

Supplementary Table 1. Preferred terms of providers, researchers, and policymakers when referring to homeless and at-risk individuals

Preferred terms for:	Providers (n = 319)		Researchers (n = 40)		Policymakers (n = 53)	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<u>Writing about persons living in places not meant for human habitation</u>						
Homeless person	119	37.3	4	10.0	10	18.9
Houseless person	5	1.6	--	--	1	1.9
Roofless person	--	--	--	--	1	1.9
Unsheltered person	29	9	2	5.0	11	20.7
Person experiencing homelessness	145	45.5	27	67.5	29	54.7
Other	21	6.6	7	17.5	1	1.9
<u>Talking about persons living in places not meant for human habitation</u>						
Homeless person	131	41.1	10	25	18	34.0
Houseless person	4	1.3	--	--	1	1.9
Roofless person	--	--	--	--	--	--
Unsheltered person	41	12.9.6	8	20.0	12	22.6
Person experiencing homelessness	125	39.2	16	40.0	21	39.6
Other	18	5.6	6	15	1	1.9
<u>Writing about persons staying in a shelter</u>						
Homeless person	80	25.1	3	7.50	8	15.1
Sheltered person	20	6.3	7	17.50	8	15.1
Shelter resident	74	23.2	6	15.0	15	28.3
Person in shelter	118	37.0	16	40.0	16	30.2
Other	27	8.5	8	20.0	6	11.3
<u>Talking about persons staying in a shelter</u>						
Homeless person	80	25.1	3	7.5	7	13.2
Sheltered person	25	7.8	7	17.5	8	15.1
Shelter resident	68	21.3	7	17.5	15	28.3

Person in shelter	120	37.6	16	40.0	17	32.1
Other	26	8.2	7	17.5	6	11.3
<u>Writing about persons at risk of homelessness</u>						
Housing insecure person	4	1.3	--	--	--	--
Person at-risk of homelessness	174	54.5	14	35.0	28	52.8
Person experiencing housing instability	48	15.1	12	30.0	13	24.5
Person experiencing housing insecurity	23	7.2	11	27.5	4	7.6
Unstably housed person	62	19.4	3	7.5	8	15.1
Other	8	2.5	--	--	--	--
<u>Talking about persons at risk of homelessness</u>						
Housing insecure person	2	0.6	--	--	1	1.9
Person at-risk of homelessness	180	56.4	14	35.0	28	52.8
Person experiencing housing instability	51	16.0	11	27.5	13	24.5
Person experiencing housing insecurity	17	5.3	10	25.0	2	3.8
Unstably housed person	63	19.8	5	12.5	9	17.0
Other	6	1.9	--	--	--	--
<u>Writing about persons who have resolved their homelessness but receiving homeless services</u>						
Homeless client	20	6.2	--	--	3	5.7
Formerly homeless person	101	31.7	9	22.5	23	43.4
Homeless-experienced person	12	3.8	5	12.5	4	7.5
Homeless service user	14	4.4	2	5.0	3	5.7
Person who was formerly homeless	106	33.2	18	45.0	17	32.0
Other	66	20.7	6	15.0	3	5.7
<u>Talking about persons who have resolved their homelessness but receiving homeless services</u>						
Homeless client	16	5.0	--	--	2	3.8
Formerly homeless person	109	34.2	11	27.5	25	47.2

Homeless-experienced person	11	3.4	5	12.5	2	3.8
Homeless service user	12	3.8	2	5.0	4	7.6
Person who was formerly homeless	105	32.9	17	42.5	17	32.1
Other	66	20.7	5	12.5	3	5.7

Note: To highlight frequent categories, cells over 30% were bolded.

Supplementary Table 2. “Other” terms used by providers, researchers, and policymakers when referring to homeless and at-risk individuals

	Providers (n= 39)		Researchers (n= 13)		Policymakers (n=2)	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Writing/talking about persons living in places not meant for human habitation						
“Person living in a place not meant for human habitation”	6	15.4	2	15.38	--	--
“Person living on the street”	1	2.6	2	15.38	--	--
“Person without stable housing”	7	18.0	3	23.08	--	--
“Uninhabitable housing situation”	2	5.1	2	15.38	--	--
“Unhoused”	3	7.7	--	--	-	--
“Homeless individual”	5	12.8	--	--	2	100
“Person is homeless”/“experiencing homelessness”	10	25.6	4	30.78	--	--
“Housing insecure”	--	--	--	--	--	--
“Client”/“Veteran”/“Individual”/ person’s name without circumstance/situation mentioned	3	7.7	--	--	--	--
“No preference”	2	5.1	--	--	--	--
Writing/talking about persons staying in a shelter						
	Providers (n= 53)		Researchers (n= 13)		Policymakers (n= 12)	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
“Homeless Person/Individual”	4	7.56	--	--	2	16.67
“Person experiencing homelessness”	13	24.53	8	61.53	2	16.67
“Person residing/staying in a shelter”	8	15.09	2	15.38	2	16.67
“Sheltered homeless person”	2	3.77	--	--	2	16.67
“Shelter guest”	2	3.77	--	--	--	--
“Transitional housing”	2	3.77	--	--	--	--
“Homeless person in a shelter”	5	9.43	--	--	2	16.67

“Person temporarily housed/housed in a shelter”	4	7.56	3	23.08	2	16.67
Referred to name of program the person is enrolled in or mention utilization of services.	2	3.77	--	--	--	--
“Client”/“Individual”/“Person’s name without circumstance/situation mentioned”	9	16.98	--	--	--	--
“No preference”	2	3.77	--	--	--	--
Writing/talking about persons at risk of being homeless	Providers (n= 14)	%	Researchers	%	Policymakers	%
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
“Imminent homelessness”/“risk of homelessness”	7	50	--	--	--	--
“Person at risk of becoming houseless”	2	14.29	--	--	--	--
“Person at risk of homelessness”	1	7.14	--	--	--	--
“Person at risk of becoming houseless”	3	21.42	--	--	--	--
“No preference”	1	7.14	--	--	--	--
Writing/talking about persons who have resolved their homelessness but receiving homeless services	Providers (n= 132)	%	Researchers (n = 11)	%	Policymakers (n = 6)	%
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
“Chronically homeless”	2	1.52	--	--	2	33.33
“Currently/recently housed or stably housed”	36	27.27	--	--	--	--
“Person formerly/no longer experiencing homelessness”	16	12.12	4	36.36	--	--
“Person with history of housing instability”	2	1.52	--	--	--	--
Referred to name of program the person is enrolled in or mention utilization of services.	36	27.27	5	45.45	--	--

“Client”/“Veteran”/“Individual”/“Person’s name without circumstance/situation mentioned”	38	28.78	--	--	4	66.67
“Depends on context/purpose”	--	--	2	18.18	--	--
“No preference”	2	1.52	--	--	--	--

Note: Some participants specifically referred to “veterans” in their responses, which was changed to “persons” in the table to be generalizable and consistent with responses from participants not working in VA.