

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTADISTICA



**Draft Survey on
Homeless People
(SHP-2005)**

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Introduction

1. Background

a) In Spain

In the early 90s, the Ministry of Social Affairs financed a State research entitled "Sociological study on disadvantaged non-residents" (INCIS. 1991) which was never actually published. It seems that part of the fieldwork was used to compile the guide "Centres and Services for Homeless Non-Residents." Ministry of Social Affairs. 1994.

In the non-official sphere, and on a national level, the main studies have been carried out by the Cáritas organisation, specifically:

- "Transeúntes. Desarraigo y marginación social". (1975) Alonso Torrens et al.
- "Transeúntes y albergues" (1985). Martín Barroso.
- and more recently,
- "La acción social con personas sin hogar en España" (2000). Pedro Cabrera, co-financed by the Fundación Foessa and Cáritas.
- " Los límites de la exclusión: estudio sobre los factores económicos, psicosociales y de salud que afectan a las personas sin hogar de Madrid". (2002). M. Muñoz, C. Vázquez, J.J. Vázquez.

b) On an international level

To date, the most important research performed on a global scale has been the "*National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients*" undertaken in the United States between October 1995 and November 1996, as a result of a group effort carried out by several federal institutions with fieldwork performed by the Census Office.

Some experiences have also been undertaken in European countries, particularly in France. The most recent project was "*L'enquête "sans domicile": étude dans les lieux d'hébergement et de restauration gratuite*", carried out in the winter of 2001 by the INSEE in collaboration with the French INED.

2. Institutional framework

During recent years, the level of awareness and concern about the cohesion of our societies has increased in both governments (on a national and European level) and the civil society itself. The processes of social exclusion are one of the greatest current concerns, since they generate a growing segregation in our societies. This social exclusion is understood in the vast sense as the process that prevents people from taking part fully in society and to be socially integrated in the same.

Thus, the Amsterdam Treaty was the first document to envisage, in its social chapter, provisions that established combating social exclusion as one of the six goals of the European Social Policy (art.136).

The Action Plan for Social Inclusion in the European Union (2001-2005) and the Spanish equivalent, which is an integral part of the document, promote the elaboration of the statistical information needed to fulfil this objective. This requires the compilation of indicators and statistics on social exclusion. Particularly on homeless persons as the extreme manifestation of said exclusion.

In this context, in October 2001, Eurostat created a Task Force to establish a methodological framework to research homeless persons in the scope of the European Union.

In line with the reflections considered, the ideal goals would be as follows:

- a) Measurement of the lack of accommodation (periodical).
- b) Analysis of the characteristics of the persons lacking accommodation via direct surveys.

With this in mind, it is necessary to carry out different types of research, such as:

- Operations to improve the knowledge on accommodation centres.
- Use of direct interviews to survey the users of the accommodation centres.
- Interview "former homeless persons" via the household surveys.

2. Goals

During the winter of 2004, the INE has carried out a survey focusing on the centres that assist homeless persons, the *Survey on Homeless Persons (Centres)*, which has -on the one hand- presented the characteristics of these centres: services offered, population assisted, orientation, sources of financing, human and financial resources, regular period of activity, capacity and occupancy. On the other, it has presented an estimate of the average number of users of the network of centres in 2002 and on November 5th 2003.

In order to continue furthering the knowledge on homeless persons, considering the reflections made in the heart of the Task Force, and as our statistical system contains no information on this aspect, a survey has been proposed to analyse the characteristics of the users of the centres that render accommodation and/or catering services (SHP-Persons).

The survey has been designed to reveal the social and demographic profile, the living conditions and the difficulties to access accommodation of the persons in this group. Therefore, the different aspects detailed below will be analysed to answer these questions.

Results will be presented on a national level and, subsequently if possible, also by autonomous communities for the most relevant variables.

As regards the País Vasco, the survey has been carried out by the Basque Statistics Institute (EUSTAT), in line with the terms envisaged in the Collaboration Agreement subscribed by both bodies.

3. General characteristics under study.

The characteristics under study are as follows:

3.1 Socio-demographic characteristics.

The following characteristics are analysed: sex, age, place of birth, time residing in Spain, time residing in the Autonomous Community where the person has been contacted, census registration and nationality.

3.2 Use of the services.

In the first place it is a case of verifying if the persons contacted fulfil the requirements to be considered as part of the target population, and in the second place, of revealing some of the rules of behaviour of the target population as regards accommodation and food.

The type of accommodation, frequency and habits of use are analysed alongside other aspects such as the place where the persons have eaten and if they have not had access to food.

3.3 Living conditions.

This section analyses the behaviour as regards accommodation of the different persons under study with itineraries differentiated by type of accommodation.

Other characteristics analysed are the features of the collective accommodation used by these persons, as well as their use of telephone, mail, Internet and, if residing in a guesthouse or flat, the equipment of said accommodation.

Finally, the survey analyses some of the qualities and distinctive features of the persons who sleep in places that were not designed to be inhabited.

3.4 Accommodation: Background and search.

This section analyses the causes why persons do not have an accommodation and since when. Furthermore, it studies the possibility of persons to change their accommodation situation and, if they are not searching for accommodation, the survey will analyse the reasons for this discouragement to search for accommodation.

3.5 Activity, employment and unemployment.

This section researches the situation as regards the activity of the population under study. In the first place, the survey attempts to discover whether persons have ever had a period of stability at work. At present, for people who are unemployed, the survey analyses the reasons why they lost their jobs and their behaviour in view of this lack of employment. If they are employed, the survey studies the situation of these persons, their job, how long they have had said job and how they found said job.

3.6 Financial situation.

This section analyses the different sources of income of the person, either derived from a job or the performance of an activity or others, the main source of income, the amount of income, main expenditure items, and debts.

3.7 Training.

The training or education of the persons under study is analysed in view of the level of completed studies, age when studied were abandoned, difficulty to read and write or to calculate, and if the person aims to improve his/her education by taking courses.

3.8 Health.

Furthering the analysis of the living conditions of the population under study, the first aspect the survey analyses is the health status of the interested person. Sleep, both from the subjective appreciation of difficulty to sleep assessed by the interested person, to the objective approximation of how many hours persons sleep a day.

The survey also investigates the relationship of the person with the health system (health card, use of the health service), and objectively analyses the health status (diagnosis of a serious or chronic illness, and hospitalisation). The final element analysed is the possibility of being addicted to medicines, alcohol, drugs or betting and gambling.

3.9 Family. Family ties and background.

This section studies the family ties of the persons under study, if they have a partner and the level of cohabitation, and if they have children, and their relationship with these children.

It also analyses the relationship between the person and the family members s/he does not live with. Finally, it investigates family background (living conditions before reaching eighteen years old and the existence of family problems before said age).

3.10 Use of social services.

The use the persons surveyed make of social services, focusing on how often they use day centres, relationship with social workers and assessment of social services.

This section also investigates the payment of the minimum integration income and the circumstances why the person no longer receives it or has never tried to receive it.

3.11 Relationship with justice.

This section studies if these people have experienced situations in which they have been the victim of a crime or aggression or, conversely, if they have been reported or arrested.

It also analyses the legal assistance received and, if applicable, if the persons were sentenced and the type of sentence served. It also studies if they received support after they served their sentence.

4. Scope of the survey

4.1 Population scope

Homeless persons, aged 18 years old and older, who live in municipalities with over 20,000 inhabitants.

The survey accepts the definition of *homeless person* established provisionally as the basis by the Eurostat Work Group, with slight modifications for its adaptation to the Spanish reality, and is transcribed hereunder:

"A person experiencing housing deprivation is someone who does not have access during the reference period to accommodation which meets commonly agreed criteria for human habitation which he/she can occupy, whether this accommodation is legally their own property or whether the property is occupied under a tenancy agreement or occupied rent-free under licence or some contractual or other arrangement of a non-temporary nature (including provision by public sector or non-governmental organisations; provision by employers).

Consequently, they temporarily have to sleep:

1. On the street, or
2. In buildings which are commonly considered not to offer the necessary conditions for human habitability, or
3. In emergency accommodations provided by the public sector or non-governmental organisations, or
4. In long-stay group accommodations provided by the public sector or non-governmental organisations (non-emergency centres, shelters for battered women, centres to accommodate persons requesting asylum or irregular immigrants), or
5. In guesthouses or boarding houses, or
6. In other short stay accommodations, or
7. In squats

This excludes people that live in the following types of accommodation:

- Hospitals; mental health centres; old people's homes
- Prisons; confinement centres
- Students residences; boarding schools
- Orphanages; adoption homes
- Barracks; military sea missions
- Moored ships
- Mobile homes (circuses)
- Au-pairs; domestic service; hotel personnel who live in the hotel
- Tourists staying in hotels
- Subsidised accommodations "

Nevertheless, although the *theoretical population* is appropriate (since there is no agreement on the definition of a homeless person in the EU context), *the population that is actually investigated* are the persons who go to the centres that offer accommodation and/or catering services².

4.2 Territorial scope

Municipalities with over 20,000 inhabitants from the whole of Spain, except in País Vasco where the survey considers all municipalities.

4.3 Time scope

The reference period for the survey will depend on the priority goal. Depending on whether we are interested in the concept of a homeless person at a specific moment in time or in the concept of homeless person over a longer period. As occurred in other recent international experiences (the French case, for example) and given the lack of a harmonised framework in the European Union context, we have decided on using a solution that stands between these two concepts. Therefore, this survey considers a *reference period of one month*. Considering the nature of this study, we have established this period in the winter season, specifically February 2005.

5. Concepts and definitions

5.1. Main characteristics under study

Place of accommodation: Place where a person or group of persons resides, lodges or camps. A distinction is made between group accommodations, individual accommodations and makeshift accommodations.

Group accommodation: Place where a group of persons reside or lodge.

Shelter: Charity establishment that provisionally accommodates persons in need.

Residence: House where people coexist and reside abiding to certain regulations.

Centre for battered women: Shelter or residence designed to assist and accommodate battered women and their offspring.

Battered woman: Woman who has been subjected to physical or mental violence on behalf of her husband or partner.

Centres for refugees: Shelter or residence that accommodates refugees.

Confinement centre: Shelter or residence that provisionally accommodates foreigners who have no official identity papers according to the Spanish legislation.

² For operative reasons, confinement centres and centres that assist refugees have not been considered.

Hospital: Establishment designed for the diagnosis and treatment of patients, that also undertakes training and research.

Prison: Jail or place where prisoners are enclosed.

Old people's homes: Shelter or residence where persons over 65 years old live and coexist abiding to certain regulations.

Flat: Series of rooms that compose an independent dwelling in a house made up of different floors.

House: Building to be inhabited.

Flat or house provided by an NGO or similar institution: Property granted by an NGO or similar institution. This includes a flat paid by the minimum integration income (MII) as a person's only source of income.

Flat or house rented by the person: Property rented at market price by the interested person.

Owned flat or house: Property owned by the person residing within.

Accommodation at a friend's or relative's house: Short-term use of property owned by a relative, except parents or partner or spouse, or by a friend.

Guesthouse: Place that accommodates guests.

Boarding house: House where food and accommodation is given prior payment.

Guesthouse paid by an NGO or similar institution: Guesthouse whose use by a person is paid for by an NGO or similar institution: This includes a guesthouse paid by the minimum integration income (MII) as a person's only source of income.

Place not designed for accommodation: Space unfit for use as a bedroom.

Accommodation in a public place: Accommodation in a public transport station (bus, underground, train, etc.), car park, park and/or garden, open ground, etc.

Makeshift accommodation: Accommodation in a part of a building not designed for use as a bedroom (hall, corridor, staircase), garage, cave, abandoned car, etc.

Frequency of accommodation: Regularity with which a person sleeps at a specific place.

Nourishment: Eating the main food of the day.

Lunch (or Sandwich) at a canteen or social restaurant: Prepared food, except fruit, provided by the owner of the canteen and eaten inside or outside of the venue.

Lunch at a friend's or relative's house: Prepared food provided by a relative, except parents and spouse, or by a friend.

Food cooked at home and bought by the person: Food cooked by the person, his/her parents and/or spouse, at the person's home.

Food donated by private persons: Prepared or unprepared food donated by private persons.

Retrieved food: Prepared or unprepared foodstuff retrieved from the waste left by markets or restaurants.

Bedroom: In a dwelling, room where a person sleeps.

Bunks: Each of the narrow, single beds used in boats, trains, barracks, bedrooms, etc., that are usually placed one on top of the other to save space.

Hammock: Deck chair, net or canvas suspended by the ends.

Sharing a bed: One bed used by two persons.

Single bed: One bed used by one person.

Consideration: Contribution to be paid by one contracting party due to what s/he has received or will receive from the other party

Accommodation centre: Group accommodation, that can be a shelter or a residence.

Frequently visited location: Place that is visited frequently by the person. It can be a venue or a centre where assistance is provided or that renders other services.

PO Box: Service at a post office whereby a user rents a box or section with a number that is employed to receive post.

Surfing the Internet and use of e-mail: Opportunity of using these electronic resources.

Payment of a small amount: Payment of a small amount of money lower than the market price for the good or service rendered.

Unoccupied dwelling: Dwelling that is not being used either by tenants or owners.

Organism: Institution that, among other things, helps homeless persons.

NGO: Association or foundation that, among other things, helps homeless persons.

Adoption of legal measures: Presentation of a report in front of a court.

Adoption of police measures: Presentation of a report to the police, without submitting it to court.

Belongings: Personal belongings

Own accommodation: Accommodation a person considers his or her own, regardless of whether it is rented or owned.

Social worker: University graduate with a diploma in social work, former welfare officers.

Long-term work: Continuous work for over six month.

Unemployed: Person without an occupation.

Retired: Person who no longer works and receives a pension.

Disability: In labour relations, situation of permanent disability.

Refugee: Person who, due to wars, revolutions or political persecutions, has to seek refuge outside his or her country.

Employment regulation: Process whereby a company adjust the number of employees to its genuine needs, producing a series of dismissals.

Minimum integration income: Variable amount that is granted as a social aid to persons who fulfil the minimum requirements established by the Autonomous Community of residence.

Unemployment benefits: Amount received when unemployed, after having contributed to the social security for at least one year.

Disability pension: Pension received for having a recognised disability of over 55%.

Retirement pension: Pension received when a person no longer works, as long as s/he fulfils the conditions of age and time contributing to the social security.

Widow's pension: Pension received when a spouse dies.

Non-contributory pension: Pension received by persons over 65 years old with minimum income or with no income, and who have not contributed to the social security for enough years to entitle them to a retirement pension.

Training or education courses: Training activity, official or not, lasting over 10 hours.

Health status: Subjective reception of the person's own health status.

Health card: Document that entitles the holder to go to a National Health System health centre or hospital.

Serious or chronic illness: Serious or recurrent, if chronic, alteration of the person's health.

Medicine to be able to sleep: Soporific.

Medicine to calm the nerves: Anxiolytic and anti-depressants.

Low alcohol content beverage: Alcoholic beverage such as wine, beer, cava, cider, etc. and mixes with soft drinks.

High alcohol content beverage: Alcoholic beverage like brandy, rum, gin, whisky, etc. and mixes with soft drinks. .

Drug: Substance or preparation that has a stimulant, depressive, narcotic or hallucinogenic effect.

Joint: Cigarette made with a combination of tobacco and some other drug, like hashish for example.

Games of chance: Games that do not depend on the ability or skill of the players, but are only attributable to luck; e.g., dice.

De facto situation: State of the person as regards his or her relationship with his or her partner.

Single: A person who is not married

Married: A person who is married.

Common law couple: Persons in a relationship that is not legally or administratively recognised.

Widower: Person whose spouse has died and has not married again.

Legally separated: A person who has interrupted their life with their spouse, maintaining the marital relationship with a court order.

De facto separation: A person who has interrupted their life with their spouse, maintaining the marital relationship without a court order.

Divorced: A persons whose marital relationship has been legally annulled.

Friend: Reliable person who is not a relative of the interviewed person.

Institution that fosters minors: Institution where minors live without legal tutors, under the charge of the competent authorities.

Day centre: Centre that assists homeless persons, but does not provide accommodation or catering services.

Social services: Resources of the public institutions to help underprivileged people.

Subsidy: Public welfare compensation that has a financial nature and a specific duration.

Victim of a crime: Person who experiences a damage due to a breach of the law.

Victim of an aggression: Person who experiences a damage due to an action destructive of another person's right.

Juvenile court: Court designed for dealing with the criminal relations of persons aged 14 to 18 years old.

Other courts or tribunals: Refers to all other courts or tribunals excluding juvenile courts.

Juvenile detention centre: Place where the re-educational measures ordered by the juvenile courts are undertaken.

5.2 Identification variables

Identification of the centre

Province: The 50 provinces and the 2 autonomous cities the Spanish state is divided into.

Municipality: The municipality where the selected centre is located.

Centre code: Five-digit identification of the centre according to the directory of the Survey on Homeless Persons (Centres).

5.3 Classification variables

Geographical characteristics

Reference Autonomous Community Autonomous Community where the centre where the interview is performed is located.

Place of birth: If born in Spain, this refers to the Autonomous Community. If born abroad, this refers to the country where the person was born.

Nationality: Nationality of the person interviewed. Considering the following options: Spanish, foreign and both.

When analysing the data, persons with a double nationality will be considered Spanish.

Characteristics relative to the person

Sex

Age: The age of the person interviewed, structured according to the following age groups:

From 18 to 29 years old

From 30 to 45 years old

From 46 to 64 years old

Over 64 years old

Time residing in Spain: The time the person has lived in Spain, in accordance with the following scale:

From 0 to 12 months

From 13 to 35 months

From 3 to 5 years

Over 5 years

Time residing in the Autonomous Community of residence The time the person has lived in the AC, in accordance with the following scale:

From 0 to 12 months

From 13 to 35 months

From 3 to 5 years

Over 5 years

Registration in the census: Registration in the Municipal register of inhabitants

Occupation: Classified according to the National Classification of Occupations (NCO-94), with one digit, according to the following:

- A. Public administration management and management of companies with 10 or more wage earners.
- B. Management of companies with less than 10 wage earners
- C. Management of companies without wage earners
- D. Professions associated with 2nd and 3rd cycle university degrees and the like:
- E Professions associated with a 1st cycle university degree and the like:
- F. Support technicians and professionals: (Somme occupations in this group require a 1st cycle university degree to be carried out. They are included in this group to ensure compatibility with the international classification.)
- G. Administrative type employees
- H. Catering services workers and personal services workers
- J. Protection and security service workers
- K. Retail workers and the like
- L. Workers skilled in agriculture and fishing
- M. Skilled construction workers, except machinery operators
- N. Skilled workers in the extractive industry, metallurgy, construction of machinery and related trades.
- P. Skilled workers from the graphic arts, textile and tailoring, elaboration of food, cabinetmakers, craftspersons and other similar industries
- Q. Fixed machinery and industrial installation operators; fitters and assemblers.
- R. Mobile machinery drivers and operators
- S. Unskilled workers in the service sector (except transports)
- T. Agriculture, fishing, construction, manufacturing industries and transport labourers.
- U. Armed forces

When using the data, the previous sections have been grouped as follows:

- Executives, technicians and professionals (A+B+C+D+E+F+U)
- Administrative employees; catering services workers; personal, protection and security service workers; retail workers and the like (G+H+J+K)
- Skilled workers in agriculture, fishing, industry and construction (L+M+N+P+Q)
- Unskilled workers (R+S+T)

Level of studies: Considering the types of levels of studies envisaged in the National Classification of Education (classification of educational level curricula) (NCED-200), as follows:

- O. Without studies.

- A. Nursery education.
- B. Primary education
- C. Programmes for training and labour integration that do not require first stage Secondary education academic qualifications.
- D. First stage of secondary education
- E. Programme for training and labour integration that requires first stage Secondary education academic qualifications .
- F. Second stage of secondary education
- G. Programme for training and labour integration that requires second stage Secondary education academic qualifications.
- H. Advanced vocational training courses, specific and equivalent, plastic arts and design, and sports
- I. Other programmes lasting 2 or more years that require Post-Secondary Education qualifications.
- J. First and second cycle university education.
- K. Programme that requires a university qualifications.
- L. Third cycle university education.
- M. Training programmes which do not require academic qualifications.

When using the data, the previous sections have been grouped as follows:

- Without studies (O)
- Primary education (A+B+C+M)
- Secondary Studies (D+E+F+G)
- Advanced level studies (university and non-university (H+I+J+K+L))

Alcohol intake: Intake will be classified into four categories considering the amount of pure alcohol consumed a week, considering the following criterion:

Light, from 1 to 175 c.c. of pure alcohol/week

Moderate, from 176 to 525 c.c. of pure alcohol/week

High, from 526 to 700 c.c of pure alcohol/week

Excessive, over 700 c.c. of pure alcohol/week

Drug use: Considers whether the person has ever taken drugs.

Family situation: Considering the situation of the person the day of the interview, classified into the following categories:

- Single
- Married
- Common law couple
- Widowed

Legally separated
De facto separation
Divorced

6. Sample design

6.1.-Introduction

The sample has been designed to reveal the socio-economic characteristics of the persons considered *homeless persons* on a *national level*.

The elemental sample units are the *services*, both accommodation and catering, that are rendered to this type of population. The demand of these services is used to estimate the total number of persons included in the concept homeless person.

Since no studies on this population had ever been carried out in Spain, the criteria used when designing the sample are based on the French experience and adapted to the characteristics typical of Spain.

6.2.- Type of sampling

The survey uses a two-stage sampling with first stage unit stratification.

The first stage units are the *centres* located in municipalities over 20,000 inh. that render their services to the population under study.

The framework for the primary units is the directory of centres, derived from the Survey on Homeless Persons (Centres), carried out previously by the INE.

Centres are stratified in line with the most significant variables in the framework, such as: type of services rendered and number of services.

The second stage units are the *services* rendered by the centres.

In order to ensure the sample is representative, and since it is impossible to keep an interviewer at one same centre over a long period of time, and impossible to interview all persons who use the services the centre offers, when considering the sample stages it is necessary to bear in mind the following notions:

1. *Survey days*, during the collection period assigned to each centre, with a view to distributing the sample uniformly over time.
2. *Time intervals during the survey days*. Referring to the time interval in which the interviewer collects data. These are defined so that no person can receive more than one service during said period.
3. *Persons who demand the services* on the day and intervals selected. The selection of these persons depends on the information provided by the centres, depending on whether they have a list of users, a waiting list, etc. When possible, the survey

has implemented a same probability selection criteria and used a sampling fraction that considers the reasonable number of interviews that can be carried out by the interviewer during the selected period.

6.3.- Size of the sample

In line with the French experience, and considering the difficulties this survey involves, the high level of non-response that could appear, and the impossibility of establishing a uniform criteria for the selection of the persons in the centres, the size of the sample has been established as *4000 services*.

The following aspects have been considered to establish the sample size of the first stage units (centres):

- The survey establishes a daily number of three interviews, considering that it takes about 30 minutes, on average, to fill in the questionnaire.
- In accordance with the structure of the centres (there are few big centres and many small ones), they have been stratified by size and, depending on this variable, they will be visited over 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 days, distributing visits over one or several weeks. It was established that fieldwork would be carried out over four weeks.
- The number of days established are as follows:
 - In centres selected for rendering *accommodation services*:
 - Centres with less than 20 services: 4 days (1 day/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 20 and 50 services: 8 days (2 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 50 and 80 services: 12 days (3 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 80 and 300 services: 16 days (4 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with over 300 services: 20 days (5 days/4 weeks)
 - In centres selected for rendering *catering services*:
 - Centres with less than 90 services: 12 days (3 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 90 and 150 services: 16 days (4 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 150 and 250 services: 20 days (5 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with between 250 and 400 services: 20 days (5 days/4 weeks)
 - Centres with over 400 services: 20 days (5 days/4 weeks)
- The distribution of the sample of services among the different types of centres has been proportional to the number of services. The sample size in each type of centre has been 2031 services in the centres that render

accommodation services and 1969 in the others. The same criteria has been used between strata.

6.4.- Sample selection

The selection of centres has been performed with a probability proportional to the number of services rendered.

In order to do so, in each stratum, centres have been distributed by the province they belong to.

The sample selection does not consider centres that have rendered less than four services.

The distribution of the number of centres in each province, by type of services rendered, is presented hereunder.

Distribution of the sample of centres

Autonomous Community	Total	Accommodatio n	Catering
Andalucía	22	14	8
Aragón	4	2	2
Asturias (Principado de)	2	2	0
Baleares (Islas)	4	3	1
Canarias	9	8	1
Cantabria	2	1	1
Castilla y Leon	6	6	0
Castilla-La Mancha	4	4	0
Cataluña	12	7	5
Comunidad Valenciana	10	8	2
Extremadura	4	2	2
Galicia	10	4	6
Madrid (comunidad de)	16	8	8
Murcia (Región de)	3	3	0
Navarra (Comunidad foral)	2	2	0
País Vasco *	60	54	6
La Rioja	2	2	0
Ceuta y Melilla	4	3	1
Total	176	133	43

The selection of the sample of services has been performed with equal probability.

In line with the different situations, and considering the fact that the persons are the research units selected according to the services they require, the sample has been selected as follows:

- In centres that render *accommodation services* and on the assumption that there were a list of persons accommodated during one night, the interviewer selects the sample of services using said list. The criterion is

*In the País Vasco all centres located in municipalities over 20,000 inh. have been investigated exhaustively, in accordance with the Agreement subscribed with Eustat.

as follows: If m is the number of persons in the list and n is the size of the sample to be selected, in our case $n=3$, p is calculated as the whole part of the quotient m/n , and a number i is selected randomly, with $1 \leq i \leq n$, interviewing persons who are in the position $i, i+p, i+2p, \dots, i+(n-1)p$.

If a centre, for whichever reason, does not provide or does not have a list, the persons will be selected in terms of the order of arrival or departure, considering the moment of the interview, that is to say the first n s. If several of the persons accommodated arrive to or depart from the centre simultaneously, thus preventing the interviewer from implementing the aforementioned mechanisms, the selection of the n persons to be interviewed will be made randomly, for example selecting one person in each group arriving or departing simultaneously until completing the sample size.

- In centres offering *catering services* the interviewer selects persons by order of arrival to the centre to receive said service. If the massive flow of people to the centre prevents the use of said selection mechanism, the interviewer will once again use the most random manner of selecting persons for the survey. For example, selecting persons whilst they are eating and trying to get them to wait till the end for the interview, or making the selection on their arrival when the interviewer is available.

6.5.- Estimators

The characteristics estimated are total, or quotients of two totals, and refer to the behaviour of the population during a typical day.

The estimator of a total of a characteristic $X = \sum_{i \in U} x_i$ where U is the population of

homeless persons that will be a linear estimator such as $\hat{X} = \sum_{i \in M} w_i \cdot x_i$ where M is the sample of homeless persons and w_i is the raising factor of that homeless person that is interpreted as the number of homeless persons in the population represented by the homeless person i in the sample.

The calculation of the raising factor of the homeless persons has been undertaken in two stages, first calculating the raising factors of the services sampled and then calculating the raising factor of the homeless persons that have requested those services.

When performing this calculation, it is important to consider that, in order to ensure the sample is representative, the centres selected have been distributed over the days of the week, from Monday to Friday, and over the different weeks during which the survey lasted.

a) *Raising factor of the services.*

The raising factor of the services is the inverse of their selection probability.

Since services have been selected in two stages -centres have initially been selected by strata and then services (catering or accommodation) have been selected in each of these centres-, the probability of the final selection is the result of the centre's selection probability by the selection probability of the service in the centre.

The selection probability of the centre c , P_c , in stratum h is given by:

$$P_c = n_h \frac{s_c}{S_h}$$

where:

S_h is the total amount of services offered by the centres in stratum h on an average day according to the framework.

n_h is the number of centres selected in stratum h.

s_c is the number of services rendered in a centre c on an average day according to the framework.

(As regards centres in the País Vasco, there has been no first stage sampling, since all centres have been sampled. Therefore, in this case $P_c=1$).

The selection probability of a service i in a centre c is:

$$P_{i/c} = \frac{d_c}{28 \cdot s_c}$$

where :

d_c is the number of services sampled in the centre c , required by persons regardless of whether they are surveyable or not and $28 \cdot s_c$ is the estimated total number of services offered over four weeks, which is how long the investigation lasts.

Factor 28 is a time-based raising factor used to estimate the total amount of services rendered by the centre over four weeks, considering the behaviour of the centre on an average day.

Therefore, the final raising factor of the service i in the centre c is:

$$w_i = w_c * w_{i/c} = \frac{1}{P_c} * \frac{1}{P_{i/c}}$$

b) *Raising factor of the persons.*

In order to obtain the raising factor applicable to persons, the survey uses the previous factor and implements a shared weight method. The shared weight method provides unbiased estimates when the sample (Services) is selected from a framework different to that of the research units (Persons).

This method was presented by Ernst in 1989 applied to the calculation of longitudinal raising factors in panel surveys. Subsequently, P. Lavallé extended the scope of implementation to a vaster context in 1995.

Since a person can request more than one service, in order to go from the services factor to the persons factor, this procedure allocates to each person the services raising factor, deflated by the total amount of services demanded by that person during a specific period of time, in this case one week.

The raising factor for the person k, demanding services i is :

$$f_k = \frac{1}{4 \cdot (sd_k)} \sum_i w_i$$

where :

sd_k is the number of services required by the person k in the week before the interview and $4 \cdot (sd_k)$ is the total amount of estimated services the person k demands over the 4 weeks the research lasts.

(Value 4 is a time-based raising factor that is introduced given that persons are asked questions referring to the demand of services during one week.)

The sum is extended on the services of the sample demanded by person k .

c) Reweighting by Autonomous Community.

Since the sample has been designed to provide estimates on a national level, estimates by autonomous communities can present high sampling errors.

In order to correct this lack of precision to the most possible extent, the survey uses a ratio estimator where the auxiliary variable is the total amount of services rendered by the community, information stemming from the framework used.

The ratio estimator is equivalent to multiplying the factor f_k of the person k in each community by the following reweighting factor:

$$f_{\text{rep}} = \frac{S_{\text{cau}} / S}{\hat{S}_{\text{cau}} / \hat{S}}$$

where,

S_{CAU} = Total amount of services in the Autonomous Community in terms of the framework.

S = Total amount of services on a national level.

\hat{S}_{CAU} and \hat{S} = Previous totals, but estimated in the actual survey.

7. Collecting information

7.1. Organising the collection

Considering the time scope and the sample size of the investigation, the most efficient approach was to use the division of the areas of the territory.

Therefore, provinces have been grouped into 18 collection areas, considering the workload of the provinces and their proximity when creating the groups. Therefore, the fieldwork (collection of the information, filtering of the data and inspection and control of the work) will be centralised in the delegation of the province that will be the area's administrative centre.

For the survey, 72 interviewers and 26 interviewer inspectors will be hired and will be supervised by the Survey inspectors.

Interviews will be carried out over four weeks, throughout February 2005.

7.2. Carrying out the fieldwork

a) contact with the centres

The first step is to send a letter of introduction presenting the survey to the centres requesting their collaboration. Then the Survey inspector contacts each of the centres selected, preferably by personal interview, so as to:

- Inform on the goal of the survey.
- Obtain previous information on whether there is a list of persons who use the centre daily, in order to perform a previous selection of reporting agents.
- Make an appointment for the interviewer and specify a place (office or similar) where the interview can be performed without bothering the centre and the users.

b) interviews

The first time interviewers visit the centre they will be accompanied by the Survey inspector or the Interview inspector, who will introduce the interviewer.

At the same time, the Inspector will ensure:

- The availability of an appropriate place to hold the interviews.
- The random selection of interviewees.
- That whilst the interviews are being carried out, no social worker or any other person from the centre who could influence the person's answers is present.

c) personnel

In line with the conclusions of the pilot experience carried out, the personnel that will take part in the survey, both as regards interviewers and interviewer inspectors, will be social workers.

Therefore, we have contacted the General Council of Social Workers to obtain candidates who are social workers with an experience in working with persons with a risk of social exclusion and, to the most possible extent, who can speak another language (French, English, Arabic, Russian).

8. Processing the information

The process used to enter data in the questionnaires will be performed using scanning and optical character recognition techniques. As a result, this process will generate a log file that will be sent to the department promoting the survey. Furthermore, the archived images of the questionnaires will also be sent to the department on an appropriate support.

The generated log file will undergo a filtering process, which will be performed by the service promoting the survey, in order to detect possible absences or inconsistencies in the information received. This process generates a basic operation file.

The operation file is processed using the SPSS statistical package, generating the derivative variables, undertaking the analysis and compiling the tables anticipated in the survey operation plan.

9. Dissemination

A preview of the results should be published in December 2005.

The conventional publication of the survey will be appear after the electronic edition.

Subsequently, and depending on the level of response, specific studies may be published resulting from the exhaustive exploitation of certain sections of the questionnaire, in line with the survey operation plan.

Annex. Questionnaire

Questionnaire attached in the file "Cuestionario EPSH.pdf".