

What the homeless have to teach us

Georgia Coalition to End Homelessness – 4th annual conference

Greg Owen, Wilder Research

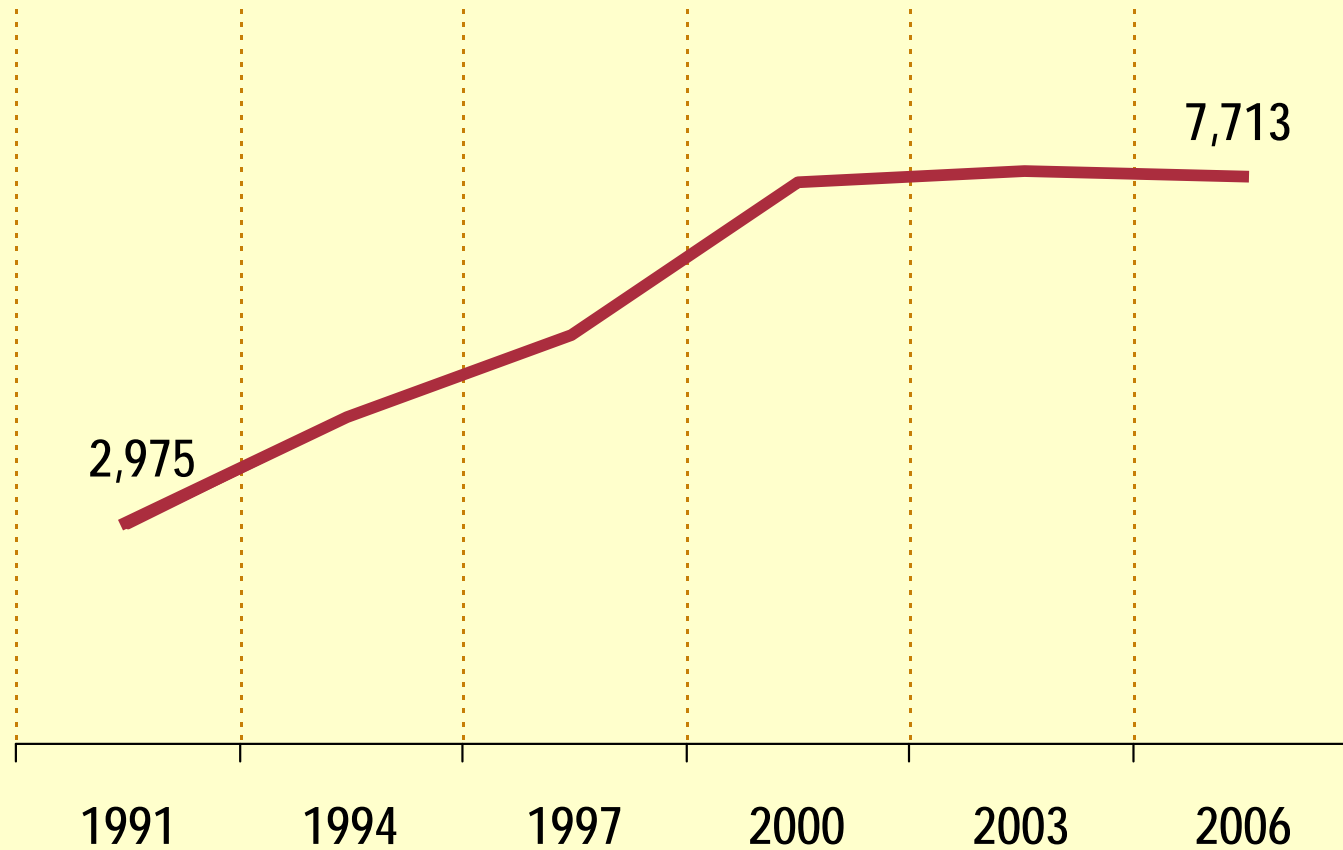
Hilton Savannah Desoto
October 3 – 4, 2007



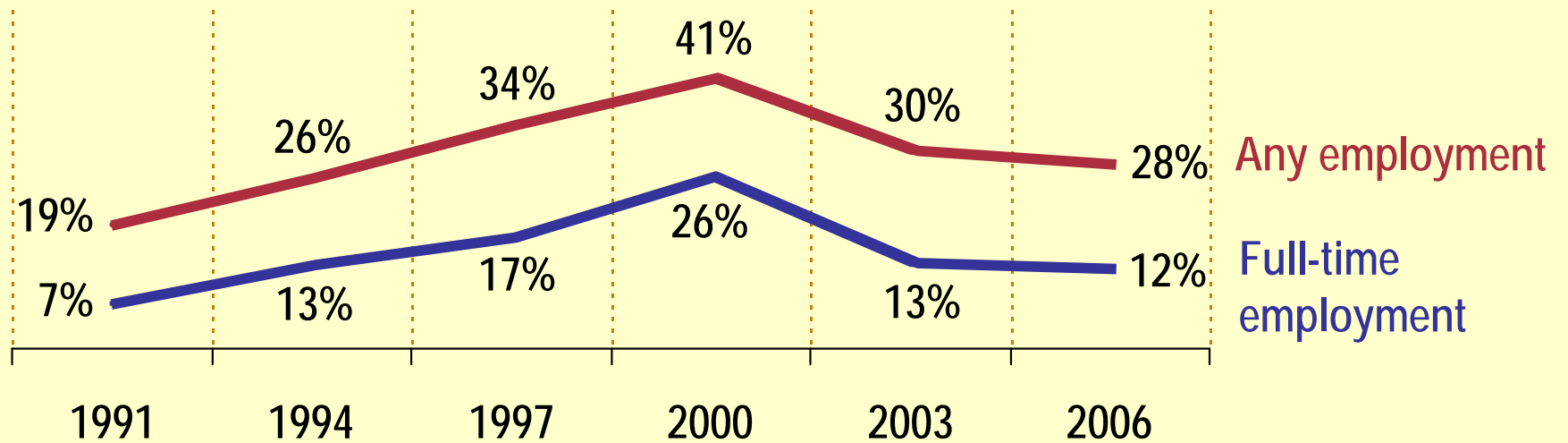
Results based on Minnesota's statewide homeless survey

- October point-in-time study
- Face-to-face interviews conducted by trained volunteers
- Conducted every three years since 1991
- Results based on 2006 survey

October counts of homeless adults, children, and unaccompanied youth

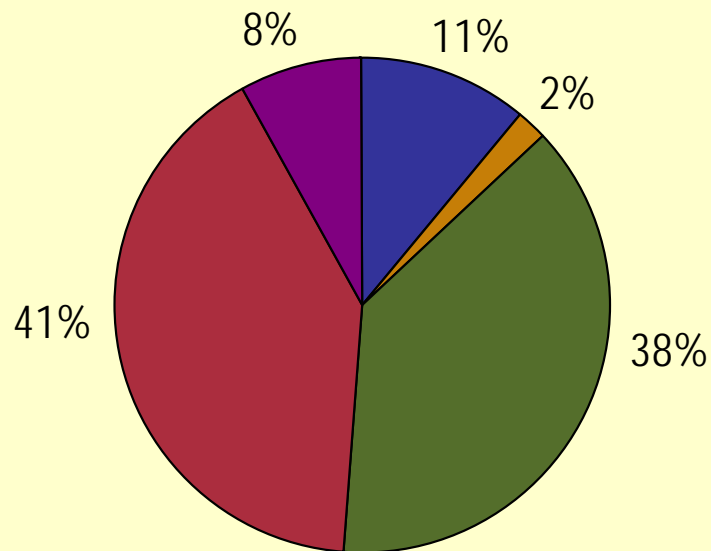


Recent declines in employment



Significant racial disparities persist

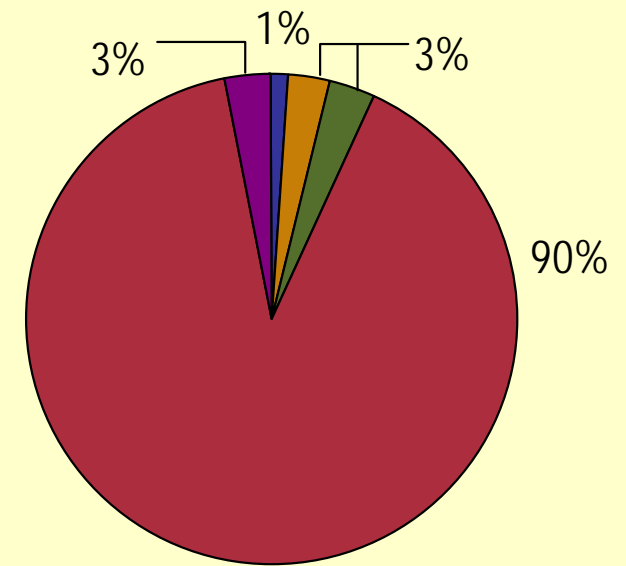
MN homeless adults
2006



Latino 7%

- American Indian
- Asian American
- Black
- White
- Other

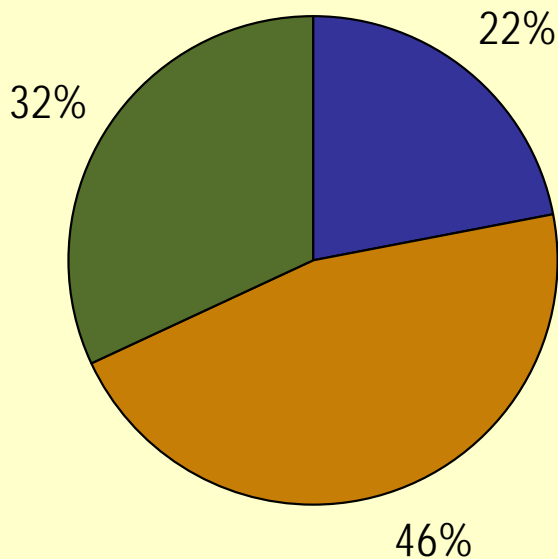
All MN adults



Latino 3%

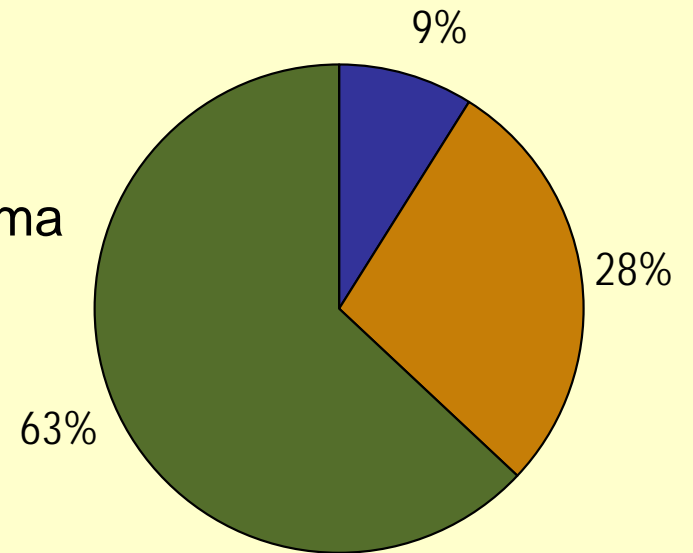
Many have not finished high school

MN homeless
25+

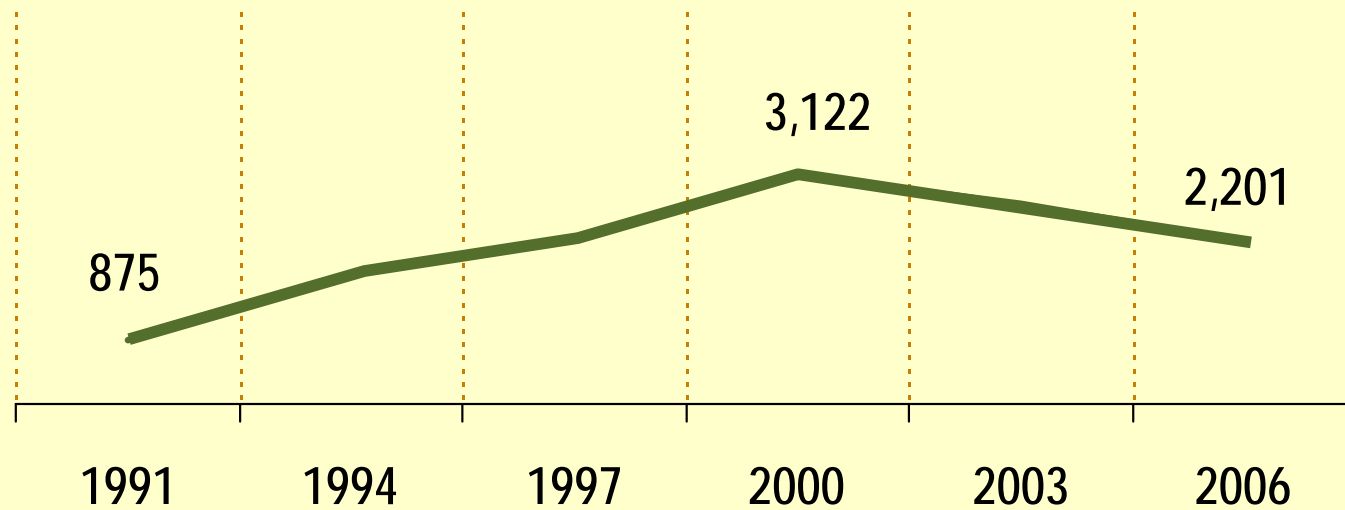


- No high school diploma
- High school diploma
- High school plus

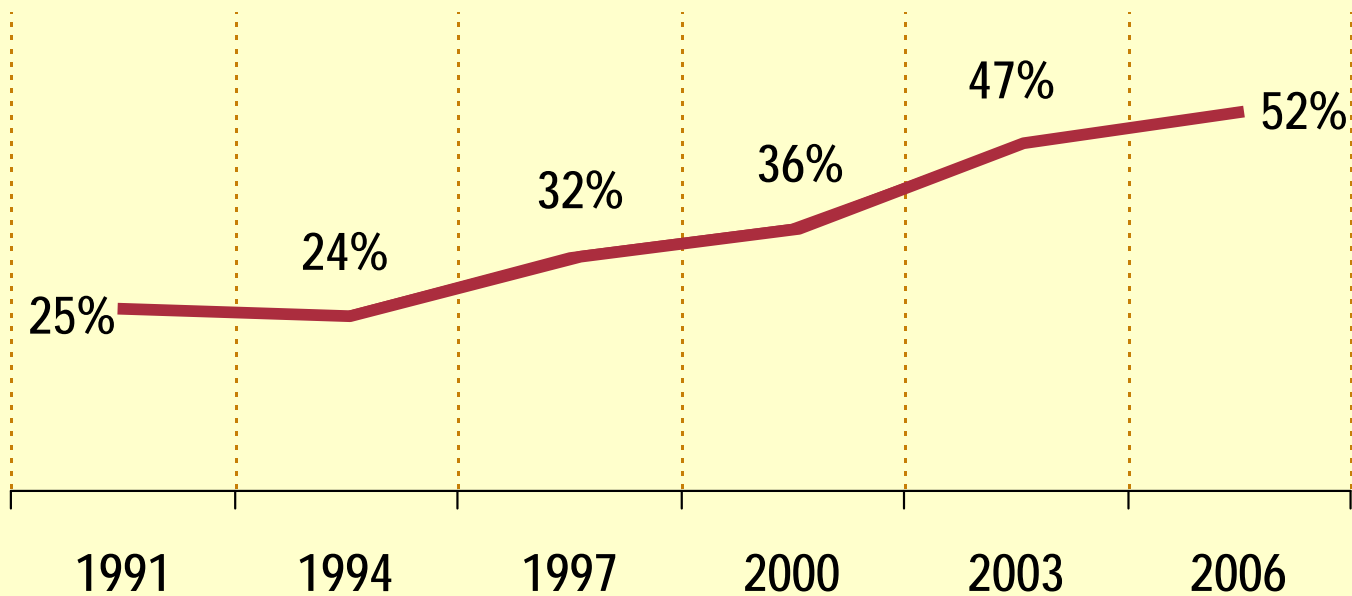
All MN adults
25+



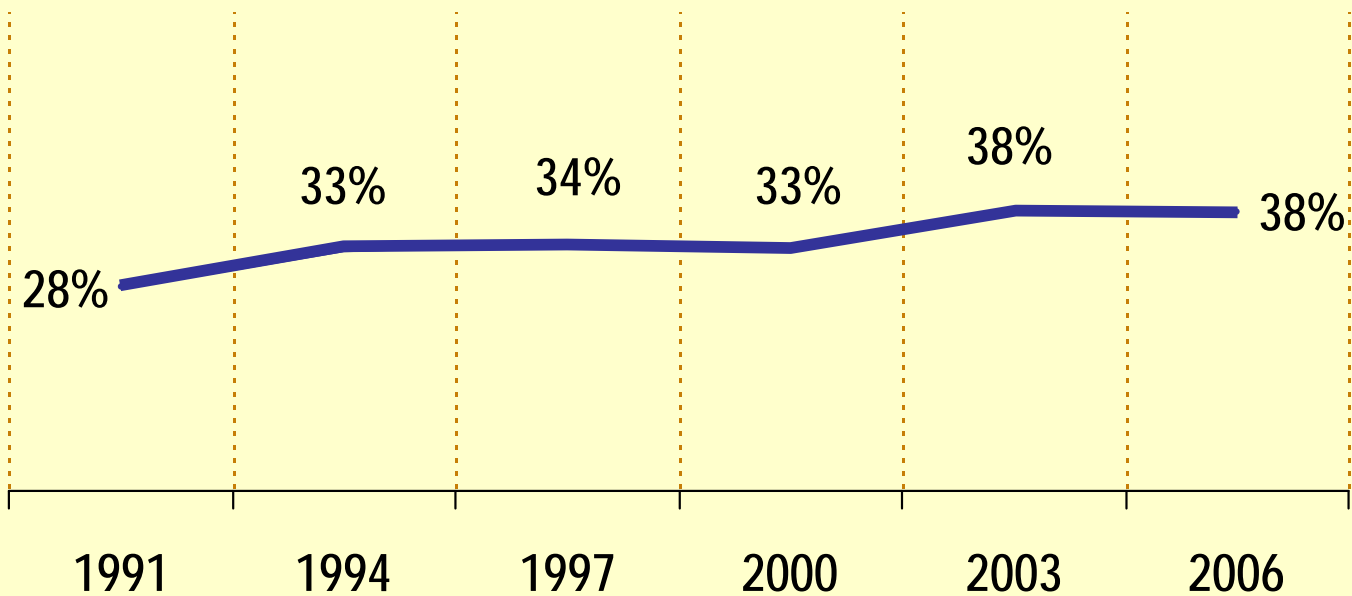
Recent decline in the number of children in shelters



Substantial rise in adults with mental illness



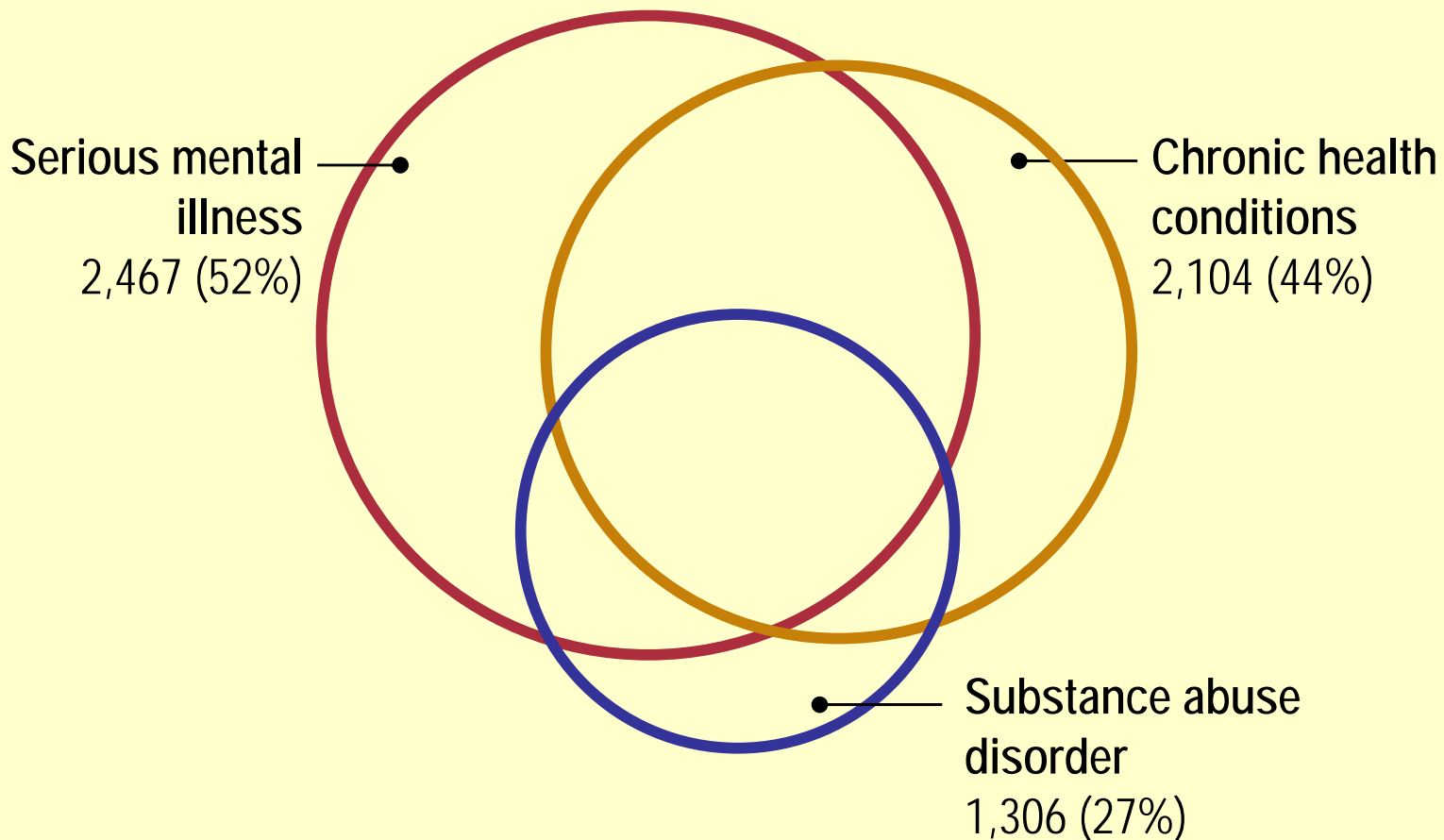
Childhood abuse is common



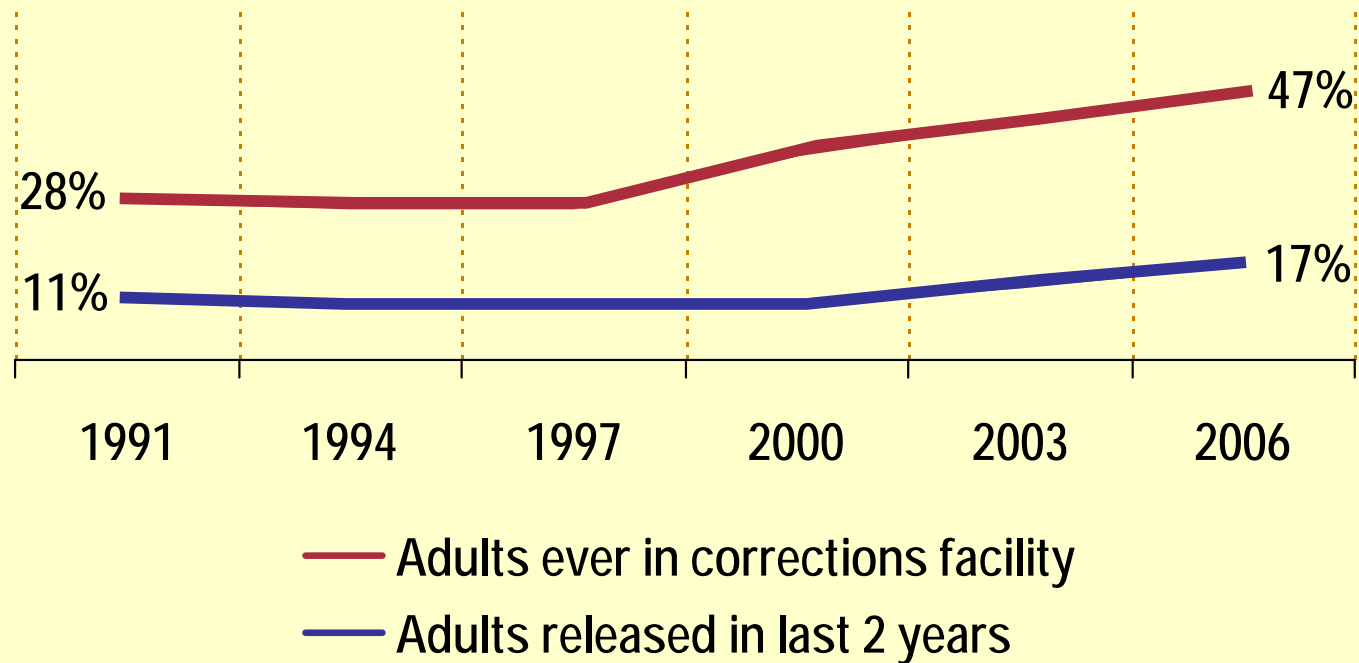
Disabilities often occur together

Total homeless adults represented by survey: 4,781 (100%)

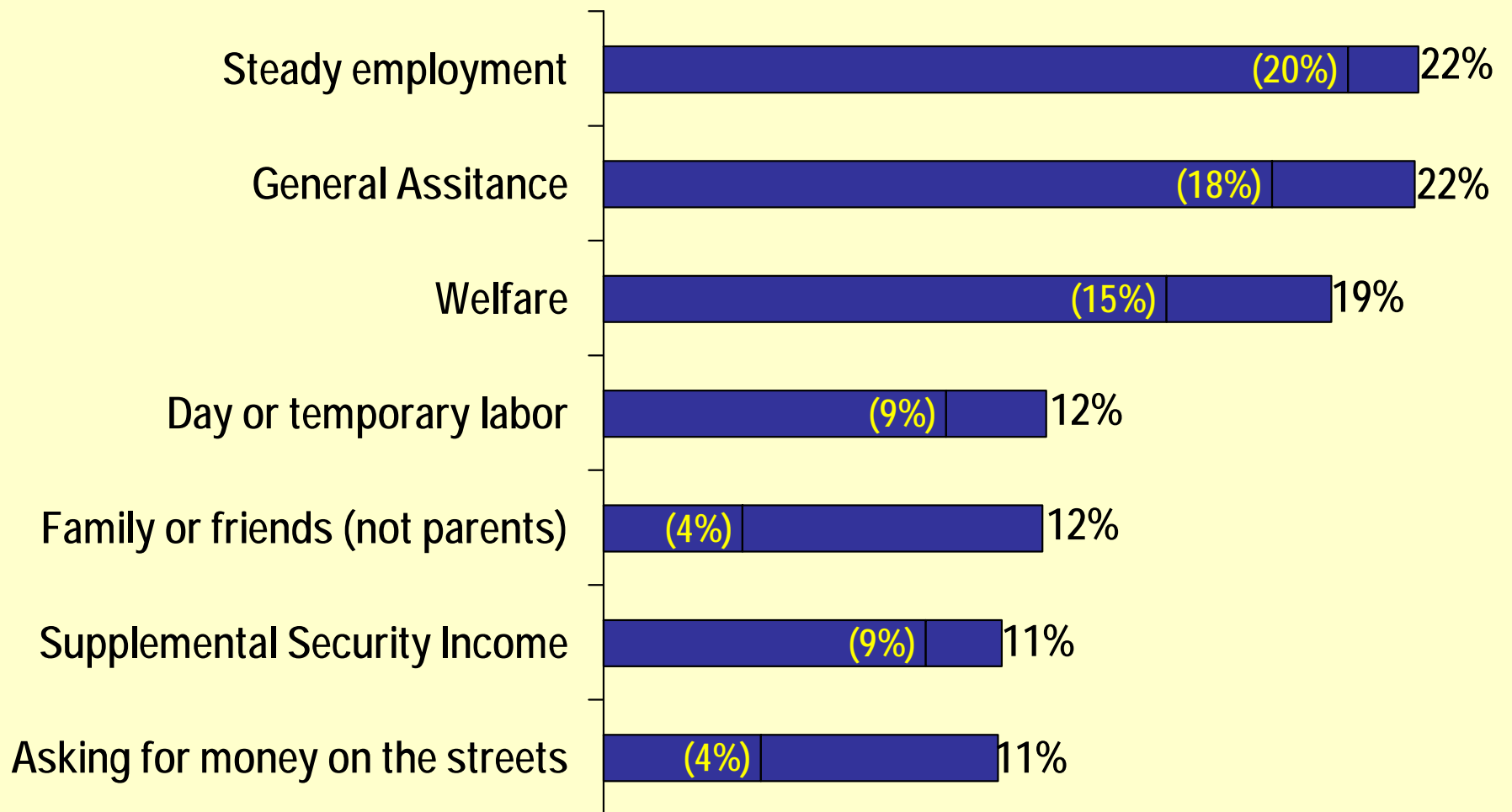
Proportion with none of these three disabilities: 1,339 (28%)



Rising number of adults with criminal history



Source of any income for homeless adults (and percent for which it is the main source)



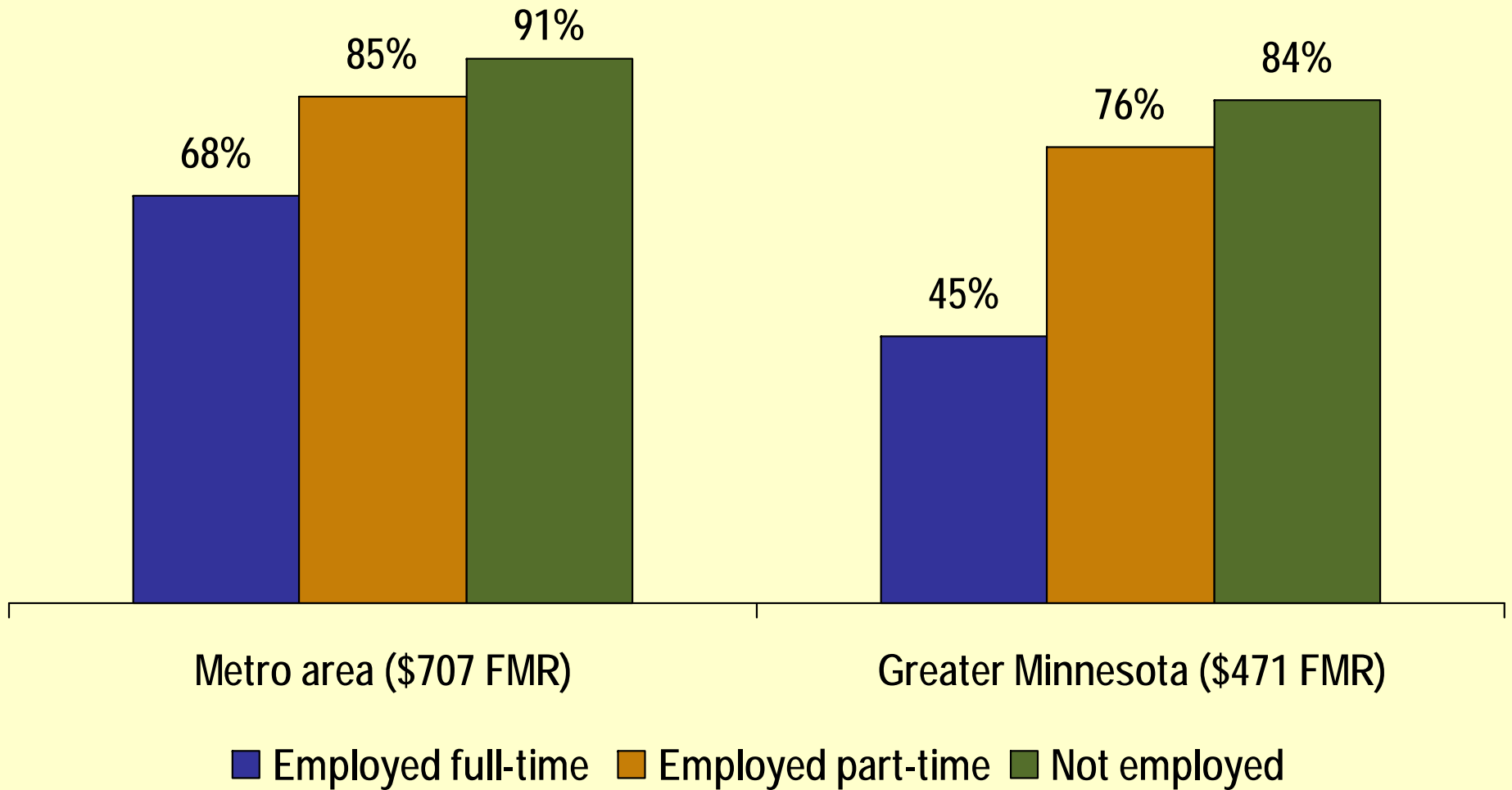
Disparities between income and Fair Market Rents

Fair Market Rents (FMR) would consume most or all of employed homeless adults' income

- ***1 bedroom apartment: FMR = 88% of median income in the Twin Cities metro area and 69% in greater Minnesota***
- ***2 bedroom apartment: FMR = 107% of median income in the Twin Cities metro area and 87% in greater Minnesota***

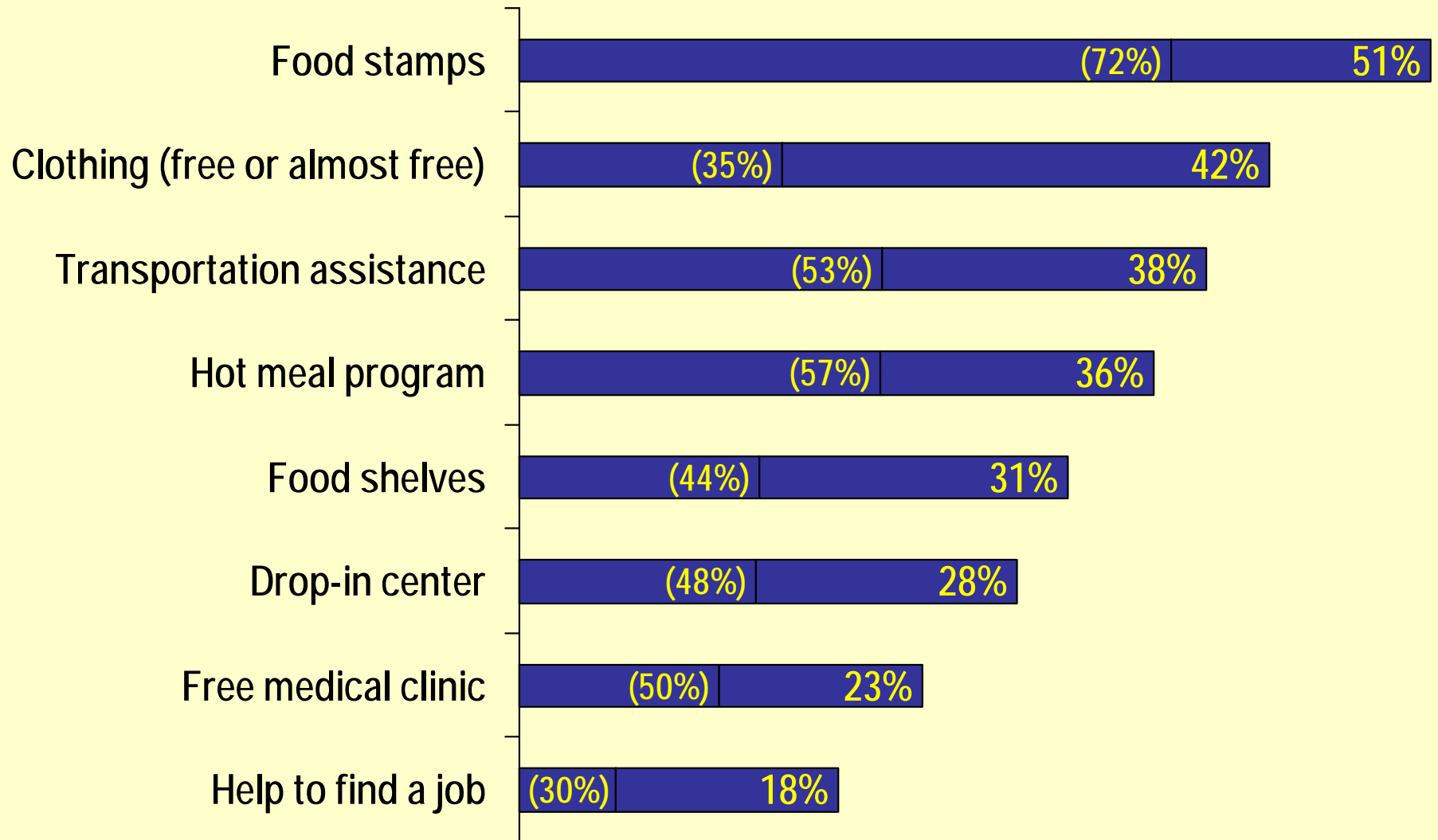
Extreme housing burden

Adults who would spend over half their monthly income on a 1 bedroom apartment:

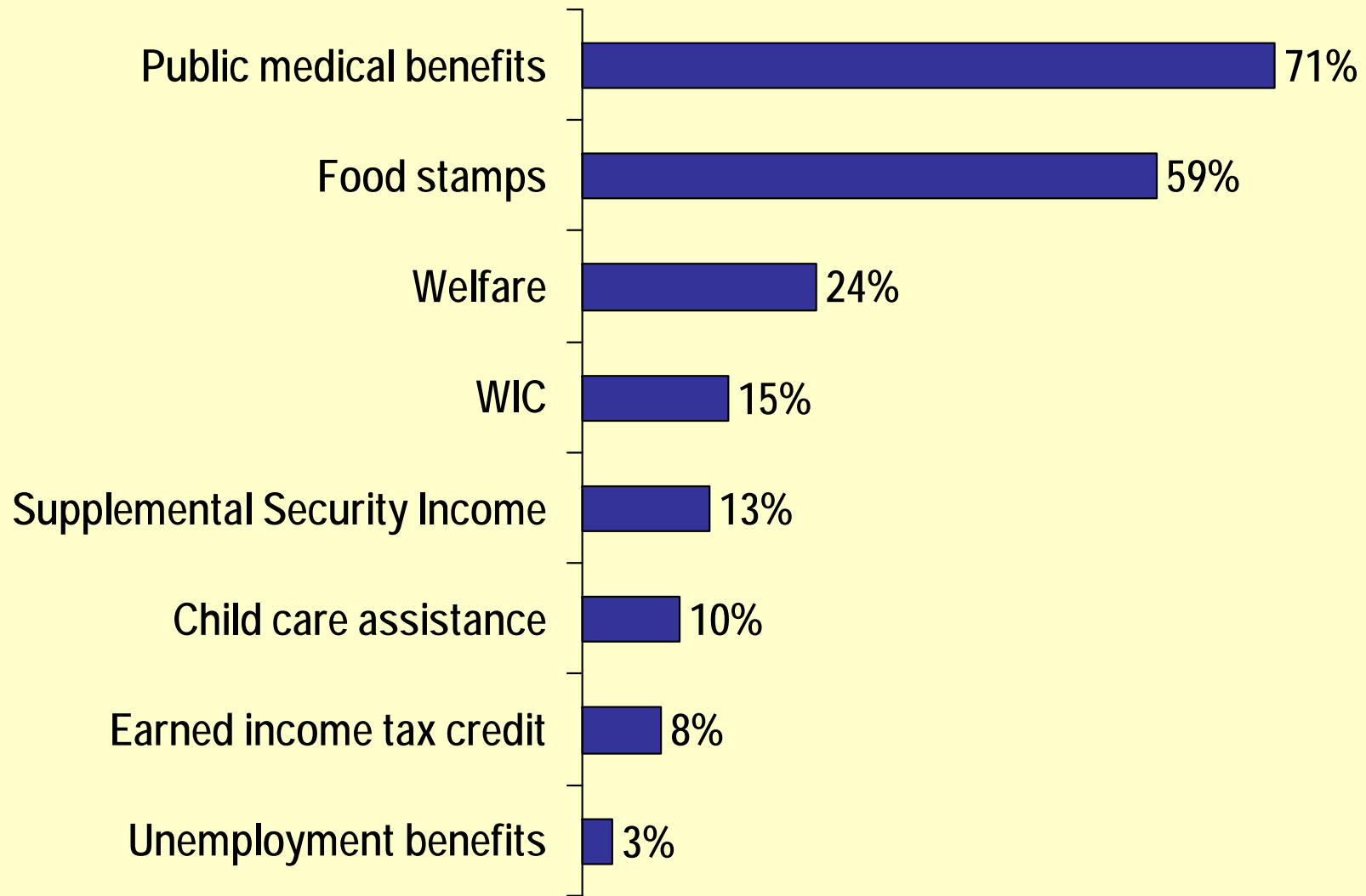


Top services used in October

(and proportion of users who rated them most helpful)



Top services used in the last 12 months



Other key findings: Adults

- 1 of 3 women homeless due to domestic violence
- 30% of homeless adults have symptoms consistent with traumatic brain injury
- 4 out of 5 families are headed by single females

Other key findings: Youth

- 70% of unaccompanied youth have been in one or more placements
- Half of all unaccompanied youth have been physically or sexually abused
- Homeless youth have least access to shelter

To obtain report(s):

Overview and highlights available on our
web site: www.wilderresearch.org