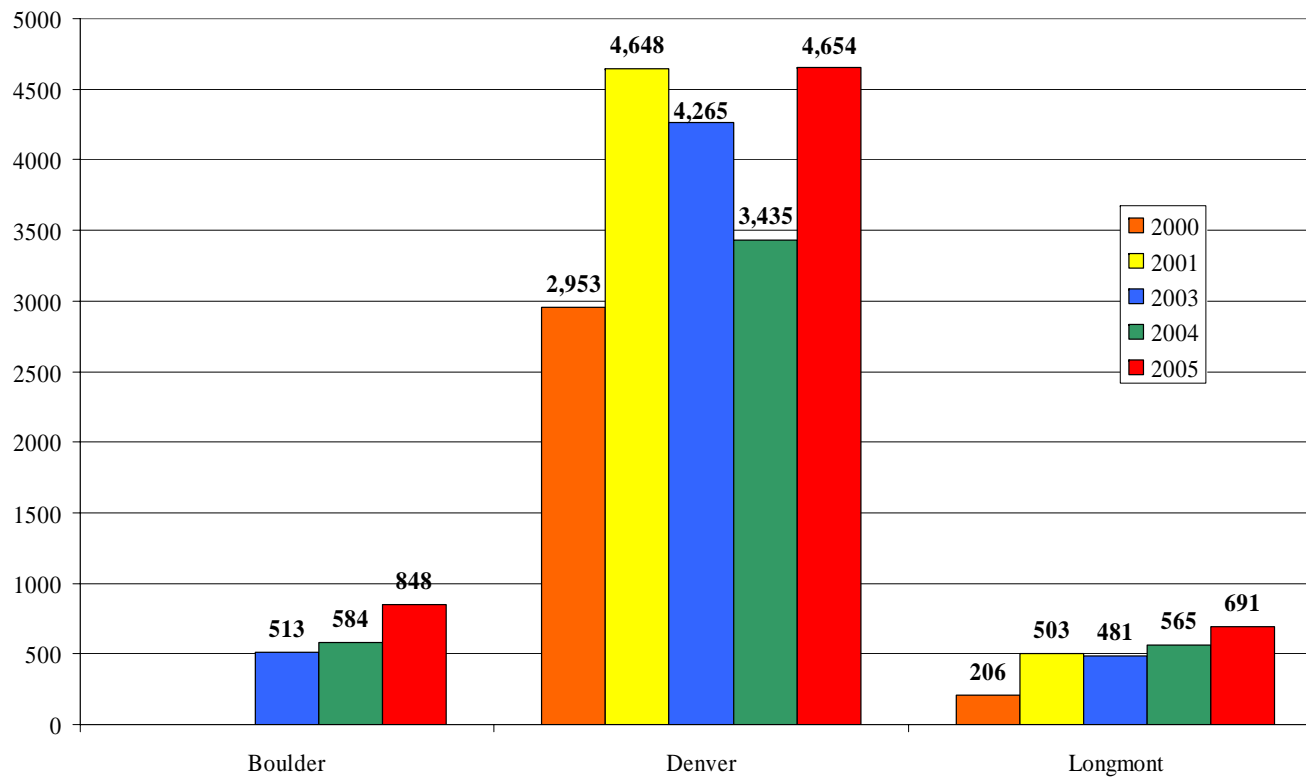




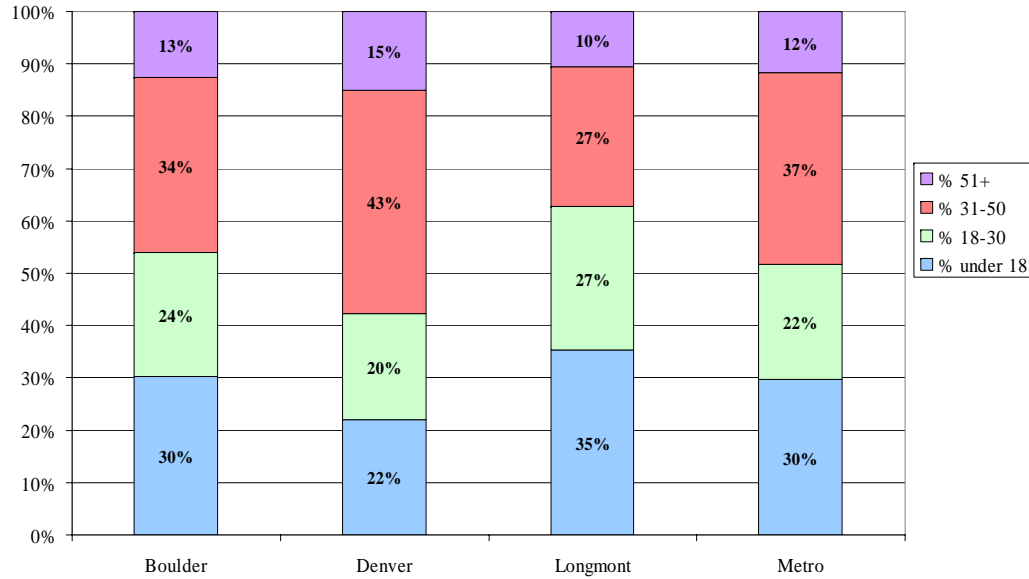
HOMELESSNESS IN LONGMONT - 2005

Homeless Trends in Longmont

Homeless Population by Place Spent Last Night



**Age by Place of Residence Last Night (ALL)
2005**



- Longmont's homeless are much younger than the homeless in Boulder, Denver, or the Metro overall.

- Average age of homeless by city

- Denver --- 32.6 years

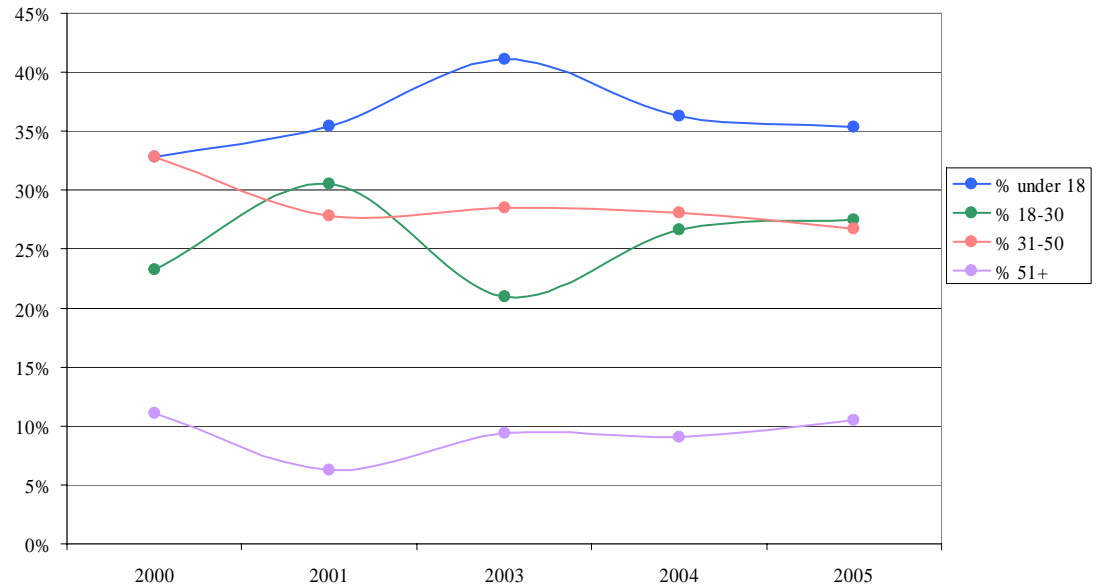
- Boulder --- 28.3 years

- Longmont --- 25.9 years

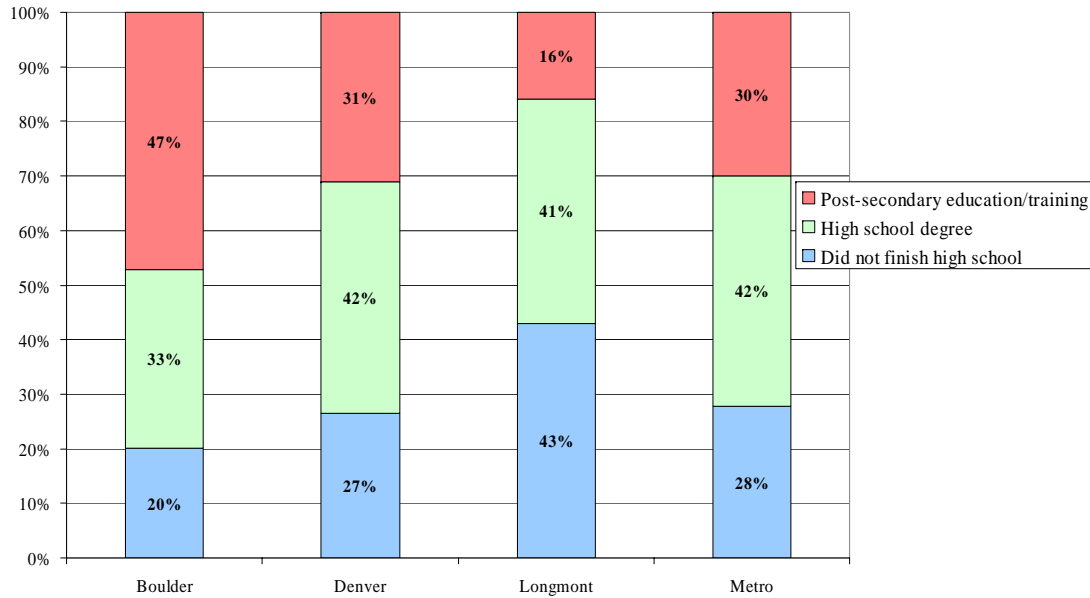
- Denver's head-of-household (39.9) is significantly older, on average, than Boulder's (37.0) and Longmont's (36.1).

- There has been very little change in the distribution of Longmont's homeless population across age categories.

**Trends in Longmont --- AGE
2000-2005**



Educational Attainment (HHH) 2005



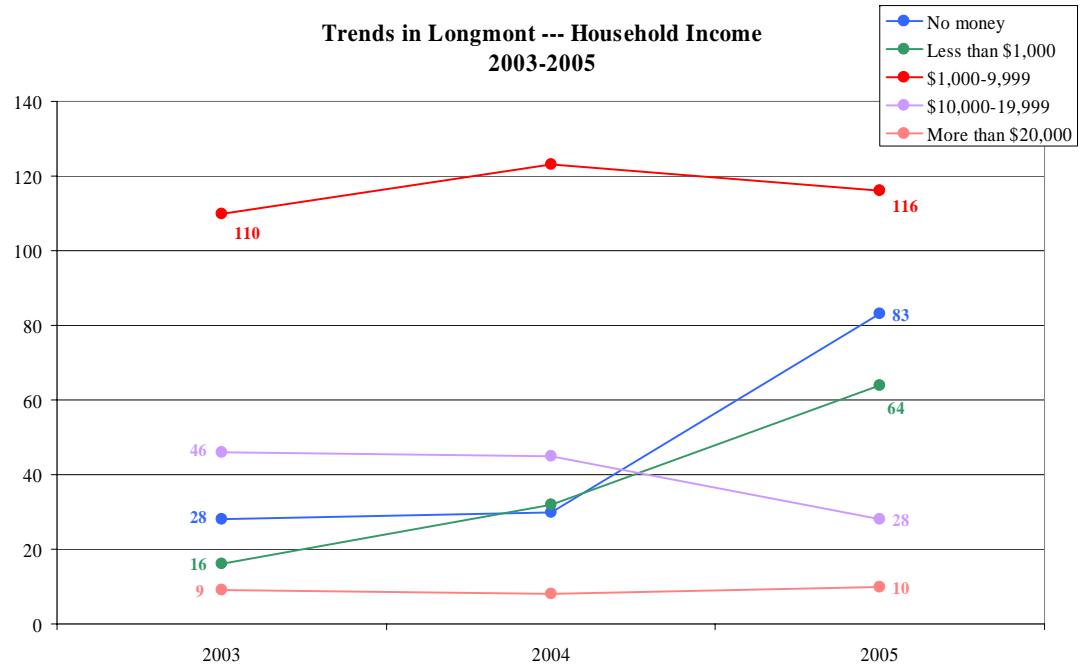
- Relative to the Metro area and Boulder in particular, Longmont's homeless are less educated. Nearly ½ do not have a high school degree.

- Statistical tests show that, even among the homeless, there is a correlation between education and annual income. The correlation is stronger in Longmont than it is in the Metro area.

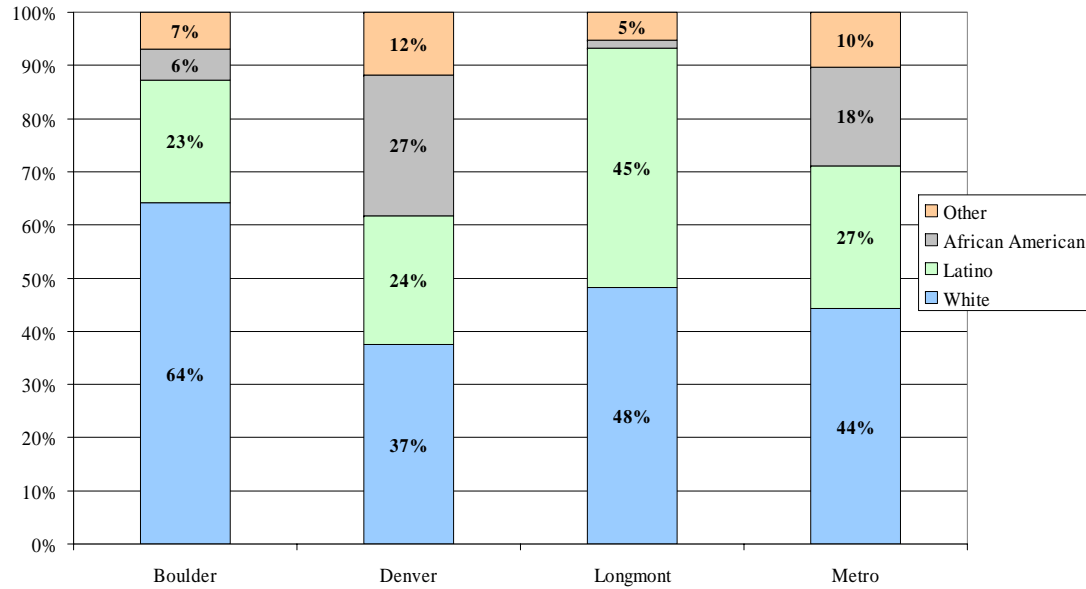
- Since 2003, the number of homeless families in Longmont has grown by approximately 120.

- Nearly all of the growth has occurred in the lowest income brackets --- those earning less than \$1,000 annually.

Trends in Longmont --- Household Income 2003-2005



**Race/Ethnicity of Household Heads +
Those They're Living With
2005**



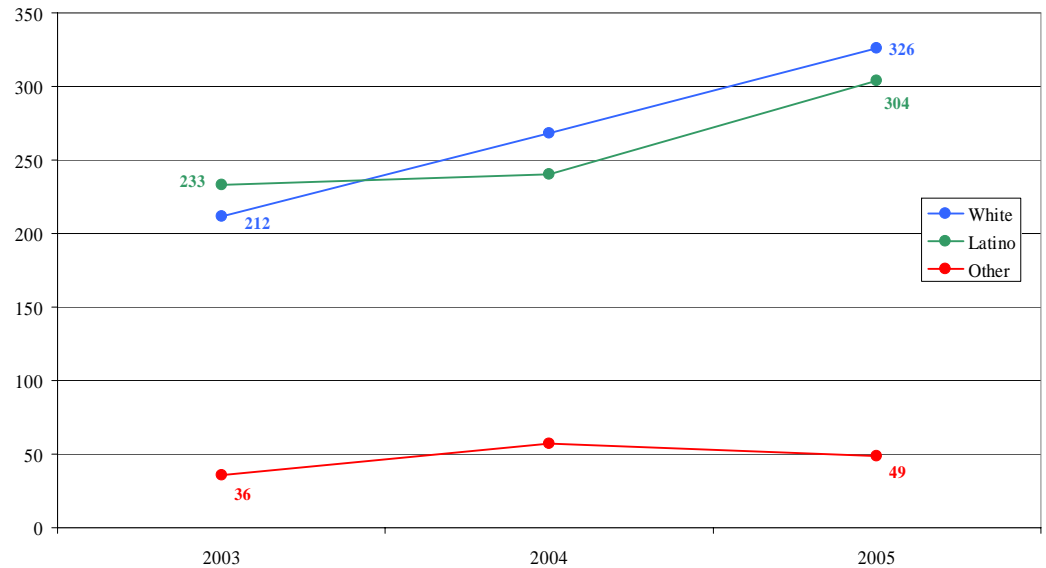
- Relative to the Metro population, Longmont’s homeless are more likely to characterize themselves as Latino or white and less likely to classify themselves as African American.
- Unlike Denver, Longmont’s homeless population is very much “bi-racial” – White and Latino.

•Despite popular perception, the increase in the homeless population is being driven by white, non-Latino individuals and families. This segment has risen much more dramatically than the homeless Latino population.

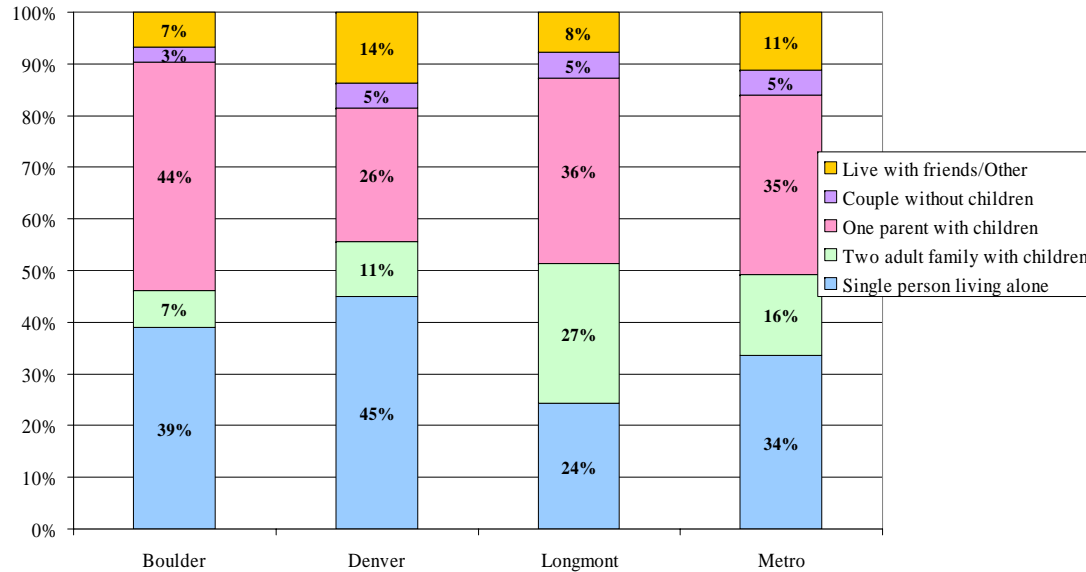
•The increase of 210 individuals since 2003 can be broken down as follows:

- 113 whites (+54%)
- 71 Latinos (+30%)
- 13 other (+36%)

**Trends in Longmont --- Race/Ethnicity of HHH + Those They're Living With
2003-2005**



**Homeless Persons by Household Composition (ALL)
2005**



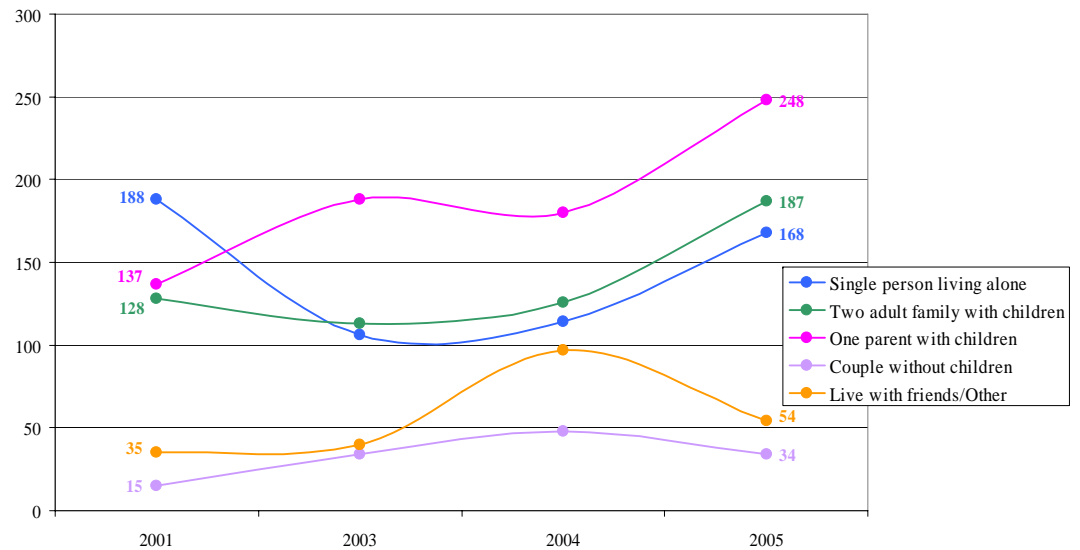
•As this chart shows, the homeless population looks different in every city.

•Only 24% of Longmont’s homeless are single individuals (vs. 34% in the Metro), and fully 63% are members of families with children (vs. 51% in the Metro).

•There has been little temporal change in the household composition of Longmont’s homeless.

•Between 2001 and 2005, the greatest increase was in the number of persons in one-parent families with children.

**Trends in Longmont --- Household Composition
2001-2005**

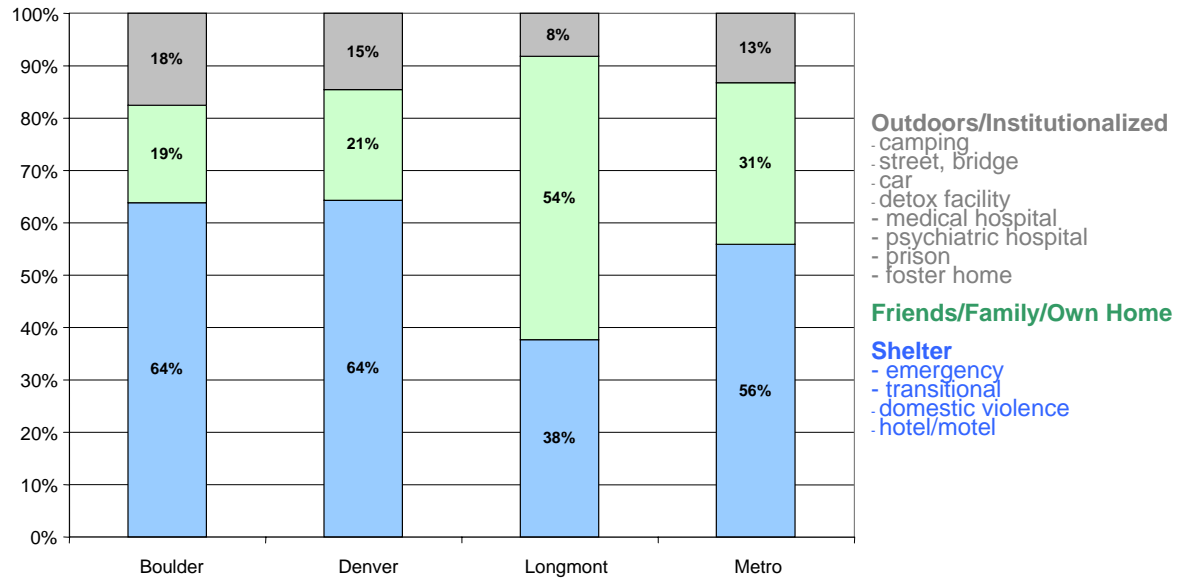


•Boulder’s and Denver’s homeless reported very similar accommodations for the night before the survey.

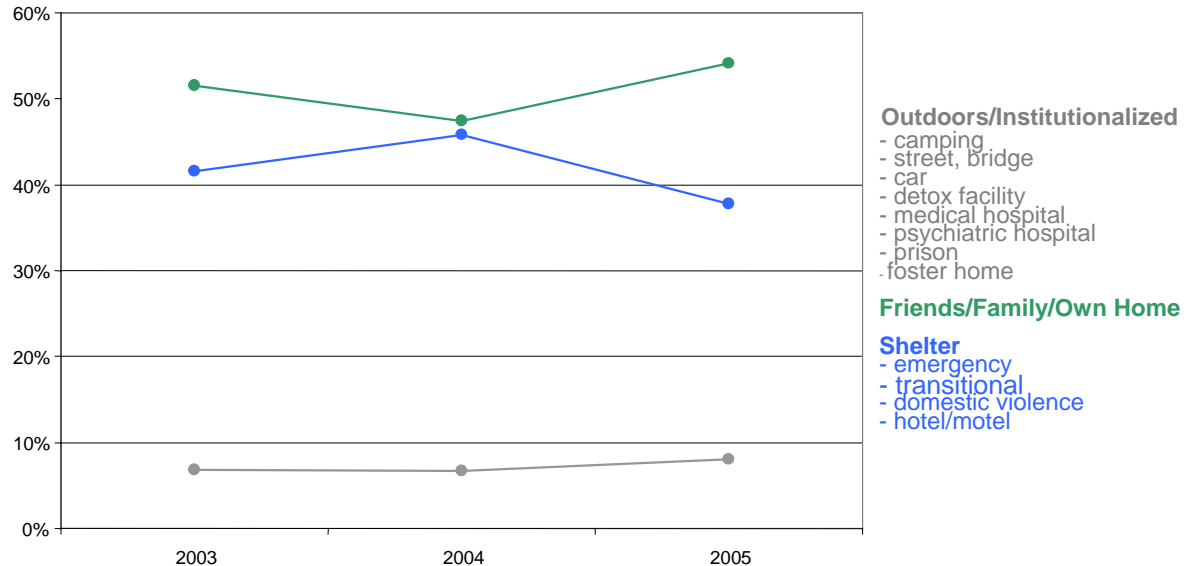
•Longmont’s population relied much more heavily on friends and family, and much less on local shelters.

Shelter Last Night per 100 Respondents		
	Longmont	Total
Less Common in Longmont		
Street, bridge, etc. ***	8	14
Emergency shelter ***	5	23
Domestic violence shelter *	1	2
Equally Common in Longmont and Metro		
Transitional housing	19	20
Other	2	1
House/apt that I/we own/rent	2	1
Prison/jail	1	1
Treatment center	1	2
More Common in Longmont		
Family or friends ***	43	25
Hotel/motel ***	14	8
Don't know ***	3	1
Youth program ***	1	0
*** p < .01		
** p < .05		
* p < .10		

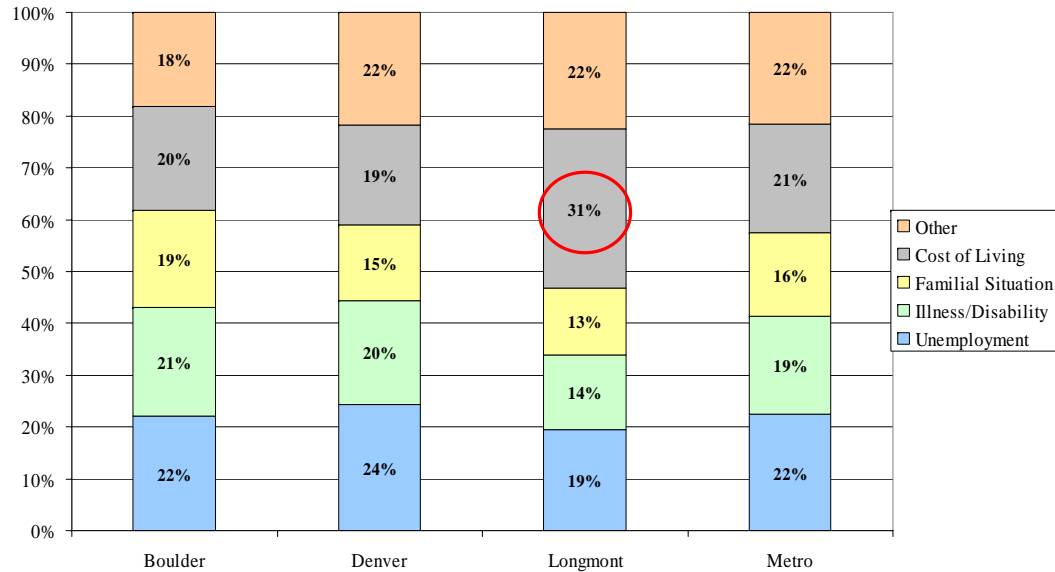
Type of Shelter Last Night (ALL)
2005



Trends in Longmont --- Type of Shelter Last Night
2003-2005



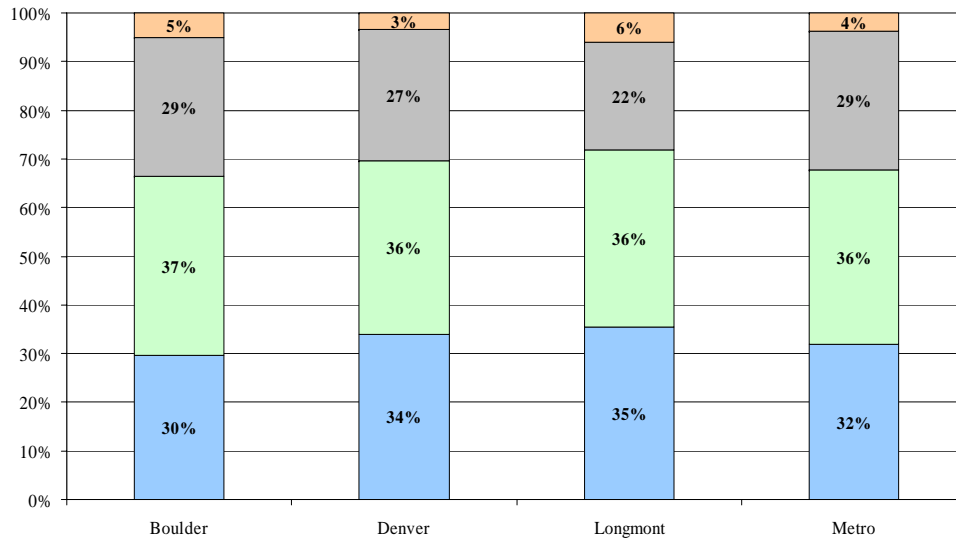
**Reasons for Homelessness
as a Percent of All Responses (HHH)
2005**



•Homelessness in Longmont seems to be less attributable to unemployment and illness/disability and more attributable to the cost of living, as the following table shows in more detail...

Reason for Homelessness per 100 Respondents		
	Longmont	Total
Less Common in Longmont		
unemployment ***	28	36
relationship problems or family break-up *	16	20
got evicted ***	9	14
abuse/violence **	7	11
mental disabilities **	6	9
alcohol/substance abuse ***	5	14
bad credit history **	4	7
legal problems **	4	7
other **	4	7
discharged from prison ***	1	5
discharged from foster care *	0	1
sexual orientation *	0	1
Equally Common in Longmont and Metro		
medical problems	10	10
moved to seek work	6	8
problems w/public benefits	5	6
medical expenses	5	4
More Common in Longmont		
unable to pay rent/mortgage ***	33	20
doesn't apply ***	14	4
unable to pay utilities ***	12	7
don't know **	5	3
***	p < .01	
**	p < .05	
*	p < .10	

**Sources of Income by Category
as a Percent of All Responses (HHH)
2005**



Other

Personal Means

- friends and family
- selling blood/plasma
- child support
- asking for money
- prostitution
- pawning items
- selling drugs
- emergency assistance from agency

Official/Gov't Sources

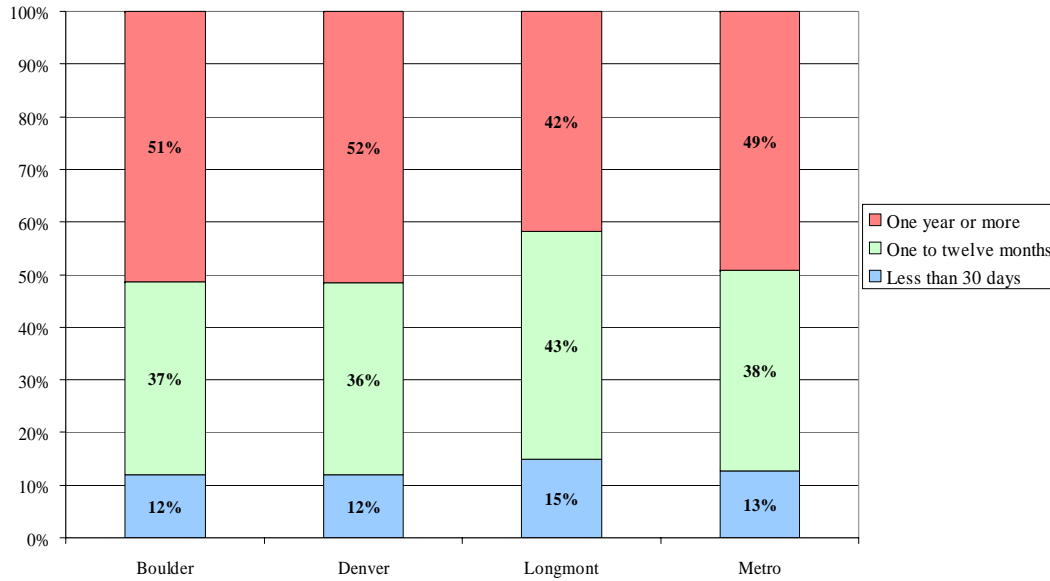
- unemployment
- social security
- pension
- TANF
- AND
- veteran's benefits
- food stamps
- Medicaid
- worker's comp

Employment

- full-time job
- part-time job
- day labor/temp job

Source of Income per 100 Respondents		
	Longmont	Total
Less Pervasive in Longmont		
Food Stamps **	12	16
Day Labor/Temp Job ***	9	15
TANF/CO Works **	5	8
Emergency Assistance from Agency *	2	4
Asking for Money on Streets ***	2	6
Unemployment **	0	1
Selling Blood/Plasma ***	0	2
Prostitution **	0	1
Equally Pervasive in Longmont and Metro		
No Income	28	27
PT job	15	12
FT Job	14	12
Family and Friends	14	12
Aid to Needy Disabled	5	4
SSI	5	6
Pawning Items	4	5
Child Support	2	3
Veteran's Benefits	1	1
Selling Drugs	1	1
Pension	0	1
Worker's Comp	0	0
More Pervasive in Longmont		
Social Security ***	9	5
Other *	6	5
Old Age Pension *	1	1
*** p < .01		
** p < .05		
* p < .10		

**Duration of Homelessness (ALL)
2005**

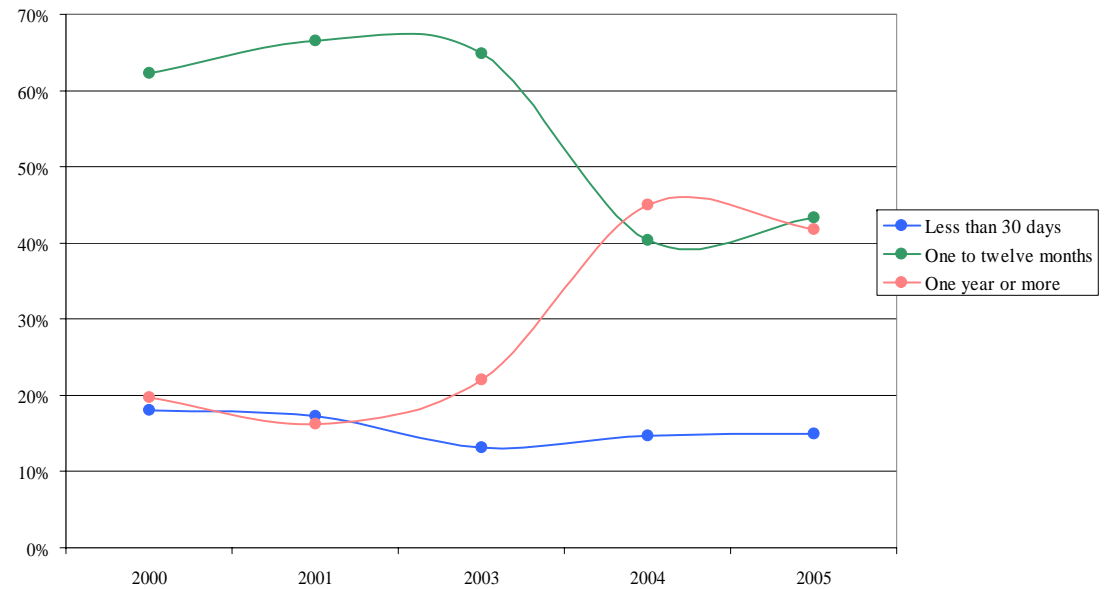


•On the surface, there appear to be few differences across cities in terms of the duration of homelessness.

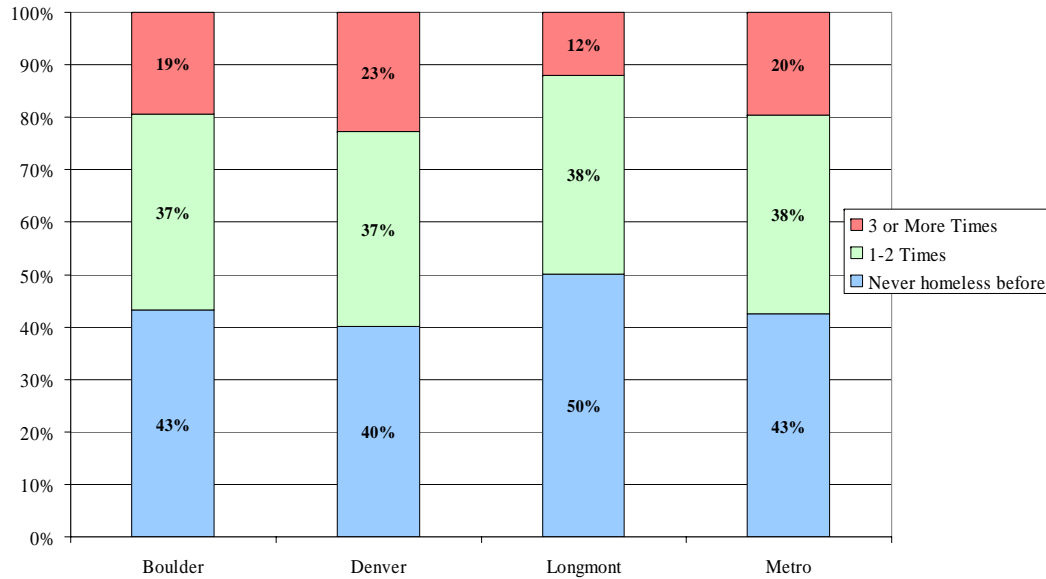
•However, on average, the homeless in Longmont have been unsheltered for a shorter period of time than others in the Metro.

•Since 2000, the proportions of individuals who have been homeless for 1-12 months and those who have been homeless for over 1 year have converged in Longmont.

**Trends in Longmont --- Duration of Homelessness
2000-2005**



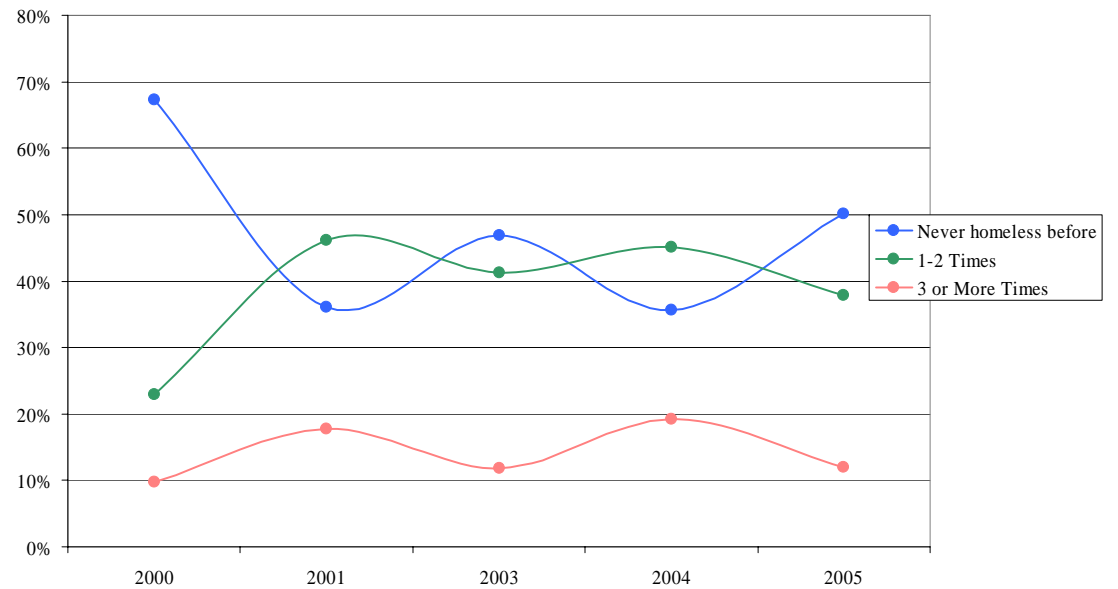
**Frequency of Homelessness (ALL)
2005**



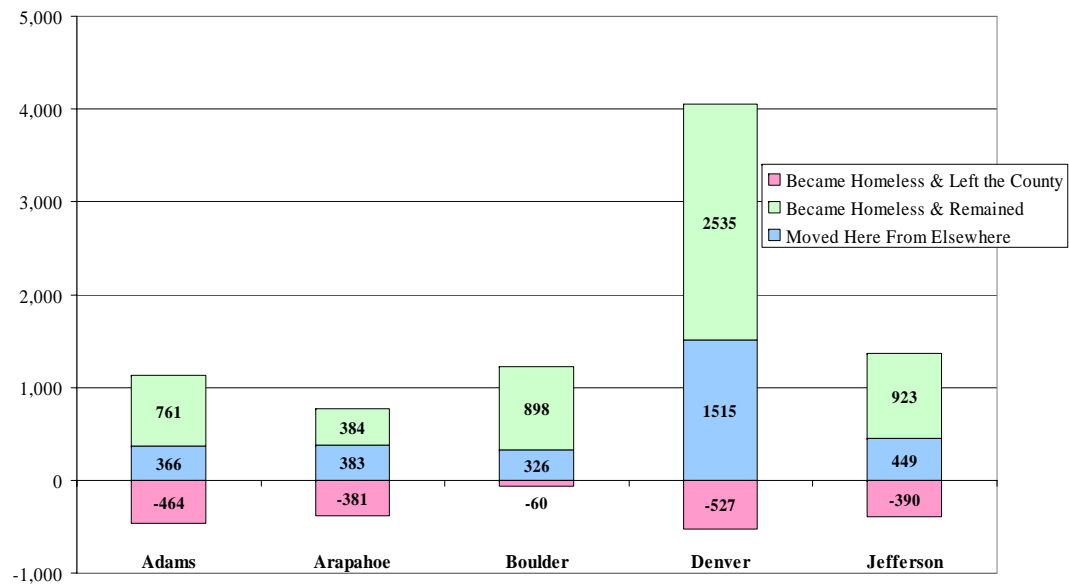
- Again, there appear to be few differences across cities in terms of the frequency of homelessness.
- However, on average, Longmont has more first-time homeless and fewer who have been homeless three or more times.

•Annual fluctuations aside, the proportion of respondents in each category has remained fairly consistent since 2001.

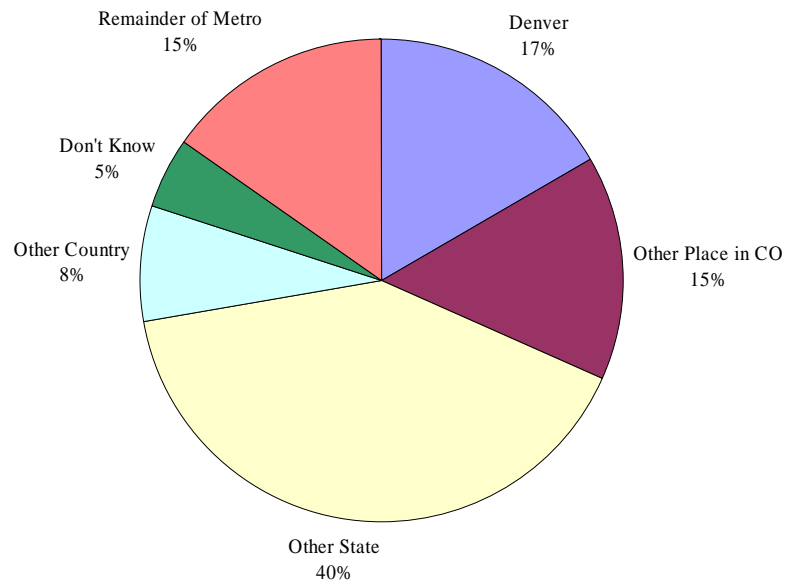
**Trends in Longmont --- Frequency of Homelessness
2000-2005**



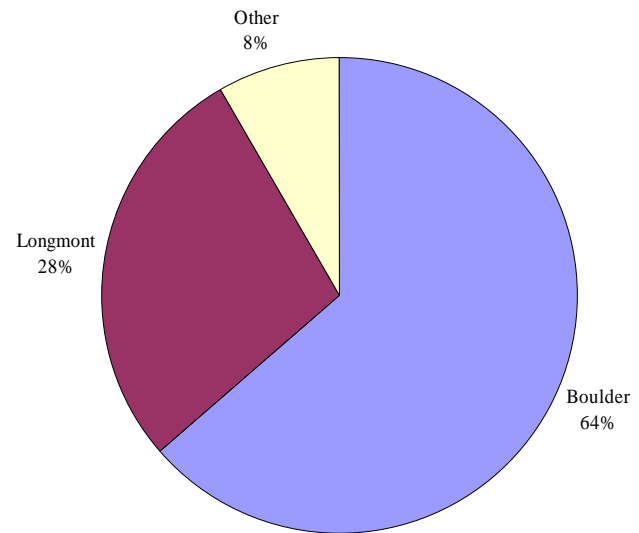
**Migratory Characteristics of Homeless Population by County
2005**



Origin of Homeless Migrating to Boulder Co



Destination of Homeless Migrating to Boulder Co



**Annual Fluctuation in Homelessness Via Migration
2000-2005**

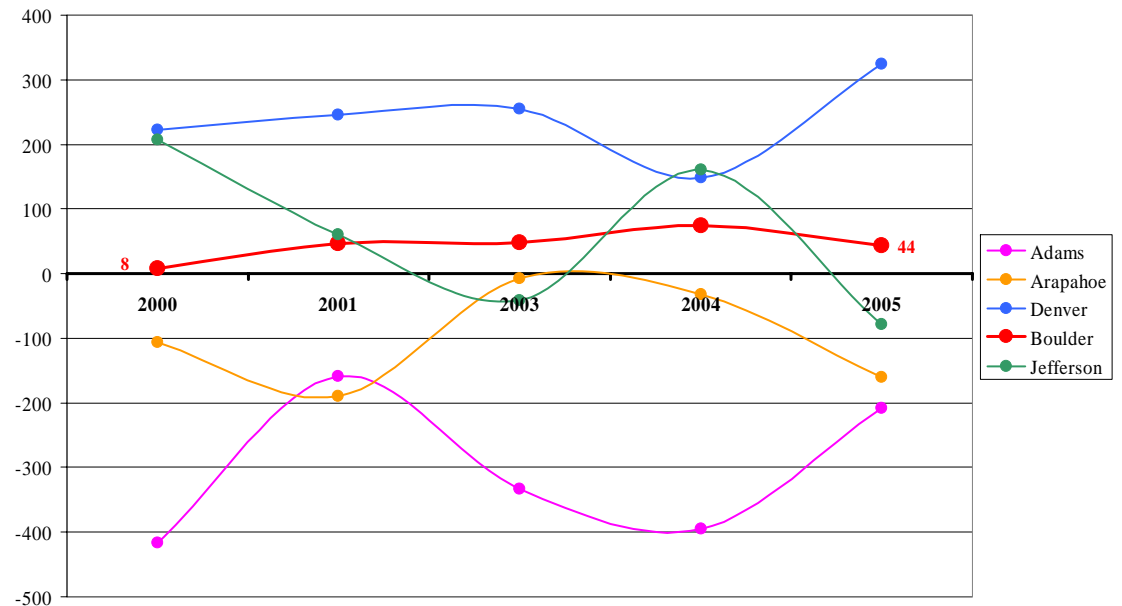


- The chart showing net migration illustrates that most Metro counties host more homeless individuals than they lose.

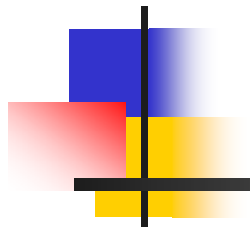
- Denver and Boulder consistently lead the 7-county Metro in terms of the net migration of homeless.

- But this net value is over-estimated: It includes homeless who last lived outside of the Metro, but cannot capture those who became homeless in one of these counties and moved outside of the Metro area...

**Annual Fluctuation in Homelessness Via Migration WITHIN METRO ONLY
2000-2005**



- This chart makes the necessary adjustment. It includes only individuals who currently live – and who last permanently lived – in the Metro area. It ignores inflow from outside the Metro.



IMPACTS ON THE COMMUNITY



HOMELESSNESS

- The number of homeless families is increasing at an alarming rate – 26% increase in Longmont since 2004 – and families can not be sheltered in the same way that single adults are.
- Requests for emergency shelter have increased 30% from a year ago.



HOMELESSNESS

- We can accommodate families in motels on a short-term basis, but this is simply a band-aid approach and does not allow families the time they need to get on their feet.
- Decreases in funding for the mentally ill have also added many new homeless individuals to our growing homeless population.



NEARLY HOMELESS

- Many people have lost their jobs and are having a difficult time making housing payments. There is a record number of folks needing utility assistance.
- The foreclosure rate for Boulder County increases each year and we are currently talking to over 20 households that are in default.



HUNGER

- Emergency food assistance is now relied on by families and individuals not only in emergencies but as a steady source of food over long periods of time.
- The amount of food requested and given out has increased by 30% since last year.



HUNGER

- More people are out of work or are underemployed. People cut back on food so they can pay other bills.
- Elderly folks live on fixed incomes and are severely affected by increases in utilities and the high cost of medical treatment and prescriptions. Many rely on food banks to get them through the month.
- People on disability or other types of fixed incomes return monthly. They rely on food banks to make ends meet.



HOUSING

- Requests for assisted housing by low income families and individuals have increased each year.
- 37% of eligible low income households do not have adequate housing that is affordable to them.
- 70% of low income renters and 53% of low income homeowners are paying more than 30% of their income for housing.



HOUSING

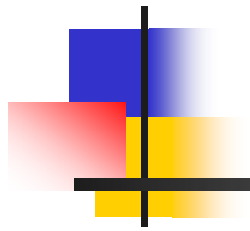
- Applicants have little hope of receiving a Section 8 voucher in Longmont.
- Since opening the wait list for vouchers on January 2, 2004, 624 households have applied.
- Added to the folks that were already on the list (224), it will take over 5 years before everyone currently on the list will get a voucher.



HOUSING

- Work does not pay for housing. There is no community in the Nation in which a person working for minimum wage can afford to rent a one bedroom apartment.¹
- The average rent for a one bedroom unit in Longmont is \$669/month. A person would need to earn \$14.80/hour to afford rent and utilities while paying 30% of their income or work 2.82 jobs at minimum wage.

1. National Low Income Housing Coalition



WHAT IS BEING DONE



The Longmont Housing Opportunities Team (LHOT) has:

- Solicited significant community input on homeless issues and concerns.
- Convened a focus group on the “visibly homeless”
- Held a Retreat to present the Housing First Model
- Is working with Boulder Cares to outreach to street homeless during winter months.
- Started a Day Shelter at the OUR Center where people can get voice messages, make phone calls, receive mail, connect with services, and get shower and laundry vouchers.



DAY SHELTER

- Since June 7, the Day Shelter has served 63 unduplicated clients, including 9 women. These are single individuals who are homeless and Longmont residents, not persons passing through. Twenty-eight have participated in the Workforce Outreach, a job search and referral service. Five have obtained employment and four persons have secured permanent housing through the Day Shelter.



HOUSING FIRST

- With Case Management agencies, designing a Housing First Pilot Program to house 10 families over the next 24 months. All will receive supportive services on 24/7 basis.
 - Design will be completed by August
 - Families selected by September
 - Families housed by October



The City Of Longmont has:

- Provided funding for agencies that assist the homeless or for homeless programs.
 - Average \$240,000 annually in Human Service agency funding from the General Fund
 - Over past 20 years, \$383,768 in CDBG funds for capital projects, \$758,261 for transitional housing, \$272,281 for emergency shelter
 - \$130,000 from Affordable Housing Fund for support of TBRA and Housing First Program



The City Of Longmont has:

- Supported partnerships to provide shelter and services where possible and to avoid duplication
 - Boulder Shelter for Homeless – emergency shelter for single adults (serves County)
 - Community Food Share – large food bank (serves County agencies)
 - Atwood Shelter – emergency shelter for families
 - OUR Center – intake, hot meals, food bank, clothing bank
 - Inn Between – transitional housing
 - Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley – shelter for victims of Domestic Violence



Ongoing Use of Data

The data and information is updated each year and is used in the formation of the Human Service Agency funding plan and the city's Consolidated Plan (Strategic Housing Plan).

- Goals have been set in the Consolidated Plan for 2005-2009 and include -
 - Educational opportunities
 - Shelter payments
 - Supportive Services
 - Anti-Poverty Strategy
 - Prevention
 - Sustained Efforts
 - Increased Income and Employment