HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Results of the Annual Point-in-Time Count and Regional Homelessness Strategies

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COG Human Services Policy Committee
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How Many People Are Experiencing Homelessness in our Region?

People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021-2025*							
	2021	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**Change in Number of Persons 2021 - 2025**	**Percent Change 2021 - 2025**
City of Alexandria	106	120	152	187	166	60	57%
Arlington County	171	182	213	243	271	100	58%
District of Columbia	5,111	4,410	4,922	5,616	5,138	27	1%
Fairfax County	1,222	1,191	1,310	1,278	1,322	100	8%
Loudoun County	80	99	220	303	252	172	215%
Montgomery County	577	581	894	1,144	1,510	933	162%
Prince George's County	537	571	659	658	608	71	13%
Prince William County	282	241	326	345	392	110	39%
TOTAL	**8,086**	**7,395**	**8,696**	**9,774**	**9,659**	**1,573**	**19%**

Source: COG 2025

*Totals for 2021-2023 have been revised to reflect the regional number without the City and County of Frederick.

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Increase in Families and Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness
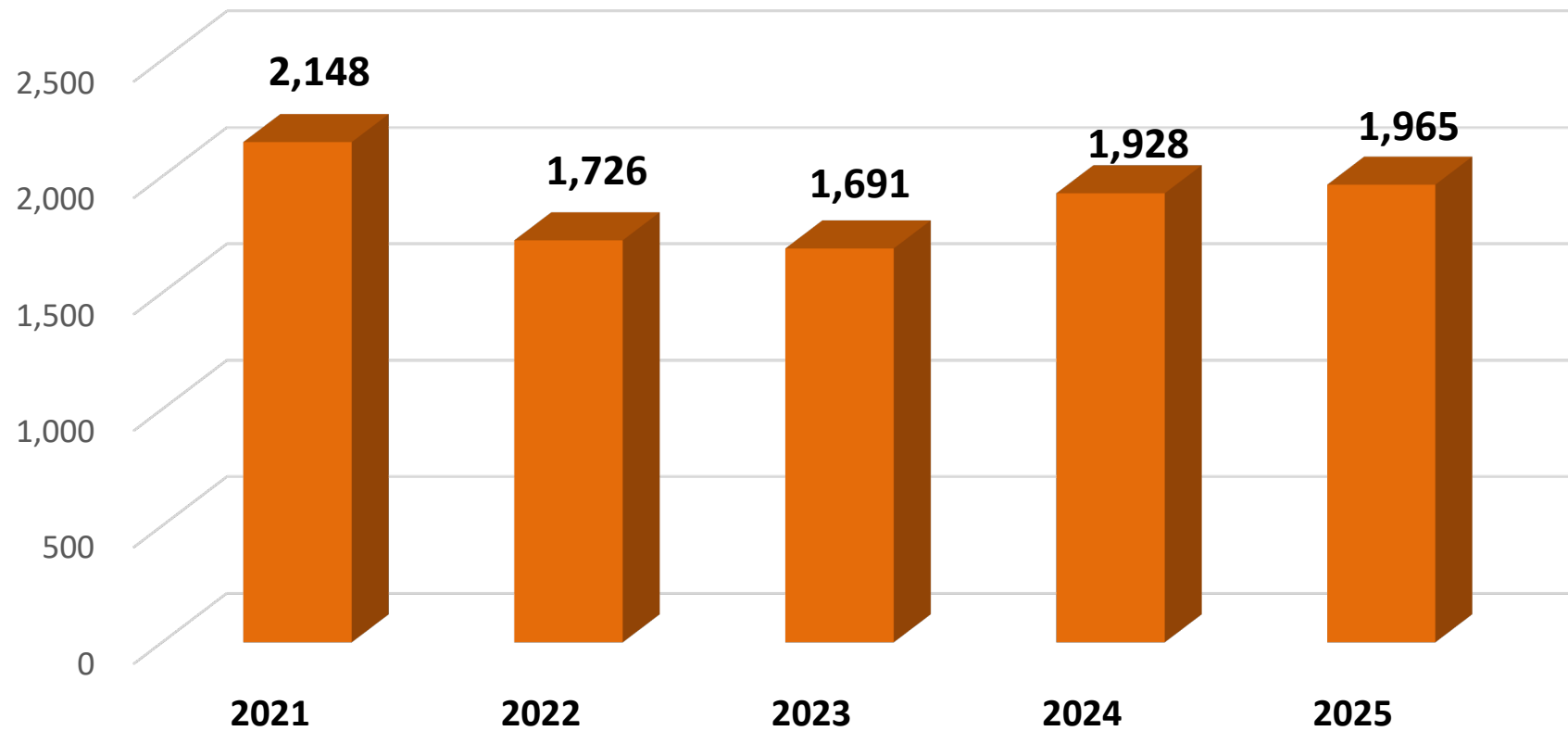
Household Composition				
	Total Persons in Households without Children	**Total Persons in Households with Adults and Children**	**Total Persons in Households with ONLY Minor Children* (Unaccompanied Minors)**	**Regional Total**
COG REGION**				
2025	**6,132**	**3,517**	**10**	**9,659**
2024	6,259	3,499	16	**9,774**
2023	5,755	2,917	24	**8,696**
2022	5,120	2,265	10	**7,395**
2021	5,752	2,318	16	**8,086**
2021 - 2025 Percent Change	**7%**	**52%**	**-6**	**19%**

*Unaccompanied youth are shown as a total number, not percentage, due to the small numbers of persons counted. *Note: Children represent **60%** of all people in homeless families.*

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Chronic Homelessness

Single Adults Experiencing Chronic Homelessness
Source: COG 2025

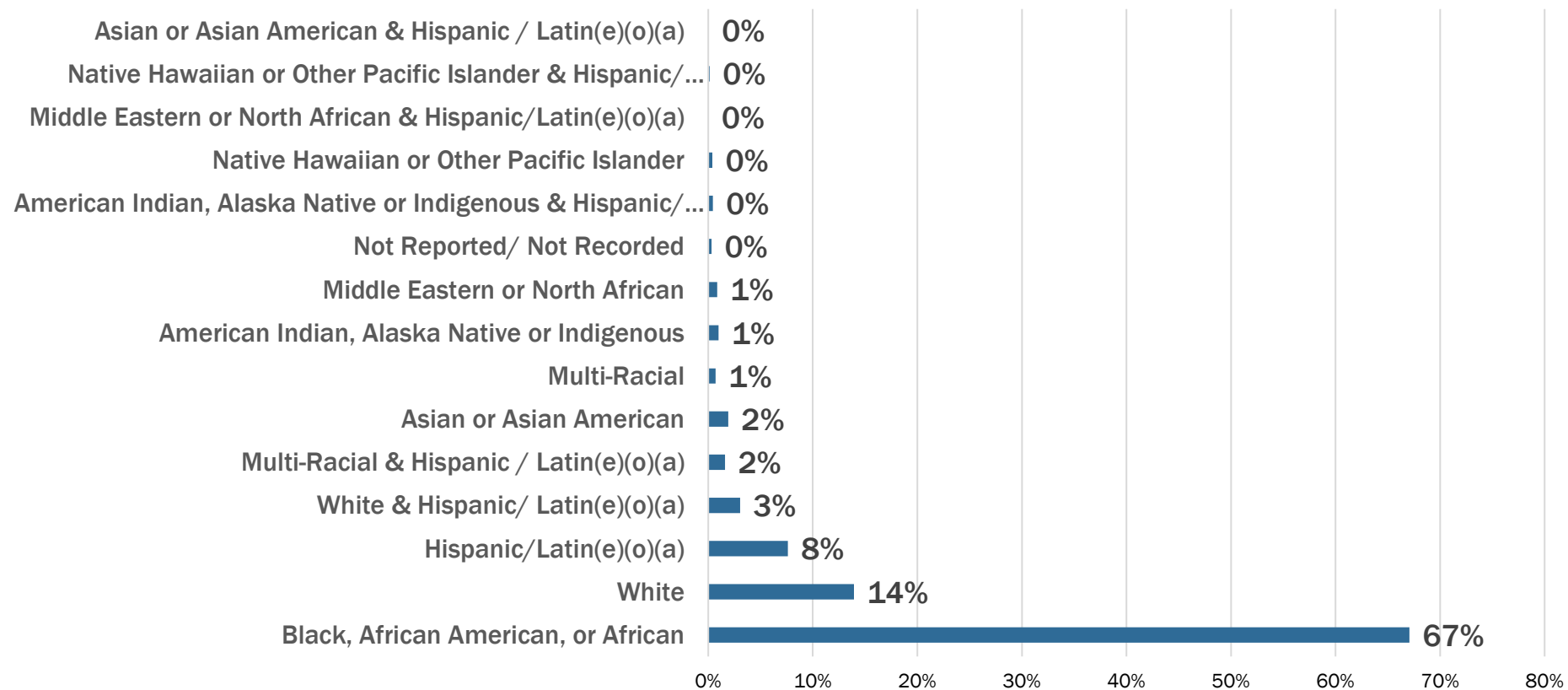| Year	Count
2021	2,148
2022	1,726
2023	1,691
2024	1,928
2025	1,965

Racial Disparities in Who Experiences Homelessness

Regional Homeless Single Adults Demographic Profile (Race and Ethnicity)

Source: COG 2025
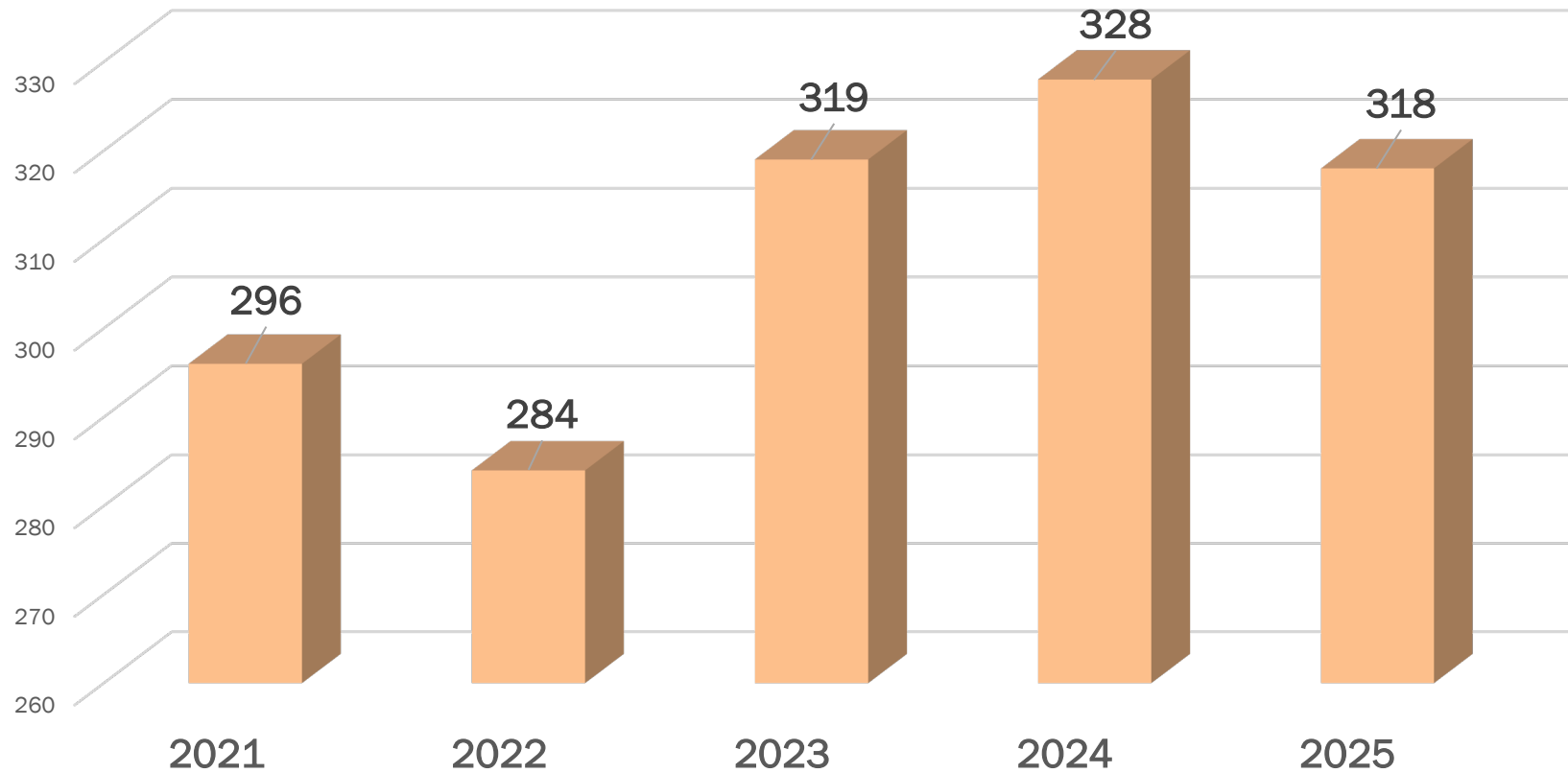

Asian or Asian American & Hispanic / Latin(e)(o)(a)	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander & Hispanic/...	0%
Middle Eastern or North African & Hispanic/Latin(e)(o)(a)	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous & Hispanic/...	0%
Not Reported/ Not Recorded	0%
Middle Eastern or North African	1%
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous	1%
Multi-Racial	1%
Asian or Asian American	2%
Multi-Racial & Hispanic / Latin(e)(o)(a)	2%
White & Hispanic/ Latin(e)(o)(a)	3%
Hispanic/Latin(e)(o)(a)	8%
White	14%
Black, African American, or African	67%

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Veteran Homelessness

Regional Total Number of Homeless Veterans
Source: COG 2025

Bar chart showing Regional Total Number of Homeless Veterans:
- 2021: 296
- 2022: 284
- 2023: 319
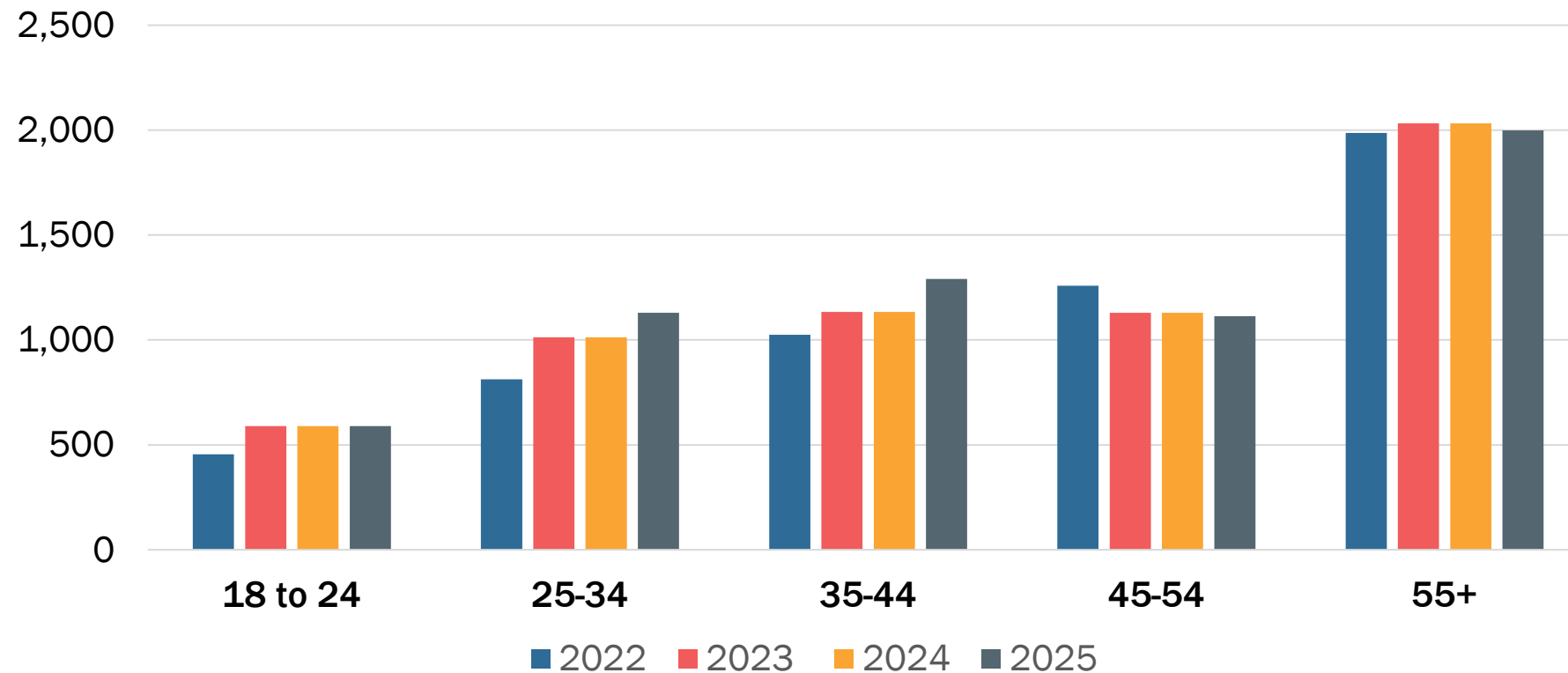- 2024: 328
- 2025: 318

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More Seniors Are Experiencing Homelessness

Figure 9: Age Distribution of Single Adults Eperiencing Homelessness
Source: COG 2025
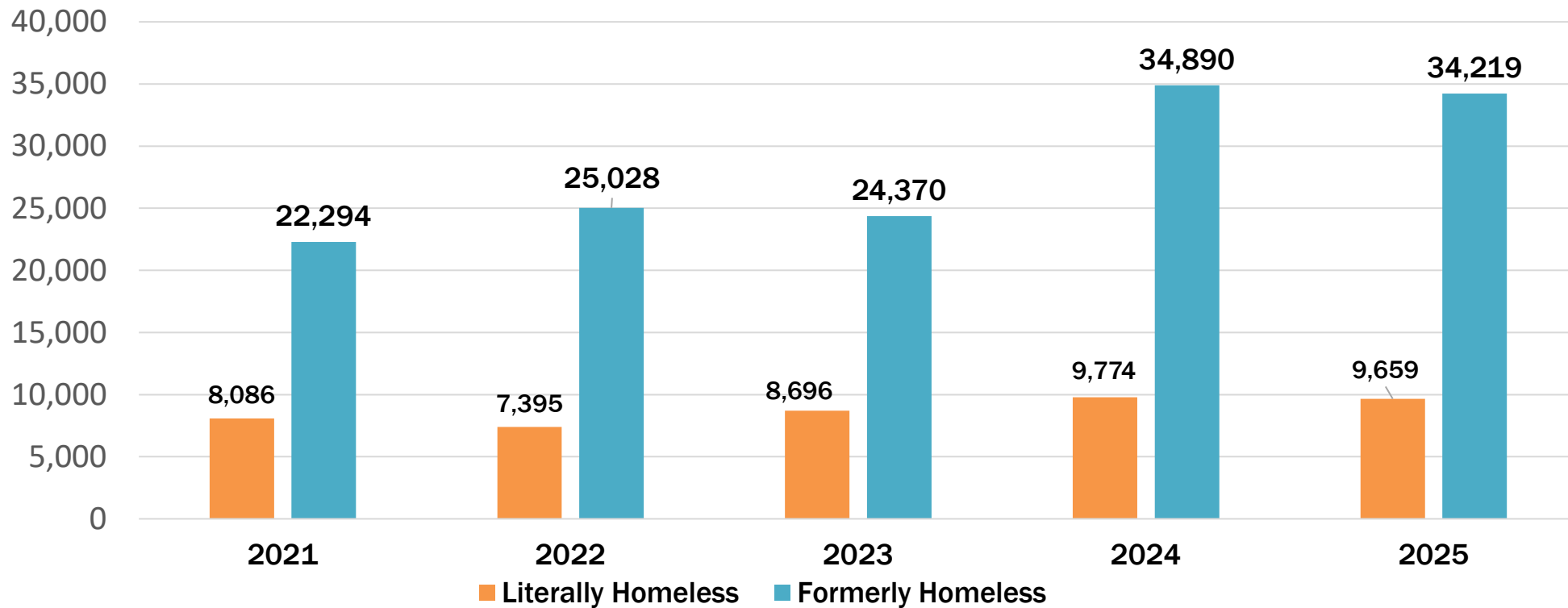
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Formerly Homeless: Regional Progress

Region's Literally and Formerly Homeless in Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Other Permanent Housing
Source: COG 2025

Year	Literally Homeless	Formerly Homeless
2021	8,086	22,294
2022	7,395	25,028
2023	8,696	24,370
2024	9,774	34,890
2025	9,659	34,219

Legend: ■ Literally Homeless ■ Formerly Homeless

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Regional Collaboration in Real Time

Regional Coordination Collaborative Leadership Committee (RCCLC):

A leadership table advancing regional alignment in policy, practice, and partnerships.

- Tackles shared system challenges
- Supports strategic coordination
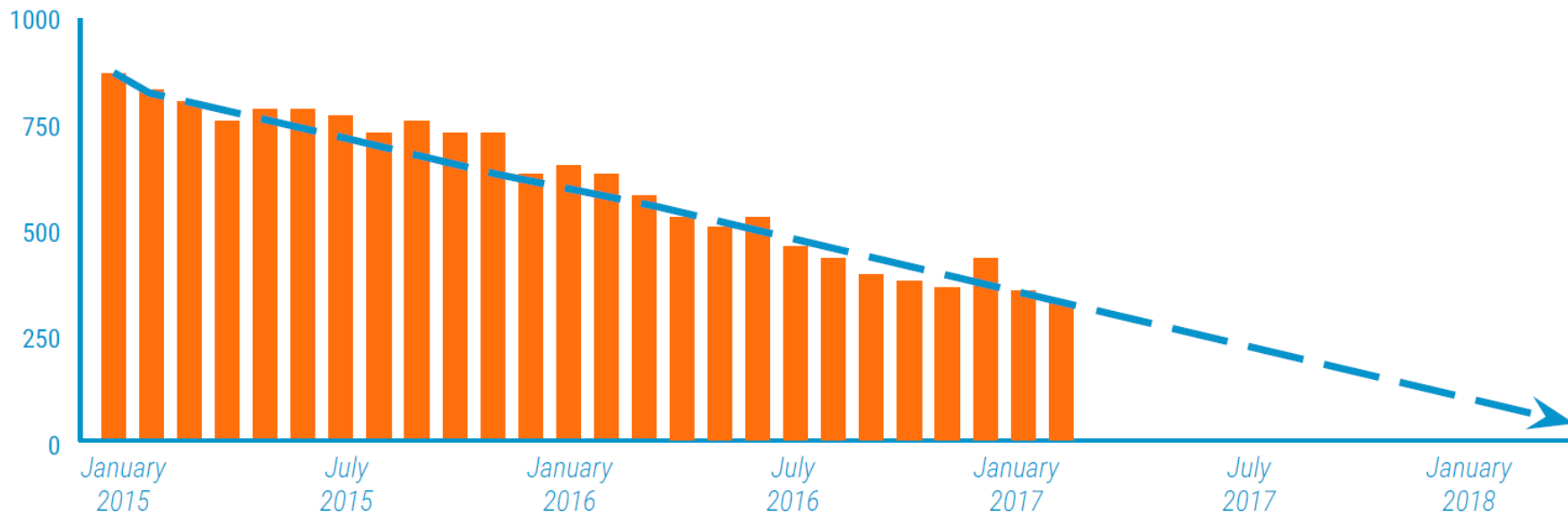- Builds cross-jurisdiction trust

Regional Data Metrics Working Group:

Homeless Management Information System data leads strengthening consistency and insight.

- Aligns definitions and metrics
- Shares data best practices
- Tackles complex technical regional data questions

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Beyond Point-in-Time: Community Solutions & Built for Zero

Built for Zero is a **methodology and framework** that supports **coordinated, data-driven decision-making** and fosters **ongoing system improvement** across homelessness response efforts.
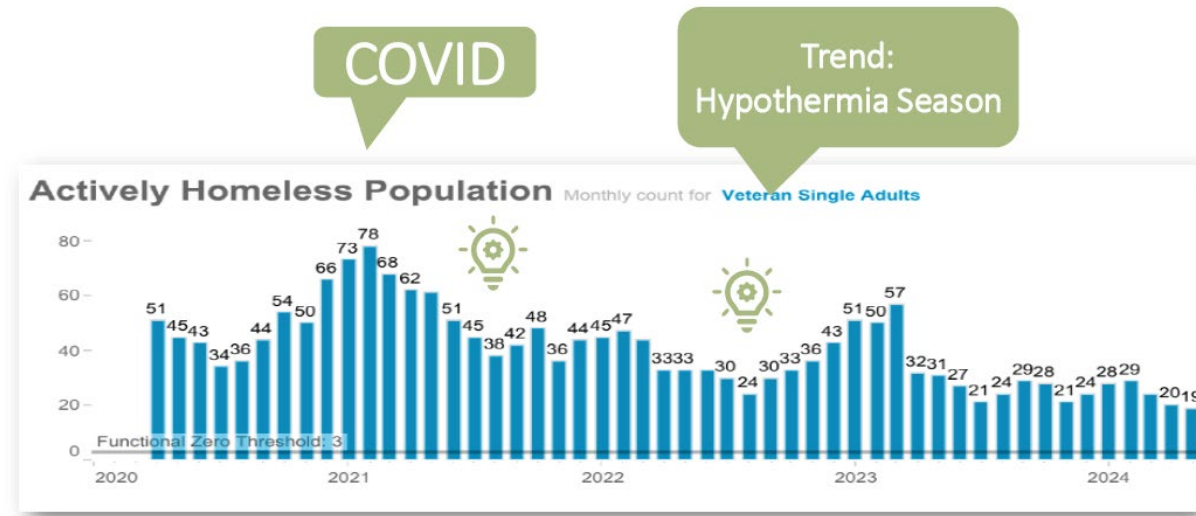
Beyond Point-in-Time: Community Solutions & Built for Zero

- **Regional leaders since 2015:** *Arlington County, the District of Columbia,* and *Montgomery County* helped lay the foundation for data-driven, system-wide collaboration. *Fairfax County* joined in **2018.**

- **Momentum builds in 2024:** *Alexandria, Loudoun County, Prince George's County,* and *Prince William County* joined BFZ through COG, reflecting a **growing alignment across the region.**

- **State-level partnership coming in 2025:** The **State of Maryland** is set to join as a **collaborative partner**, signaling a broader commitment to shared regional solutions.

Looking Ahead: Built for Zero

- *Data, Data, Data!*
  - New jurisdictions upload data monthly to Community Solutions regional tracker

  - New jurisdictions work to achieve *Quality By-Name Data*

  - September: Review progress from first 6 months and draft new 6-month action plan

Looking Ahead: Data Sharing

EXPAND

- Regional data sharing

ADVANCE

- Secure, privacy-centered data integration to guide regional strategies

STRENGTHEN

- Cross-system collaboration to connect homelessness data with broader health, behavioral health, and social services systems to address the root causes of homelessness.

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Unique Challenges Ahead & Key Takeaways

Challenges

- **Federal changes may slow progress:** Shifts away from Housing First and restrictive grant terms could undercut local momentum.
- **Encampment actions ripple regionally:** Clearances in one area can displace people and overwhelm neighboring systems.

The Way Forward

- **Align regionally, act collectively:** Built for Zero and other shared strategies help jurisdictions coordinate for greater impact.
- **Expand deeply affordable housing:** Long-term housing with supportive services is key to reducing and ending homelessness across the region.

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