	16.748	p=.010
54a	16.020	p=.003
54c	12.916	p=.001

III. Analysis by Employment (continued)

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
61a	22.948	p=.003
68e	10.711	p=.030
680	9.742	p=.045
69d(pkg store)	11.081	p=.025
69a(jawn shops)	14.972	p=.004
72	16.090	p=.041
73	18.815	p=.042
80	9.702	p=.037
81f	7.382	p=.024
82c	61.815	p=.000
82f	7.758	p=.020
82g	6.020	p=.018
82j	7.168	p=.027
82i	11.179	p=.003
82n	6.853	p=.032
83c	53.664	p=.000
83e	6.874	p=.032
83g	6.324	p=.042
13	6.009	p=.049

Table of Statistically Significant Items
And Chi-Squared Values

IV. Analysis by Mobility

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>Resulting Chi-Square Value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
2 (Demographic)	8.962	p=.011
6a	6.035	p=.048
11	15.567	p=.049
15	12.180	p=.002
20	7.277	p=.026
29d	23.084	p=.027
29e	23.638	p=.008
32	10.739	p=.029
41	9.944	p=.006
45	26.795	p=.002
52b	23.814	p=.008
54c	9.463	p=.008
59	16.439	p=.000
60	17.601	p=.007
61a	26.582	p=.000
63	20.289	p=.026
67	14.228	p=.000
68f	9.655	p=.046
68-0	14.233	p=.006
73	19.856	p=.030
76a	14.526	p=.024
78d	12.619	p=.049
79	10.056	p=.006
82b	10.331	p=.005
82k	15.143	p=.000
83k	14.237	p=.0008

Not all items were coded. Items that were coded and included in the analysis were determined by their adaptability to coding. Items not included required extensive treatment and transformation for proper analysis. These items were nevertheless included in the data collection instrument because of their important relationship to the central focus of the study and the cost effectiveness of simultaneous collection.

The following items were coded and included in the analysis: 2, 3, 4 a-g, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 12a, 12c, 12d, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16a, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 22c, 23, 26 a-j, 26 sum, 27, 28, 29 a-h, 29 sum, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 50, 51, 52, 52b, 54 a-e, 58, 59, 60, 61, 61a, 62, 63, 63, 66, 67, 68 a-p, 69 a-l, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 a-h, 75, 76, 77, 78 a-c, 79, 80, 80b, 81 a-l, 82 a-p, 83 a-p, and agencies used.

PUBLIC INEBRIATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Have you been interviewed by someone in the last few weeks?
Yes No
A. How much did you receive? _____
B. Where was the interview? _____
2. Place interview is conducted (check one):
___ A. Agency (name: _____)
___ B. Street (name: _____)
___ C. Residential (name/location: _____)
3. Time of interview: _____ AM PH (circle one)
4. Referral source (if any): _____
5. Condition of interview: Favorable Unfavorable
6. Is interview complete: Yes No
If not, why not: _____

Signature of interviewer

I certify that the information listed on this form has been obtained by me from the respondent and is accurate and complete.

I. Demographic Information

1. Name: _____
2. Sex: M _____ F _____
3. Age: _____
4. Race: A. Eskimo _____
B. Aleut _____
C. Athabaskan _____
D. Indian _____
E. Black _____
F. Asian _____
G. Caucasian _____

II. Family History:

5a. Is your mother living? (If yes, go to 5b) Yes No

5b. How old were you when she died? _____

6a. Is your father living? (If yes, go to 6b) Yes No

6b. How old were you when he died? _____

7. How many children were in your family? _____

8. Were you adopted out? _____

9. Was there someone else in the home who helped raise you (such as an aunt or grandma)? Yes No

a. Who? _____

10. What did your father (mother if father absent) do for a living? _____

11. Marital Status:

A. Married

B. Divorced

C. Widowed

D. Separated

12. Have you ever been married? (If no, go to 13) Yes No

a. How many times were you married? _____

b. When?

from _____ to _____

from _____ to _____

from _____ to _____

from _____ to _____

c. If married, are you living with you spouse at the present time? Yes No

d. If married, do you see your spouse during some periods of the year and not others? Yes No

II. Family History (cont.)

(12) e. Where? _____

f. When? _____

g. Why? _____

13. Do you see your family during some periods of the year and not others? Yes No

a. Where? _____

b. When? _____

c. Why? _____

14. How many children do you have? _____

15. Do you have any family here in Anchorage? Yes No

Educational and Employment History:

16. Did you have any religious training? Yes No
 a. Denomination: _____
17. Did you have any extensive religious training? Yes No
18. What grade did you complete in school? _____
19. Did you go away from home to attend school? Yes No
 a. Where? _____
 b. When? _____
 c. Why? _____
20. Have you ever lived just "off the land" (Subsistence living)? Yes No
 a. Where? _____
 b. How? _____
21. Do you have any special job training? Yes No
 a. What jobs were you trained to do? _____
 b. Where were you trained? _____
 c. How much training did you receive? _____
22. Were you in the military? Yes No
 a. Where? _____
 b. When? _____
 c. What type of discharge? _____

III. Education & Employment (Continued)

23. Are you working now? Yes No
24. How often do you work?
 A. Duration _____
 B. Frequency _____
 C. Why? _____
25. What jobs have you done in the past month? _____
26. Do you get . . . ? (Check those below that apply)
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|
| _____ A. Social Security | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ B. Pension | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ C. Unemployment Compensation | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ D. Welfare | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ E. Steady Work | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ F. Odd Jobs | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ G. Pan Handling | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ H. Unemployment Compensation | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ I. Savings | \$ _____ | month |
| _____ J. Other | \$ _____ | month |
- (Specify) _____
- _____ (Total month income)
27. Do you receive your income regularly? Yes No
28. Do you often find yourself broke? Yes No

III. Education & Employment (Continued):

29. How much do you spend a week on:

- a. Housing: \$ _____
- b. Restaurants: \$ _____
- c. Cigarettes: \$ _____
- d. Groceries: \$ _____
- e. Transportation: \$ _____
- f. Drinks: \$ _____
- g. Drugs: \$ _____
- h. Recreation:
(movies, bowling, etc) \$ _____

\$ _____ (Total monthly expenditures)

IV. Drinking and Drug-Related Behavior

30. Do you drink? (If no, go to 42) Yes No
31. Do you: A B
- a. Drink the same way all the time, or
 - b. Do you go on binges or spurts lasting several days.
32. How often do you drink?
- a. Daily
 - b. Few times a week
 - c. Less
33. A. When do you start? _____

- B. Why? _____

- C. When do you stop? _____

34. When you drink, about how much do you drink? (Record in amount & type, e.g.: 4 glasses/wine; 1 bottle/whiskey)

35. Do you usually drink: A B
- A. Alone
 - B. With others
36. What do you usually drink? _____
37. Can you always get the alcohol you want? Yes No
38. When alcohol can't be gotten, do you drink eterno, aftershave, or other non-beverage alcohol? Yes No

Behavior (Continued):

39. Where do you usually drink, in a bar, on the street or at someone's place? _____
- A. Bar
- B. Street
- C. Private residence
- D. Other, or combination of A,B,C.
40. Where do you usually get your alcohol from: A B
- A. A bar; or
- B. A package store.
41. Is your drinking a problem? Yes No
42. Did your mother or father drink heavily? Yes No
43. Do you use drugs other than alcohol? Yes No
- A. If so, what drugs: _____
44. If #43 is yes, How often do you use drugs? _____
- A. Daily
- B. Few times a week
- C. Less Often

V. Housing and Mobility:

45. Where did you sleep last night?
- A. Mission Name: _____
- B. Hotel Name: _____
- C. Apartment Name: _____
- D. Sally Name: _____
- E. Other Name: _____
46. How many nights have you stayed at that place? _____
47. Where did you live before? _____
48. What do you like about where you live? _____
49. What are the things that you do not like about it? _____
50. Does your room have hot and cold running water?
- ____ A. Hot and cold
- ____ B. Hot
- ____ C. Cold
- ____ D. Neither
51. How is the temperature in your room?
- ____ A. Too cold
- ____ B. Too hot
- ____ C. About right
52. Does anyone ever share your room with you? Yes No
- A. If yes, How Often? _____
- B. How many people share this room with you? _____

Housing (Continued):

53. Where do you usually spend your days?

A. Nights? _____

54. How do you get around Anchorage?

- _____ A. Walk
- _____ B. Bus
- _____ C. Private car
- _____ D. Taxi
- _____ E. Other (Specify: _____)

55. About how much territory do you cover during an average day? _____

56. In what parts of Anchorage do you feel most relaxed?

- A. Days: _____
- B. Nights: _____

57. In what parts do you feel most uneasy and tense?

- A. Days: _____
- B. Nights: _____

58. Do you think Anchorage is a safe city for you to live in? Yes No

59. Do you have definite plans to leave Anchorage this spring or summer? Yes No

60. Where do you plan to live next fall? _____

61. When do you come downtown to the 4th Ave. area?

- A. Why? _____

Housing (Continued):

62. How long have you lived in Anchorage?

- a. Where did you live one year ago? _____
- b. Five years ago? _____

63. Why do you stay in Anchorage? _____

64. Where have you traveled in the state this past year?

- a. When? _____
- b. Why? _____

65. Have you traveled out of the state this past year?

- a. When? _____ Yes No
- b. Why? _____

Service Provider and Caretaker Contracts:

6. How many times this past year have you been arrested? _____

7. Have you every been to prison or jail? Yes No

8. Have you been in contact with _____ this past month? (If Yes) Were you treated favorably or unfavorable?

Yes/Favorably Yes/Unfavorably No

A. Detox: _____

B. Emergency Rooms: _____

C. Hospitals: _____

D. E.M.S.: _____

E. Health Clinics: _____

F. Public Assistance: _____

G. New Starts: _____

H. Studio Club: _____

I. Voc. Rehab.: _____

J. Police: _____

K. Jail: _____

L. Court: _____

M. V.A.: _____

N. Sally: _____

Other (Specify)

O. _____

P. _____

Service Provider (Continued):

69. Have you been in contact with _____ this past week? (If yes) Were you treated favorably or unfavorably?

Yes/Favorably Yes/Unfavorably No

Rooming houses/Hotels:

Name): a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Bars:

Name): a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Cafes:

Name): a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Package Stores

Name): a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Fawn Shops:

Name): a. _____

b. _____

c. _____