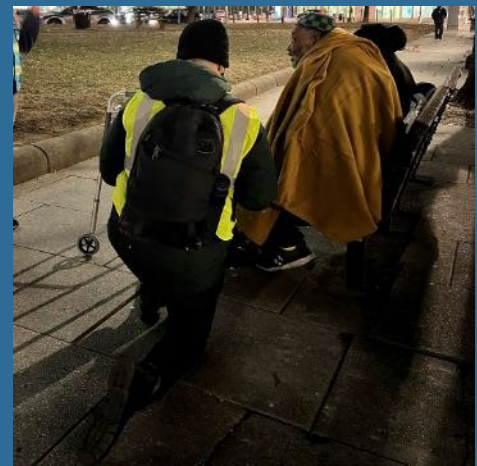


# HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Results and Analysis from the Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

May 2025



Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

## **HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON**

Prepared by the Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee

May 14, 2025

### **ABOUT COG**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

### **CREDITS**

Report Author: Sam Kenney, COG Regional Homeless Systems Coordinator; Hilary Chapman, COG Housing Program Manager

Assistance from: Greg Goodwin, COG Senior Regional Planner; Steve Kania, COG Communications Manager

Cover Photos: Point-in-Time Count in the District of Columbia; Point-in-Time Count in the District of Columbia (Pathways to Housing DC); Point-in-Time Count in the District of Columbia.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request. Visit [www.mwcog.org/accommodations](http://www.mwcog.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

### **TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in all programs and activities. For more information, to file a Title VI related complaint, or to obtain information in another language, visit [www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination](http://www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination) or call (202) 962-3300.

El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) cumple con el Título VI de la Ley sobre los Derechos Civiles de 1964 y otras leyes y reglamentos en todos sus programas y actividades. Para obtener más información, someter un pleito relacionado al Título VI, u obtener información en otro idioma, visite [www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination](http://www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination) o llame al (202) 962-3300.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	6
HOW MANY LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?	11
REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS BY TOTAL POPULATION	14
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS (TRANSITION AGE YOUTH) EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	23
OLDER ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	31
INCOME, EMPLOYMENT, AND HOMELESSNESS	35
UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS	39
CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS	43
VULNERABILITIES AND LIFE EXPERIENCES	48
VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	50
SHELTER FACILITIES AND PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS	55
FROM HOMELESSNESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING	60
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	64
APPENDICES	
Appendix A: Shelter Hotline Resource Numbers	
Appendix B: Homelessness Enumeration Jurisdictional Narrative Reports	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City of Alexandria</li><li>• Arlington County</li><li>• District of Columbia</li><li>• Fairfax County</li><li>• Loudoun County</li><li>• Montgomery County</li><li>• Prince George's County</li><li>• Prince William County</li></ul>	
Appendix C: Homeless Services Committee Members	

## TABLE OF CHARTS AND FIGURES

TABLE 1: PEOPLE EXPERIENCING LITERAL HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2024 - 2025	11
TABLE 2: PEOPLE EXPERIENCING LITERAL HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021-2025	12
TABLE 3: 2025 SHARE OF POPULATION THAT IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	14
TABLE 4: HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION	15
TABLE 5: 2025 PERSONS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION	16
TABLE 6: CHANGE IN PERSONS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION	17
TABLE 7: HOUSEHOLDS WITH <u>ONLY</u> CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY JURISDICTION, 2021 – 2025	23
TABLE 8: TRANSITION AGE YOUTH (TAY) EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION: 2024	26
TABLE 9: SINGLE TRANSITION AGE YOUTH (TAY) EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION: 2021-2025	27
TABLE 10: UNSHELTERED SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021 - 2025	42
TABLE 11: UNSHELTERED SINGLE ADULTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021-2025	42
TABLE 12: SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021-2025	45
TABLE 13: 2025 SHELTER STATUS OF SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS	46
TABLE 14: PERCENTAGE OF UNSHELTERED SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION: 2021-2025	46
TABLE 15: VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021-2025	53
TABLE 16: 2021-2025 WINTER AND YEAR-ROUND INVENTORY OF BEDS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON	56-57
TABLE 17: PERSONS FORMERLY EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN PERMANENT HOUSING	61
TABLE 18: PEOPLE EXPERIENCING LITERAL HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION, 2021-2025	67-68
FIGURE 1: REGIONAL HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE (RACE AND ETHNICITY)	20
FIGURE 2: REGIONAL HOMELESS ADULTS IN FAMILIES DEMOGRAHIC PROFILE (RACE AND ETHNICITY)	21



FIGURE 3: REGIONAL TOTAL POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE (RACE)	21
FIGURE 4: TRANSITION AGE YOUTH LIFE EXPERIENCES AND VULNERABILITIES	28
FIGURE 5: HOMELESS SINGLE ADULT/TRANSITION AGE YOUTH SOURCE OF INCOME	28
FIGURE 6: HOMELESS YOUNG ADULTS IN FAMILIES/TRANSITION AGE YOUTH SOURCE OF INCOME	29
FIGURE 7: SINGLE YOUNG ADULT/TRANSITION AGE YOUTH (RACE AND ETHNICITY)	29
FIGURE 8: YOUNG ADULT/TRANSITION AGE YOUTH IN FAMILIES (RACE AND ETHNICITY)	30
FIGURE 9: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE ADULTS ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	33
FIGURE 10: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS DETAILED BREAKOUT	33
FIGURE 11: SHELTER STATUS OF SINGLE OLDER ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	34
FIGURE 12: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	35
FIGURE 13: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ADULTS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	36
FIGURE 14: EMPLOYED SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION	36
FIGURE 15: EMPLOYED ADULTS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION	37
FIGURE 16: SOURCE OF INCOME FOR SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	38
FIGURE 17: SOURCE OF INCOME FOR ADULTS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	38
FIGURE 18: COMPARISON OF TOTAL SINGLE ADULTS (SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED) TO UNSHELTERED SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, 2020-2024	40
FIGURE 19: THE REGION'S 1,478 UNSHELTERED SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY JURISDICTION	40
FIGURE 20: LIFE EXPERIENCES AND VULNERABILITIES OF ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	48
FIGURE 21: LIFE EXPERIENCES AND VULNERABILITIES OF VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS	50
FIGURE 22: VETERAN SINGLE ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: SOURCE OF INCOME	51
FIGURE 23: SINGLE ADULT VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: RACE AND ETHNICITY	52
FIGURE 24: ADULT VETERANS IN FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: RACE AND ETHNICITY	52

<b>FIGURE 25: REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF BEDS BY FACILITY TYPE</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>FIGURE 26: REGION'S LITERALLY AND FORMERLY HOMELESS IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, RAPID RE-HOUSING, AND OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>FIGURE 27: PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR FORMERLY HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS, 2022-2024</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>FIGURE 28: PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR FORMERLY HOMELESS ADULTS IN FAMILIES, 2022-2024</b>	<b>63</b>

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee has conducted a regional Point-in-Time (PIT) enumeration of the area's residents experiencing homelessness.

The PIT count occurred on two dates due to inauguration-related security concerns this year. Counts in Prince William County, the City of Alexandria, Arlington County, Fairfax County, and Loudoun County took place on January 22, while the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County conducted their counts on January 29. While necessary, this deviation from a single-night count introduces methodological challenges that may affect the accuracy and comparability of data. Differences in weather conditions, outreach capacity, and shelter availability across the two dates may influence whether individuals were sheltered or unsheltered. Furthermore, the interconnected nature of our region, including our transportation system, leads to the possibility that individuals experiencing homelessness may be double counted. These factors should be considered when interpreting regional totals and conducting cross-jurisdictional or year-over-year comparisons.

The annual PIT report provides a one-night "snapshot" of the region's residents experiencing homelessness within eight metropolitan Washington area jurisdictions. It is important to note that this "snapshot," by definition, provides only one perspective on the state of homelessness in the region on only one night, and the count may be influenced by numerous variables, such as weather and shelter bed availability by jurisdiction.

Nonetheless, the PIT count remains a valuable data source because it offers a consistent, regional snapshot that enables long-term trend analysis across jurisdictions. The data collected supports resource planning, policy development, and public accountability. When combined with year-round data systems, it helps provide a more complete picture of homelessness in the region.

As in past years, most of the PIT count was enumerated electronically using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), as 86 percent of people experiencing homelessness were sheltered on January 22 and January 29, 2025, in their respective jurisdictions.

## Findings, Highlights, and Trends from the 2025 Enumeration

### LITERAL HOMELESSNESS COUNT

- The 2025 PIT enumeration resulted in a total count of 9,659 individuals experiencing homelessness.
- The region's number of persons experiencing homelessness decreased by 115 persons from 2024, a one percent decrease from the 2024 enumeration.

After two consecutive years of increases following the historic low in 2022, the region saw a slight decline in the number of people experiencing homelessness in 2025. This year's results varied across jurisdictions, with four recording increases and four reporting decreases compared to last year's count where seven of eight jurisdictions recorded increases.

## SHORT-TERM JURISDICTIONAL CHANGES, 2024 TO 2025

- Montgomery County had the greatest increase in the number of persons experiencing homelessness from 2024 to 2025 with 366 additional persons (32 percent increase), followed by Prince William County with 47 additional persons (14 percent increase).
- The District of Columbia recorded the greatest decrease from 2024 to 2025 with 478 fewer persons (nine percent decrease), followed by Loudoun County with 51 fewer persons (17 percent decrease).

## LONGER TERM CHANGES, 2021 TO 2025

While homelessness increased over the past five years, the 2025 total remains below pre-COVID levels, following declines of people experiencing homelessness during years of expanded federal aid. This year, the post-COVID upward regional trend has leveled off.

- The metropolitan Washington region recorded a 19 percent increase in the number of people counted as experiencing homelessness, rising by 1,575 individuals from 8,086 in 2021 to 9,659 in 2025.
- All eight jurisdictions reported increases in the number of people experiencing homelessness between 2021 and 2025, indicating a region-wide rise over the five-year period.
- Montgomery County recorded the largest numerical increase during this period, with 933 additional people counted. Loudoun County had the largest percentage increase at 215 percent.
- The District of Columbia had the smallest increase in the region, with 27 more people experiencing homelessness in 2025 than in 2021 for a less than one percent total increase.

## VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The region's count of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased slightly from 2024. There were 10 less veterans on the night of the count from the previous year's enumeration.

- In 2025, the total number of veterans counted on the night of the PIT was 318, representing a three percent decrease from the 2024 enumeration.
- From 2021 to 2025, the region experienced a net increase of 22 veterans experiencing homelessness.
- Fairfax County recorded the greatest reduction in the number of veterans counted between 2021 and 2025 (22 fewer veterans counted) followed by Prince George's County (10 fewer veterans).

## CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

The number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness increased slightly from 2024 to 2025, rising by 37 individuals. Regionally, the eight participating CoCs recorded a nine percent decrease between 2021 and 2025.

- Four of the eight jurisdictions experienced increases in their counts of people experiencing chronic homelessness from 2024 to 2025. Fairfax County recorded the largest one-year increase, rising from 184 persons in 2024 to 248 in 2025, after two consecutive years of decline. Prince William County reported the largest percentage increase in 2025 of 61 percent.
- Prince George's County reported the largest one-year drop from 114 to 30 persons (74 percent decrease).
- Montgomery County saw the largest percentage increase since 2021, doubling its count from 51 to 102 persons.

## UNSHeltered HOMELESSNESS

Regionwide, the number of unsheltered single adults decreased by 10 percent from 2024 to 2025, a drop of 148 individuals.

- 2025 marks the first year-over-year decline after several years of growth. The District of Columbia had the largest numeric drop, with 95 fewer people, while Prince George's County saw the sharpest percentage decrease at 47 percent. Loudoun County, Fairfax County, and Alexandria also recorded notable declines.
- Prince William County had the largest increase, rising by 26 individuals or 29 percent. Arlington and Montgomery Counties experienced smaller increases of 19 percent and three percent.
- From 2021 to 2025, the region added 351 unsheltered single adults, with the largest net increases in the District of Columbia, up by 111 people, followed by Montgomery County with 89, Prince William County with 73, and Loudoun County with 64. Only Prince George's County saw a net decline, decreasing by 17 people.

## PERMANENTLY HOUSED

The number of individuals who are in permanent housing and no longer experiencing homelessness was more than three times the number of people counted as literally homeless on the night of the annual enumeration. The region has increased the total number of persons who are permanently housed and no longer experiencing homelessness by 37 percent since 2021.

In addition, in 2025:

- 10,804 individuals were rapidly re-housed;

- 17,959 persons were served in permanent supportive housing; and
- 5,456 persons were served in other permanent housing.

This brings the regional total of persons previously experiencing homelessness in 2025 to 34,219. The significant number of people placed in permanent housing has constrained the incidence of homelessness in the region and helped prevent it from growing unchecked.

## CONCLUSION

This is the sixth year conducting the annual enumeration since the COVID-19 public health emergency began. The results during the period of 2020 to 2025 provide further evidence that strategies the region's CoCs are implementing, when scaled up and fully funded, are effective in preventing and ending homelessness.

Some programs, unique to the pandemic, such as eviction moratoriums and the significant provision of emergency housing assistance, reduced the number of people who entered the homeless services system as well as quickly assisted people whose incidences of homelessness could not be prevented into stable housing. The end of the eviction moratoriums and exhausted emergency rental and utility assistance funding has had an impact on the number of people whose housing crisis resulted in an experience of homelessness.

The 2025 count suggests that the regionwide upward trend in homelessness may be slowing, but results are mixed across jurisdictions. After years of steady increases and the expiration of pandemic era programs, the overall number of people experiencing homelessness did not continue in the same trajectory in January 2025. While a single year of leveling off does not confirm a lasting shift, it may signal that changes to improve system performance during the past five years may be constraining the growth of homelessness in the absence of pandemic-era resources.

Continued progress will depend on maintaining momentum and addressing the most persistent barrier to ending homelessness: the severe shortage of affordable, available, and permanent housing for the region's lowest income households.

The 2025 report highlights several recurring themes across the region's efforts to prevent and end homelessness:

1. **Measurable progress in key areas.** Many jurisdictions have demonstrated success through targeted interventions such as shelter diversion, prevention programs, and permanent housing placements. These efforts have helped reduce the inflow into homelessness and stabilize thousands of residents across the region.
2. **Persistent and uneven challenges.** Despite areas of progress, homelessness continues to rise in several jurisdictions, underscoring the complexity and variability of local conditions. These increases reflect both systemic barriers and the limits of current resources.
3. **A critical shortage of deeply affordable housing and supportive services.** Across the region, the lowest-income households continue to face limited options for stable housing. This shortage remains one of the greatest obstacles to reducing homelessness and ensuring long-term housing stability.

4. **The importance of sustained regional coordination and collaboration.** Progress depends on shared commitment. Continued collaboration among jurisdictions, providers, and systems partners is essential to align strategies, address cross-boundary challenges, and move forward with a united regional response.

The dedication and coordinated efforts of communities across the region have produced meaningful achievements in shelter provision, comprehensive service delivery, and permanent housing placements. These results demonstrate that homelessness can become brief, rare, and non-recurring through targeted and sustained efforts.

Nonetheless, significant challenges remain evident from this year's PIT results. Continued reductions in homelessness will depend on renewed and sustained commitments to funding viable housing solutions, enhancing data quality and analytical capabilities, and developing robust service pathways that ensure long-term housing stability. These critical components must remain priorities to build upon recent gains and achieve lasting progress in ending homelessness regionally.



Survey volunteers and outreach workers interview a person sleeping outside on January 29, 2025 in the District of Columbia. (Photo credit: Pathways to Housing DC).



# INTRODUCTION

The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) enumeration provides information on the number of unsheltered persons in the region as well as figures on how many persons use winter shelters, year-round emergency shelters, safe havens, transitional housing, and several permanent housing solutions.

The PIT count also provides information on the extent to which persons experiencing homelessness in each jurisdiction live with disabling conditions or whose special needs are represented among various subpopulations. The region's Continuum of Care (CoCs)<sup>1</sup>, a public-private partnership designed to coordinate a response to a person's housing crisis, respond with different housing types and services to meet residents' unique needs. There is no "one size fits all" housing solution.

The metropolitan Washington region's homeless services system consists of eight jurisdictions, each representing a local CoC that receives federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program to assist its residents experiencing homelessness.

The participating jurisdictions include:

- City of Alexandria, Virginia;
- Arlington County, Virginia;
- District of Columbia;
- Fairfax County, Virginia, including data from the City of Falls Church and the City of Fairfax;
- Loudoun County, Virginia;
- Montgomery County, Maryland;
- Prince George's County, Maryland, including data from the City of Bowie, the City of Greenbelt, and the City of College Park; and
- Prince William County, Virginia, including data from the City of Manassas and the City of Manassas Park.

Since the first regional enumeration in 2001, the City and County of Frederick, Maryland have participated in COG's Point-in-Time count. In 2023, Frederick's Continuum of Care (CoC) merged with the state of Maryland's Balance of State CoC.<sup>2</sup> Since that time, Frederick's PIT data is gathered and reported on at the state level, along with eight other Maryland counties (including COG member jurisdiction Charles County). To account for this change, data tables, statistics, and trend analyses covering the years 2021 to 2023 have been revised to exclude Frederick's data, ensuring consistency in regional comparisons over time.

The report includes narratives prepared by each of the respective jurisdictions. The narratives briefly describe each jurisdiction's CoC detailing their methodology, unique context, and local trends in homelessness.

All the region's CoCs use a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to count people experiencing homelessness in their respective jurisdictions, in addition to other methodologies. HMIS is an electronic data collection system that is used to produce an unduplicated count of people experiencing homelessness for the respective jurisdictions, improve program operations, measure program performance, and coordinate services community-wide.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/>

<sup>2</sup> For more information about the Maryland Balance of State Continuum of Care, please see <https://www.mdboscoc.org/>

Similar to past enumerations, the 2025 count *does not* include people who “double up” with relatives or friends, in accordance with HUD guidelines. HUD’s requirements for conducting the annual PIT count can be found in its Standard and Methods for Point-in-Time Counts of Homeless Persons and the annual Housing Inventory Count updates at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

## Regional housing and economic context

**Cost-of-Living:** The high cost of living in the metropolitan Washington region directly influences the prevalence and persistence of homelessness. Research consistently demonstrates a strong correlation between elevated living costs, particularly housing affordability, and increased homelessness rates.<sup>3</sup> Housing costs, in particular, have surged, as median home prices and rents have outpaced wage growth, creating significant financial stress for low- and moderate-income households.<sup>4</sup> As housing consumes an increasingly disproportionate share of household income, families and individuals face greater risk of housing instability, eviction, and ultimately homelessness. This economic strain contributes directly to the challenges identified by people experiencing homelessness, underscoring the critical need for housing interventions that address cost barriers.

**Regional Housing Efforts:** Addressing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region in part requires a sustained commitment to expanding the housing supply, particularly for the lowest-income residents. COG’s Board of Directors set ambitious housing targets in 2019, aiming to produce at least 320,000 new housing units by 2030.<sup>5</sup> Local strategies to achieve this regional goal include zoning reforms to allow more multifamily and affordable housing development in more places, increased investment in affordable housing funds, and strategies to incentivize public-private partnerships aimed at accelerating housing construction. Despite these concerted efforts, production has not yet matched demand, particularly for deeply affordable units. The region’s ability to produce and preserve affordable housing at a greater rate than the past remains a crucial factor for reducing homelessness and enhancing housing stability across metropolitan Washington.

**Federal Policy:** The timing of the 2025 Point-in-Time enumeration largely precedes recent federal policy shifts following the change in presidential administrations. The new administration has indicated significant departures from previous homelessness prevention and housing policies, emphasizing enforcement-oriented approaches, public space clearances, and a move away from housing-first initiatives.<sup>6</sup> These anticipated policy changes could potentially exacerbate homelessness. Although these policy impacts are not yet reflected in the 2025 enumeration data, they present critical context for regional homelessness planning efforts. Local Continuums of Care must proactively adapt to these anticipated federal shifts by strengthening local funding, enhancing regional collaboration, and developing contingency strategies to mitigate potential increases in homelessness.

## How We Define Homelessness

The region’s jurisdictions use HUD’s definition of homelessness, which is; *people who reside in emergency shelter, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, runaway youth shelters, safe havens, or places not meant for human habitation, such as streets, parks, alleys, abandoned buildings, and stairways.*

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/blog/record-homelessness-amid-ongoing-affordability-crisis>

<sup>4</sup> <https://nlihc.org/orr>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.mwcog.org/community/planning-areas/housing-and-homelessness/regional-housing-initiative/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/>

**Literal Homelessness**, which may also be referred to as “experiencing homeless” in this report, includes the status of people in Households without Children, Households with Adults and Children, and Households with Only Children, who may be **sheltered or unsheltered**.

**Formerly Experiencing Homelessness** in this report refers to the status of having moved into permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, or other permanent housing immediately after an experience of homelessness. This does not include persons who are able to secure other permanent housing outside of the homeless system, including a non-subsidized apartment or room, moving in with a relative or friend, or receiving a mainstream rental subsidy.

Data for the 2025 enumeration were collected in the following three categories, as defined by HUD:

1. **Households without Children.** Households without children consist of only adults age 18 or over. This report also refers to households without children as “single adults.” The majority of households without children are single persons, although this category may include couples without minor children or a parent and an adult child over the age of 18. These households are counted as single adults for purposes of the PIT count.
2. **Households with Adults and Children.** Households with adults and children contain at least one adult age 18 or over and at least one child under age 18. In this report, we also refer to households with adults and children as “families” or “families experiencing homelessness.”
3. **Households with ONLY Children.** Households with ONLY children contain no adults aged 18 or over, only persons under age 18, including teenage parents under 18 with at least one child, or other households with only persons under age 18.

## Why We Conduct This Count

COG’s Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee undertook the first effort to produce an unduplicated PIT count of adults and children experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region in 2001 with the goal of increasing understanding and supporting more coordinated, effective solutions. Regional information helps inform local efforts and provides an avenue for sharing strategies to better serve the region’s residents facing a housing crisis. HUD requires communities which receive federal funds (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants) to conduct an annual count during the last ten days of January. The annual count is done using electronic administrative records to enumerate people living in shelters. Unsheltered counts are only required by HUD every other year, although the participating CoCs in the metropolitan Washington region have conducted an unsheltered count annually for 25 years.

Point-in-Time counts are valuable for gathering trend data, establishing the scope of homelessness, and are necessary and essential to policymakers and community members alike in tracking progress toward the goal of ending homelessness. At the federal level, HUD uses PIT count data to inform Congress

---

**Point-in-Time counts are valuable for gathering trend data, establishing the dimensions of the problem...and are essential to policymakers and community members alike.**

**It is important to note, however, that the Point-in-Time count provides a limited and imperfect perspective on the challenges, successes, and progress made in ending homelessness.**

about the number of people experiencing homelessness nationwide and the effectiveness of HUD's programs and policies in achieving its goals.<sup>7</sup>

At the local level, PIT counts can assist CoCs to identify any service gaps and appropriately size its system to meet the current needs of its residents, measure progress towards ending the experience of homelessness, identify individuals who may not be known to the homeless services system, and raise awareness that may attract additional resources to help solve a community's housing challenges.<sup>8</sup>

It is important to note, however, that the PIT count provides a limited and imperfect perspective on the challenges, successes, and progress made in ending homelessness. It does not provide a complete picture of the dimensions of homelessness, or the scale of people served during a week, month, or year. It is not unusual for a jurisdiction to serve as many as four or five times the number of people during a year as are counted during one night of the PIT enumeration.

Further, many variables—bed availability, weather, surveying methodology, the willingness of people to be interviewed, and the availability of trained outreach workers—can impact the number of people counted on any given night.

To round out the limited perspective that PIT data provides, the region's CoCs use other data sources to measure the extent of the number of people experiencing homelessness and determine the best responses. These include having a quality by-name list, which provides live, up-to-date information on exactly who is experiencing homelessness; Longitudinal System Analysis reports, which provides information about how people experiencing homelessness use their homelessness response systems, and System Performance Measures,<sup>9</sup> which HUD requires of communities to measure their performance as a coordinated system of homeless assistance as opposed to programs and funding sources that operate independently.

However, the PIT count remains a dependable source for trend data upon which the eight participating CoCs in the metropolitan Washington region can measure their efforts as a region over time to prevent and end the experience of homelessness.

## How We Conduct This Count

The methodology for the annual enumeration is conducted primarily electronically, using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), as most persons experiencing homelessness in metropolitan Washington each year are counted in shelter.

For the unsheltered portion of the count, outreach workers, government staff, service providers and trained volunteers head out in teams across urban, suburban, and rural areas across the region on the same night. Trained outreach workers typically visit known areas where people may be residing outside the shelter system prior to the enumeration to prepare them for the count as well as provide the best possible information for surveyors on the night of the count itself.

<sup>7</sup> <https://endhomelessness.org/resource/what-is-a-point-in-time-count/>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/system-performance-measures/#guidance>

During the 2025 unsheltered count, jurisdictions used a variety of methods to collect data. Some jurisdictions used digital platforms to gather, map, and track engagements in real time, while others used paper surveys with responses entered manually after the count.

Following the night of the enumeration, the region's CoCs work with Day Centers and meal programs to ensure that no one was missed during the count itself. The region's data experts then use personally identifiable information to de-duplicate any survey responses and ensure the most accurate census possible. Coordination with other programs which cannot use HMIS, such as ones that serve people fleeing domestic or intimate partner violence, is required separately to include everyone without housing on the night of the PIT count.

Due to inauguration-related concerns, the 2025 PIT count was conducted over two dates rather than a single night. Five jurisdictions completed their counts on January 22, while the remaining three conducted theirs on January 29. While necessary to avoid disruptions from the 2025 presidential inauguration, this adjustment introduces methodological challenges. Differences in weather, outreach coverage, and shelter availability across the two nights, as well as the potential movement of individuals between jurisdictions may affect data comparability and the accuracy of regional totals.



An outreach worker interviews a person sleeping outside on January 29, 2025 in the District of Columbia

# HOW MANY LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

During the 2025 regional PIT count, 9,659 people throughout the metropolitan Washington region were experiencing homelessness, a slight decrease from 2024. Table 1 (below) illustrates the region's 2025 enumeration across jurisdictions compared to last year.

The region saw a slight overall decline in literal homelessness, decreasing by 115 people, or one percent, compared to 2024. For the longer period of 2021 to 2025, none of the eight CoCs recorded decreases in the number of persons experiencing homelessness. This is shown in Table 2 on the following page, which illustrates the numerical and percentage change in the number of residents in the region experiencing homelessness.

TABLE 1: People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2024 - 2025				
Jurisdiction	2024	2025	Change in Number of Persons 2024-2025	Percent Change 2024 - 2025
City of Alexandria, VA	187	166	-21	-11%
Arlington County, VA	243	271	28	12%
District of Columbia	5,616	5,138	-478	-9%
Fairfax County, VA	1,278	1,322	44	3%
Loudoun County, VA	303	252	-51	-17%
Montgomery County, MD	1,144	1,510	366	32%
Prince George's County, MD	658	608	-50	-8%
Prince William County, VA	345	392	47	14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,774</b>	<b>9,659</b>	<b>-115</b>	<b>-1%</b>

Source: COG 2025

## How Has the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Changed?

Four of the eight Continuums of Care recorded a year-over-year decrease in literal homelessness, led by a significant reduction of 478 individuals in the District of Columbia. This decline played a major role in the region's overall decrease from 2024 to 2025. Loudoun County (17 percent decrease), the City of Alexandria (11 percent decrease), and Prince George's (eight percent) also experienced notable declines.

Looking at longer-term trends from 2021 to 2025, the region saw a 19 percent increase in people experiencing literal homelessness, adding 1,575 individuals over five years. Loudoun County had the sharpest rise during this period, up 215 percent. However, the increases in Loudoun have tapered off with a 17 percent decrease from 2024 to 2025. Montgomery County also saw increases by 933 people (162 percent), with a steady year-over-year climb from 2021 to 2025. Other suburban areas also experienced increases, including Arlington County (58 percent), Prince William County (39 percent), and



the City of Alexandria (57 percent). Fairfax County and Prince George's County saw more modest increases, at 8 and 14 percent, respectively. The District of Columbia remained stable across the five-year period, with just a 1 percent increase, despite some year-to-year fluctuation.

<b>TABLE 2: People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021-2025*</b>							
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Change in Number of Persons 2021 - 2025</b>	<b>Percent Change 2021 - 2025</b>
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%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,086</b>	<b>7,395</b>	<b>8,696</b>	<b>9,774</b>	<b>9,659</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>19%</b>

Source: COG 2025

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

In 2025, the total number of people experiencing homelessness in the region leveled off and is now slightly below pre-pandemic levels. However, results varied across jurisdictions, with some areas seeing continued increases while others reported declines. Given this variability, and the fact that year-to-year changes can be influenced by many factors, the overall stabilization should be interpreted with caution. It may reflect the cumulative impact of regional coordination, targeted interventions, and ongoing efforts to address homelessness across all household types, but it is too early to determine whether this represents a lasting shift.

While the overall count has stabilized, the region continues to face deep structural pressures that put low-income households at risk. At the federal level, COVID-19 stimulus funding provided critical short-term relief during the public health emergency, supporting emergency shelter, rental assistance, and homelessness services. However, this temporary aid did not address the persistent, long-term challenge of securing permanent housing options.

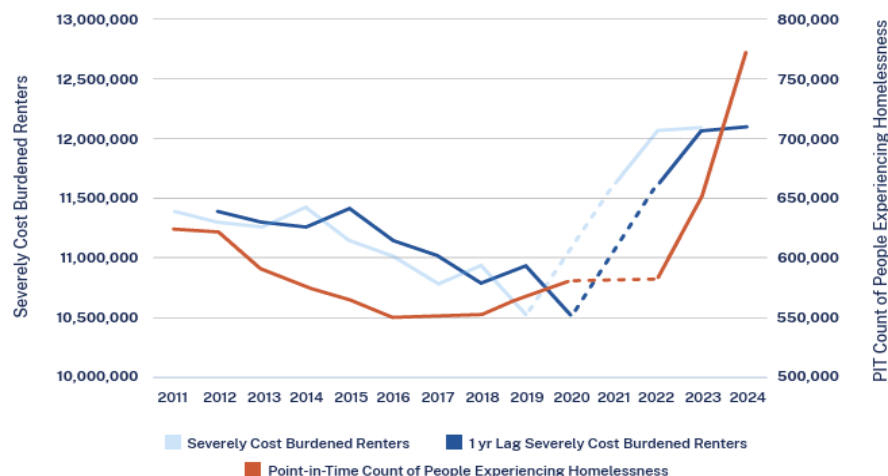
The region's high housing costs make it very difficult for extremely low-income households to find or maintain housing that they can afford. A shortage of living wage jobs compounds the difficulty in finding and maintaining affordable housing, particularly given the impacts of rising inflation on individuals with lower incomes.<sup>10</sup> As shown in recent data from Enterprise Community Partners, the number of severely cost burdened renters, or those paying more than half of their income toward rent, has reached record levels. The sharpest burden falls on the lowest-income households. This sustained affordability pressure is closely linked to rising homelessness, as the data show a strong correlation between cost

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.marketplace.org/shows/marketplace-morning-report/wages-arent-keeping-up-with-inflation-hitting-low-income-workers-the-hardest/>



burdens and the number of people experiencing homelessness in the following year.<sup>11</sup> (See graphic below.)

**Counts of Severely Cost Burdened Renters and People Experiencing Homelessness, 2011-2024**



Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development, Annual Homelessness Assessment Report, and calculations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 1-year American Community Survey microdata public use file. Notes: Due to disruptions in data collection during the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 ACS data and 2021 Point-in-Time count data are estimated as the midpoint between the preceding and following years.

Further, efforts to prevent and end homelessness must include a critical examination of the structural factors that drive disparities in outcomes. Segregation and discrimination in housing, incarceration, and a lack of access to quality health care and educational opportunities all compound inequities that result in the disparities seen in metropolitan Washington's systems of care.<sup>12</sup>

Without a careful examination of these factors and more evidence-based practices (including tools such as vulnerability assessments), as a region, we will continue to have disparities in our systems of care.<sup>13</sup>

At the regional level, the strategic emphasis on shelter diversion and homelessness prevention has been a key factor in helping to stabilize and, in some cases, reduce the number of individuals experiencing literal homelessness in the region. Diversion programs are designed to intervene early, offering individuals and families immediate alternatives to shelter by helping them identify safe housing options within their social networks, and supporting them with targeted case management. These efforts often begin at the point of shelter entry and are rooted in problem-solving conversations that prioritize housing solutions tailored to each person's unique circumstances.

Local jurisdictions have also invested in coordinated entry systems that screen for diversion opportunities and connect households to the most appropriate level of support, reducing unnecessary

**"Many of millions of renters spending thousands of dollars more than they can afford on housing are living in precarious circumstances, unable to save for a rainy day."**

**— Enterprise Community Partners**

<sup>11</sup>Drew, R. B. (2025, March). Worsening Rental Affordability Linked to Higher Rates of Homelessness [Research Brief]. Enterprise Community Partners. <https://www.enterprisecommunity.org>

<sup>12</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness, "Homelessness and Racial Disparities", Accessed at <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/what-causes-homelessness/inequality/>

<sup>13</sup> Pitkin, Bill. "Homelessness is a Housing and Racism Problem." *Housing Matters: An Urban Institute Initiative*. May 11, 2022. Accessed at <https://housingmatters.urban.org/articles/homelessness-housing-and-racism-problem>

entries into the shelter system. As a result, more people have been able to resolve their housing crises quickly and avoid the disruption that often accompany shelter stays. In the context of limited shelter capacity and reduced federal funding, the role of locally driven diversion strategies has become even more critical to maintaining stability for vulnerable residents.

## REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS BY TOTAL POPULATION

The prevalence of homelessness can also be understood by determining the number of persons experiencing homelessness counted in the metropolitan Washington region as a percentage of its total population. Including the District of Columbia, there was a 0.18 percent incidence of homelessness in the region. This figure has increased from 0.16 in 2023. Excluding the District, the incidence of homelessness is 0.1 percent for the region's suburban population, which is a slight increase from the 0.09 percent noted in 2024.

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress, an estimated 771,480 people were experiencing homelessness in the United States on a single night in January 2024. This rate is 0.22 percent of the total US population (estimated at 340,110,988 as of July 2024), compared to the region's rate of 0.18 percent. The incidence of homelessness per 1,000 persons is on par in our region with the national average, although the difference is less significant: 1.95 persons per 1,000 Americans were experiencing homelessness nationwide on the night of the count in 2024 compared to 1.8 persons per 1,000 in the metropolitan Washington region in 2025.

TABLE 3: 2025 Share of Population That Is Experiencing Homelessness				
Jurisdiction	2024 Total Population*	2025 Homelessness Enumeration	Homeless as Percent of Total Population	Homeless Persons per 1,000 People
City of Alexandria	159,102	166	0.10%	1.0
Arlington County	239,807	271	0.11%	1.1
District of Columbia	702,250	5,138	0.73%	7.3
Fairfax County <sup>1</sup>	1,202,299	1,322	0.11%	1.1
Loudoun County	443,380	252	0.06%	0.6
Montgomery County	1,082,273	1,510	0.14%	1.4
Prince George's County	966,629	608	0.06%	0.6
Prince William County <sup>2</sup>	557,230	392	0.07%	0.7
Region with D.C.	<b>5,352,970</b>	<b>9,659</b>	<b>0.18%</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Region without D.C.	<b>4,650,720</b>	<b>4,521</b>	<b>0.10%</b>	<b>1.0</b>
*Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Cities, Counties, and the District of Columbia in the COG region: April 1, 2020, to July 1, 2022. (CO-EST2022-POP-11) U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: March 2025				

<sup>1</sup> Includes the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church

<sup>2</sup> Includes the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park

The results described above are shown in Table 3 (see above). The District of Columbia has the largest local incidence of homelessness within the region's population. Of every 1,000 people in the District of Columbia, 7.3 are experiencing homelessness, a decrease from last year when it was 8.3 people.

## Household Composition

Table 4 compares enumeration survey responses from the three main categories of households from 2021 to 2025. Regional family homelessness (the number of persons in families) remained stable 2024 to 2025 and the number of single adults experiencing homelessness decreased by two percent and unaccompanied minors decrease by six individuals from 2024 to 2025.

TABLE 4: 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%

\*Change in Households with ONLY Minor Children is shown in total numbers, not a percentage, due to the small overall number of individuals counted.

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

Source: COG 2025

However, the longer-term trend from 2021 to 2025 is less encouraging. There was a 52 percent increase in persons in families experiencing homelessness. In contrast, the number of persons in households without children rose more modestly by 7 percent, suggesting slower growth among single adults experiencing homelessness over the same period.

The count of unaccompanied minors (households with only minor children) remained low across all years, showing minimal fluctuation and ultimately a slight decrease of six persons from 2021 to 2025. Overall, the region experienced a 19 percent increase in the total number of people experiencing homelessness across all household types between 2021 and 2025.

## Family Households

Families represent 36 percent of all people experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region. Tables 5 and 6 (below and following page respectively) illustrate the 2025 survey responses from the region's families without a permanent home.

In 2025, a total of 1,089 family households were counted as experiencing homelessness across the metropolitan Washington region, a slight increase from the 1,075 households reported in 2024. The number of persons in families rose modestly as well, from 3,499 to 3,517.

Jurisdictional trends varied significantly. Montgomery County had the largest one-year percentage increase, rising by 80 percent from 396 to 712 persons in families. Several jurisdictions recorded year-over-year decreases in the number of persons in families experiencing homelessness. The District of Columbia recorded an 18 percent decrease in the number of persons in families experiencing homelessness, falling from 1,656 in 2024 to 1,356 in 2025. This follows a significant increase the prior year and brings the total closer to levels observed in earlier years.

TABLE 5: 2025 Persons in Families Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction				
Jurisdiction	Number of Families	Adults in Families	Children in Families	Total Persons in Families
City of Alexandria	22	29	36	65
Arlington County	33	44	44	88
District of Columbia	440	501	855	1,356
Fairfax County	203	297	409	706
Loudoun County	22	33	40	73
Montgomery County	204	295	417	712
Prince George's County	118	141	223	364
Prince William County	47	66	87	153
<b>ALL COG COCs</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>3,517</b>

*Note: Chart above does not include Households with Only Children (Unaccompanied Minors).*

*Source: COG 2025*

Between 2021 and 2025, the number of persons in families experiencing homelessness across the COG region increased by fifty-two percent, rising from 2,318 to 3,517 individuals. Montgomery County saw the largest at 634 percent, growing from 97 people in 2021 to 712 in 2025. Loudoun County also experienced a sharp rise of 143 percent, while Arlington County doubled its count. In contrast, the District of Columbia saw a modest 10 percent increase over the same period, despite a peak in 2024. These trends reflect substantial regional variation in family homelessness growth, with some jurisdictions facing particularly steep increases in recent years.

**TABLE 6: Change in Persons in Families Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Percent Change 2021-2025</b>
City of Alexandria	43	47	70	84	65	51%
Arlington County	44	50	66	74	88	100%
District of Columbia	1,235	1,004	1,170	1,656	1,356	10%
Fairfax County	480	564	752	694	706	47%
Loudoun County	30	33	78	91	73	143%
Montgomery County	97	173	269	396	712	634%
Prince George's County	286	298	376	363	364	27%
Prince William County	103	96	136	141	153	49%
<b>ALL COG COCs</b>	<b>2,318</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>2,917</b>	<b>3,499</b>	<b>3,517</b>	<b>52%</b>

*Note: Chart above does not include Households with Only Children (Unaccompanied Minors).*

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

Montgomery County's 2025 Point-in-Time Count increase in families experiencing homelessness may be attributed to several factors. The rise in families with children seeking shelter who reside in the county suggests that local economic pressures are affecting residents' ability to maintain stable housing, notably the high rents coupled with stagnant wages. Domestic violence also remains a factor in family homelessness in the county. In response to the rising need, Montgomery County has expanded family overflow shelter to meet the demand, so that no family would be left unsheltered in the County. In addition, Montgomery County has implemented specific programs to assist families in securing and maintaining housing.

In addition to program-level changes and improvements in data accuracy, broader structural challenges such as high housing costs and limited rental availability continue to place pressure on families and contribute to rising housing instability across the region.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) median monthly housing costs are \$2,095 and median monthly gross rent is \$1,945. Regionally, nearly half of all households, 46 percent, are housing cost burdened, meaning they pay more than a third of their incomes to satisfy these monthly housing costs<sup>14</sup>. The number of severely cost-burdened households (i.e., paying more than 50 percent of monthly income towards housing costs) varies by income level. Eighty percent of households with extremely low incomes (at or below 30 percent of the average median) are severely cost burdened in the metropolitan Washington region and may face difficult decisions regarding which basic needs to prioritize for payment.<sup>15</sup> In the District of Columbia, a person earning the minimum wage (\$17.50 per hour) in 2025 would need to work 79 hours per week to be able to afford a one-bedroom apartment at the Fair Market Rent (\$1,803/month).<sup>16</sup> The region's lowest-income households face significant challenges affording housing, especially as the area's housing demand creates pressure on rental rates. This trend

<sup>14</sup> Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University, Renter Cost Burdens, Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas. Accessed at [https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/ARH\\_2017\\_cost\\_burdens\\_by\\_metro](https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/ARH_2017_cost_burdens_by_metro)

<sup>15</sup> National Low Income Housing Coalition, The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Rental Homes. <https://nlihc.org/gap/state/dc> Accessed on April 15, 2025.

<sup>16</sup> National Low Income Housing Coalition, Out of Reach 2024 <https://nlihc.org/or/state/dc> Accessed on April 15, 2025.

makes otherwise affordable units unaffordable for households, especially as they compete with the general public for housing in a highly constrained market.

These conditions underscore the urgent need for sustained regional action to expand affordable housing and stabilize families at risk of homelessness, in addition to continued local efforts to strengthen prevention and shelter systems.

## Children in Families Experiencing Homelessness



Children face particularly adverse effects from experiencing homelessness. Children may be dislocated from familiar surroundings, relatives, friends, and neighborhood schools when their families lose their housing. They must also contend with the associated stigma when navigating their new surroundings and making friends.

Children who experience homelessness also may have poor nutrition, increased incidence of health impairments, higher exposure to violence, and severe emotional distress as compared to their housed peers.<sup>17</sup>

Homelessness and hunger are also closely intertwined. Children experiencing homelessness are twice as likely to experience hunger as their housed peers, which negatively affects their physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. Schooling for children experiencing homelessness is often interrupted and delayed: children are twice as likely to have a learning disability, repeat a grade, or be suspended from school.<sup>18</sup> Combined, these conditions eliminate feelings of safety and predictability that are important for healthy growth. In addition to the trauma the experience of homelessness causes children, some students experience additional hardships, such as having limited English proficiency or a disability that requires special supports.<sup>19</sup>

The impacts on educational attainment for children experiencing homelessness at young ages, such as infants and toddlers, can be felt even after families are stably housed, according to research released in March 2024 by national nonprofit organization SchoolHouse Connection.<sup>20</sup> Only one in nine children experiencing homelessness nationwide are enrolled in early childhood education programs, which can mitigate the consequences of housing instability. According to the authors of the study, “The younger and longer a child experiences

---

**“The impacts of homelessness on young children, including on children’s school readiness, can be long-lasting, even after families are stably housed.”**

<sup>17</sup> National Center for Homeless Education, <http://center.serve.org/nche/briefs.php>, *Domestic Violence, Homelessness, and Children’s Education*: 1.

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.apa.org/pi/families/poverty.aspx>

<sup>19</sup> National School Boards Association, “Homeless Students in Schools Across America: Down But Not Out”, [https://www.nsba.org/Perspectives/2021/homeless-students#:~:text=How%20Many%20Homeless%20Students%20Are,in%202019%20\(Figure%201\)](https://www.nsba.org/Perspectives/2021/homeless-students#:~:text=How%20Many%20Homeless%20Students%20Are,in%202019%20(Figure%201).). Accessed April 11, 2022.

<sup>20</sup> Homeless infants and toddlers largely unenrolled in early ed programs | EdSource Accessed April 4, 2024 at <https://edsources.org/2024/homeless-infants-and-toddlers-largely-unenrolled-in-early-ed-programs>

homelessness, the greater the cumulative toll on their health and well-being.”<sup>21</sup>

COG’s 2025 enumeration identified 2,111 children in families experiencing homelessness, representing nearly 22 percent of the region’s total population of persons experiencing homelessness (9,659). Children account for 60 percent of all people in families experiencing homelessness; this is a slight decrease from 2024.

Some of the region’s public schools have reported higher numbers of homeless children than are reported in the annual count. The primary reason for this is that area public schools track the number of unhoused children on a cumulative basis throughout the school year, compared to the one-day snapshot of the region’s homeless provided by the PIT count. Also, the self-reported information regarding the experience of homelessness used by public schools is based upon definitions provided by the U.S. Department of Education. Children counted by public schools may or may not be experiencing homelessness per the HUD definition and may be living in doubled up situations.

SchoolHouse Education and the National Center for Homeless Education reported that 1.4 million students experienced homelessness during the 2022-2023 school year, which represents a 10 percent increase over the previous year.<sup>22</sup> The National Center for Homeless Education reported that during the 2022-2023 school year, 76 percent of students that self-identified as facing homelessness reported they were “doubled up” with family or friends.<sup>23</sup> Based upon HUD’s guidelines, local jurisdictions cannot count people who live in doubled up situations for the PIT count.

## Demographic Profile of the Region’s Residents Experiencing Homelessness

Since 2014, COG has reported questions regarding ethnicity and race in addition to age and gender. HUD specified the ethnic and racial categories included in the Point-in-Time questionnaire which generally reflect a social definition of race recognized in this country and are not an attempt to define race biologically, anthropologically, or genetically. The answers are also limited and may not fully represent the varied racial and ethnic backgrounds of all people who live in our region.

The survey question on ethnicity asks respondents to identify whether they are Hispanic or Latin(e)(a)(o). People who identify their ethnic origin as Hispanic or Latin(a)(e)(o) may be of any race<sup>24</sup>. In addition, the categories of the race item include racial and national origin or ethnicity were self-reported, and individuals could choose “multi-racial” to indicate their racial identity included more than one category.

HUD introduced changes to its data standards in 2023 and revised its categories for race and ethnicity for the Point-in-Time survey as well. For only the second year, respondents could select Middle Eastern or North African as an option for racial identity. It also added African as an expanded option for people who identify as Black or African American.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid. <https://edsources.org/2024/homeless-infants-and-toddlers-largely-unenrolled-in-early-ed-programs>

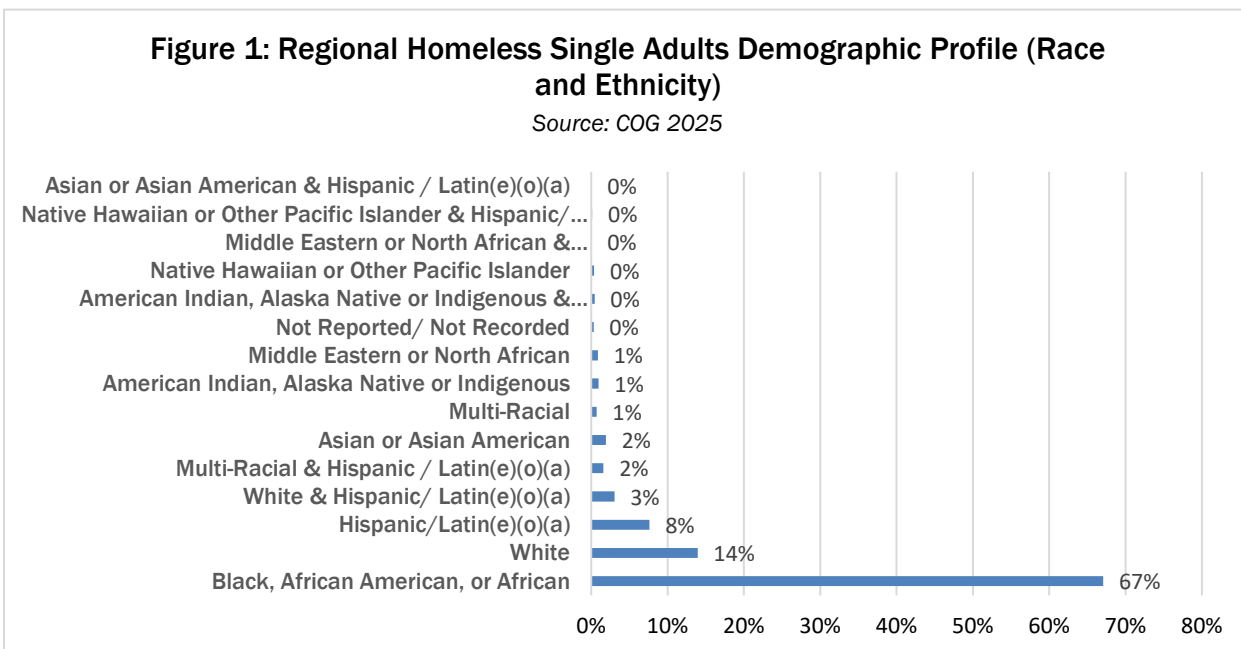
<sup>22</sup> SchoolHouse Connection. *Student Homelessness Has Increased Since the Pandemic, Creating a Greater Need for Targeted Support*. March 20, 2024. Accessed April 2025 at <https://schoolhouseconnection.org/fy25-ehcy-fact-sheet/#:~:text=Public%20schools%20reported%201.2%20million,identification%20challenges%20during%20virtual%20learning.>

<sup>23</sup> National Center for Homeless Education, *National Overview*. Accessed April 15, 2025 at <https://profiles.nche.seiservices.com/ConsolidatedStateProfile.aspx>

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.census.gov/population/race/>



Less than one percent of single adults experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region during the 2025 PIT count identified racially as Middle Eastern or North African. Race and ethnicity responses were combined for the first time in 2024 and therefore cannot be compared accurately with the results of enumerations from prior years.



Of the 6,132 single adults experiencing homelessness (Figure 1, above) who responded to these demographic questions, 96 percent were over the age of 24, and the majority (68 percent) identified as male. For those single adults who responded to the question regarding ethnicity, 86 percent self-identified as non-Hispanic or non-Latin(a)(e)(o).

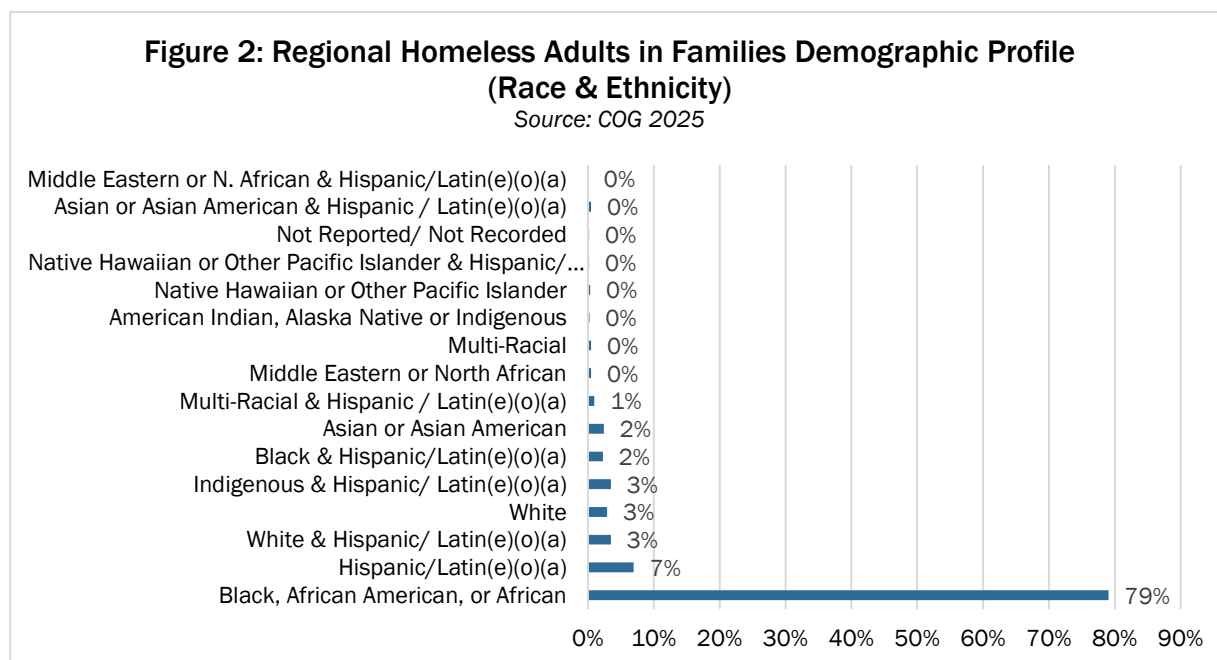
The top three choices for racial and ethnic identities for single adults experiencing homelessness included 67 percent Black, African American or African, 14 percent White, and eight percent as Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o). Only 19 persons declined to respond, or the information was not recorded.

There is considerable variation between jurisdictions in the racial and ethnic composition of people experiencing homelessness across the region. The District of Columbia has 76 percent of respondents identify as Black or African American alone, which is higher than the regional average of 67 percent, and only nine percent identified as White compared to the regional average of 14 percent.

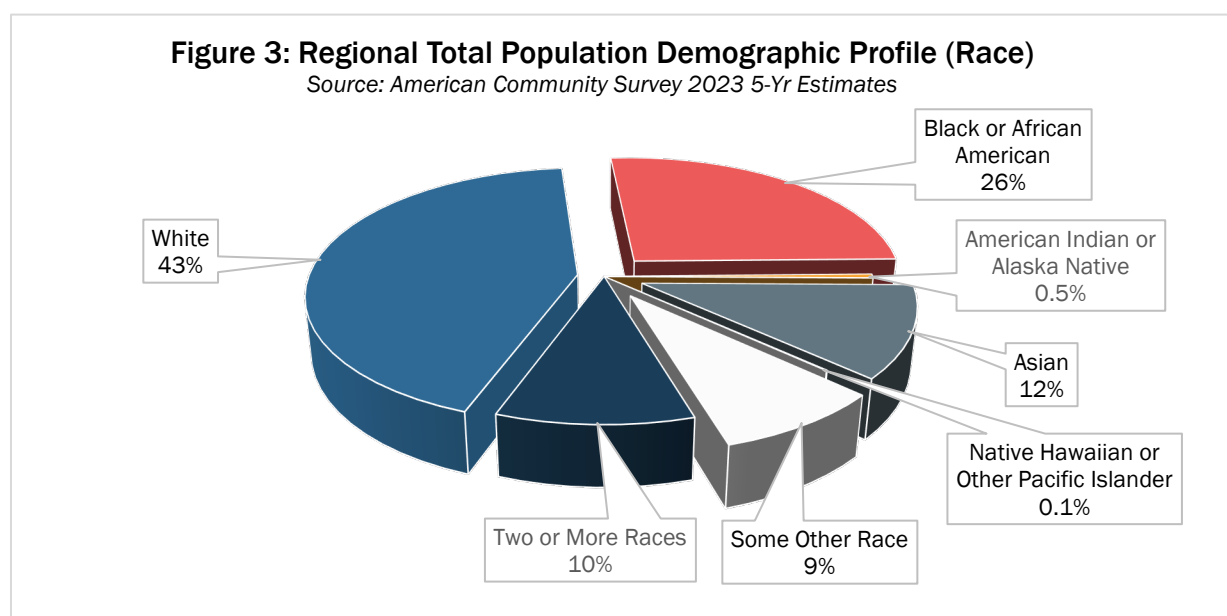
Whereas Loudoun County has 34 percent of respondents identify as White, tied for highest among jurisdictions, and 34 percent identified as Black, far below the regional share. Montgomery County stands out for its racial and ethnic diversity among households without children, with 18 percent identifying as White, 18 percent as Hispanic or Latino, and 56 percent as Black or Black and Hispanic combined.

The demographic profile of adults in families experiencing homelessness differs substantially from that of single adults in a few key characteristics. In families experiencing homelessness, most adults (79 percent) identify as women. The average age of adults also tends to be younger than single adults. Twenty percent are aged 18 to 24, 42 percent are aged 25 to 35, and among adults in families, 80 percent are over age 24.

Adults in families experiencing homelessness were most likely to identify as Black, African American, or African (79 percent), followed by Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o) at seven percent, and White & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o) at three percent (Figure 2 following page).



The region's racial breakdown (Figure 3) in contrast with the data shown in Figures 1 and 2, shows that 48 percent of the population identifies as White and only 25 percent identifies as African American or Black. With the exception of single adults in Loudoun County, persons experiencing homelessness are disproportionately more likely to be Black or African American than they are in the general regional population.



## Addressing Racial Inequality

The racial disproportionality reflected in the regional 2025 PIT count demographic data is not unique to metropolitan Washington. Rather, it reflects a long history of racial segregation and discrimination in the United States that continues to impact communities to this day.

Cornell University published findings in February 2023 of the first-ever national, annualized rates of sheltered homelessness over time across race and ethnicity.<sup>25</sup> Although this study was limited to people experiencing homelessness in shelters, it found that between 2007 and 2017, the “lowest rate of homelessness among Black Americans—1.4%—was more than four times the highest prevalence for white individuals and families.”

The legacy of deliberate practice (de facto) as well as legal (de jure) decisions have led to segregated communities and decisions that disadvantaged persons of color in favor of those who were or are White. These practices, from slavery to mass incarceration, have contributed to intergenerational racial inequality<sup>26</sup> and neighborhoods that are comprised of residents who are living in impoverished networks—where not just an individual or family, but the entire network, lacks the economic and social capital necessary to prevent and end homelessness.<sup>27</sup>



A survey volunteer interviews an individual experiencing unsheltered homelessness on January 29, 2025, in the District of Columbia.

An important component in the work to address disparities shown in the metropolitan Washington region's systems of care is actively involving People with Lived Experience of homelessness in the design and response of the homeless services system. People with lived expertise have an important understanding of what barriers must be removed to get people into housing and which strategies or interventions are the most effective solutions to ending the experience of homelessness.

To address the racial disparities noted in metropolitan Washington's homeless services system, the CoCs collaborated on a regional racial equity systems analysis in 2021 through 2022. The analysis closely reviewed each of the nine participating jurisdictions' CoC operations to develop an equity-driven, results-based action plan that centers racial equity in our shared efforts to end disparities in the homeless response system. The region's CoCs continue to collaborate to prioritize and implement actions that can be taken at the local as well as the regional level.

<sup>25</sup> Dean, James. *Cornell Chronicle*. “Staggering disparities: Homelessness risk varies across race.” Accessed at <https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2023/02/staggering-disparities-homelessness-risk-varies-across-race>

<sup>26</sup> Pitkin, Bill. “Homelessness is a Housing and Racism Problem.” *Housing Matters, an Urban Institute Initiative*. May 11, 2022. Accessed on April 15, 2024 at <https://housingmatters.urban.org/articles/homelessness-housing-and-racism-problem>

<sup>27</sup> <https://endhomelessness.org/time-change-findings-sparc-study-race-homelessness/>

# YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS (TRANSITION AGE YOUTH) EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Experiencing homelessness as a child in a family can have traumatic, long-term consequences, leading to a greater likelihood of experiencing homelessness as an adult.<sup>28</sup> While the causes of youth (children under age 18) and young adults (age 18 to 24) losing their housing are complex, the CoCs in metropolitan Washington are dedicated to ensuring that unaccompanied minors and young adults who are unstably housed or experiencing literal homelessness are quickly returned to safe, stable housing.

Table 7 provides a breakdown of households of homeless children without adults by jurisdiction. The small number of Households with Only Children counted in 2025 reflects the challenges of counting homeless youth accurately. One difficulty is the HUD definition of homelessness, which excludes persons who are “doubled up” or “couch surfing,”<sup>29</sup> a form of shelter often used by youth. Also, methods often used for counting homeless adults do not accurately capture survival strategies particularly common to youth, such as being mobile and transient, latching onto friends and staying in groups, or trying to hide in plain sight. In addition, many homeless youths do not want to be found because they may be fleeing abuse or fear being placed in foster care. Most are not connected to formal supports such as the child welfare, juvenile justice, and mental health systems and many avoid or are unaware of available services.<sup>30</sup>

TABLE 7: Households With <u>Only</u> Children Under Age 18 By Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025						
Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Absolute Change 2021 - 2025
City of Alexandria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arlington County	0	0	0	0	0	0
District of Columbia	11	9	11	10	7	-4
Fairfax County	5	1	3	3	1	-4
Loudoun County	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montgomery County	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prince George's County	0	0	10	3	2	2
Prince William County	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-6</b>

Source: COG 2025

There are many challenges with counting homeless youth, and because their experiences with homelessness are episodic, single point-in-time counts will always underestimate the true number.

<sup>28</sup> National Conference on State Legislatures., *Youth Homelessness Overview*, Accessed on April 13, 2025 at <https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/youth-homelessness-overview>

<sup>29</sup> Couch surfing is typically understood to mean a temporary stay in a series of acquaintances' homes at no cost, rather than a hotel, making use of improvised sleeping arrangements.

<sup>30</sup> The Urban Institute, *Youth Count! Process Study*: 10.

Taking note of seasonal conditions that affect whether youth will seek shelter or stay on the street, some homelessness researchers make sure they count in more than one season.<sup>31</sup>

During the 2025 enumeration, the Arlington County CoC conducted a targeted Point-in-Time count for youths and young adults on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at two locations frequented by youth. After school and into the early evening, volunteers were stationed at a teen drop-in program provided at a local community center. Young people were recruited through area schools and after school programming leading up to the event. In addition to expanded activities geared to draw in young people, community partners and programs shared resources and information available to youth and young adults. Concurrently, PIT Count volunteers conducted an initial screening tool to learn about the most pressing needs faced by young people. Anyone who indicated concerns with housing completed a PIT Count Survey.

Noting the importance of counting youth during non-winter months, Prince George's County, the District of Columbia, and Montgomery County have all held youth-only counts separately from the January enumeration.

Youth counts differ from the annual Point-in-Time census in January in several important ways. First, the counts take place during warmer months, when youths are more likely to be spending time outside, and potentially unsheltered. Second, the youth count generally takes place during a longer period than just one day and includes intentional enumeration by school personnel with knowledge of and connections to youth and young adults who may not be regularly attending school and would be missed in the one-day count. Third, in addition to counting youth who are experiencing literal homelessness, per the HUD definition, the youth count efforts include those who are unstably housed who may be doubled up or "couch surfing." Finally, the youth counts include a much broader series of questions designed to identify social, economic, developmental, and other contributing factors leading to youth homelessness for the purposes of strategic system design at the local level as well as to reveal opportunities for focused diversion and prevention work among youth who are unstably housed and at risk of experiencing literal homelessness.

---

Youth counts in metropolitan Washington have resulted in higher numbers of youth than were counted in the PIT enumeration of literally homeless persons in January.

The youth counts conducted in metropolitan Washington included individuals between the ages of 13 and 24 and have resulted in higher numbers of youth than were counted in the PIT enumeration of literally homeless persons in January.

Prince George's County is one of six CoCs in Maryland which has participated in the Youth REACH MD (Reach out, Engage, Assist and Count to End Homelessness) demonstration pilot since 2015 to count unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults and served as one of three regional team leaders providing technical assistance to Maryland CoCs new to conducting youth counts.<sup>32</sup> The enumeration involved surveying youth through shelter counts, service-based counts (meaning youth/young adults who used services from participating providers during the count), and kick-off/magnet events and street counts.<sup>33</sup> Further, results from this state-wide effort concluded that combining survey data and administrative data (via HMIS or Homeless Management Information Systems) result in a more accurate picture of youth homelessness than survey data alone.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.healthycal.org/archives/11079>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.youthreachmd.com/>

<sup>33</sup> *Maryland's First Unaccompanied Homeless Youth & Young Adult Count: Findings from Youth REACH MD Phase 2 (May 2016)*, accessed at <https://theinstitute.umaryland.edu/docs/YouthREACHMD-Phase2Report-Final.pdf>

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.



In October 2018, Maryland passed the Ending Youth Homelessness Act of 2018 (SB 1218). The Ending Youth Homelessness Act of 2018 defines unaccompanied homeless youth as individuals of 24 years of age or younger who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian and lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; makes the annual Youth REACH MD unaccompanied homeless youth count a permanent fixture under the leadership of the Department of Housing and Community Development; and, provides additional grant funding to end youth homelessness and address related disparities based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity by establishing the Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Program.<sup>35</sup>

The District of Columbia passed the End Youth Homeless Amendment Act in 2014, which not only provided expanded funding for youth-accessible services but also mandated an annual census.<sup>36</sup> The most recent of the past nine homeless youth counts took place over two weeks during September 2024. The CoC worked with The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness (TCP) to develop and implement Solid Foundations. In turn, this plan has highlighted youth service needs leading to the establishment of a 24-hour youth drop-in center, prevention and family reunification services, rapid rehousing for Transition-Aged Youth (TAYs), and extended transitional housing (ETH), a youth-specific model of transitional housing which allows for up to three years of housing integrated with a full range of intensive supportive services.



Photo credit: Ian Rideaux, Changing the Narratives Fund

Both Prince George's County and the District of Columbia received nationally competitive HUD grant funding from the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program.<sup>37</sup> The program requires convening a large variety of stakeholders, assessing the needs of special populations, and creating a coordinated community plan for youth experiencing homelessness. It also provides an opportunity to test new approaches to address youth homelessness. Building on the YHDP work, Prince George's County is also implementing a U.S. Health and Human Services Runaway and Homeless Youth Prevention Demonstration program.

In Maryland and the District of Columbia, as well as nationwide, a key contributing factor to youth experiencing homelessness was conflict with a parent, guardian, foster parents, or other members of households. Findings from the Maryland Youth REACH initiative suggest that focused interventions on prevention among youth and young adults who identify as Black or African American, LGBTQIA+, are in high school and/or are pregnant or parenting are needed to reduce the numbers of youth and young adults who are unstably housed or experiencing literal homelessness.<sup>38</sup> These findings were reinforced by research published by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, which also found that the lack of a high school diploma or GED was a top risk factor for youth and young adult homelessness.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.youthreachmd.com/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://dc-aya.org/youth-count-dc-2018/>

<sup>37</sup> For more information about YHDP, see: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/yhdp](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/yhdp)

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.youthreachmd.com/content/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/YRMD-2017-Report-Executive-Summary-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>39</sup> Morton, M., Dworsky, A., Miranda Samuels, G., and Patel, S. (2018). *Voices of Youth Count Comprehensive Report: Youth Homelessness in America. Report to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.* <https://www.chapinhall.org/project/voices-of-youth-count/>

## Transition Age Youth

In response to growing concerns about young adults experiencing homelessness, beginning in 2015, as required by HUD, the region's CoCs began collecting demographic information on Transition Age Youth (TAY). Transition Age Youth are between the ages of 18 and 24 and face several unique challenges on their path to a successful adulthood, including finding employment with health benefits, as they may have become ineligible for Medicaid or SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program). Youth who may be "aging out" of foster care (reaching age 18 without returning to their birth families or being adopted) or leaving juvenile detention facilities face significant challenges in finding affordable housing and employment as well.<sup>40</sup>

In 2025, the region counted 725 persons who were between the ages of 18 and 24 experiencing homelessness. This represents eight percent of the total number of people counted as literally homeless during both of the PIT counts. Transition Age Youth in Households without Children represents 10 percent of all single adults experiencing homelessness and 10 percent of adults in families. Since 2021, persons in this age range were more likely to be single adults than adults in families; 81 percent of all adults in TAY households were single young adults in 2025. Like other families experiencing homelessness, 58 percent of persons in TAY family households were children.

<b>TABLE 8: Transition Age Youth (TAY) Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction: 2025</b>			
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Single Adults (TAY)</b>	<b>Adults in Families (TAY)</b>	<b>Total</b>
City of Alexandria	3	1	4
Arlington County	9	1	10
District of Columbia	367	88	455
Fairfax County	34	16	50
Loudoun County	15	1	16
Montgomery County	58	21	79
Prince George's County	91	12	103
Prince William County	8	0	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>725</b>

Source: COG 2025

The longer-term trend between 2021 and 2025, as shown in Table 9 (following page), indicates that the number of single TAYs experiencing homelessness has increased by 30 percent. Some CoCs attribute this in part to continuing to increase capacity and programming to support people experiencing homelessness in this stage of their lives.

Single TAYs have one characteristic that distinguishes them from other single adults experiencing homelessness: they are more likely to have a history of foster care involvement (see Figure 4 following page). Like their peer adults, they were also likely to have experienced institutionalization and have a history of experiencing domestic violence.

<sup>40</sup> <http://youth.gov/youth-topics/transition-age-youth>



**TABLE 9: Single Transition Age Youth (TAY) Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction: 2021-2025**

Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Persons 2021 - 2025	Percent Change 2021 - 2025
City of Alexandria	1	1	2	1	3	2	200%
Arlington County	6	4	7	8	9	3	50%
District of Columbia	325	351	362	410	367	42	13%
Fairfax County	50	41	47	35	34	-16	-32%
Loudoun County	9	3	16	67	15	6	67%
Montgomery County	20	19	33	39	58	38	190%
Prince George's County	26	47	85	74	91	65	250%
Prince William County	12	6	15	11	8	-4	-33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>30%</b>

Source: COG 2025

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

Adults in TAY families experiencing homelessness were more likely to report having experienced a past incident of domestic violence, followed by an incidence of domestic violence which led to their current experience of homelessness on the night of the count. This is shown on the following page in Figure 4.

These data were previously required to be reported to HUD but are no longer part of the national survey instrument. The CoCs in metropolitan Washington continue to include these questions in their surveys both for trend comparison and to better understand the complex vulnerabilities that can lead to homelessness as a young adult.

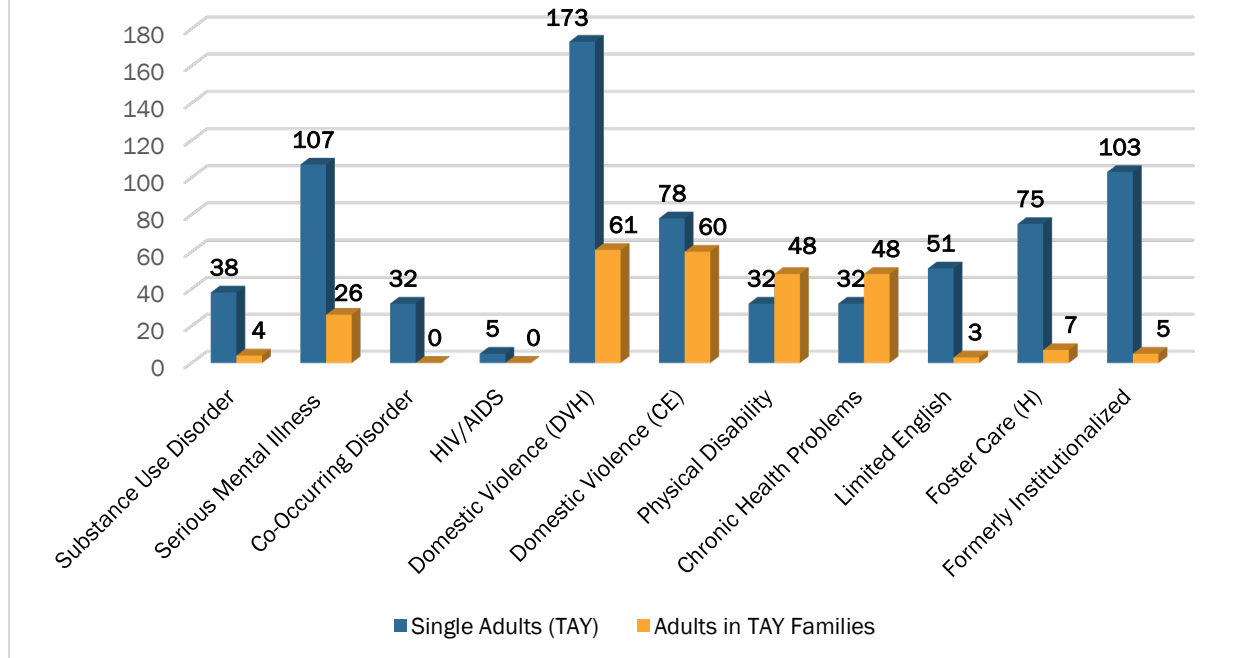
**“Many youth and young adults experiencing homelessness who have been in foster care consider their experience in foster care as the beginning of their homelessness.”**

One of the key findings from research published by the National Conference of State Legislatures was that young adults experiencing homelessness who have a history of child welfare involvement consider their foster care experience at the beginning of their homelessness.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>41</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures, *Youth Homelessness Overview*. Accessed on April 13, 2025 at <https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/youth-homelessness-overview>.

**Figure 4: Transition Age Youth Life Experiences and Vulnerabilities**

Source: COG 2025

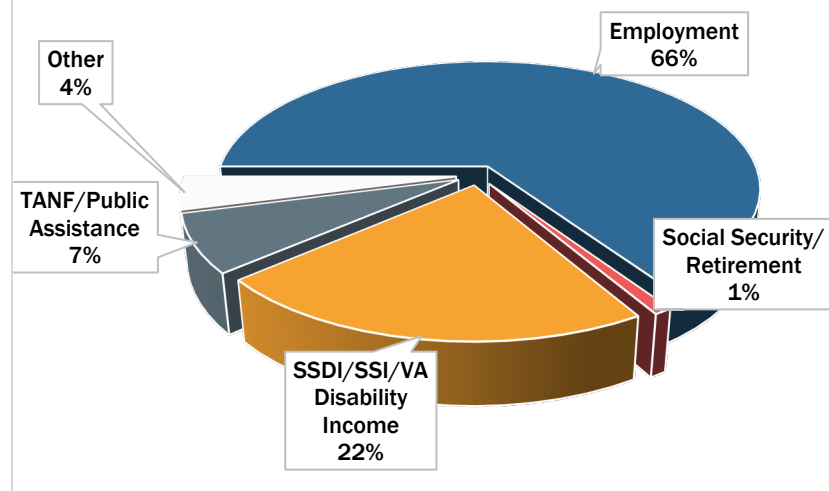


Note: These categories are not mutually exclusive; it is possible for TAYs to be counted in more than one category.

Transition Age Youth, or young adults in Households without Children who report having income were most likely (66 percent) to report their primary source of income was from employment. Adult TAYs in families who responded to these questions reported their primary source of income was from employment at a lower level (35 percent). For another 52 percent of adults in TAY families, the primary source of income was public assistance, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and four percent of adults in TAY families' primary form of income was from SSI/SSDI. The next largest category of income for single adult TAYs was from disability income (22 percent), followed by public assistance. See Figure 5 above and Figure 6 on the following page.

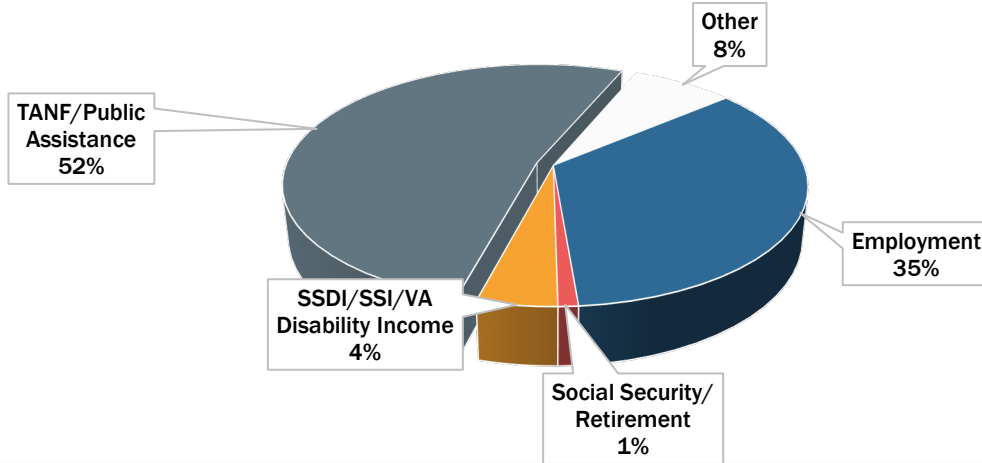
**Figure 5: Homeless Young Single Adult/Transition Age Youth Source of Income**

Source: COG 2025



**Figure 6: Homeless Young Adults in Families/Transition Age Youth  
Source of Income**

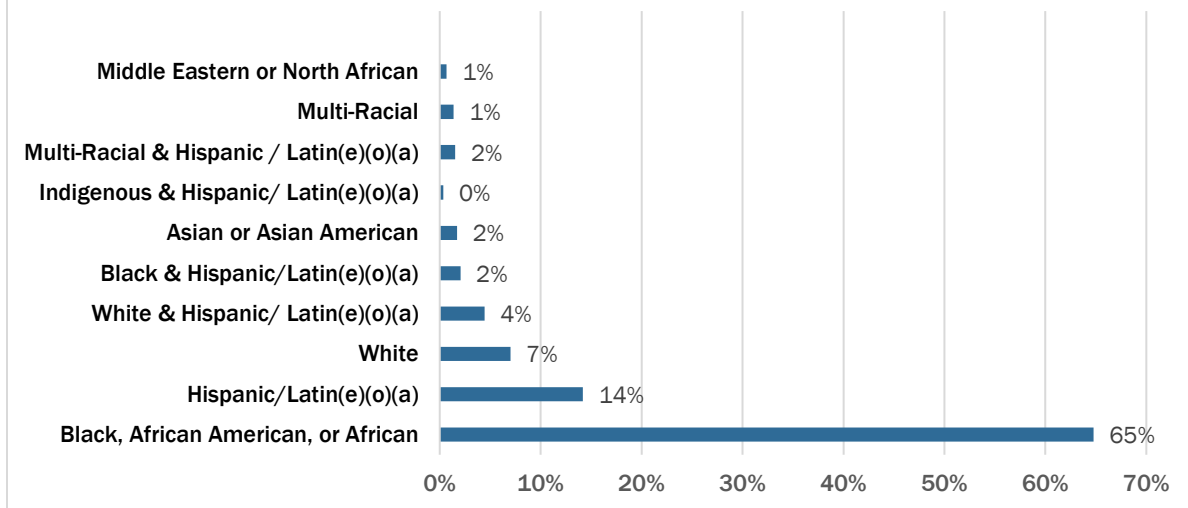
Source: COG 2025



Reflecting the same characteristics as the larger population experiencing homelessness, most single TAYs who reported their race identified as Black, African, or African American (65 percent) as well as adults in TAY families (77 percent). Transition Age Youth identifying as White and Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o) made up the next largest group, with 14 percent of single TAYs and 5 percent of adult TAYs in families. These are shown in Figures 7 and 8 (below and on the following page).

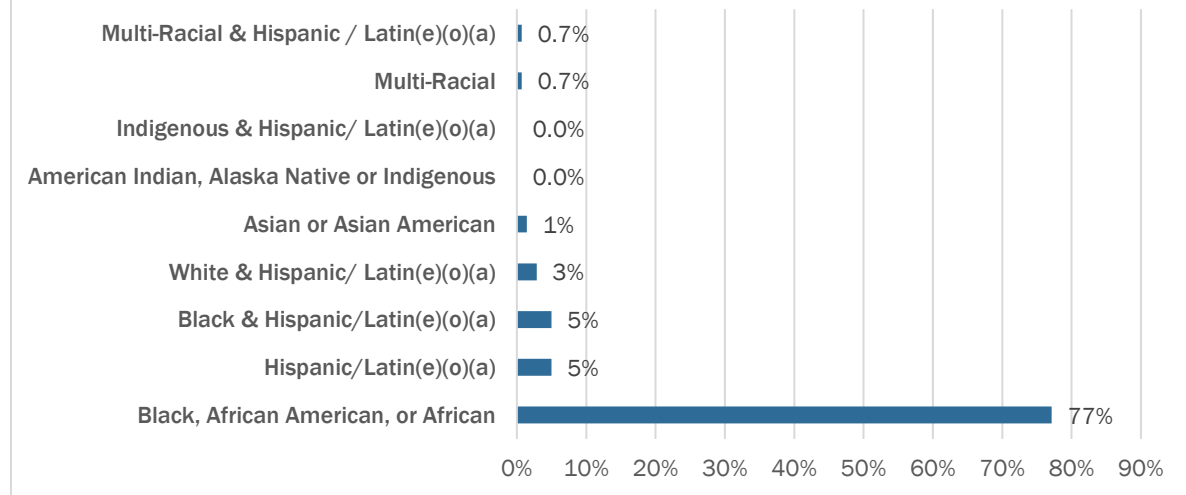
**Figure 7: Single Young Adult/Transition Age Youth (Race and Ethnicity)**

Source: COG 2025



**Figure 8: Young Adult/Transition Age Youth in Families (Race and Ethnicity)**

Source: COG 2025



Belongings, including a wheelchair and bedding, seen at an unsheltered location on the night of the 2025 Point-in-Time Count. (Photo credit: Pathways to Housing DC)

# OLDER ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

There is concern among the region's CoCs that there may be a growing number of senior citizens facing a housing crisis and who are seeking emergency shelter. Nationally, older adults are the fastest-growing age group experiencing homelessness, comprising nearly half of all unhoused people.<sup>42</sup>

Elderly persons experiencing homelessness face unique vulnerabilities due to health or mobility limitations. They may also have more significant health concerns not typically seen in homeless services systems, such as Alzheimer's disease or cancer.<sup>43</sup>



Photo credit: Wonderferret "homeless"/Flickr

It's important to note that older adults experiencing homelessness already have medical ages that exceed their biological ages. Multiple studies have demonstrated that older adults experiencing homelessness have age-related medical conditions, such as decreased mobility and cognitive decline, on par with housed counterparts who are 20 years older.<sup>44</sup> This was emphasized by Dr. Margot Kushel, a health care practitioner who has tracked the rise in older adults experiencing homelessness, and noted that, "Fifty is the new 75."<sup>45</sup> The average life expectancy of a person experiencing homelessness is estimated between 42 and 52 years, compared to 78 years in the general U.S. population.<sup>46</sup>

National demographic trends suggest that there will be a dramatic increase in the number of people aged 65 or older as the Baby Boomer generation reaches retirement age.<sup>47</sup> This means that as the aged homeless population increases rapidly during the next decade, the region's policymakers and service providers may need to adjust their systems' approach to accommodate this growing segment of persons experiencing homelessness.<sup>48</sup> In 2017, nationally there were more than 40,000 people over age 65 experiencing homelessness. By 2030, that number is expected to more than double to 106,000.<sup>49</sup> This historical trend is clearly seen in the chart on the following page.

<sup>42</sup> Henderson, A., Manian, N., Rog, D., Robison, E., Jorge, E., & Al-Abdulmunem, M. *Addressing Homelessness Among Older Adults: Final Report*. October 30, 2023. Accessed at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/9ac2d2a7e8c360b4e75932b96f59a20b/addressing-older-adult-homelessness.pdf>

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.seniornavigator.org/article/12426/special-concerns-elderly-who-are-homeless>

<sup>44</sup> Brown, R.T., Hemati, K., Riley, E.E., et al. Geriatric conditions in a population-based sample of older homeless adults. (2017). *Gerontologist*, 57(4), 757-766. Doi:10.1093/geront/gnw011. (n/u). As accessed in *The Emerging Crisis of Aged Homelessness: Could Housing Solutions Be Funded by Avoidance of Excess Shelter, Hospital, and Nursing Home Costs?*, <https://www.aisp.upenn.edu/aginghomelessness/>

<sup>45</sup> Thomas Fuller. "A Rising Tally of Deaths on the Streets" *The New York Times*. April 18, 2022. Accessed at <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/04/18/us/homeless-deaths-los-angeles.html>

<sup>46</sup> National Coalition for the Homeless, *Health Care and Homelessness*, Accessed at <https://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/health.html>

<sup>47</sup> Culhane, D. P., Metraux, S., Byrne, T., Stino, M., & Bainbridge, J. (2019). *The emerging crisis of aged homelessness: Could housing solutions be funded by avoidance of excess shelter, hospital, and nursing home costs?* University of Pennsylvania, Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy. Retrieved from <https://aisp.upenn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Emerging-Crisis-of-Aged-Homelessness-1.pdf>

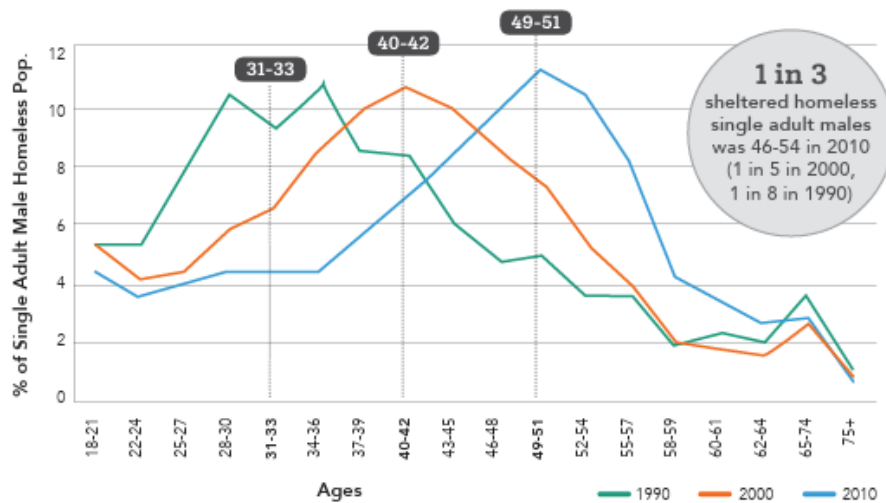
<sup>48</sup> "The Emerging Crisis of Aged Homelessness: Could Housing Solutions be Funded by Avoidance of Excess Shelter, Hospital, and Nursing Home Stays?" University of Pennsylvania, accessed at <https://aisp.upenn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Emerging-Crisis-of-Aged-Homelessness.pdf>

<sup>49</sup> RRF Foundation for Aging, "Home Front and Center, Supporting Access to Affordable and Quality Housing Issue Brief 4: February 2022", Accessed at <https://www.rrf.org/wp-content/uploads/RRF-ISSUE-BRIEF-ON-HOUSING.pdf>,



**Figure 1: Age Distribution of Adult Male Shelter Users in the United States**

Source: Culhane et al. (2013)/ U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census Special Tabulation



In 2023, HUD asked communities to provide more detailed information on age, with over 65 years of age being the highest age category. The results from the 2023 PIT count showed that one in six persons experiencing homelessness were nearing retirement age (55-64) and one in four unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness was over the age of 55.<sup>50</sup>

In the metropolitan Washington region, 33 percent of persons in Households without Children (1,998 individuals) were over the age of 55, and 402 of these older adults were unsheltered. This represents a small decrease in the total number of seniors without children experiencing homelessness overall but a slight increase from the 389 seniors without children who were counted as unsheltered in 2024 (see Figure 9 on the following page).

In 2025 the region counted 280 adults aged 70 to 79 experiencing homelessness, 32 of whom were unsheltered. This is an increase of over 10 percent. A total of 26 persons between the ages of 80 and 89 years old were experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT count. In addition, there was at least one senior over the age of 90 counted on the night who was sheltered.

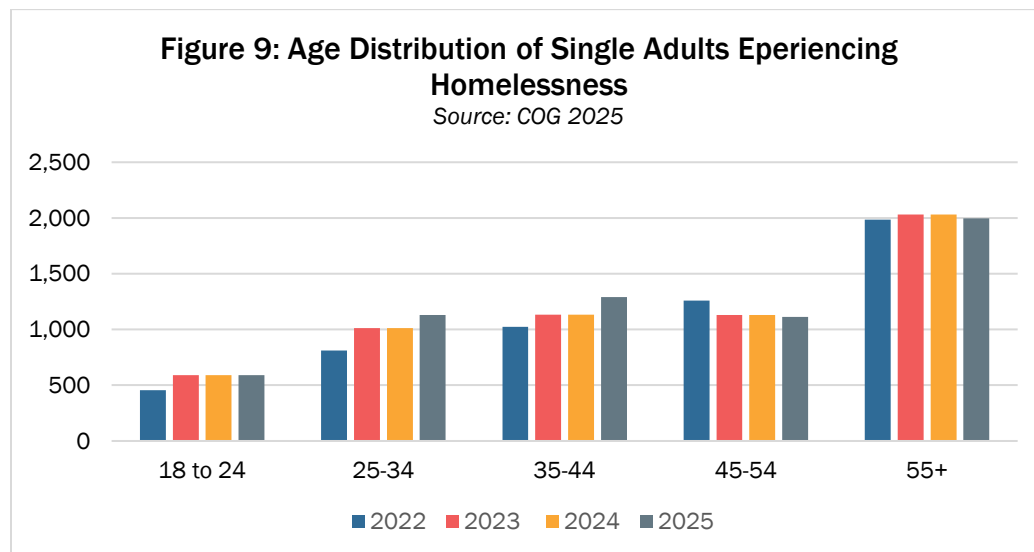
**The average life expectancy of a person experiencing homelessness is estimated between 42 and 52 years, compared to 78 years in the general U.S. population.**

Beginning in 2018, the then nine-member CoCs in the metropolitan Washington region provided a more detailed age breakdown in the regional report to monitor these data more closely and determine how best to respond to changing demographic needs.

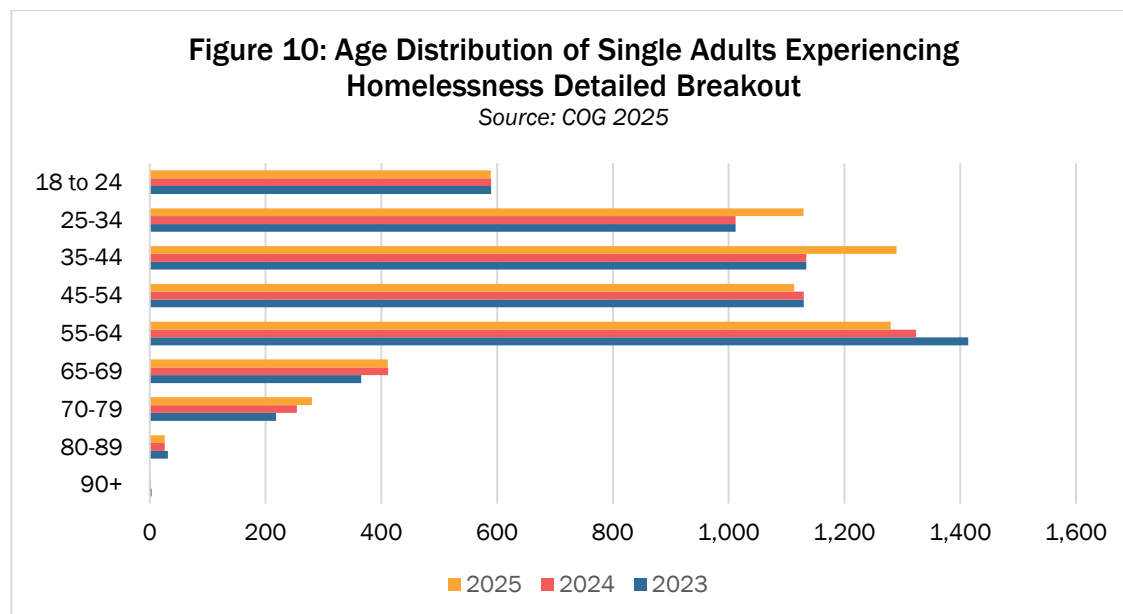
Figure 9 (following page) illustrates the age distribution of single adults experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region during the night of the PIT count over the last five years. In previous years this figure represented data showing older adults defined as age 62 or older. In 2023, the region's CoCs chose to revise the breakouts to better follow and assess the number of seniors at ages above 62.

<sup>50</sup> Capps, Kriston. "The Invisible Factors Driving US Homelessness to Record Highs." *Bloomberg*. December 20, 2023. Accessed on April 21, 2024 at <https://origin.www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-12-20/senior-homelessness-tops-concerns-as-us-unhoused-population-spikes?srnd=citylab-housing>

This younger age threshold also reflects the observed difference between biological and chronological ages of older adults experiencing homelessness. For trend comparison to reports prior to 2023, the data are reflected in Figure 9 showing age 55 as the highest age category. A more detailed breakout in Figure 10 (below) reflects the additional efforts the metropolitan Washington jurisdictions have taken for the past three years to break out the age categories for older adults.

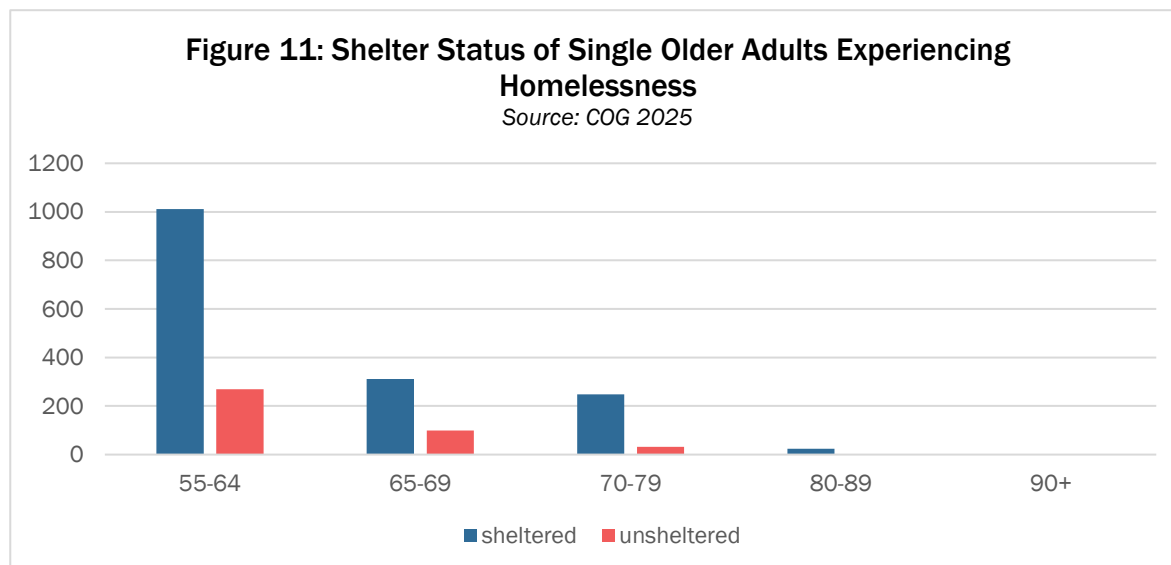


This more detailed analysis can provide insights into the types of solutions that may be needed to assist older adults experiencing homelessness. The converging trends of people aging into elder homelessness and older adults experiencing homelessness for the first time are shown below by the growing numbers of single adults aged 55 and above in Figure. The shelter status of single adults experiencing homelessness aged 55 or older is shown in Figure 11 on the following page.





A recent report commissioned by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service suggests strategies to address the needs of older adults experiencing homelessness. Recommendations for federal state and local governments include expanded state coverage for home and community-based services, such as assistance with medication and activities of daily living; identification by HUD of older adults as a key subpopulation in its Annual Homelessness Assessment Reports; and better cross-system coordination.



Service providers can play a key role as well by training case management staff on issues specific to older adults; providing additional assistance accessing medical equipment, such as eyeglasses or hearing aids that may be lost or damaged during an individual's episode of homelessness; and documenting services available in local communities to enable older adults at risk of experiencing homelessness what resources are available and how they can access support.<sup>51</sup>

Several CoCs in the region have medical respite beds for persons discharged from the hospital who need rest to recover which elderly persons may be able to use. However, many older adults require ongoing medical assistance and lack access to adequate care. The region's CoCs are working to address the unique needs of older adults while anticipating a growing need to expand resources to assist this group of residents appropriately and safely in the future.

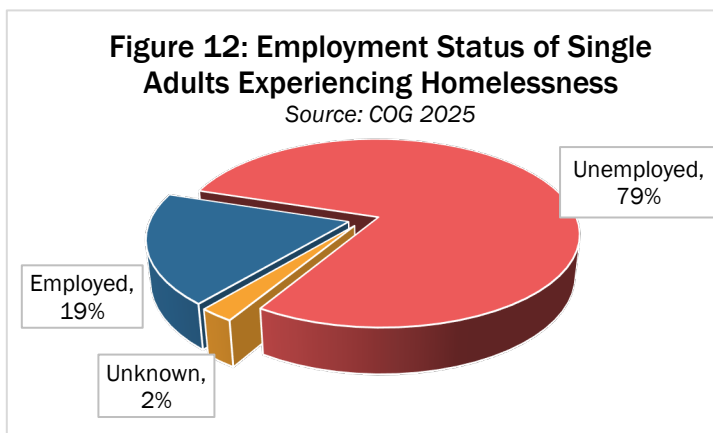
<sup>51</sup> Henderson, A., Manian, N., Rog, D., Robison, E., Jorge, E., & Al-Abdulmunem, M. *Addressing Homelessness Among Older Adults: Final Report*. October 30, 2023. Accessed at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/9ac2d2a7e8c360b4e75932b96f59a20b/addressing-older-adult-homelessness.pdf>

# INCOME, EMPLOYMENT, AND HOMELESSNESS

Employment, or having an adequate and reliable source of income, is crucial to a household's ability to afford housing. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the metropolitan Washington region's preliminary unemployment rate for February 2025 was 3.4 percent, compared to 4.5 percent for the nation. The region's unemployment rate increased slightly from 3.1 percent in January 2025.<sup>52</sup>

While the region's job growth has expanded and unemployment continues to remain low in the metropolitan Washington region relative to the rest of the country, this obscures the economic outlook for many of the region's residents who struggle with housing instability. Unemployment continues to be a concern for those without a high school diploma, college, or advanced degree.

Among all adults experiencing homelessness who responded to this question during the 2025 PIT count—both single adults and adults in families—21 percent were employed. This represents a 75 percent increase from the previous year.



The rates of employment vary by household type; Figures 12 through 15 illustrate the employment status (including full- and part-time employment) of single adults and adults in families experiencing homelessness throughout the region. Also included are percentages for people experiencing homelessness for whom employment status was unknown.

Similarly, approximately 19 percent of single adults experiencing homelessness were employed, an increase from 12

percent in 2024 (Figure 12 above).

The lower rate of employment for homeless single adults (compared to adults in families) is attributed to higher incidences of conditions that make securing and maintaining employment difficult, such as physical disabilities, and multiple behavioral and chronic health issues, including substance use disorders and mental illness. The priority the region's CoCs place on serving the most vulnerable residents is reflected by the larger proportion of single adults experiencing homelessness who were unemployed on the night of the PIT count.

Data from the 2025 enumeration suggests that 36 percent of all homeless adults in families with children who responded to the question were employed (Figure 13) following page, but the picture can vary significantly by jurisdiction.

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/web/metro/laummtrk.htm>

**Figure 13: Employment Status of Adults in Families Experiencing Homelessness**

Source: COG 2025

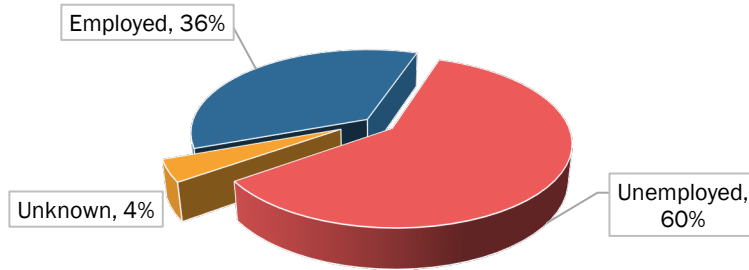
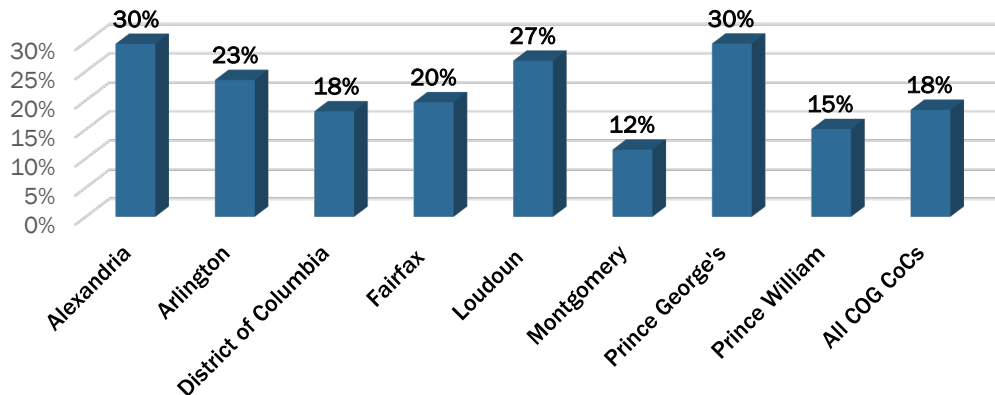


Figure 14 shows that, in all eight of the region's participating CoCs, at or below 30 percent of single homeless adults were employed on the night of the annual enumeration. Seven of eight CoCs had higher rates of employed single adults experiencing homelessness in 2025 than in 2025. Region-wide, 17 percent of adults reported being employed. This is a notable increase in a trend that has hovered around 13 percent for the past five years.

The lower observed rates of employed single adults are in part due to the priority the region's CoCs place on assisting the most vulnerable residents to get into housing. In addition to the challenges faced when trying to find a job without a stable home address, these individuals may have higher barriers to employment due to having a disability, serious mental illness, or substance use disorder.

**Figure 14: Employed Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction**

Source: COG 2025



In contrast to single households, in six of eight local jurisdictions, more than 30 percent of adults in family households were employed (see Figure 15, following page).

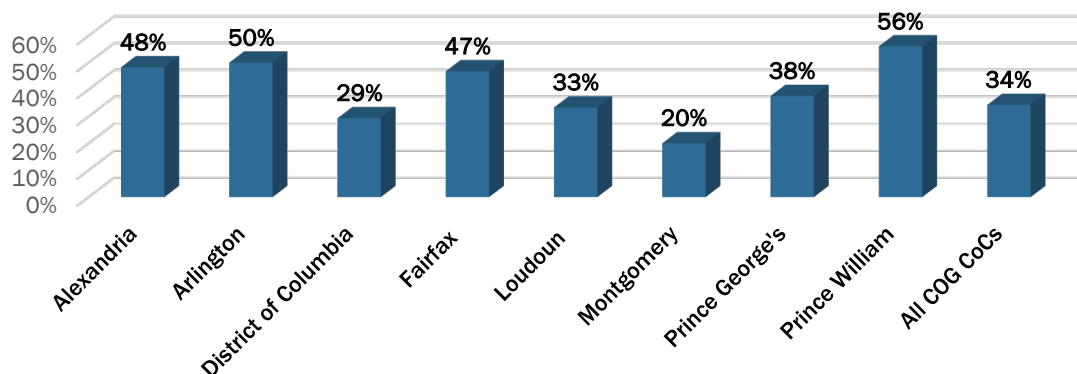
Rates of employment for adults in families experiencing homelessness vary not only from one year to the next, but across jurisdictions in metropolitan Washington. In Prince William County, for example, 56 percent of adults in families were employed, compared to 20 percent in Montgomery County (see Figure 15 following page). Approximately 64 percent of adults in these families region-wide were

unemployed and employment status is unknown for less than one percent. The overall rate of employment has stayed steady compared to the 2024 enumeration.

Only one of the 20 unaccompanied minors in the region's Households with Only Children were employed on the day of the PIT. This is attributed to the youths' age, levels of employability, and housing status.

**Figure 15: Employed Adults in Families Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction**

Source: COG 2025



While metropolitan Washington has traditionally enjoyed a lower unemployment rate compared to other national metropolitan areas, it remains one of the country's most expensive areas in which to live.

In a region where housing prices are rising faster than wages, the lowest income workers face tremendous pressures. To afford a one-bedroom apartment making a minimum wage in metropolitan Washington (\$17.50 per hour) requires working 79 hours per week.<sup>53</sup> The reality is stark for the region's homeless households as evidenced in the figures shown in this section.

As a region, the percentage of employed adults in families in 2025 stayed the same as the previous year at 36 percent. Improving the employment picture for some of the region's most vulnerable residents remains challenging, but CoCs will continue efforts to increase residents' earned income as a critical component for long-term housing stability.

Combined with the high cost of housing, the availability and safety of living wage jobs remains a key obstacle to ending homelessness, even for those individuals who are already employed.

## Income

While a portion of the region's population of people experiencing homelessness reports receiving monthly income, many do not receive any monthly income. In 2025, 63 percent of adults in families reported having income, and 47 percent of single adults reported income. Fifty percent of all adults for whom this information was available report having some form of monthly income, up from 43 percent in 2024.

<sup>53</sup> National Low Income Housing Coalition, *Out of Reach 2023*. Accessed at <https://nlihc.org/oor/state/dc>

Among single adults experiencing homelessness, 39 percent reported that employment wages and salaries were their primary source of income (see Figure 16 following page), compared to just 31 percent in 2024. The largest source of primary income was disability (such as Supplemental Security Income), followed by employment, public assistance and retirement (such as Social Security). Source of income was unknown for one percent of single adults.

Among adults in families who responded to this question, 51 percent reported the primary source of income being from employment. This is up from 46 percent in 2024. The next largest primary source of income was public assistance, which supports a much larger number of families than single individuals experiencing homelessness at 33 percent.

**Figure 16: Source of Income for Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness**

Source: COG 2025

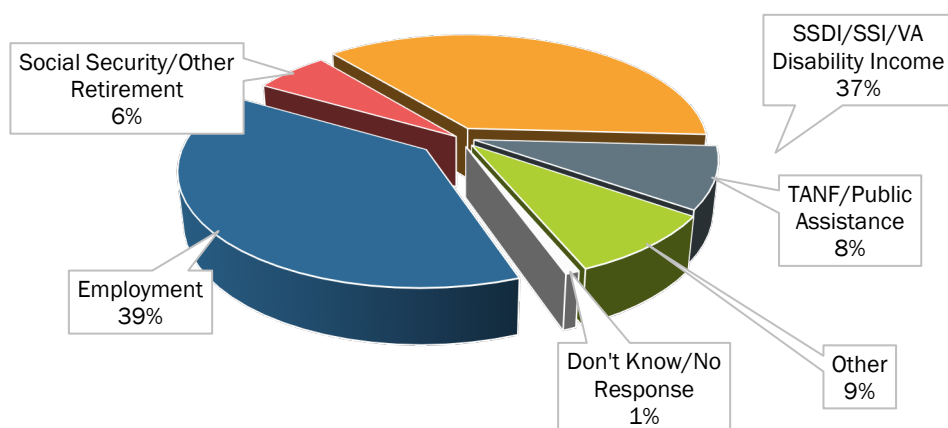
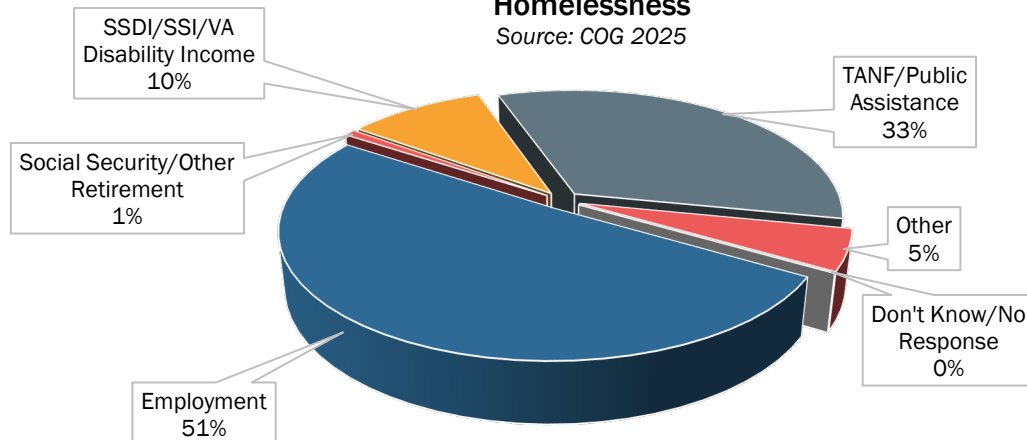


Figure 16 illustrates the primary source of income for the 2,884 single adults who provided this information; Figure 17 represents the responses from 885 adults in families.

**Figure 17: Source of Income for Adults in Families Experiencing Homelessness**

Source: COG 2025



# UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS



A survey volunteer interviews a person experiencing homelessness outside on the night of the Point-in-Time count on January 29, 2025, in the District of Columbia. (Credit: Pathways to Housing DC)

During the 2025 regional PIT count, outreach workers, local government staff, and experienced volunteers for the region's CoCs surveyed their communities to count the area's unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness. Outreach workers counted people living on the streets, in alleys, under bridges, in local parks, in camp sites, and in other places frequented by people experiencing homelessness. In 2025, the unsheltered portion of the count resembled approaches used prior to the COVID-19 pandemic with increased numbers of survey volunteers assisting with conducting interviews for the count.

According to the 2025 enumeration, 1,351 persons (approximately 14 percent of the region's 9,659 persons experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT) were unsheltered. While almost all were single adults, 21 people were in 8 families including 12 children, and no unaccompanied minors who were unsheltered on the night of the count.

The 1,330 unsheltered single persons counted represents a 10 percent decrease in the number of unsheltered adults in Households without Children counted in 2025 than in 2024 (148 less persons counted).

Overall, regional homelessness among unsheltered single adults increased 32 percent (325 additional persons) during the period between 2021 and 2025.

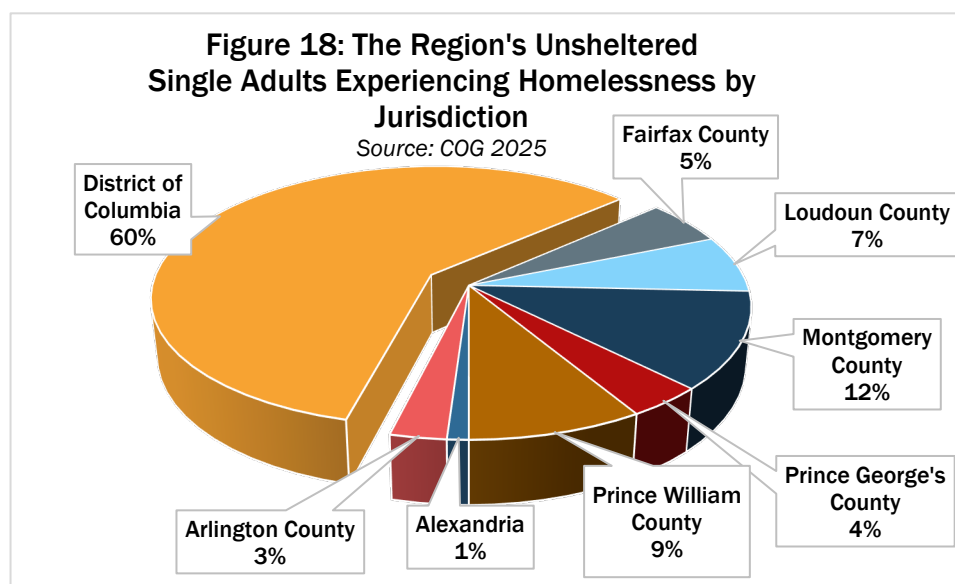
The fluctuations in the unsheltered count during the past five years may be attributed to a variety of factors. Typically, the number of individuals counted residing in areas unfit for human habitation can depend on weather conditions, the number of surveyors employed for the count, and methodology.

## Location of the Region's Unsheltered Single Adults

Where are people experiencing homelessness outside the shelter system in the metropolitan Washington region? Figure 18 (following page) indicates where survey volunteers interviewed persons experiencing homelessness in places not meant for human habitation, such as streets, parks, alleys, abandoned buildings, stairways, and rural campsites.

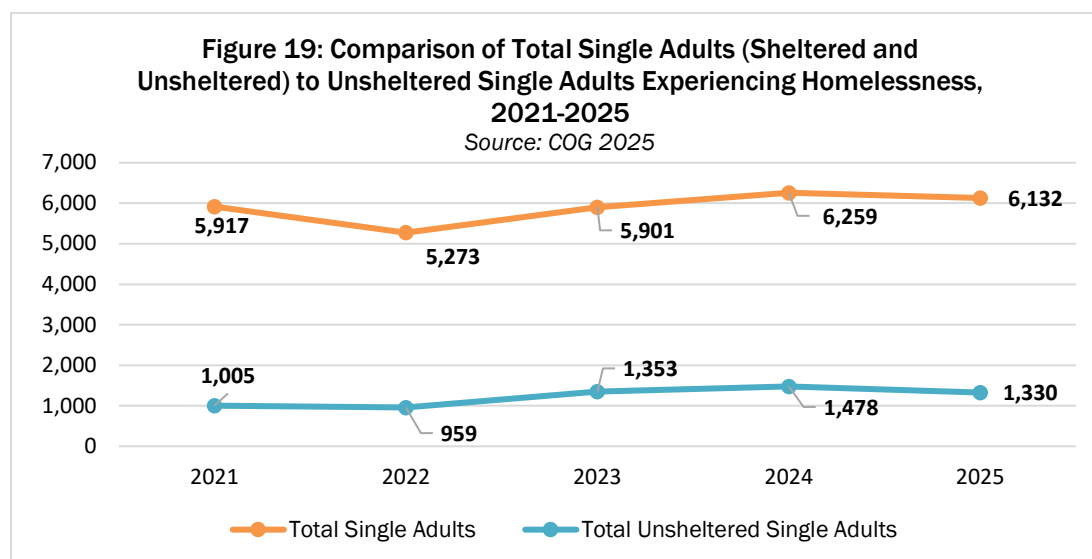
The District of Columbia accounts for 60 percent of the region's unsheltered homeless single adults in 2025. This proportion of the regional share represents no change from 2024.

In 2025, three of eight CoCs recorded an increase in their unsheltered counts from 2024 to 2025 compared to five of eight CoCs the previous year.



Overall, the region recorded a one percent decrease in unsheltered single adults in 2025 from 2024. This represents continued stability compared to the significant 41 percent one year increase from 2022 to 2023. The largest increase during this one-year period was recorded in Prince William County (26 additional persons), followed by Arlington County and Montgomery County (6 and 4 additional unsheltered single adults counted respectively).

Figure 19 shows that while total and unsheltered single adult homelessness followed broadly similar trends from 2021 to 2025, the magnitude of change varied year by year. Both declined in 2022, rose through 2023 and 2024, and dipped slightly in 2025. This suggests shared external factors may be influencing both groups, such as shifts in outreach efforts, shelter capacity, or economic conditions. However, the differences in the size of year-over-year changes make it difficult to draw clear conclusions or identify a consistent pattern.



The 2025 PIT count took place on two separate nights, January 22 and January 29, due to inauguration-related security concerns. Counts on January 22 were conducted in Prince William County,



the City of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun, while the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County conducted theirs on January 29. Weather conditions differed sharply. January 22 was extremely cold, with D.C. temperatures around 25°F during the day and 15°F at night. January 29 was much milder, with highs around 64°F and lows near 39°F. While these temperature differences could have influenced shelter use, there is no consistent pattern linking weather conditions to unsheltered counts across jurisdictions. Weather is an uncontrollable variable that may affect comparability but cannot be treated as a primary driver of observed changes.

The number of survey volunteers and bed availability on the night of the count may have contributed to the number of people sleeping outdoors, in places not meant for human habitation. This continues to be among the many challenges the region's CoCs are facing in keeping people experiencing homelessness safe during the winter months.

## Comparison of Unsheltered Homelessness by Jurisdiction

Shown on Table 10 (following page) Prince George's County recorded the largest one-year decline in the number and rate of unsheltered single adults, with 46 fewer individuals counted in 2025 than in 2024, representing a 47 percent drop. The District of Columbia also saw a significant year-over-year decrease, with 95 fewer individuals, or an 11 percent reduction. Loudoun County and Fairfax County each experienced double-digit percentage declines of 21 percent and 16 percent, respectively. Prince George's County and the City of Alexandria also recorded fewer unsheltered individuals than the previous year, with Alexandria seeing a 22 percent decline and Prince George's a 47 percent decline.

Arlington County and Prince William County were the only jurisdictions to report double-digit growth in unsheltered single adults over the past year. Prince William County recorded the largest one-year increase, growing by 26 individuals, which represents a 29 percent increase. Arlington County saw an increase of six people, or 19 percent. Montgomery County reported a modest increase of four individuals, amounting to a 3 percent rise between 2024 and 2025.

Prince William County attributes the higher unsheltered numbers to expanded outreach coverage, advanced communication with unsheltered individuals, strategic use of the full seven day count period, and refined observation survey methods. These efforts bring the PIT count closer in line with what year-round outreach and HMIS data suggest is the true scope of unsheltered homelessness in the county. Capturing a more accurate picture is critical to improving service delivery, ensuring that resources are directed to where they are needed most, and ultimately making homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring.

Reviewing the unsheltered count for a longer period than one year provides a different perspective of the PIT count results although there is no clear pattern across jurisdictions.

TABLE 10: Comparison of Unsheltered Single Adults by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025							
Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Number of Persons 2021 - 2025	Percent Change 2021 - 2025
City of Alexandria	8	5	10	18	14	6	75%
Arlington County	27	20	42	31	37	10	37%
District of Columbia	681	689	819	887	792	111	16%
Fairfax County	57	57	113	86	72	15	26%
Loudoun County	28	25	56	117	92	64	229%
Montgomery County	68	69	124	153	157	89	131%
Prince George's County	68	49	89	97	51	-17	-25%
Prince William County	42	27	73	89	115	73	174%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>36%</b>

Source: COG 2025

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

The total number of unsheltered single adults rose by 30% from 2020 to 2024, compared to a 36% increase from 2021 to 2025, indicating that while growth has continued, the pace slightly accelerated in the most recent five-year window. The net increase was 340 individuals from 2020 to 2024, versus 351 individuals from 2021 to 2025. Although the region experienced a 36 percent increase in unsheltered single adults between 2021 and 2025, the total declined by 148 individuals between 2024 and 2025, marking a 10 percent year-over-year reduction. Table 10 presents the number and percentage of unsheltered single adults by CoC from 2021 to 2025. Table 10 above presents the number and percentage of single adults experiencing homelessness by CoC from 2020 to 2024. Table 11 represents the percentage of each jurisdiction's literally homeless unsheltered population.

TABLE 11: Unsheltered Single Adults as a Percentage of Total Single Adults Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025					
Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
City of Alexandria	13%	7%	12%	17%	14%
Arlington County	21%	15%	29%	18%	20%
District of Columbia	18%	20%	22%	22%	21%
Fairfax County	8%	9%	20%	15%	12%
Loudoun County	56%	38%	39%	55%	51%
Montgomery County	14%	17%	20%	20%	20%
Prince George's County	27%	18%	33%	33%	21%
Prince William County	23%	19%	38%	44%	48%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>22%</b>

Source: COG 2025

# CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

The eight CoCs in the region are working to reduce the number of residents who meet the definition of chronic homelessness.<sup>54</sup> HUD's definition of an individual experiencing chronic homelessness as an unaccompanied adult or youth head of household is someone with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years; the episodes of homelessness must cumulatively equal at least 12 months.

The definition of a chronically homeless family includes an adult member of a family who has a disabling condition and meets the same time requirements as an unaccompanied adult. Persons who are not the head of the household under the age of 18 do not meet this definition in this scenario, nor are other adults in the family who do not meet the HUD definition. However, all members of the family household are counted as persons in a family experiencing chronic homelessness. Also, persons under the age of 18 who are heads of household, including unaccompanied youth and parenting youth, may be counted as chronically homeless.

It is important to note that PIT data are self-reported, and persons who may disclose being chronically homeless, upon further investigation, may not meet HUD's definition.

Numerous studies<sup>55</sup> have found that housing individuals experiencing chronic homelessness leads to greater stability and independence and significantly reduces the overall numbers of people experiencing homelessness. This helps communities reduce public expenditures, particularly for the most frequent users of medical, judicial, and other emergency services. For example, one study, completed by the University of California Irvine in June 2017<sup>56</sup>, found that the costs incurred by a person experiencing chronic homelessness can be cut in half (from an average of \$35,500 per year) when they are provided with permanent supportive housing. More recently, a 2022 review by the National Low Income Housing Coalition found that Housing First programs, which prioritize providing housing without preconditions, yield a median economic benefit of \$18,247 per person per year<sup>57</sup>. However, it is worth noting that the cost of homelessness declines when someone experiencing homelessness is housed, whether someone has experienced multiple episodes of homelessness or not.

The more important benefit to housing chronically homeless persons using a Housing First<sup>58</sup> approach, however, may be in achieving an improved quality of life rather than basing the value of this approach solely from a public cost savings perspective. This may have the unintended effect of implicitly devaluing the lives of people experiencing homelessness.<sup>59</sup> Stable housing also plays a critical role in improving health outcomes, making it easier to address behavioral and physical health challenges once individuals are no longer living in crisis.

<sup>54</sup> HUD updated the definition of chronic homelessness in 2015.

<sup>55</sup><http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/supportive-housing-is-cost-effective> and <http://www.upenn.edu/pennnews/news/housing-homeless-mentally-ill-pays-itself-according-university-pennsylvania>

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.unitedwayoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/united-way-cost-study-homelessness-2017-report.pdf>

<sup>57</sup> <https://nlihc.org/resource/systematic-research-review-finds-benefits-housing-first-programs-us-outweigh-costs>

<sup>58</sup> Housing First, a successful and well-documented national best practice, focuses on placing residents experiencing homelessness in housing first and receiving wrap-around social services to maintain housing stability rather than requiring behavioral health changes to be eligible for housing assistance.

<sup>59</sup> Stefan G. Kertesz, M.D., Travis P. Baggett, M.D., M.P.H., James J. O'Connell, M.D., David S. Buck, M.D., M.P.H., and Margot B. Kushel, M.D., "Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless People – Reframing the Debate", *New England Journal of Medicine* 2016; 375:2115-2117 December 1, 2016 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1608326. Accessed April 14, 2017 at <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1608326#t=article>

## Single Adults Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

Twenty percent of the region's unhoused residents were single adults who met the chronic homelessness definition. This is the same percentage represented from 2024.

Table 12 on the following page shows that from 2024 to 2025, the total number of single adults experiencing chronic homelessness across the COG region increased slightly by 37 individuals, a two percent rise. Jurisdictions with the most significant increases over the past year included Fairfax County, which added 64 individuals (a 35 percent increase), and Prince William County, which rose by 30 individuals (61 percent). The District of Columbia also saw an increase of 44 individuals (three percent), while City of Alexandria experienced a notable 44 percent rise, adding eight people. Prince George's County reported a sharp decline, decreasing by 84 individuals—representing a 74 percent drop and the largest year-over-year reduction in the region. Arlington County and Loudoun County also posted declines, down by 12 (34 percent) and 15 (36 percent), respectively.

Despite this year's modest regional increase, the five-year trend from 2021 to 2025 shows an overall nine percent decrease in chronic homelessness, underscoring the variability in local trajectories and the importance of sustained, targeted responses.

The region's CoCs attribute the number of residents counted as chronically homeless to a variety of related factors. An ongoing key contributing challenge to making progress ending chronic homelessness is the lack of deeply affordable and available housing options, particularly permanent supportive housing, to enable more residents to exit homelessness and remain stably housed. This situation has been true for many years, and the situation has grown more severe since the onset of the pandemic as the region's housing supply remains constrained and costs continue to rise.

In some jurisdictions, prioritization of mainstream Housing Choice Vouchers for persons experiencing homelessness may have led to increased numbers of persons moving to permanent housing on one day in January. In Fairfax County, Emergency Housing Vouchers were targeted to persons experiencing chronic homelessness. Fairfax has seen a 22 percent decrease in the number of single adults experiencing chronic homelessness since 2021. These housing resources may have had a positive impact on the number of people considered chronically homeless on the day of the annual enumeration.

Overall, the region works tirelessly to decrease the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness. Although the regional two percent increase is relatively small, the CoCs in metropolitan Washington face significant challenges finding permanent housing in a high-cost housing market for residents who may be among the most vulnerable due to having a disabling condition and experiencing the trauma of multiple episodes of homelessness.

An important region-wide strategy for ending chronic homelessness is the use of a coordinated entry system and a by-name list to prioritize housing for the most vulnerable residents. Several of the region's CoCs also attribute success in constraining or reducing the number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness during the longer period between 2021 and 2025 to participation in several successive nationwide campaigns, such as Community Solution's Built for Zero initiative.<sup>60</sup>

Montgomery County, Fairfax County, Arlington County, and the District of Columbia have participated in the Built for Zero effort for years. COG and all the region's CoCs kicked off a partnership with Community Solutions in January 2024 to implement the Built for Zero methodology, with an initial focus

<sup>60</sup><https://www.community.solutions/what-we-do/built-for-zero>

on ending veteran homelessness as a region and immediate goals of improving coordination, collaboration and data quality.

<b>TABLE 12: Single Adults Experiencing Chronic Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025</b>						
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Percent Change 2021 - 2025</b>
City of Alexandria	21	18	5	18	26	<b>24%</b>
Arlington County	34	39	18	35	23	<b>-32%</b>
District of Columbia	1,618	1,257	1,314	1,386	1,430	<b>-12%</b>
Fairfax County	318	273	248	184	248	<b>-22%</b>
Loudoun County	23	22	27	42	27	<b>17%</b>
Montgomery County	51	40	22	100	102	<b>100%</b>
Prince George's County	34	46	24	114	30	<b>-12%</b>
Prince William County	49	31	33	49	79	<b>61%</b>
<b>All COG CoCs</b>	<b>2,148</b>	<b>1,726</b>	<b>1,691</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>1,965</b>	<b>-9%</b>

Source: COG 2025

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

Table 13 (following page) provides the sheltered status breakdown of the single adults experiencing chronic homelessness counted as part of the 2025 Point-In-Time Enumeration.

In 2025, 35 percent of single adults experiencing chronic homelessness across the COG region were unsheltered, with 697 individuals counted as unsheltered out of a total of 1,965. Jurisdictions with the highest unsheltered rates included Loudoun County (85 percent), Prince William County (59 percent), and City of Alexandria (50 percent). Fairfax County, Prince George's County, and Montgomery County had lower unsheltered rates, at 17, 20, and 22 percent respectively. While the District of Columbia had the highest number of unsheltered individuals (533), this represented 37 percent of its total, closely aligned with the regional average.

Most residents suffer from severe physical health and mental health-related impediments. Health impediments may include physical disabilities and substance use disorders. The problem is more acute when individuals suffer from multiple challenges. To provide appropriate services for a person experiencing chronic homelessness, jurisdictions and service providers must ensure that individuals receive adequate screenings and are accurately and timely diagnosed. Additionally, in many cases, people need medical assistance and/or other regimented methods of care and counseling. People may not immediately respond to the care they receive, or their care may be required for the remainder of their lives. In such instances, proper case management services are essential.

**TABLE 13: 2025 Shelter Status of Single Adults Experiencing Chronic Homelessness**

Jurisdiction	Total Single Adults	Number of Sheltered* Single Adults	Number of Unsheltered Single Adults	Percentage of Single Adults Who Are Unsheltered
City of Alexandria	26	13	13	50%
Arlington County	23	13	10	43%
District of Columbia	1,430	897	533	37%
Fairfax County	248	205	43	17%
Loudoun County	27	4	23	85%
Montgomery County	102	80	22	22%
Prince George's County	30	24	6	20%
Prince William County	79	32	47	59%
<b>All COG CoCs</b>	<b>1,965</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>35%</b>

Source: COG 2025

\*Refers to persons experiencing chronically homeless residing in Emergency, Winter Shelters, and Safe Havens and excludes Transitional Housing.

Table 14 below provides a longer-term view of how the percentage of single adults who are experiencing unsheltered chronic homelessness has changed over time. From 2021 to 2025, the regional percentage of unsheltered single adults experiencing chronic homelessness (across all COG CoCs) increased from 27 percent to 35 percent, peaking at 39 percent in 2023. The increased rate of persons who are experiencing chronic homelessness in areas not meant for human habitation between 2021 and 2025 may represent the variations seen from year to year in the unsheltered count converging with the increasing challenge of providing deeply affordable supportive housing in metropolitan Washington.

**TABLE 14: Percentage of Unsheltered Single Adults Experiencing Chronic Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021-2025**

Jurisdiction	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
City of Alexandria	24%	28%	0%	89%	50%
Arlington County	41%	28%	67%	40%	43%
District of Columbia	28%	35%	42%	35%	37%
Fairfax County	11%	11%	27%	30%	17%
Loudoun County	61%	50%	44%	62%	85%
Montgomery County	0%	8%	5%	31%	22%
Prince George's County	97%	7%	50%	26%	20%
Prince William County	24%	23%	48%	51%	59%
<b>All COG CoCs</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>

Source: COG 2025

\*Refers to persons experiencing chronically homeless residing in Emergency, Winter Shelters, and Safe Havens and excludes Transitional Housing.



## Families Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

Most families experiencing chronic homelessness across the region reside in emergency and/or winter shelters. There were 35 families experiencing chronic homelessness (or 107 total persons in families) in the region in 2025, a slight increase in the number of households from the 30 families counted in 2024, but an increase of 22 persons in the total number overall.

In 2025, three CoCs (City of Alexandria, Arlington County, and Prince William County) did not count any families experiencing chronic homelessness. Two chronically homeless families with a total of three children were unsheltered in 2025 compared to five families with eight children in 2024.

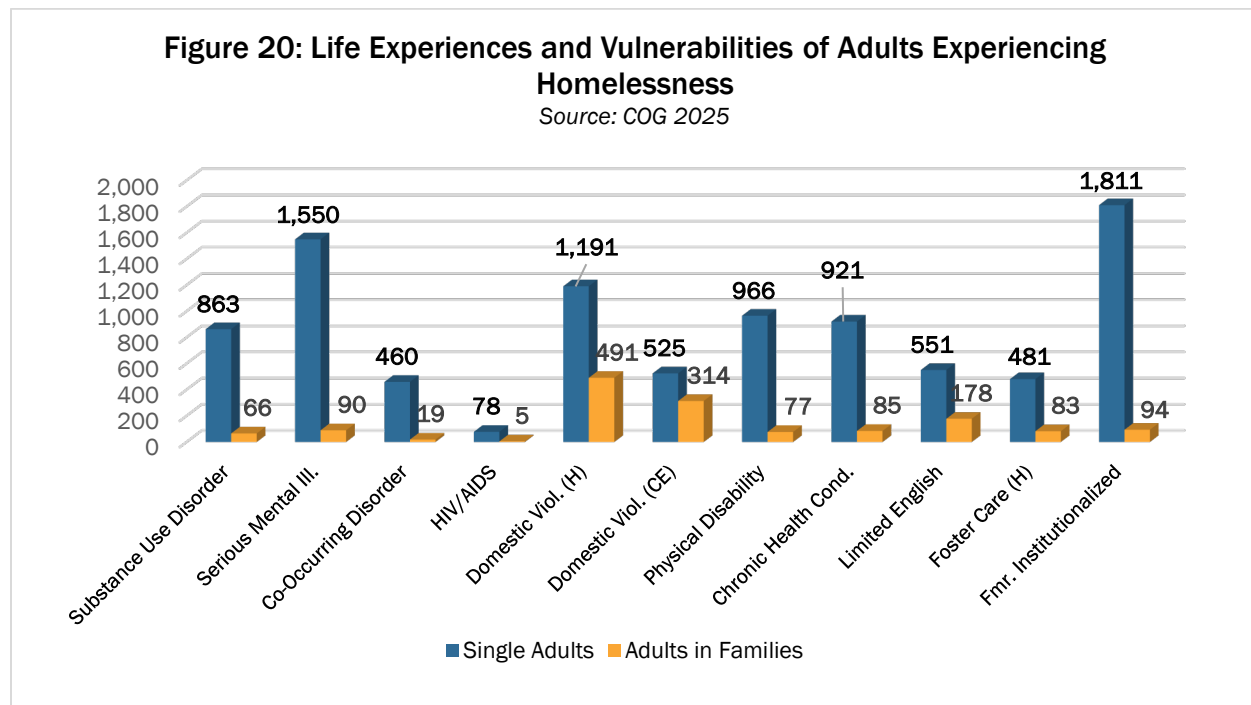


A survey volunteer interviews a person experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the District of Columbia on January 29, 2025.

## VULNERABILITIES AND LIFE EXPERIENCES

According to the 2025 enumeration, a number of the region’s residents experiencing homelessness live with chronic health conditions, physical disabilities, substance use disorders, serious mental illness, or were formerly institutionalized and discharged directly into homelessness. The incidence of substance use disorders, mental illness, or co-occurring disorders among persons experiencing homelessness is similar among all CoCs in the region. Nationally, an estimated 20 to 25 percent of people experiencing homelessness live with some form of severe mental illness<sup>61</sup>, compared to only six percent who live with serious mental illness in the general population.<sup>62</sup>

While these conditions may contribute to housing instability, the experience of homelessness itself can be the cause of or exacerbate poor mental health—the stress of being without housing can contribute to anxiety, depression, sleeplessness, or lead to substance use.<sup>63</sup> Media coverage can conflate these issues and contribute to an inaccurate picture of homelessness as an intractable problem or that is something caused by individual shortcomings.<sup>64</sup> Failings of multiple systems of care, including systemic racism as a root cause, result in the number of people who experience homelessness in metropolitan Washington.



*Note: These subgroups are not mutually exclusive. It is possible for adults experiencing homelessness to be counted in more than one subgroup.*

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/fixing-the-system/features-and-news/3965-research-weekly-homelessness-increases-among-individuals-with-serious-mental-illness->

<sup>62</sup> Psychology Today. “The Complex Link between Homelessness and Mental Health.” May 21, 2021. Accessed April 16, 2022.  
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/mind-matters-menninger/202105/the-complex-link-between-homelessness-and-mental-health> and  
[http://www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/Mental\\_Illness.pdf](http://www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/Mental_Illness.pdf)

<sup>63</sup> <http://homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/topics/mental-health>

<sup>64</sup> Center for American Progress. “Lack of Housing and Mental Health Disabilities Exacerbate One Another.” November 20, 2018, Accessed April 16, 2021 at  
<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/poverty/news/2018/11/20/461294/lack-housing-mental-health-disabilities-exacerbate-one-another/>

Similar to the previous year, in 2025 the most prevalent characteristic reported among Households without Children was having a history of institutionalization, followed by serious mental illness. The next most reported characteristic for single adults experiencing homelessness is having a history of domestic violence and living with a chronic health condition. This has remained unchanged since 2023. Other past experiences people reported in the survey included having a physical disability, followed by a co-occurring disorder (or having both a mental health and substance use disorder).

Among families, the most defining characteristic is an incidence of domestic violence, either as a contributing factor to the current episode of homelessness on the night of the enumeration or having a history of domestic violence. Thirty-five percent of the adults in families who responded in the subpopulation categories indicated having experienced domestic violence in the past, and over 22 percent reported their current episode of homelessness was related to domestic violence. This represents a decrease from the 27 percent recorded in 2024 for the number of adults in families whose current episode of homelessness was caused by domestic violence.

Beginning with the 2013 enumeration, HUD requested data on persons who had a *history* of domestic violence. Although HUD no longer requires gathering data about domestic violence, to maintain base data for trend comparison, both elements are collected and are shown in Figure 20 (previous page). Regionally, the number of single adults reporting their experience of homelessness was a result of a current episode of domestic violence (DV-CE) decreased in 2025 from 614 to 525 persons. However, the number of single adults (1,191) who were identified as having a history of domestic violence at any time (DV-H) is the same (9 percent) as the number of single adults whose current episode of homelessness was caused by domestic violence (9 percent).



An outreach worker interviews a person experiencing homelessness outside on the night of the Point-in-Time count on January 29, 2025. (Credit: Pathways to Housing DC)

# VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



Photo credit: Jay Adan /Flickr

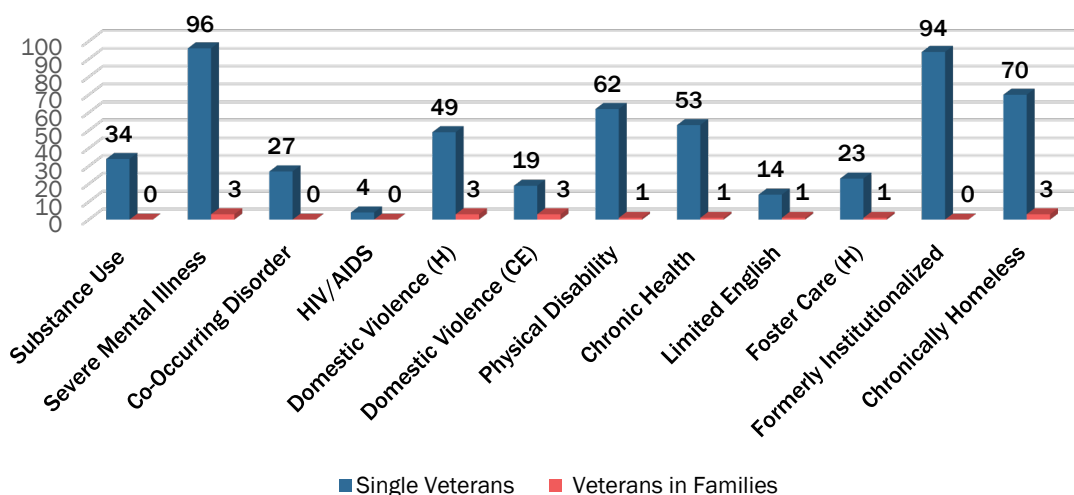
Veterans are another subset of people experiencing homelessness tracked by HUD and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This is the eleventh year that the region's CoCs collected separate data on single adult veterans as well as veterans in families to better understand and address their unique experiences of homelessness.

Nationally, as of 2023, veterans represented five percent of the total number of persons experiencing homelessness.<sup>65</sup> In contrast, in the metropolitan Washington region, three percent of persons experiencing homelessness were veterans as of the PIT

count in 2025. Of the total self-reported veterans experiencing homelessness in the 2025 enumeration, 39 of 318 total veterans identified as female. Five of the veterans experiencing homelessness identified as transgender and one veteran identified as having a different gender identity.

**Figure 21: Life Experiences and Vulnerabilities of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness**

Source: COG 2025

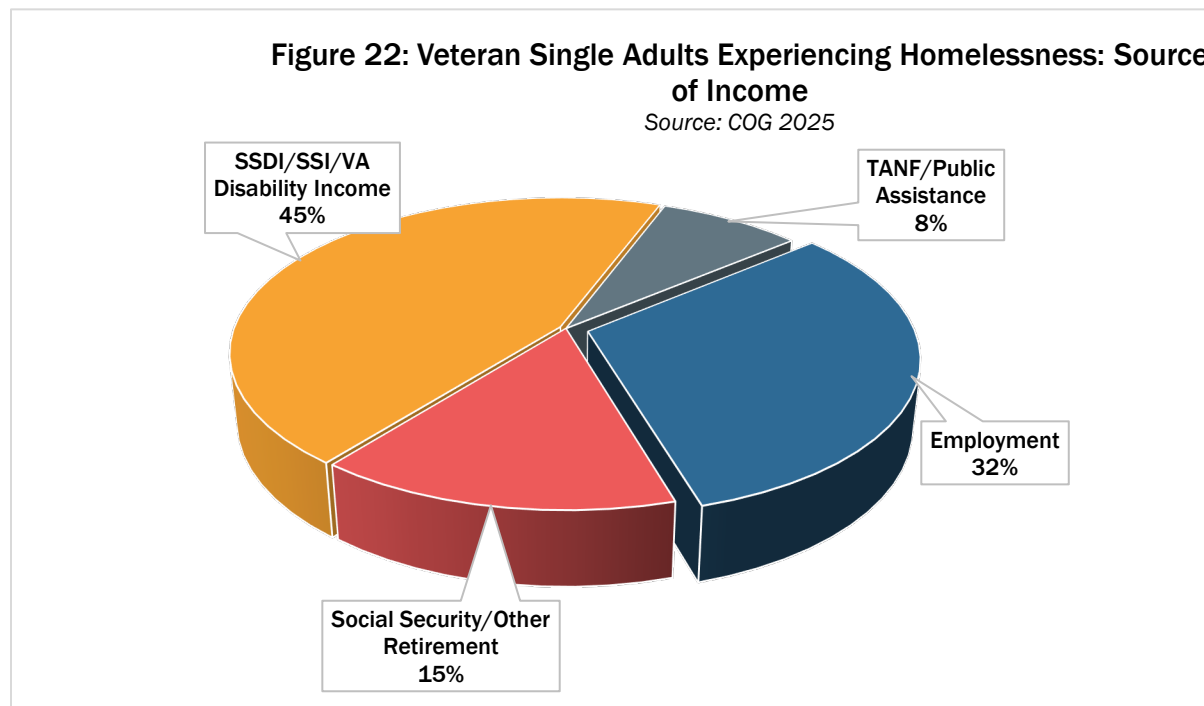


Note: These subgroups are not mutually exclusive. It is possible for veterans experiencing homelessness to be counted in more than one subgroup.

<sup>65</sup> As of the 2022 Point-in-Time Count. See <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3031/pit-and-hic-data-since-2007/>

Figure 21 graphically represents some experiences and challenges these veterans face; veterans are broken out separately as individuals in Households without Children as well as Households with Adults and Children. Veterans, like other persons experiencing homelessness, have a high incidence of chronic homelessness, former institutionalization, living with serious mental illness, and chronic health concerns, as shown in Figure 21. The small number of veterans in families who responded to these questions for the 2025 enumeration make comparison with single adult veterans challenging.

For those single veterans who reported having income in 2025, 32 percent reported that employment was the primary source of income. The likelihood of having a disability is reflected in the veteran populations' source of income; 45 percent of veterans with income noted SSVI/SSI/VA disability and retirement as their primary source of income, as shown in Figure 22.

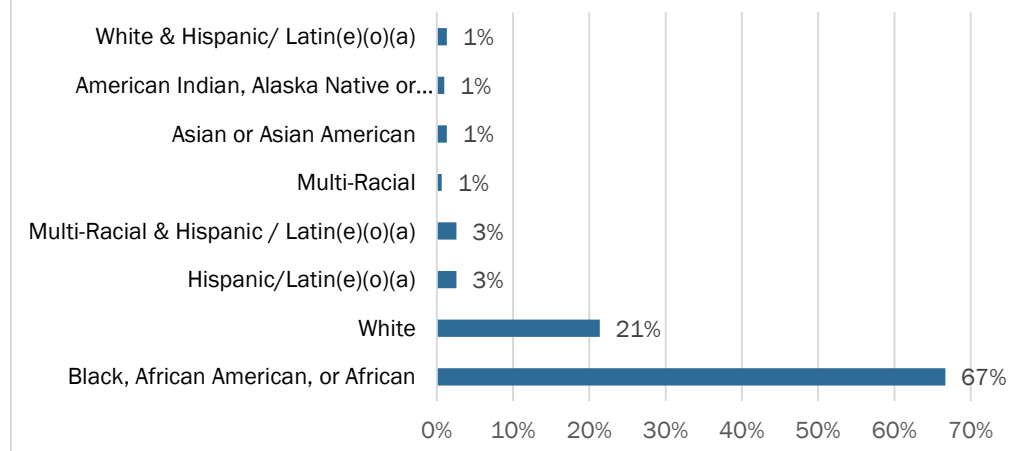


Most homeless veterans who reported their race and ethnicity selected Black, African, or African American (67 percent of single adults and 56 percent of adults in families). It is important to note that the total numbers of adult veterans in families is small (16) compared to the total number of single veterans (309) who reported their racial and ethnic identity. See Figure 23.



**Figure 23: Single Adult Veterans Experiencing Homelessness: Race & Ethnicity**

Source: COG 2025

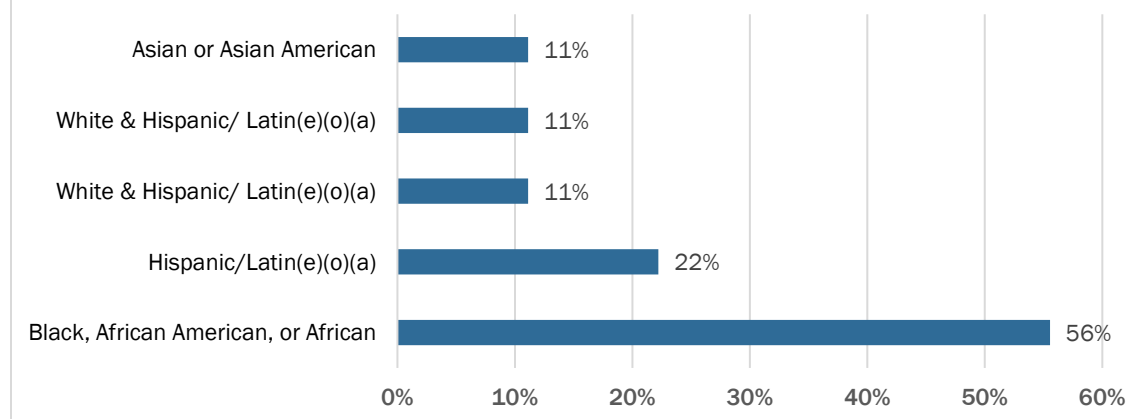


White veterans in Households without Children made up the next largest racial and ethnic identity shared, with 21 percent. Veterans who selected multi-racial were three percent, with all remaining responses at two percent. See Figure 23 for additional self-reported racial and ethnic identities for single veterans.

The overwhelming majority of veterans, both single adults and adults in families, who responded to this question responded they identified as non-Hispanic or non-Latin(a)(e)(o). Figure 24 represents the responses from 9 veterans in families. Due to the small number of responses, the only racial and ethnic categories included are ones that indicated a positive response.

**Figure 24: Adult Veterans in Families Experiencing Homelessness: Race & Ethnicity**

Source: COG 2025



Across the metropolitan Washington region, communities have implemented a range of coordinated strategies to reduce the number of veterans experiencing homelessness. These include robust eviction prevention and diversion services to keep veterans housed or find immediate alternatives to shelter;



comprehensive street outreach to engage unsheltered individuals; and the adoption of a Housing First approach to prioritize quick access to permanent housing without preconditions.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have worked together through the VA Supportive Housing (VASH) program to expand access to permanent housing for veterans experiencing homelessness. This collaboration has focused on increasing the supply and utilization of Housing Choice Vouchers specifically designated for veterans, enabling local jurisdictions to more effectively transition individuals from homelessness into stable housing environments. Coordinated regional efforts from the local to state and federal level at the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Veterans Affairs (VA) have had a positive impact on reducing the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in our region since 2020. Key elements of this success include the increased availability of permanent housing resources (such as SSVF and VASH vouchers), tied to the use of coordinated entry to ensure that available resources are used efficiently.

Housing First is a nationally recognized, evidence-based model that emphasizes immediate placement into housing as the foundational step in addressing homelessness.<sup>66</sup> Rather than requiring individuals to meet behavioral health, sobriety, or treatment benchmarks prior to receiving housing, this approach provides wraparound services—such as case management, healthcare, and employment support—once housing is secured. This model has been shown to increase housing retention, reduce returns to homelessness, and support long-term stability, particularly for veterans with complex needs.

Between 2024 and 2025, the total number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the region decreased slightly from 328 to 318. The largest percent increase occurred in Alexandria, where the number of veterans increased from 2 to 10. In contrast, Arlington County experienced the largest decrease, dropping from 13 to 4 veterans. The District of Columbia saw a modest decline from 213 to 199, while Prince George’s County also reduced its veteran homeless population by half, from 18 to 9. Other jurisdictions remained relatively stable, with Fairfax County holding steady at 26, Loudoun County increasing slightly from 8 to 11, and Prince William County rising from 16 to 17.

<b>TABLE 15: Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025</b>							
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Change in Persons 2021 - 2025</b>	<b>Percent Change 2021 - 2025</b>
City of Alexandria	3	2	5	2	10	7	233%
Arlington County	4	6	6	13	4	0	0%
District of Columbia	187	208	218	213	199	12	6%
Fairfax County	48	32	34	26	26	-22	-46%
Loudoun County	4	2	14	8	11	7	175%
Montgomery County	19	15	23	32	42	23	121%
Prince George's County	19	8	8	18	9	-10	-53%
Prince William County	12	11	11	16	17	5	42%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7%</b>

Source: COG 2025

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

<sup>66</sup> <https://endhomelessness.org/resources/toolkits-and-training-materials/housing-first/>

COG and its participating CoCs have come together for the first time to end veteran homelessness as a region through a partnership with the national non-profit organization Community Solutions. COG and Community Solutions' partnership involves a multi-year commitment to implementing the Built for Zero<sup>67</sup> approach to preventing and ending the experience of homelessness. The methodology involves using data to help equitably drive and transform system performance to not just react to an individual's housing crisis, but act at a population level to end homelessness.

**“Achieving functional zero for a population yields benefits across the entire community.”**

Several jurisdictions have worked with Community Solutions for many years through successive campaigns, beginning with the 100,000 Homes Campaign: the District of Columbia, Arlington County, Fairfax County, and Montgomery County. Their efforts will be to sustain “functional zero” for veterans experiencing homelessness while working towards other locally determined goals. Functional zero means that “fewer veterans are experiencing homelessness than can be routinely housed in a month, with a minimum threshold of three veterans.”<sup>68</sup>

A research study conducted by the Urban Institute on the impact of using the Built for Zero methodology in four communities found that “achieving functional zero for a population yields benefits across the entire community, including individuals both within and outside the target population; the homelessness response system; other systems (like health care, criminal, legal, and emergency systems); and the broader community.”<sup>69</sup>



Survey volunteers on the night of January 29, 2025, in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Through this innovative, region-wide coordination, the CoCs in the metropolitan Washington region are committed to leveraging real-time, high-quality data to identify, track, and rapidly respond to veterans experiencing homelessness. By employing proven strategies, including maintaining accurate by-name lists, conducting regular case conferencing, and aligning resources across jurisdictions—these CoCs work to ensure timely and lasting connections to permanent housing. This collaborative, regional approach enables partners to identify systemic gaps, streamline service delivery, and proactively address barriers, ensuring that homelessness among veterans is rare, brief, and non-recurring, and those who have served our nation have access to stable, sustainable housing.

<sup>67</sup> For more information about Built for Zero, please see <https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/the-movement/>

<sup>68</sup> Community Solutions' definition of functional zero accessed on April 21, 2024 at <https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/functional-zero/>

<sup>69</sup> Batko, S., Solari, C. & DuBois, N. *The Value of Ending Veteran and Chronic Homelessness in Four Communities: A Framework for Measuring Community-Wide Costs and Benefits*. Urban Institute. Accessed on April 21, 2024 at <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/104640/the-value-of-ending-veteran-and-chronic-homelessness-in-four-communities.pdf>

# SHELTER FACILITIES AND PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS

The metropolitan Washington region's multi-faceted CoC model focuses heavily on providing permanent housing solutions while continuing to provide emergency shelter for those facing an immediate housing crisis. The model for assisting persons experiencing homelessness has evolved due to the recognition that it is difficult to adequately address the systemic and individual problems that many people without permanent housing experience solely with the emergency shelter-based model. Emergency shelter alone cannot provide the intensive longer-term assistance people experiencing homelessness may need to sustain permanent housing. Housing models such as transitional, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing programs can provide this assistance, based on each individual's needs and circumstances.

Table 16 (following page) provides the region's 2025 distribution of emergency, seasonal and overflow, transitional, safe haven, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing and other permanent housing beds for individuals, unaccompanied minors, and families experiencing homelessness. These facilities were available in the winter months during the enumeration and during the year's warmer months from April to October.

It's important to note that the availability of beds for persons experiencing literal homelessness are also affected by weather conditions; during a hypothermia alert, the number of seasonal beds (shown in Table 16) increases to meet the demand for those beds.

During the 2021 and 2022 enumerations, shelter capacity in all the region's CoCs had to adjust to meet public health guidelines from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control). Congregate shelters were forced to reduce bed capacity to maintain proper distancing and use existing rooms for isolation and quarantine purposes. CoCs used hotel rooms, and other public facilities (such as closed recreation centers), to accommodate the need for alternative shelter spaces and to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Capacity had to be modified not only to adjust spatial requirements, but also operationally to include staggered mealtimes, daily screening protocols, and COVID testing.

During the 2025 enumeration, while some non-congregate shelter programs remained in place, most CoCs have returned to or exceeded pre-pandemic level shelter capacity and operations. From 2024 to 2025 the region saw an increase of 5,214 beds.

The region had 2,086 more rapid re-housing beds in use on the night of the 2025 PIT than in 2021, bringing the total inventory of permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing beds to 32,818. Rapid re-housing capacity, as reflected in the PIT count, is counted by utilization which may ebb and flow over time, while permanent supportive housing stock includes designated beds or units. A better representation of rapid re-housing bed utilization would review the number of people served during a year.

Beds categorized as "other permanent housing" also represent another source of permanent housing. The region's increased supply of permanent housing is consistent with the national initiative to use a Housing First<sup>70</sup> model. Persons in rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, or other permanent

<sup>70</sup> Housing First is an approach to solving homelessness that emphasizes providing housing first and making use of clinical services optional. This strategy has proven successful in stabilizing persons experiencing homelessness, lowering returns to homelessness, and reducing the use of crisis services. For more information: [http://usich.gov/usich\\_resources/fact\\_sheets/the\\_housing\\_first\\_checklist\\_a\\_practical\\_tool\\_for\\_assessing\\_housing\\_first\\_in](http://usich.gov/usich_resources/fact_sheets/the_housing_first_checklist_a_practical_tool_for_assessing_housing_first_in) and <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/what-is-housing-first>

housing are no longer considered to be experiencing homelessness; they are counted as “formerly homeless” persons.

TABLE 16: 2021 - 2025 Winter and Year-Round Inventory of Beds in Metropolitan Washington					
		Beds for Singles	Beds for Unaccompanied Youth	Beds for Persons in Families	All Beds: Winter
<i>Beds for Literally Homeless</i>					
Emergency, Seasonal & Overflow Beds	2025	4,537	14	2,904	7,455
	2024	1,124	4	1,113	2,241
	2023	3,759	21	2,162	5,942
	2022	4,289	0	2,123	6,412
	2021	5,178	16	2,571	7,765
Transitional Housing Beds	2025	951	0	766	1,717
	2024	136	2	1,127	1,265
	2023	1,039	8	753	1,800
	2022	1,116	0	820	1,936
	2021	1,094	0	1,021	2,115
Safe Haven	2025	18	0	n/a	18
	2024	0	0	n/a	0
	2023	24	0	n/a	24
	2022	32	0	n/a	32
	2021	25	0	n/a	25
Subtotal: Beds for Literally Homeless	2025	5,506	14	3,670	9,190
	2024	1,260	6	1,304	2,570
	2023	4,822	29	3,068	7,766
	2022	5,437	0	3,648	8,380
	2021	6,297	16	4,350	9,905
Percent Change Since 2021		-13%	-13%	-16%	-7%

Source: COG 2025

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

TABLE 16: 2021 - 2025 Winter and Year-Round Inventory of Beds in Metropolitan Washington (Continued)					
Permanent Housing Beds for Formerly Homeless Persons					
		Beds for Singles	Beds for Unaccompanied Youth	Beds for Persons in Families	All Beds: Winter
Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	2025	10,097	0	11,206	21,303
	2024	9,862	0	9,970	19,832
	2023	10,315	0	8,731	19,046
	2022	10,067	0	9,099	19,166
	2021	8,468	0	10,422	18,890
Rapid Re-Housing & RRH Demonstration Beds	2025	887	0	10,628	11,515
	2024	1,273	0	12,841	14,114
	2023	1,209	0	9,520	10,729
	2022	905	0	8,062	8,967
	2021	657	0	8,772	9,429
Other Permanent Housing	2025	1,844	0	5,797	7,641
	2024	1,337	0	5,833	7,170
	2023	1,292	0	4,959	6,251
	2022	1,880	0	5,409	7,289
	2021	774	0	897	1,671
Subtotal: Beds for Formerly Homeless	2025	12,828	0	27,631	40,459
	2024	12,472	0	28,644	41,116
	2023	13,191	0	22,664	35,855
	2022	9,961	0	20,131	30,092
	2021	8,024	0	15,991	24,015
TOTAL - All beds (literally and formerly homeless)	2025	18,334	14	31,301	49,649
	2024	13,732	6	29,948	43,686
	2023	18,013	29	25,732	43,792
	2022	15,398	0	23,779	43,802
	2021	14,321	16	20,341	38,224
Percent Change Since 2021		28%	-13%	54%	30%

Source: COG 2025

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

Other permanent housing was included in Table 16 for the first time in 2017. Other permanent housing is housing that is specifically targeted for persons experiencing homelessness. Examples of other permanent housing in the metropolitan Washington region includes non-profit agency partners purchasing housing units and designating them for persons who are formerly homeless and using project-based Housing Choice Vouchers to provide a longer-term rental subsidy. The data on other

permanent housing are also reported to HUD and reflect a more complete picture of the number of formerly homeless beds available in the metropolitan Washington region. Including other permanent housing in the bed count shows an additional 5,970 beds since 2021 that would otherwise not be counted.

The region recorded 7,455 emergency, seasonal and overflow beds in 2025, representing a decrease increase of 5,214 beds since last year and a decrease of 310 beds since 2021. The reduction in emergency, seasonal, and overflow beds may be the result of several factors, such as weather conditions on the night of the count and the loss of some facilities for emergency shelter (such as churches) since the pandemic began, or conversions of shelter facilities into permanent housing.

The region continued its general decrease in transitional beds from 2021 through 2025 but saw a resurgence compared to the previous year. This trend began prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, the region provided 298 fewer beds, or a significant 19 percent decrease since 2021. This decrease has been a consistent trend, with reductions noted last year between 2021 and 2024 but showed an increase this year.

The longer-term trend in the reduction in transitional housing beds is due to several factors. One main factor is resource reallocation to focus on prevention and permanent supportive housing. As funding to support transitional housing declines, primarily due to changed policy and practice at HUD, the region's jurisdictions are faced with the need to eliminate beds as a result. In several jurisdictions, some transitional housing units have been converted to better meet the identified individual CoC needs, such as providing more rapid re-housing or permanent supportive housing.

The region currently has a total of 49,649 beds for its residents currently or formerly experiencing homelessness across each of the facility categories; this number has increased by 11,425 beds compared to 2021. Table 16 (shown above in two parts) represents this regional resource for persons who were literally or formerly experiencing homelessness in January 2025.

Between 2021 and 2025, the metropolitan Washington region's supply of all housing beds increased by 13 percent or 1,471 beds. This in part reflects the addition of other permanent housing to the inventory count; however, it also reflects the priority the region's CoCs continues to place on increasing resources for permanent housing solutions. The region currently has 40,459 permanent housing beds, representing 81 percent of the region's total bed inventory. This is reflected in the second portion of Table 16 above.

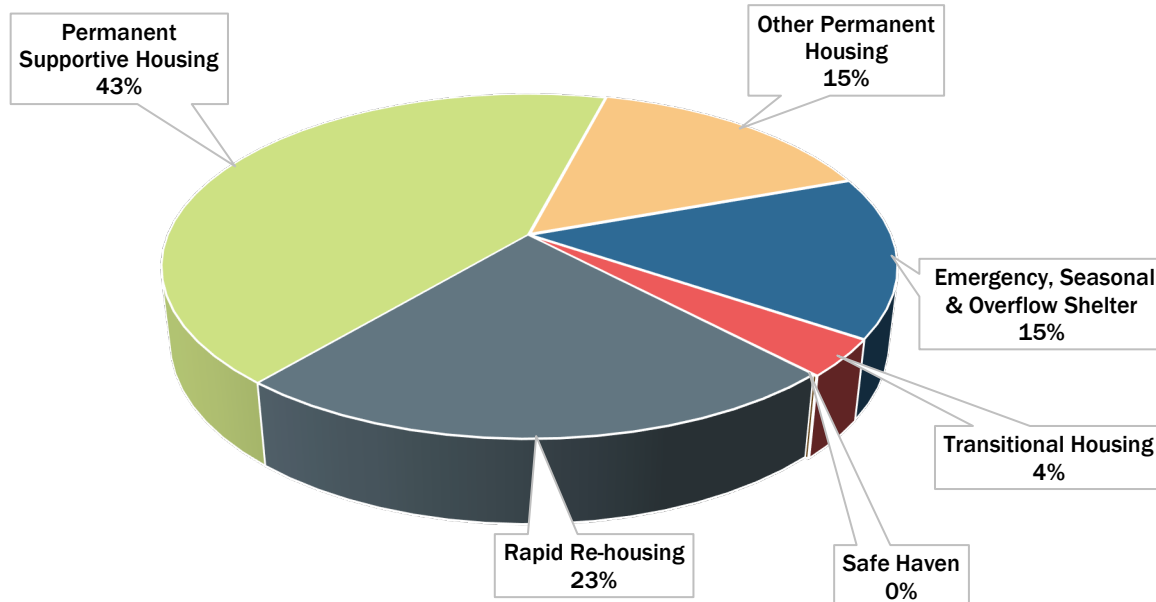
According to Figure 25 (following page), 15 percent of the region's distribution of beds is for emergency, seasonal and overflow shelter. Rapid-rehousing beds accounted for 23 percent of the region's inventory during the 2025 enumeration. Transitional housing comprises four percent of the region's bed inventory. Safe haven beds were less than one percent of the regional inventory in the 2024 PIT count.

In addition to the resources represented in Table 16, the region also has a limited supply of medical beds to provide short-term recuperative care for people who are too ill or vulnerable to use emergency shelter services, but who are not sick enough to be admitted to a hospital. These facilities provide an important short-term safety net solution for persons with significant medical needs. Some hospital systems, such as Bon Secours, recognize housing as an important social determinant of health and have partnered with housing providers to create additional permanent housing for persons experiencing homelessness.



**Figure 25: Regional Distribution of Beds by Facility Type**

Source: COG 2025



An outreach worker and survey volunteer prepare for the unsheltered portion of the annual homelessness enumeration in the District of Columbia on January 29, 2025. (Credit: Pathways to Housing DC)



# FROM HOMELESSNESS TO PERMANENT HOUSING



Homeless service providers and government housing officials are often asked, “How many people who previously experienced homelessness are now in housing?” The question was harder to answer when governments followed the emergency shelter model of the 1980s. Under this model, people experiencing chronic homelessness comprised most of the shelter population and were less likely to access permanent housing. This happened because people who were referred on to permanent housing had to demonstrate “readiness” for housing evidenced by completing treatment,

maintaining sobriety, or otherwise successfully “graduating” from temporary housing like shelter or transitional housing.

Housing First is an alternative to this “housing readiness” model which is founded on the belief that all people, regardless of their experiences or needs, deserve housing. Another core principle of the Housing First model is that the most vulnerable person experiencing homelessness is more responsive to interventions and social services support after they are in their own housing, rather than while living in temporary or transitional housing facilities. Under a Housing First model, people can gain the stability necessary to better manage the challenges in their lives.

The CoCs in metropolitan Washington have adopted a Housing First approach as a systems model to respond to homelessness. This includes programs that are low-barrier, person-centered, housing-focused, and are not just geared towards those who may experience chronic homelessness or live with a disabling condition.

The ultimate goal of the metropolitan Washington region’s homeless CoCs is to assist people in accessing permanent housing in communities where they can thrive. Permanent supportive housing is one solution that engages people who formerly experienced homelessness to build trust and rapport to identify what wrap-around services will best assist them in their efforts to live as independently as possible. These services may include substance use counseling, life skills training, health care, mental health services, and job training. Many of these crucial supportive services and housing subsidies are provided by the region’s CoCs, comprised of local governments, nonprofits, and other human services agencies.

---

**The CoCs in metropolitan Washington use an approach that is low-barrier, person-centered, and housing-focused to end the experience of homelessness.**

Table 16 (previous section) provides information on the region’s residents who previously experienced homelessness living in different categories of permanent housing. Other permanent housing solutions, such as rapid rehousing, may meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness who do not need the level of support that permanent supportive housing provides.

TABLE 17: Persons Formerly Experiencing Homelessness In Permanent Housing								
		Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	Other Permanent Housing (OPH)	Other Permanent Housing (OPH)	Total Housed
		Persons in Households Without Children	Persons in Households with Adults and Children	Persons in Households Without Children	Persons in Households with Adults and Children	Persons in Households Without Children	Persons in Households With Adults and Children	
ALL COG CoCs	2025	8,046	9,913	738	10,066	1,245	4,211	34,219
	2024	8,163	7,429	1,168	12,788	911	4,431	34,890
	2023	6,888	6,197	1,238	9,569	1,282	3,843	29,017
	2022	6,740	4,631	962	7,917	1,056	3,064	24,370
	2021	7,330	6,730	657	8,812	682	817	25,028
Percent Change Since 2021		10%	47%	12%	14%	83%	415%	37%

Source: COG 2025

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

According to the 2025 enumeration, there were 34,219 people formerly experiencing homelessness currently residing in some form of permanent housing.

Table 17 cites the region's number of people living in permanent supportive housing (PSH), rapid re-housing (RRH) and other permanent housing (OPH) by household category and reflects the evolving pattern of permanent housing solutions for persons experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region.

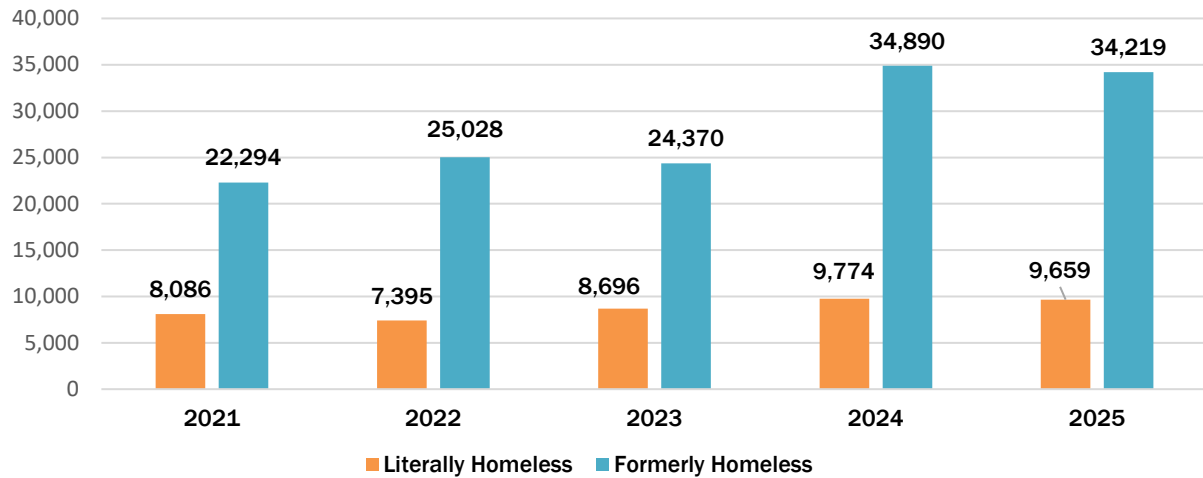
The change in the number of people from 2024 to 2025 may reflect a variety of factors, including the availability and use of affordable units as of the day of the annual enumeration, or the continuing, compounding impacts of the pandemic on the demand for affordable housing in the region.

Figure 26 (following page) compares the total number of persons counted the night of the enumeration as literally homeless and formerly homeless from 2021 through 2025. The totals should not be combined as a proportion of each may be duplicated as people exit homelessness and move to permanent housing.

The data for persons who were formerly experiencing homelessness for 2021 through 2025 reflect not only persons in permanent supportive housing, but other forms of permanent housing such as rapid re-housing and other permanent housing. Per HUD's requirements, people who were previously experiencing homelessness and are now living in permanent housing are not counted as part of the people counted as experiencing literal homelessness who live on the streets, in emergency shelter, or in transitional housing programs.

**Figure 26: Region's Literally and Formerly Homeless in Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Other Permanent Housing**

Source: COG 2025

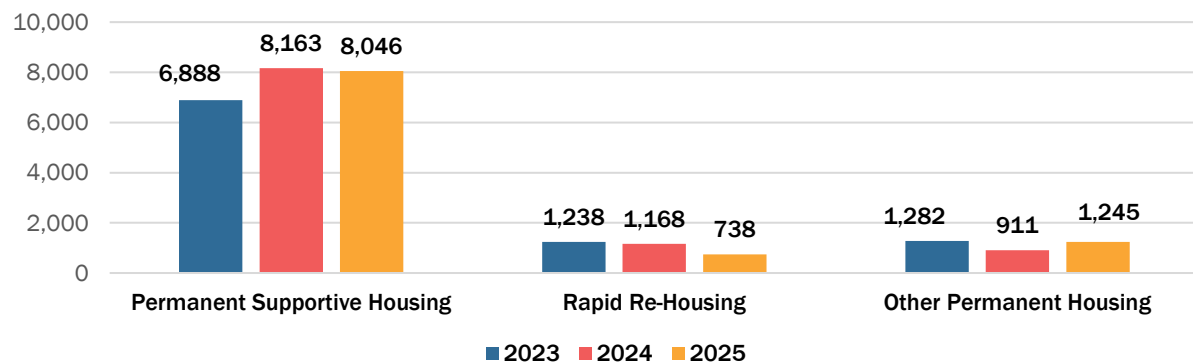


By definition, people who formerly experienced homelessness include people presently living in permanent housing following a period of living on the street or in emergency or transitional shelter. Since 2014, the participating Continua of Care have gathered data on permanent housing options in addition to permanent supportive housing.

Other permanent housing options include rapid re-housing, which primarily serves families experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region, and other supportive housing options.

**Figure 27: Permanent Housing Solutions for Formerly Homeless Single Adults, 2023 - 2025**

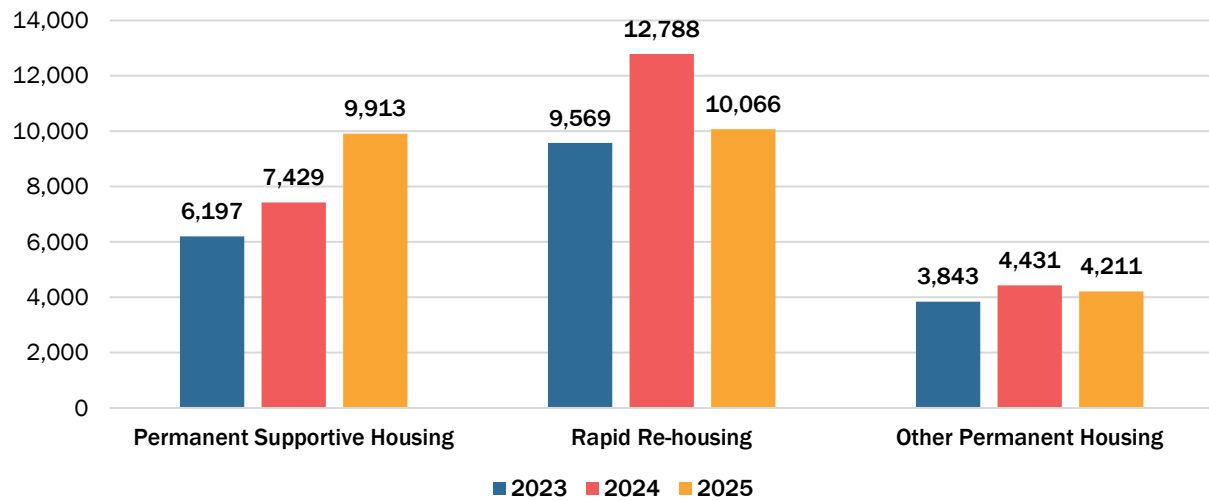
Source: COG 2025



The differences in the rates of use of permanent supportive housing and other permanent housing strategies by household type are represented graphically by Figures 27 and 28 (below) and help demonstrate the importance of having different options to solve each person's unique housing needs.

**Figure 28: Permanent Housing Solutions for Formerly Homeless Adults in Families, 2023 - 2025**

Source: COG 2025



As mentioned earlier in this report, it is important to note that the PIT count is only a one-day snapshot of people experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region. People face homelessness every day and this number fluctuates throughout the year. Growing pressures on the region's competitive housing market and high rents continue to negatively impact people experiencing homelessness.

The pandemic placed new pressures on the housing market, and in a region where housing costs are rising faster than incomes, it creates additional challenges for residents with low-wage jobs and remains a critical obstacle to ending homelessness. The region's focus on preventing homelessness, reducing the length of time residents experience homelessness, and creating more pathways to permanent housing has contributed to the region's efforts to reduce the number of people who experience homelessness at any given point in time.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the 2025 regional PIT count 9,659 people throughout metropolitan Washington were experiencing homelessness. The change from the 2024 enumeration represents a one percent decrease from the previous year and demonstrates progress yet persistence in the ongoing challenge of keeping people stably housed in a market with a highly constrained supply of deeply affordable housing without additional resources for rental assistance and the lifting of strong tenant protections put in place as part of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

It is important to recognize that many factors influence the results of the annual enumeration and changes from one year to the next do not necessarily indicate evidence of a larger trend. The total number of people counted experiencing homelessness during the enumerations of 2025 still exceeds that of 2020, the last enumeration prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. A review of the enumeration results during the past four years helps us understand the impact of key aspects of the regional system response during the pandemic, even if the PIT survey does not allow us to determine the impact of any one policy or program.

The significant increases in homelessness seen in recent years can be attributed, in part, to the conclusion of key federal protections and programs implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. The expiration of eviction moratoriums has allowed proceedings to resume at rates that in some jurisdictions exceed pre-pandemic levels. In addition, the depletion of federal emergency rental and utility assistance has placed greater pressure on local and state governments to fill funding gaps with more limited resources. Although regional Continuums of Care (CoCs) continue to emphasize diversion and other front-end strategies to prevent homelessness, the reduced availability of deeply affordable housing and flexible rental assistance has made it more difficult to maintain housing stability. Data from the past three Point-in-Time counts reinforce the importance of targeted and timely housing resources in mitigating inflow into the homeless services system.

The results from the 2025 enumeration suggest that the region may be experiencing the early signs of stabilization. After several years of steady increases, the total number of people experiencing homelessness declined slightly by one percent compared to 2024. However, results varied across jurisdictions, with some areas reporting increases while others saw decreases. This modest regional decrease does not signal a full reversal of prior trends and should be interpreted with caution, but it may reflect a return to a slower-growth trajectory more characteristic of pre-pandemic years.

Our region faces significant challenges in its efforts to end homelessness. Several of these key challenges are not new: high rents that continue to rise every year and make it very difficult for extremely low-income households to find or maintain housing that they can afford,<sup>71</sup> and wages that have not increased to keep pace with the rising cost of housing, particularly for less-educated workers.<sup>72</sup> In addition, the region's declining supply of permanently affordable housing continues to expand the gap between the options available for the lowest-income households and the increasing need.

During 2020, COG's Human Services Policy Committee created a Regional Compact to End Homelessness, which was adopted by resolution of the COG Board of Directors on January 13, 2021. This Compact sets forth a vision for regional cooperation to create a client-centered approach to ending the experience of homelessness by identifying and breaking down barriers to get people the resources they need.

<sup>71</sup> [http://www.urban.org/research/publication/housing-security-washington-region/view/full\\_report](http://www.urban.org/research/publication/housing-security-washington-region/view/full_report), p. 5

<sup>72</sup> <https://www.marketplace.org/shows/marketplace-morning-report/wages-arent-keeping-up-with-inflation-hitting-low-income-workers-the-hardest/>

To address these significant challenges and to implement the vision of the 2021 Regional Compact to End Homelessness, the **COG Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee recommends the following:**

- 1. It is critical that housing affordable for all income levels, including subsidized housing targeted for extremely low-income households, must be available across the region for metropolitan Washington to realistically reduce and eliminate the experience of homelessness. Resources from the local, state, and federal level should be maximized with a sustained commitment to achieve an end to homelessness.**

While the provision of housing is one of the most important elements of the solution to ending homelessness, the importance of jobs that pay wages high enough to allow individuals and families to be financially stable and remain housed for the long-term cannot be overstated.

- 2. The Committee recommends that each of the region's CoC jurisdictions continuously increase its permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing and other permanent housing inventory to meet the need equitably throughout the region.** The provision of supportive wrap-around services, in conjunction with permanent housing, helps people experiencing homelessness become more confident and independent once their challenges are diagnosed and addressed.

Permanent supportive housing is one solution to ending homelessness that is particularly effective for individuals who experience chronic homelessness. However, some individuals in emergency shelter do not require the high level of care associated with permanent supportive housing. There is no “one size fits all” solution to ending a person’s housing crisis.

The greatest need in the metropolitan Washington region is permanent housing that is affordable to the lowest-income households, combined with a subsidy to be able to support the housing costs in this region and remain in housing for the long-term. Rapid re-housing is one solution in our region to ending homelessness for families and single adults facing a short-term economic crisis. However, without adequate affordable housing options, we will not be successful in assisting these families in remaining stably housed for the long-term.

- 3. Each jurisdiction should continue its efforts to reach out, assess, and house unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness.** The region’s CoCs have in place, or are developing, systems to rapidly re-house people experiencing homelessness into appropriate permanent housing.

Emergency shelters are an important resource for an immediate housing emergency, but do not provide the long-term solution to ending homelessness.

- 4. The committee further recommends that jurisdictions continue to provide job training opportunities and partner with employers to create ladders of opportunity to careers with higher-paying jobs.**

As the region recovers economically from the shock created by the COVID-19 pandemic, jurisdictions should ensure that workforce development programs are appropriately staffed and able to meet the rising need for more job seekers in the marketplace.

As noted earlier in this report, PIT data provides a limited, one-day perspective of the region’s progress in preventing and ending homelessness. Other data sources can also measure the extent of the number of people experiencing homelessness and help determine the best responses.



5. In addition to the data required by HUD, jurisdictions should continue to gather the best possible up-to-date information on persons experiencing homelessness using a by-name list and seek opportunities to share data within and across the region's CoCs to strengthen local programs and improve outcomes for persons experiencing homelessness.

A by-name list includes everyone in a jurisdiction experiencing homelessness, and access to housing resources is determined through a coordinated entry system and prioritized based on level of vulnerability. Jurisdictions' use of a coordinated entry system is critical to ensure that housing resources are targeted and appropriate to end a person's unique experience of homelessness. These practices are also foundational to the region's participation in Built for Zero, where real-time, person-specific data are essential for driving system-level improvements and achieving measurable reductions in homelessness.

A guiding principle in all these efforts is to center racial equity in our solutions to ensure that the homeless services system does not compound existing structural inequities and contribute to the disproportionate representation of people of color experiencing poor housing outcomes.

6. The committee recommends that each of the region's CoC jurisdictions aim to close gaps in systems of care that lead to disproportionality and disparities. To understand the impacts of those gaps and identify appropriate and effective responses, communities should consult the people most impacted in their planning, design, and implementation.<sup>73</sup>

The CoCs in the metropolitan Washington are committed to ensuring that system transformation is not only grounded in the principles of racial equity, but that it involves people with lived experience and expertise of homelessness to advise and inform how best to assist people experiencing a housing crisis. Further, to maximize the impact of these actions, the committee also recommends coordinating with state agencies, advocates, legal and health care professionals, philanthropic organizations, and other stakeholders to address any gaps in the region's systems of care. The eight jurisdictions comprising COG's CoCs worked hard to decrease the region's incidence of homelessness over the past year. However, housing availability and funding challenges at all levels of government will have a direct impact on whether the region's CoCs are able to prevent an increasing number of people experiencing homelessness this year.

The availability of federal stimulus funds provided during the COVID-19 pandemic provided an opportunity for innovation at the local level and to demonstrate that the region's CoCs can make progress towards the goal of reducing the number of residents who experience a housing crisis, given additional tools and resources. A strong commitment is necessary to continue to make progress in preventing and ending homelessness in metropolitan Washington without eviction restrictions and federal aid packages are exhausted.

Despite the many complex and unique challenges the region faced during the past year, member local jurisdictions' housing first approaches have proven successful in returning many people to permanent housing, and the region must continue these best practice efforts to realize the goal to provide permanent, affordable homes for all of its residents and end homelessness, rather than merely managing it through the provision of emergency shelter.

---

**"For the first time in years, our region has seen a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness. This progress reflects what is possible when we work together across jurisdictions with shared purpose. But continued progress is not guaranteed. We must build on this momentum through deeper collaboration and commitment to ensure everyone in our region has a place to call home."**

**-Stefan Caine, COG Homeless Services Committee Chair**

<sup>73</sup> <https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-Fra>



Housing is the foundation for being able to live a safe and healthy life. No one should have to live without a place to call home.

TABLE 18: People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025					
Jurisdiction/Year		Households Without Children	Unaccompanied Youth/ Households with Only Children	Households with Adults and Children	All Persons
City of Alexandria	2025	101	0	65	166
	2024	103	0	84	187
	2023	82	0	70	152
	2022	73	0	47	120
	2021	63	0	43	106
2021-2025 Percent Change		60%	N/A	51%	57%
Arlington County	2025	183	0	88	271
	2024	169	0	74	243
	2023	147	0	66	213
	2022	132	0	50	182
	2021	127	0	44	171
2021-2025 Percent Change		44%	N/A	100%	58%
District of Columbia	2025	3,775	7	1,356	5,138
	2024	3,950	10	1,656	5,616
	2023	3,741	11	1,170	4,922
	2022	3,397	9	1,004	4,410
	2021	3,865	11	1,235	5,111
2021-2025 Percent Change		-2%	-36%	10%	1%
Fairfax County	2025	615	1	706	1,322
	2024	581	3	694	1,278
	2023	555	3	752	1,310
	2022	626	1	564	1,191
	2021	737	5	480	1,222
2021-2025 Percent Change		-17%	-80%	47%	8%
Loudoun County	2025	179	0	73	252
	2024	212	0	91	303
	2023	142	0	78	220
	2022	66	0	33	99
	2021	50	0	30	80
2021-2025 Percent Change		258%	0%	143%	215%

Source: COG 2025

**TABLE 18: People Experiencing Literal Homelessness by Jurisdiction, 2021 - 2025**

Jurisdiction/Year		Households Without Children	Unaccompanied Youth/ Households with Only Children	Households with Adults and Children	All Persons
Montgomery County	2025	798	0	712	1,510
	2024	748	0	396	1144
	2023	625	0	269	894
	2022	408	0	173	581
	2021	480	0	97	577
2021-2025 Percent Change		66%	N/A	634%	162%
Prince George's County	2025	242	2	364	608
	2024	292	3	363	658
	2023	273	10	376	659
	2022	273	0	298	571
	2021	251	0	286	537
2021-2025 Percent Change		-4%	N/A	27%	13%
Prince William County	2025	239	0	153	392
	2024	204	0	141	345
	2023	190	0	136	326
	2022	145	0	96	241
	2021	179	0	103	282
2021-2025 Percent Change		34%	0%	49%	39%
COG REGION	2025	6,132	10	3,517	9,659
	2024	6,259	16	3,499	9,774
	2023	5,755	24	2,917	8,696
	2022	5,120	10	2,265	7,395
	2021	5,752	16	2,318	8,086
2021-2025 Percent Change		7%	-38%	52%	19%

Source: COG 2025

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A: SHELTER HOTLINE RESOURCE NUMBERS

This section provides a regional overview of resources to call when a person is in need of shelter throughout the metropolitan Washington region.

## APPENDIX B: HOMELESSNESS ENUMERATION JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORTS

This section provides each of the nine participating Continua of Care the opportunity to provide additional details regarding the Point-in-Time count conducted in their jurisdiction as well as an overview of the activities of their respective CoCs during the past year.

## APPENDIX C: COG HOMELESS SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## **APPENDIX A: SHELTER HOTLINE RESOURCES**

The information below is designed to assist a person experiencing a housing crisis with an emergency solution. Additional shelter resources may become available during the winter months (typically November through March each year) when a hypothermia alert is issued.

In addition to the information below, regional resources may be found online via the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington's Emergency Services Directory at <https://ifcmw.org/resources/emergency-services-directory>.

### **ALEXANDRIA, VA**

(703) 746-5700 Homeless Services Assessment Center (Monday through Friday, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., except holidays). After hours, persons needing emergency overnight stay should contact the Alexandria Community Shelter (703-746-3660) or Carpenter's Shelter (703-548-7500 ext. 228).

### **ARLINGTON, VA**

(703) 228-1300 during business hours or (703) 228-1010 (24/7)

### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

(202) 399-7093 (24/7) or 311 in DC. Youth under the age of 18, call Sasha Bruce Youth Hotline: (202) 547-7777

### **FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA**

(703) 222-0880 (Households with Adults and Children), Coordinated Services Planning; Adults Only Households: (703) 820-7621 (Baileys), (703) 799-0200 (Kennedy), and (703) 437-1975 (Embry Rucker)

### **LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA**

(703) 777-0420 weekdays 8:30 AM - 5 PM - Coordinated Entry Services. After hours, call (571) 258-3033 (Adults only households), (703) 724-1555 (Households with Adults and Children, single women, and single mothers), (703) 777-6552 (survivors of domestic violence)

### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD**

(240) 907-2688 or 240-777-4000 Montgomery County Crisis Center (24/7) (TTY 240-777-4815)

### **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD**

(888) 731-0999 (toll free in Maryland) or (301) 864-7095 (24/7)

### **PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VA**

(703) 792-3366, Coordinated Entry System (CES), Monday through Friday, 830 AM - 530PM

## **APPENDIX B: HOMELESSNESS ENUMERATION JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORTS**

This section provides each of the nine participating Continua of Care the opportunity to provide additional details regarding the Point-in-Time count conducted in their jurisdiction as well as an overview of the activities of their respective CoCs during the past year.

# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

## JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT

### CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

#### DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria (The Partnership) made up of public and private non-profit homeless, housing, and mainstream service providers, faith-based and educational institutions, advocates, former homeless consumers, and other community stakeholders serve as the homeless services Continuum of Care (CoC). The Partnership develops and implements the Strategic Plan to End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria and coordinates and oversees the delivery of prevention and homeless services to residents experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

The Housing Crisis Response System is the CoC's centralized and coordinated approach to addressing the needs of persons experiencing or at-risk of homelessness in the City of Alexandria. The comprehensive screening and assessment process ensure that all households that present with a housing crisis are screened for diversion services first to ensure the most appropriate assistance is offered and unnecessary entries into shelter are avoided. Intended outcomes include 1) reductions in the number of first-time shelter entries; 2) shortened lengths of homelessness; and 3) the prevention of reoccurring episodes of homelessness.

#### CITY OF ALEXANDRIA HOUSING CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM SERVICE COMPONENTS

<u>COMPONENTS</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
<u>Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)</u>	Outreach and assistance provided to adults with serious mental illness who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless. Services include community-based outreach, mental health, substance abuse, case management and other supportive services, and a limited set of housing services.
<u>Day Shelter</u>	Facility providing services to meet the basic needs of unsheltered homeless individuals including access to showers, laundry machines, lockers, phone, and voicemail services, mailing address, case management, outreach, and linkage and referral to community resources.
<u>Homeless Services Assessment Center</u>	Assistance for persons experiencing or at-risk of homelessness to determine the best immediate next step to effectively address the housing crisis. Services include screening for diversion services and emergency shelter as appropriate, basic needs assessment, and mainstream and community resource linkages and referrals.
<u>Diversion and Prevention Services</u>	Temporary support to persons at-risk of homelessness including housing location, case management, housing counseling, linkage to mainstream resources, landlord-tenant mediation, job search assistance and employment services, budgeting/ financial management and financial assistance.
<u>Emergency Shelter</u>	Temporary lodging and supportive services for homeless individuals and families.
<u>Domestic Violence Program</u>	Crisis intervention and supportive counseling services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. Services include temporary accommodations, 24-hour hotline, individual counseling, support groups, and court and medical facility accompaniment.

<b><u>Rapid Re-housing Assistance</u></b>	Temporary supportive services and limited financial assistance to aid persons experiencing homelessness to quickly return to and remain in permanent housing.
<b><u>Winter Shelter</u></b>	Seasonal shelter from November 1 to April 15 to protect persons experiencing homelessness from exposure-related conditions such as hypothermia and frostbite during cold weather months.
<b><u>Safe-Haven</u></b>	Supportive housing for hard-to-reach homeless individuals with serious mental illness who have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services.
<b><u>Transitional Housing</u></b>	Extended supportive housing targeting homeless individuals and families needing longer-term assistance to facilitate a move to permanent housing.
<b><u>Permanent Supportive Housing</u></b>	Permanent housing with supportive services including barrier-free units for individuals designed to allow formerly homeless adults with children and individuals with serious mental illness to live in the community as independently as possible.
<b><u>Other Permanent Housing Resources</u></b>	Public housing units with and without supportive services; private income-based apartment units; Housing Choice voucher-subsidies; as well as rent relief subsidy for seniors and the disabled.

The Alexandria CoC provided a combined total of 124 year-round emergency shelter beds, 40 for households without children and 84 for households with adults and children during the 2024 Count. Combined, the transitional housing inventory consisted of 14 beds for households with adults and children.

The Domestic Violence Program shelter provided 20 undesignated year-round beds to serve persons in imminent danger of domestic or sexual violence. From November 1 to April 15, the Winter Shelter Program provided an additional 50 undesignated seasonal beds to protect unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness from exposure-related conditions such as hypothermia and frostbite during cold weather months.

#### **CITY OF ALEXANDRIA CONTINUUM OF CARE HOMELESS SERVICES UNIT & BED INVENTORY**

<b>INVENTORY TYPE</b>	<b>Units for Households with Adults &amp; Children</b>	<b>Beds for Households with Adults &amp; Children</b>	<b>Beds for Households without Children</b>	<b>Year-Round Beds</b>
Winter Shelter	-	10*	40*	-
Emergency Shelter	16	84	40	<b>124</b>
Domestic Violence Program Shelter	-	15	5	<b>20</b>
Transitional Housing	10	14		<b>14</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>208</b>

- Not Applicable

\* These numbers represent a combined total of 50 undesignated cold weather seasonal beds to serve households without children and those with adults and children. Designations are made each year based upon average occupancy during the Winter Shelter season.



## **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **Strategic Plan Update**

In March of 2023 the CoC Governing Board Approved the City of Alexandria's Strategic Plan to End Homelessness 2023-2028 plan. Multiple focus groups of service participants at emergency shelters and homeless assistance programs were conducted to inform the plan, and new to the structure, lead to the creation of two overarching themes in the Plan. Those themes serve as guiding principles for all subsequent actions that were assigned, and include a focus on addressing racial disparities, centering the voices of those with lived experience in policy decisions, along with raising education and awareness around homelessness in the community.

The CoC is pursuing a presentation of an update on the Strategic Plan to Alexandria City Council, which will include some of what is highlighted below.

### **Alexandria Eviction Prevention**

The City of Alexandria Eviction Prevention Task Force (Task Force) is responsible for reducing the impact of the current evictions crisis and developing long-term prevention strategies through collaboration among the city, state government agencies, businesses, non-profits, landlords, tenants, faith community and community advocates. Since 2022, the Task Force has maintained eviction prevention positions around the City, including Housing Relocators, Service Navigators, Court Navigators, moving and storage support, and Housing Justice Attorneys, who have worked towards supporting tenants involved in eviction processes, and landlords in need of connection to community resources.

The Taskforce has three subcommittees which lead eviction prevention efforts throughout the city, they are as follows: Tenant Education and Community Outreach, Landlord Outreach, and Legislative Advocacy. Tenant Education and Community Outreach oversees weekly courthouse outreach, expungement efforts, along with hosting Know Your Rights workshops for community members to learn about tenant protections. Landlord Outreach coordinates with landlords and property managers in the City, building rapport and trust to work and identifying creative solutions where both parties are satisfied with preventing an eviction. Working with landlords has yielded to positive outcomes such as accepting promissory notes to prevent evictions and tracking data to prove extending the 5-day Pay-Or-Quit to 14-days has a business and financial incentive for Property Managers, along with for tenants. The Legislative Advocacy group brings together key state, jurisdictional, and local representatives to identify the key housing stabilization priorities based off of expressed needs from residents. This has led to local delegation and the City of Alexandria supporting several housing stabilization bills to the VA General Assembly, including advocating for local jurisdictions to enforce habitability codes, anti-price gauging, increasing the Pay-or-Quit to 14 days, and outlawing the criminalization of homelessness. These advocacy efforts will continue to build off that progress with an aim to secure more rights for tenants throughout the Commonwealth.

### **Alexandria Racial Equity Initiatives**

In the City of Alexandria, 64% of residents experiencing homelessness during the 2025 Point in Time (PIT) count identified as Black or African American, compared to 22% of Alexandria's population is Black or African American according to the National Census Data. This disproportionate representation is the result of institutionalized racial inequity within systems of care nationwide, but remains a local trend, spurring the CoC to closely monitor housing stabilization processes and services for any opportunity to address those disparities.

The CoC Racial Equity Action Committee (REAC) was established in 2022, and is responsible for aligning the CoC's racial equity initiatives to the needs of the community, and centering racial equity in

all CoC policies and processes. Following that guidance, the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan to End Homelessness update included overarching themes to advance Racial Equity within each goal and establish avenues for input from persons with lived experience. This year, REAC created a media campaign to highlight the stories of those with lived experience, in hopes of raising community education regarding homelessness and in turn addressing negative stereotypes. The video highlights five individuals with lived experience of homelessness. REAC was very intentional of ensuring that there was no harm caused during the production of the video, and did so by including those with lived experience throughout the process. Those with lived experience agreed on which questions to ask in the interview, how much to compensate for sharing their stories for media, along with the recruitment process. The plan for dissemination of this video is to use it at public meetings where housing is the focus, such as at Housing Master Plan events hosted by the Office of Housing, along with at City Council meetings. It will also be shared with all 311 calls that come through from constituents who are concerned about homelessness in the City of Alexandria.

REAC also manages equity training for the CoC Board and staff, achieving adoption of the racial equity framework by the CoC Board in 2021, and receiving formal presentations from the City's Office of Race and Social Equity at several Board meetings in 2023. In 2025, REAC is preparing to sponsor Board members to attend a tour highlighting Alexandria's very storied Black and African American history, and the legacies that has created within Alexandria's housing climate.

### **HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT**

The Partnership conducted the 2025 Winter Point-in-Time count for those sheltered solely by collecting data through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This process provides the CoC more accurate, client-level specific data in our reporting. It also gives the CoC the ability to conduct a Point-in-Time count on an ad-hoc basis, leaving potential for comparable Summer PIT data in the future. A manual count of unsheltered homeless persons was conducted under the leadership of the Office of Community Services using 4 survey teams including volunteers, and at least one representative from a CoC service provider to serve as lead. Reflected below are the demographic and sub-population comparisons from previous years' enumerations.

## HOMELESS COUNT BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS			2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Total Persons			120		152		187		166		-11%
HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN											
Men			60	82%	60	73%	74	72%	66	65%	-11%
Women			13	18%	22	27%	29	28%	35	35%	21%
Transgender			0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Total Households			73		82		103		101		-2%
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS & CHILDREN											
Total Households			17		21		26		22		-15%
Single Parent Households			14	82%	16	76%	21	81%	15	68%	-29%
Adults			20	49%	23	33%	29	35%	29	45%	0%
Children			21	51%	47	67%	55	65%	36	55%	-35%
Total Persons in Households			41		70		84		65		-23%
LOCATION ON THE NIGHT OF THE COUNT			2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Unsheltered			5	4%	10	7%	18	10%	14	8%	-22%
Sheltered			115	96%	142	93%	169	90%	152	92%	-10%
Total Persons			120		152		187		166		-11%
HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN			2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation			5	7%	10	12%	18	17%	14	14%	-22%
Winter Shelter			22	30%	19	23%	36	35%	45	45%	25%
Emergency Shelter			28	38%	32	39%	36	35%	40	40%	11%
Emergency Shelter for Registered Sex Offenders			0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Domestic Violence Program Shelter			0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	2	2%	100%
Transitional Housing			7	10%	10	12%	12	12%	0	0%	-100%

A total of 166-persons experiencing homelessness were identified in this year's PIT Count, an 11% decrease from 2024. This decrease is largely attributable to a two-fold combination of a transitional housing program opting out of inclusion in our official homeless services, and a 90% decrease in clients at the City Domestic Violence (DV) Shelter on the night of the PIT due to increased success in achieving emergency protective orders along with housing clients quickly who enter the DV shelter program. There were no unaccompanied youth identified in the 2025 Count, which is no change from 2024. There were 101 households without children, a 2% decrease from 2024. There were 35 single women, and 66 single men identified, which was a 21% increase for women and an 11% decrease for men compared to last year's count.

On the 2025 count, 22 households with adults and children were counted, a slight decrease from 26 in 2024. The numbers of adults remained the same with 29 total both years, while children in families decreased from 55 to 36.

## TOTAL COUNT AND BREAKOUT BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE

LOCATION ON THE NIGHT OF THE COUNT	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Unsheltered	5	4%	10	7%	18	10%	14	8%	-22%
Sheltered	115	96%	142	93%	169	90%	152	92%	-10%
<b>Total Persons</b>	<b>120</b>		<b>152</b>		<b>187</b>		<b>166</b>		<b>-11%</b>
HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	5	7%	10	12%	18	17%	14	14%	-22%
Winter Shelter	22	30%	19	23%	36	35%	45	45%	25%
Emergency Shelter	28	38%	32	39%	36	35%	40	40%	11%
Emergency Shelter for Registered Sex Offenders	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Domestic Violence Program Shelter	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	2	2%	100%
Transitional Housing	7	10%	10	12%	12	12%	0	0%	-100%
Safe Haven	11	15%	10	12%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>73</b>		<b>82</b>		<b>103</b>		<b>101</b>		<b>-2%</b>
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS & CHILDREN	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
<b>Number of Households</b>									
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Winter Shelter	0	0%	1	5%	2	8%	0	0%	-100%
Emergency Shelter	8	47%	11	52%	17	65%	20	91%	18%
Domestic Violence Program Shelter	3	18%	6	29%	6	23%	0	0%	-100%
Transitional Housing	6	35%	3	14%	1	4%	2	9%	100%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>21</b>		<b>26</b>		<b>22</b>		<b>-15%</b>
<b>Number of Adults</b>									
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Winter Shelter	0	0%	1	4%	2	7%	0	0%	-100%
Emergency Shelter	7	35%	13	57%	20	69%	27	93%	35%
Domestic Violence Program Shelter	3	15%	6	26%	6	21%	0	0%	-100%
Transitional Housing	10	50%	3	13%	1	3%	2	7%	100%
<b>Total Adults</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>29</b>		<b>29</b>		<b>0%</b>
<b>Number of Children</b>									
Place Not Meant for Human Habitation	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Winter Shelter	0	0%	2	4%	3	5%	0	0%	-100%
Emergency Shelter	13	48%	30	64%	36	65%	34	94%	-6%
Domestic Violence Program Shelter	6	22%	10	21%	13	24%	0	0%	-100%
Transitional Housing	8	30%	5	11%	3	5%	2	6%	-33%
<b>Total Children</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>47</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>36</b>		<b>-35%</b>

Of all households surveyed the night of the PIT, 89% were sheltered. Of households with children, 91% were in Emergency Shelters and the remaining 9% were in Transitional Housing. Of households without children, 86% were sheltered, while the other 14% were in a place not meant for human habitation.

## HOMELESS COUNT BY SUBPOPULATION

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS		2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Households without Children		18	25%	5	6%	18	17%	26	26%	44%
Households with Adults & Children		2	12%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
SUBPOPULATIONS (ALL ADULTS) <sup>†</sup>		2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Veterans		2	2%	4	4%	2	2%	10	8%	400%
Substance Use Disorder		12	13%	9	9%	7	5%	12	9%	71%
Serious Mental Illness		37	40%	38	36%	43	33%	41	32%	-5%
Co-Occurring		6	6%	4	4%	5	4%	6	5%	20%
Physical Disability		5	5%	17	16%	10	8%	21	16%	110%
Chronic Health Conditions		7	8%	10	10%	17	13%	9	7%	-47%
HIV/AIDS		2	2%	0	0%	2	2%	1	1%	-50%
Limited English Proficiency		5	5%	10	10%	24	18%	17	13%	-29%
History of Foster Care		1	1%	12	11%	3	2%	7	5%	133%
Institutional Discharge <sup>A</sup>		13	14%	6	6%	7	5%	10	8%	43%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE		2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024-2025
Homeless Due to Domestic Violence										
Total Households		4	4%	7	5%	13	7%	12	10%	-8%
Singles		4	31%	1	5%	2	7%	6	6%	200%
Women w/Minor Children		3	21%	6	38%	11	52%	6	40%	-45%
Children		6	29%	10	21%	14	25%	11	31%	-21%
Total Persons		13	11%	17	11%	27	14%	23	14%	-15%

There was a 44 % increase in the number of single adult households who were chronically homeless, increasing by 8 people from 2024 to 2025. There were zero households with children identified as chronically homelessness, which is the same from 2024.

There were also increases in subpopulation categories for substance use disorders, history of foster care, physical disabilities, institutional discharges, and a notable spike in veterans. Most notably, there were 8 more veterans, 4 more with a history of foster care, and 11 more clients with a physical disability on the 2025 count compared to 2024. There was a decrease in some subpopulations, including 8 fewer with chronic health conditions, 7 fewer limited English proficiency, and 2 fewer with a serious mental illness.

The number of people experiencing domestic violence decreased from 2024 by 4 people with a marked decrease in the number of people present in the Alexandria Domestic Violence Shelter itself: from 20 individuals in 2024 to 2 in 2025 and no adult-child households in the domestic violence shelter. This is largely attributed to the program's success in obtaining emergency protective orders and effectively housing people that are served in the program; meaning they either did not have to leave the home or if they are seeking shelter services they are quickly moved out of that program via the efficient work of the DV program's housing locator.

## EMPLOYMENT & MONTHLY INCOME FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN

2011-2025 Winter Pont Employment and Income Comparison Charts									
HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN									
EMPLOYMENT	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024 - 2025
Not Reported	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
No	53	73%	50	61%	73	71%	74	73%	1%
Yes	19	26%	31	38%	30	29%	27	27%	-10%
GROSS MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024 - 2025
Not Reported	3	4%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	100%
No	28	38%	22	27%	47	46%	55	54%	17%
Yes	42	58%	59	72%	56	54%	45	45%	-20%
Income Amount									
\$1-150	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
\$151-250	5	12%	4	7%	0	0%	1	2%	100%
\$251-500	1	2%	5	8%	5	9%	0	0%	-100%
\$501-1,000	21	50%	24	41%	18	32%	13	29%	-28%
\$1,001-1,500	6	14%	13	22%	12	21%	15	33%	25%
\$1,501-2,000	5	12%	5	8%	10	18%	8	18%	-20%
More than \$2,000	4	10%	6	10%	11	20%	8	18%	-27%
~Primary Source of Income									
Wages	17	40%	31	53%	30	54%	27	60%	-10%
Retirement+	0	0%	5	8%	5	9%	10	22%	100%
Disability^	21	50%	18	31%	21	38%	8	18%	-62%
Public Assistance*	4	10%	5	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
Other**	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
No Reported	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0%

27% of households without children were employed in 2025, a slight decrease from last year. 45% of these households received some income, a 20% decrease from last year. Of those that reported having income, the majority reported having monthly income of \$1,001-1,500. 8 households without children reported having incomes higher than \$2,000. Earned wages were reported as the majority income source for this population.



## EMPLOYMENT AND MONTHLY INCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS AND CHILDREN

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS & CHILDREN									
EMPLOYMENT (ADULTS)	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024 - 2025
Not Reported	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	-
No	8	40%	8	35%	17	59%	15	52%	-12%
Yes	12	60%	15	65%	12	41%	14	48%	17%
GROSS MONTHLY INCOME (ADULTS)	2022		2023		2024		2025		% Change 2024 - 2025
Not Reported	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	-
No	4	20%	3	13%	7	24%	11	38%	57%
Yes	16	80%	20	87%	22	76%	18	62%	-18%
<b>Income Amount</b>									
\$1-150	0	0%	2	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
\$151-250	0	0%	1	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0%
\$251-500	0	0%	0	0%	3	14%	4	22%	33%
\$501-1,000	4	25%	5	25%	6	27%	3	17%	-50%
\$1,001-1,500	4	25%	4	20%	2	9%	2	11%	0%
\$1,501-2,000	0	0%	2	10%	4	18%	6	33%	50%
More than \$2,000	8	50%	6	30%	7	32%	3	17%	-57%
<b>~Primary Source of Income</b>									
Wages	12	75%	15	75%	12	55%	14	78%	17%
Retirement+	0	0%	1	5%	1	5%	0	0%	-100%
Disability^	3	19%	0	0%	4	18%	0	0%	-100%
Public Assistance*	1	6%	3	15%	3	14%	4	22%	33%
Other**	0	0%	1	5%	2	9%	0	0%	-100%

14 adults in households with adults and children were employed, 2 more than 2024. However, 18 adults reported monthly income, an 18% decrease from 2024, while 11 reported not having income. Of those receiving some income, a slight predominance reported monthly incomes ranging from \$1,501-2,000.

## **Analysis of Alexandria's 2025 Point-in-Time Homeless Count**

The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) count for the City of Alexandria reveals significant shifts in the characteristics of individuals experiencing homelessness. The data affirms that our policies and practices have been successful when appropriately-scoped resources are focused on the needs of people who are experiencing homelessness. This overarching conclusion is supported by several positive outcomes, while also highlighting areas requiring additional attention and resources.

It is important to recognize that some of the reduced number of people counted overall is attributable to two programs. One of which is a homeless service program recategorizing its beds so they no longer qualify as technically homeless, and the other is a decrease in the Domestic Violence shelter. This administrative reclassification creates an artificial appearance of progress that must be considered when interpreting the overall count reduction.

Some of the reduction in numbers specific to families with children comes from seeing fewer and smaller sized families in the DV Shelter compared to last year. While there was a decrease in households residing in the DV Shelter, the number of households accessing the DV Hotline has remained high which underscores the continued need for DV supportive services despite the decrease in shelter utilization.

Positive trends emerge in three key areas. The count shows meaningful decreases in individuals reporting chronic health conditions, serious mental illness, along with people with limited English proficiency.

However, several concerning increases demand immediate attention. The rise in individuals with substance use disorders reinforces the need for addiction services and recovery support programs. More people reporting history in the foster care system points to ongoing challenges in youth transition services and highlights the critical link between child welfare systems and housing stability. The increased prevalence of physical disabilities among those counted spotlights the importance of evaluation of accessibility within both shelter and housing programs.

Particularly troubling is the uptick in individuals discharged from institutions without adequate housing plans. The increase in homeless veterans represents a reversal of prior progress which came about through veteran-specific outreach and housing programs.

These shifts in population characteristics should inform targeted service enhancements and resource allocation decisions.

## **HOMELESSNESS, PREVENTION, SHELTER DIVERSION AND HOUSING PLACEMENT**

### **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS**

To assist formerly homeless persons, the CoC currently operates 70 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds for households without children and three PSH units totaling eight beds for households with adults and children whose heads of household have a serious mental illness. On the night of the 2025 count, 93% of the beds were occupied. The HMIS team maintains a current list of chronic homeless clients which is prioritized using NAEH Assessment scores. When a vacancy becomes available in a PSH program, the team recommends clients in prioritization order. The count of chronic homeless persons on the PIT increased from 2024 to 2025, as did disabilities amongst the entire population, showing that high vulnerability persists even if the specific chronic definition is being met less often.

## HOMELESS PREVENTION, DIVERSION & RAPID RE-HOUSING

Since 2013 the City of Alexandria Housing Crisis Response System has enabled the CoC to assess the needs of persons seeking shelter more efficiently and effectively, best utilize community resources, quickly return households to permanent housing, and significantly reduce the number of households entering the shelter system.

Prevention and Diversion services have since the previous enumeration, with Prevention being the official program title, and Diversion, being a method that is attempted at each step in the case management, in the effort to prevent persons from experiencing a possible episode of homelessness.

- **Diversion & Prevention**- The state homeless prevention subsidies were underused in years past as result of the eviction moratorium and subsequent rental assistance resources, but utilization exceeded budget projections in 2024 with the elimination of those policies and an increase in need. DV hired a Housing Locator to support households in transitioning to permanent housing and out of shelter more quickly.
- **Rapid ReHousing** – This service remains the most frequent way in which most people exit emergency shelter in Alexandria. While not a permanent subsidy, it is nonetheless essential.

While Eviction Prevention and RRH programs demonstrably reduce homelessness in Alexandria, they face critical limitations. The affordable housing inventory remains limited, particularly for units that match qualification requirements. Rental assistance demand consistently surpasses projected funding levels, creating service gaps. Support packages are constrained by households' post-assistance sustainability needs, which often restricts viable housing options. Additionally, fair market rent caps on subsidies create significant barriers in Alexandria's competitive rental market, where actual rates substantially exceed fair market values.

## **FUTURE TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS**

The greatest barriers to preventing and ending homelessness in Alexandria include 1.) persistent racial disparities among residents experiencing poverty and housing instability, 2.) High rate of evictions in the City of Alexandria 3) lack of affordable housing opportunities for the lowest income households (i.e., those with an income of 30% and below of the City of Alexandria Area Median Income of \$113,638.

- (1) Race remains the strongest predictor of housing instability in Alexandria, where long term data trends exhibit disproportionate representation of Black residents within Alexandria homeless and housing assistance services. Over the past 9 years, Alexandria's population of residents experiencing homelessness has never been less than 60% Black or African American, while only 20% of all City residents identified as Black or African American on the last Census. As predicted, the disparity remained through the pandemic and was again displayed on the 2025 PIT Count where 64% of residents identified as Black or African American.

The CoC is working to better understand racial inequity within our service delivery, but has learned that addressing homelessness for Black residents, shelters' majority population, offers the best chance to decrease homelessness overall. Education and training initiatives for leadership and direct service staff will be amplified to align program guidelines and service delivery with the CoC's commitment to racial equity. This includes an update to Governing Board Equity Training, as well as a new Racial Equity Tool developed by Alexandria's Office of Race and Social Equity. While these strategies cannot create the intended change alone, they can help the CoC stem the tide of increasing racial inequity as community need increases and provide more information to policymakers and the public about the origins of housing instability in the Alexandria.

- (2) The eviction moratorium and subsequent eviction prevention infrastructure had the largest impact on Alexandria's lower PIT counts in '21 and '22, and the elimination of those policies and resources appear most responsible for the increases since then. Recognizing that the need for housing assistance is growing, the Alexandria CoC must take strategic steps to bolster its housing crisis response system through partnerships and process improvements, as well as advocate for additional resources.

The relationship between eviction prevention and the annual count of residents experiencing homelessness highlights the importance of "upstream" housing crisis resources, and coordination between housing stability services with systems that exit unhoused residents. This includes continued legislative advocacy regarding housing stabilization protections, building and maintaining partnerships with landlords and property managers, continuing to host outreach events in the community to support with navigating the eviction process, and applying for funding for emergency rental assistance.

- (3) The need for more fixed-affordable housing options in our community remains, including PSH and housing with supportive services to help address services gaps like housing for residents with SMI, substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders who are experiencing homelessness.

The City of Alexandria has made many concerted efforts to provide low-income supportive housing to vulnerable individuals, and is currently in the process of updating the Housing Master Plan for the City. Additionally, The Department of Community and Human Services and the Office of Housing were awarded \$1.2 million dollars in funding from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to create a rental subsidy based permanent supportive housing program for 35 individuals who are living with serious mental illness and

experiencing homelessness. This new program has been under development in FY25 and will be operational in FY26.

Rapid Rehousing still proves invaluable for its ability to quickly return residents to market-rate housing. These interventions show the CoC can be effective at preventing and ending homelessness even in our high-cost housing market if we have the resources to do so.

## **HOMELESS SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **Lesla Gilbert**

Director, Center for Economic Support  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5912  
lesa.gilbert@alexandriava.gov

### **Alison Coleman Tokarz**

Director, Office of Community Services  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5855  
alison.coleman@alexandriava.gov

### **Stefan Caine**

CoC Lead Administrator  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5825  
stefan.caine@alexandriava.gov

### **JC Severt**

Homeless Management Information System Administrator  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5728  
justin.severt@alexandriava.gov

### **Bemnet Teffera**

Homeless Management Information System Lead Analyst  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5818  
Bemnet.teffera@alexandriava.gov

# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## **The Arlington County Continuum of Care**

The Arlington County Continuum of Care (CoC) works to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring by providing affordable and sustainable housing, tailored services, and by centering the voices and expertise of people with lived experience of homelessness. Arlington's CoC is led by Arlington County's Department of Human Services.

The CoC's mission is supported by a shared values of accountability, collaboration, dignity, equity, innovation, and integrity. The CoC's work includes collaborative planning and alignment of stakeholders and resources essential to [Arlington County's Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. A Way Home for All](#). The CoC works towards an ambitious goal of ending homelessness for all by 2026.

The Arlington County CoC includes:

- A Centralized Access System (CAS): that provides a core intake process for households and residents to access a variety of human services across the entire Arlington CoC. The Arlington County CoC's CAS matches households as quickly as possible with the interventions that will most effectively and efficiently prevent or end their homelessness and lead to long-term stability.
- Street Outreach and Engagement: Outreach workers connect with individuals living outside or in other places not meant for human habitation to help navigate them towards a path of stability and housing. Outreach teams include social workers, behavioral health clinicians, and nursing staff.
- Targeted Prevention: Targeted efforts to provide acute housing crisis intervention services to persons most at-risk of homelessness are an integral part of the Arlington CoC.
- Shelters: Four Arlington County homeless shelters provide a safe, structured environment for singles and families who are experiencing homelessness as well as survivors of intimate partner violence. The Arlington CoC includes 97 single adult shelter beds and 48 family shelter beds. An additional 21 shelter beds are available for survivors of intimate partner violence, operated by an Arlington County-based domestic violence partner. Emergency lodging in hotels/motels is also made available to families when shelter capacity has been reached.
- Hypothermia Shelter: Arlington County provides low-barrier access to hypothermia shelter through the winter months (November – March) and is included in the Point-in-Time Count with all other shelters. Unlike the traditional emergency shelter options, people experiencing homelessness often utilize hypothermia shelter to take refuge from inclement weather and may be less interested in long-term shelter services. During Hypothermia seasons shelter staff utilize this opportunity to build rapport and relationships with individuals and households that experience homelessness to encourage them to engage in on-going services. This year's capacity included 25 hypothermia beds and 15 overflow beds.
- Transitional Housing: The CoC has two transitional housing programs. Fourteen (14) single adult transitional housing beds for persons in early stages of their recovery. The program assists adults by providing short-term housing assistance with therapeutic and social supports to assist residents in their recovery goals while assisting them in identifying permanent housing for the long-term. The CoC also has seven (7) non-congregate beds prioritized for persons who would otherwise experience unsheltered homelessness. This transitional housing project functions like emergency shelter and is part of the Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (SNOFO) grant for a Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing awarded by HUD.

- Rapid Rehousing: Rapid Rehousing programs move households quickly out of shelter into housing with term-limited rental support and services to help families maintain housing.
- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): Permanent supportive housing programs provide rental assistance and case management services for households who are homeless and have (or a family member has) a disabling condition. Arlington's CoC includes federal, state and locally funded PSH programs to provide multiple pathways to long-term, supportive housing.

#### Notable Changes in Arlington County's CoC Response

At the start of FY 2025 (July 2024), one of Arlington County's family homelessness providers consolidated and repurposed their emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness to solely provide shelter services for survivors of intimate partner or domestic violence (DV). This shift resulted in a net increase of 10 beds for survivors of DV, but a decrease of 21 beds for families experiencing homelessness. With this transition and the increased demand for emergency shelter services, Arlington County's Department of Human Services (DHS) provides temporary lodging at area hotels/motels for households with children. The capacity for these resources expands and contracts based on need, but during the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, 19 families comprising 46 people were staying in hotels/motels.

In Arlington County, the 2025 Point-in-Time Count included the following activities:

- Youth & Young Adult Count on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>: After school and into the early evening, volunteers were stationed at a teen drop-in program provided at local a community center. Young people were recruited through area schools and afterschool programming leading up to the event. In addition to expanded activities geared to draw in young people, community partners and programs shared resources and information available to youth and young adults. Concurrently, PIT Count volunteers conducted an initial screening tool to learn about the most pressing needs faced by young people. Anyone who indicated concerns with housing completed a PIT Count Survey.
- Unsheltered and Sheltered Surveys overnight from Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Volunteers canvassed Arlington County and surveyed persons who were sleeping outside. Volunteers provided gift cards, back packs with personal hygiene supplies, bagged meals, and other supplies as requested. All volunteers were trained in the administration of Narcan and were supplied both Narcan and Fentanyl strips for distribution while canvassing. Sheltered PIT surveys were completed for all persons residing in Arlington County shelters and transitional housing programs, including hypothermia programs and the hotels/motels utilized for families experiencing homelessness.

#### Other notable factors related to the PIT 2025 Count:

This year's Count occurred just two days after the Presidential Inauguration. Leading up to the Count, staff monitored the events of the inauguration, preparing for potential delays Arlington County may experience in and around the Washington DC metro area. Outreach workers regularly canvassed known County "hotspots" leading up to the PIT Count to ensure surveyors targeted needed areas for the night of the Count. An intentional focus was made to monitor emerging encampments resulting from the movement and relocation efforts of Washington DC homeless encampments as inauguration preparations were underway.

The 2025 Point-in-Time Count was also conducted on one of the coldest winter nights in the past decade for the region. The CoC prepared multiple shelter overflow options, including warming locations at area shelters and enacted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the local detention center for periods of inclement weather. On the night of the PIT Count, seven (7) individuals identified in the unsheltered portion of the count, received warming services at an area shelter. These individuals chose



to come inside for shelter to avoid the frigid cold temperatures, receive food and other services, but ultimately declined a shelter bed for the night. Arlington County included these individuals in our unsheltered PIT Count.

As in years past, the 2025 PIT Count was an important marker for Arlington County's CoC to measure the impact of the continuously shifting dynamics happening across the country and in the region. The Arlington County CoC appreciates each of the volunteers, area programs and service providers, and people with lived experience of homelessness involved in the planning and implementation of its 2025 PIT Count.

### **Point-in-Time Count Survey Analysis**

Arlington County is an urban county home to approximately 240,900 residents within the County's 26.1 square mile radius. In 2025, the Arlington County Continuum of Care (CoC) experienced an overall 12% increase in homelessness since the prior year's Point-in-Time Count (from 243 people counted in 2024 to 271 people counted in 2025, or an increase of 28 people), The Arlington County CoC's 2025 Point-in-Time count recorded increases in all sub-population groups except for people meeting the chronic homelessness definition and Veterans.

- Unsheltered Homelessness: Increase of 19% (From 31 people in 2024 to 37 people in 2025)
- Sheltered Homelessness: Increase of 10% (From 212 people in 2024 to 234 people in 2025)
- Single Adults: Increase of 8% (From 169 people in 2024 to 183 people in 2025)
- Families: Increase of 19% (From 74 people/24 families in 2024 to 88 people/33 families in 2025)
- Chronic Homelessness: Decrease of 34% (From 35 people in 2024 to 23 people in 2025)
- Veterans: Decrease of 69% (From 13 Veterans in 2024 to 4 Veterans in 2025)
- Youth and Young Adults or Transition-Aged Youth: Increase of 20% (From 10 people/9 households in 2024 to 12 people/10 households in 2025)
- Survivors of Domestic Violence: Increase of 6% (From 17 people/13 families in 2024 to 18 people/11 families in 2025)

This year's increase of 12% was a more modest increase compared to a 14% increase from 2023-2024 and a 17% increase from 2022-2023 but reflects the fourth consecutive year Arlington County's CoC experienced an increase in its PIT Count.

Table 1

Yearly Totals by Household and Individuals			
	2025	2024	2023
Overall Total	271	243	213
Total Family <u>Households</u>	33	24	21
Total Single Adult <u>Households</u>	183	169	147
Total Number of persons in Families	88	74	66
Total Number of Adults in families	44	31	23
Total Number of children in families	44	43	43
Total Number of single adult persons	183	169	147

The biggest drivers impacting this year's PIT results reflect increased utilization of year-round emergency shelter and increases in family homelessness. Overall, sheltered homelessness increased

by 10% and 22 people.

- In 2025, there were 146 single adults residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing, as compared to 138 single adults in 2024. This is a 6% increase or increase of eight (8) adults.
- In 2025, there were 88 people (33 families) residing in emergency shelter, as compared to 74 people (24 families) in 2024. 2025's sheltered family count was the highest count ever in the past decade. The second highest count occurred in 2017 with 85 people (31 families). 2025's count is a 19% increase in people and 38% increase in families (or increase of nine (9) families and 14 people) since 2024.
- Domestic Violence (DV) counts also increased, particularly for families in 2025. In 2025, 13 people in six (6) families were experiencing DV. 2025's count is a 63% increase in people and 50% increase in families since 2024.
- In 2025, 16 single adults were residing in transitional housing as compared to 11 people in 2024. This is a 45% increase or increase of five (5) adults.
- Transition Aged Youth (TAY) homelessness also increased, marking the most TAYs without children counted in over 10 years. In 2025, 12 people (10 households) were counted. This is a 20% increase in TAYs and an 11% increase in households since 2024.
- While there was a 19% increase in unsheltered homelessness in 2025, these 37 people reflected an increase of six (6) people as compared to 2024's count where 31 people were surveyed.

### ***Unsheltered Homelessness***

Unsheltered homelessness increased from 31 people in 2024 to 37 people in 2025. This represents an increase of 19%. Seven (7) of the 37 people counted accepted warming services at an Arlington County emergency shelter but declined a shelter bed and are included in this count.

Leading up to the Count, Arlington County's Street Outreach staff conducted broad and frequent outreach of known and emerging "hot spots." These locations were incorporated into a new deployment strategy for PIT Count volunteers which included over 100 geo-tagged locations. Despite these efforts, volunteers believed the cold temperatures drove many people indoors to area shelters or into other temporary arrangements. As noted below, Arlington County's emergency shelters, hypothermia shelter, and hypothermia overflow were largely at capacity throughout the hypothermia season.

The majority of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the night of the 2025 PIT Count were surveyed along the Langston Blvd route which included the Rosslyn Metro (roughly 28% of those surveyed). This location is often associated with higher rates of unsheltered homelessness in Arlington County, and is targeted for street outreach, year-round.

### ***Sheltered Homelessness***

During Arlington County CoC's 2025 PIT Count, 234 people surveyed were residing in emergency shelter on the night of the count. This is 22 more people than in 2024 when 212 people were surveyed in emergency shelter (a 10% increase). This exceeds the record shelter utilization set last year when Arlington County exceeded its' previous record of 200 people counted in 2015.

### ***Changes in Single Adult Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing***

Leading up to the PIT Count, Arlington County worked closely to assist people residing in hypothermia shelters to move into year-round beds. This resulted in a slight reduction in hypothermia utilization on the night of the count with 37 people residing in hypothermia shelter during 2025's count, compared to 42 people in 2024 (a difference of 5 people). In 2025, 93 single adults were residing in year-round

emergency shelter compared to 85 in 2025 (a difference of eight (8) people).

By the 2025's PIT Count, the CoC had also implemented a new Transitional Housing (TH) project as part of HUD's Supplement Notice of Funding Opportunity (SNOFO) to address unsheltered homelessness. The seven (7) TH beds are part of a Joint TH – Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Project and utilizes an approach similar to emergency shelter. In this case, temporary housing is provided in master-leased, one-bedroom apartments, as opposed to congregate spaces. In Arlington County, these beds are prioritized for people who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness and include three (3) set-aside units for older adults. With the implementation of this new project, the 2025 PIT Count now includes two (2) TH projects where 16 people were counted. In 2024, 11 people were counted in TH.

Additionally, the CoC had prepared for inclement weather and the need to expand shelter overflow to the local jail. In a standing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Arlington County's Department of Human Services (DHS), Arlington County's Sheriff's Department, and the operator of the County's single-adult Homeless Services Center shelter collaborate to provide up to 10 shelter beds in the jail's vestibule with on-site staffing support from the emergency shelter. This arrangement is activated when existing shelter capacity is fully utilized and in times of inclement weather and extreme temperatures. While prepared to accept people in need of shelter during the 2024-2025 hypothermia season, these beds were not utilized.

#### *Changes in Emergency Shelter for Families*

At the start of FY 2024, Arlington County experienced a significant shift in its family emergency shelter capacity.

One of Arlington County's family homelessness providers consolidated and repurposed their emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness to solely provide shelter services for survivors of intimate partner or DV. This shift resulted in a net increase of 10 beds for survivors of DV, but a decrease of 21 beds for families experiencing homelessness. With this transition and the increased demand for emergency shelter services, Arlington County's DHS provides temporary lodging at area hotels/motels for households with children. The capacity for these resources expands and contracts based on need, but during the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, 19 families comprising 46 people were staying in hotels/motels

In preparation for this change and the need for overflow shelter services for families experiencing homelessness, Arlington County DHS began providing hotel resources in 2024 and continued these efforts into 2025. And the need for emergency shelter for families continues to grow. In 2025, 33 families including 88 people were residing in emergency shelter, as compared to 24 families and 74 people in 2024. This is a 38% and 19% increase, respectively.

#### **Subpopulations**

The Arlington County CoC remains committed to reaching [functional zero](#) for all persons experiencing homelessness and does so by targeting strategies to specific sub-groups and populations.

#### ***Veterans***

Arlington County's 2025 PIT Count demonstrated a reduction of 69% in Veterans experiencing homelessness. Four (4) Veterans were counted in 2025 as compared to 13 Veterans counted in 2024. Three of the four Veterans counted were sheltered, and one Veteran was unsheltered. All Veterans reflect single adult households. 2025's results are consistent with overall CoC trends. Veterans remain a prioritized population for permanent housing resources (largely RRH and PSH) as they become available.

### ***Chronic Homelessness***

The 2025 PIT Count identified 23 people who met the Chronic Homelessness definition within Arlington County. This is a 34% decrease from 2024 when 35 people counted met this Chronic Homelessness definition. All persons meeting this definition were single adult households and 43% (10 of the 23) were unsheltered on the night of the count.

This aligns with other trends experienced during the Count. The proportion of people reporting substance use, serious mental illness, and co-occurring disorders in the 2025 count was lower relative to the increase in the overall count, such that the reported needs of the population shifted similarly to the reductions in the chronic homelessness count as defined by the length of time homeless and living with a disability. Additionally, 65 people reported receiving earned income through employment in the 2025 count surveys. This is 15 more people than in 2024 and represents 24% of those surveyed in 2025 as opposed to 21% in 2024. While some people experiencing chronic homelessness can and do have employment, these trends seem to corroborate reflections made from street outreach teams that more unhoused individuals report a recent loss of housing.

Lastly, reductions in those meeting the chronic homelessness definition can also be contributed to additional training and data quality efforts underway across the CoC. Efforts to ensure accurate documentation of chronicity supports broader goals of ensuring accurate measurement of reductions in this population group, as well as timely prioritization of limited PSH resources.

### ***Survivors of Domestic Violence (DV)***

In 2025, the number of households reporting a current issue of domestic violence remained relatively consistent with 2024 survey. Of those surveyed in Arlington County's 2025 PIT Count, 11 households reported currently experiencing DV as compared to 13 households in 2024 (a reduction of 15%). However, when comparing the number of people (not households) impacted by DV, 2025 saw an increase of 1 person as compared to 2024 (18 people in 2025 vs. 17 people in 2024 or an increase of 6%).

Those reporting a history of DV decreased as compared to 2024 survey respondents. Of those surveyed in Arlington County's 2025 PIT Count, 24 households responded they had a history of DV as compared to 43 households in 2024 (a reduction of 44%). People reporting a history of DV still declined significantly: 39 people in 2025 as compared to 69 people in 2024 (a reduction of 43%).

These 2025 PIT trends do not reflect experiences reported from community DV partners. While shelter utilization on the night of the 2025 count was consistent with 2024's count, the County's DV partner operating a 24/7 DV and sexual assault hotline has seen an overall increase in calls, largely resulting from the added stressors of the current economic climate. This is aligned with annual increases of survivors served at the Safehouse, from 104 people in FY 2022, to 135 in FY 2023 and 127 people in FY 2024.

### ***Youth and Transition-Aged Youth (TAYs)***

The 2025 PIT Count saw a 20% increase in the number of TAYs surveyed, from 10 people in 2024 to 12 people in 2025. No unaccompanied minors were surveyed on the night of the count.

As mentioned above, the Arlington County CoC conducted a targeted PIT Count for youth and young adults between 2:30pm to 8:00pm at an area Community Center, with Teen Drop-In Program, for the second year in a row. The Arlington County CoC partnered with community programs, including Arlington Parks and Recreation, Public Health, Child and Family Services, family shelter operators, Center for Youth and Family Advocacy, Equality Arlington, Doorways, and Arlington County Transit, Arlington County's Juvenile Mentorship Program, Public Schools, Arlington County's Youth Mental Health Program and Substance Use Services and more. These programs were included in a concurrent tabling event to make services and activities available to young people attending the Teen Drop-In event. Additional volunteers conducted a preliminary screening tool with each young person to learn more about their

needs and priorities. For anyone who indicated concerns about where they would sleep that night, a PIT Count survey was completed.

Seventy-three (73) youth and young adults (ranging between 16 and 24 years of age) were surveyed in the stand-alone youth count. All 73 respondents reported having a safe place to sleep on the night of the count: 71 respondents stated they had a safe place to sleep every night, and 2 respondents stated they had a safe place to sleep most nights.

Respondents reported the biggest issues facing young people was mental health and substance use (41 respondents). This mirrors responses from the 2024 count. The following issues were also identified (reported in order of most frequently selected to least): Safety in school (31 respondents), safety in community (23 respondents), housing (12 respondents), Hunger (10 respondents), safety in home (7 respondents). Ten (10) respondents also selected 'other.' More information about [Arlington County CoC's Youth and Young Adult Count](#) can be found on the CoC's website.

Arlington County remains committed to preventing and quickly responding to homelessness for young people. One effort underway is a pilot to provide short-term, locally administered Housing Grants for working TAY adults. Set-aside grants are available for young adults connected to the CoC and those exiting the foster care system. At the time of the 2025 PIT Count, this pilot was in its first six months of implementation. The majority of young adults engaged in CoC services have not been eligible or have been eligible for the Housing Grant through its existing eligibility categories (working families, living with a permanent disability, etc.). However as working TAYs are identified, they are prioritized for this critical resource.

#### ***Persons with Substance Use, Mental Illness, or Co-Occurring Disorders***

Those surveyed in the 2025 Arlington County PIT Count indicated needs related to substance use, mental illness, and co-occurring disorder at similar rates as those surveyed in 2024. In 2025, 23 people indicated they had a substance use disorder (as compared to 26 people in 2024). Forty-six (46) people indicated they lived with a serious mental illness (as compared to 48 people in 2024). Twelve (12) people indicated they had a co-occurring disorder (as compared to 18 people in 2024). While the number of surveyed participants saw modest reductions in 2025 as compared to the 2024 count, the proportion of persons reduced more substantially. Persons reporting substance use disorders in 2025 account for 8% of those surveyed (as opposed to 11% in 2024). Persons reporting serious mental illness in 2025 account for 17% of those surveyed (as opposed to 18% in 2024). Persons reporting co-occurring disorders account for 4% of those surveyed (as opposed to 7% in 2024).

The Arlington County CoC continues its close collaboration with area Behavioral Health partners. One of its Street Outreach programs, Treatment on Wheels (TOW), is a program of Arlington County's Behavioral Health Division. TOW also conducts clinical case management to program participants in Arlington's emergency shelters. Additionally, the County's Mobile Outreach Support Team (MOST), provides a behavioral health co-response alongside local emergency responders. Their response assists housed and un-housed community members experiencing mental health. These two programs offer direct and immediate behavioral health responses to people experiencing homelessness in Arlington, often in the community, meeting people where they are. Clinicians also work to connect people to long-term treatment and care through other area programs and resources.

#### ***Older Adults***

As is occurring nationally, Arlington County CoC partners note an upward trend in the aging populations, particularly increases in vulnerability, declining health, and increased frailty and health complications among this population. In 2025, 72 people surveyed on the night of the count were over the age of 55 years old. This is approximately 27% of all persons experiencing homelessness or 32% of all adults surveyed on the night of the count. This is comparable to the older adult population surveyed during the 2024 PIT count and reflects the most prevalent age group across those surveyed (followed by those 35 – 44 years of olds at 21% of the total persons surveyed).

Adults over the age of 55 counted in the 2025 PIT count were largely residing in emergency shelter, but includes one (1) unsheltered adult aged 70-79, as well as another adult aged 70-79 residing in a multi-generational family. No adults surveyed in the 2025 count were over 80 years of age.

The CoC is actively working to address the immediate and long-term housing needs of this older, medically fragile population. The CoC collaborates with Arlington County's Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), area hospitals, senior housing, and nursing homes and includes an Aging and Homelessness Taskforce as an ad hoc workgroup of its CoC governance. This taskforce is in its second year, strengthening and expanding its collaboration and approaches to assisting older adults experiencing homelessness. In addition to the new set-aside TH project described in an earlier section, another example of this improved collaboration includes involvement of ADSD staff in CoC case conferences and By-Names-List meetings when partners collaborate to connect people experiencing homelessness to area resources and permanent housing programs.

### ***Disparities in Race & Ethnicity***

In 2025, people identifying as Black, African American or African (including those who identified as Black and Hispanic), were over-represented in those surveyed during the PIT count, representing 53% of those surveyed as compared to their representation in the Arlington County census where this Race group represents 10% of Arlington County's overall population. People identifying as Hispanic (including those who identified as some other Race group and Hispanic) were also over-represented, representing 23% of those surveyed. In Arlington County's census count, persons identifying as Hispanic represents 16% of the County's population. People identifying as White were under-represented at 16% of those surveyed as compared to 61% of Arlington's census. The other racial groups respondents selected in the 2025 PIT County survey include: American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous (1%), Asian or Asian American (2%), Middle Eastern or North African (3%), Multi-Racial not Hispanic (3%). Racial groups not selected by respondents include: American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous & Hispanic; Asian/Asian American and Hispanic; Middle Eastern/North African and Hispanic; or Don't know/Client prefers not to answer.

Combined, Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) represent the majority of those surveyed in the 2025 count (84% of respondents). However, it this disparity is even more stark among families where BIPOC households represented 95% of those surveyed.

### ***Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation***

As in years past, Arlington County's PIT demonstrates consistent trends regarding gender identity within its single adult and family households. Seventy-two percent (72%) of single adults identify as men, whereas 77% of adults in families identify as women. One percent (1%) of the single adult population identified as Transgender. Additionally, 3% identified as LGBTQIA+.

### **Year-Round and Winter Inventory of Beds**

On the night of the 2025 PIT Count, the CoC had the following bed capacity availability:

- 266 Beds (161 single adult shelter beds and 105 family and DV shelter beds)
- 191 Units (151 single adult shelter units and 40 family and DV shelter units)

### **Permanent Housing Inventory Count**

On the night of the 2025 PIT Count, the CoC had the following Permanent Housing capacity:

- 455 Beds (250 single adult RRH and PSH beds and 205 family RRH and PSH beds)
- 315 Units (250 single adult RRH and PSH units and 65 family RRH and PSH units)

## **Conclusion:**

The 2025 PIT Count in Arlington County, Virginia illuminates the stark and grim reality that homelessness is on the rise. For the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, Arlington's overall count increased from a record low of 171 people in 2021 during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, to 271 people in 2025. The PIT Count in 2025 reflects an overall increase in homelessness of 12% compared to 2024's PIT Count. This year's increase is largely driven by increases in sheltered homelessness (an increase of 10% and 22 people) and increases of family homelessness (an increase of 19% or 14 people).

The outcomes of the 2025 PIT count may signal emerging developments in those impacted by homelessness. Street outreach teams noted an increase of persons for whom their experience of homelessness was a result of a recent loss of housing. Arlington County's Centralized Access System, which is the coordinated entry point for emergency shelter requests, notes ongoing evictions and increases in layoffs and terminations, starting as early as the PIT Count, compound challenges in housing stability and increased risks of and experiences of homelessness.

Evidence of significant risks and vulnerabilities of persons experiencing homelessness persists. Extremely low incomes, severe mental illness, substance use, and historical disenfranchisement and racism persists. The 24/7 Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault hotline provider continues to field frequent calls for assistance and shelter related to intimate partner and domestic violence resulting from economic pressures and stress. The increasing rise of older adults experiencing homelessness has reached Arlington County's CoC. The 2025 PIT Count identified over one-third of those experiencing homelessness were over the age of 55. Research signals that the rate of older adults experiencing homelessness across the country is estimated to [triple by 2030](#). Additionally, people experiencing homelessness in their 50s face complicated [health challenges](#) more comparable to their housed counterparts who are in their 70s.

As evidenced by the increases in sheltered homelessness, Arlington County continues to rise to the challenge of assisting people experiencing homelessness. The CoC is committed to targeting new and existing resources to the most vulnerable, including people who would otherwise be unsheltered, such as veterans, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and survivors of DV. However, the community cannot keep pace with the increased demands for shelter without similar levels of resources targeted for affordable permanent housing, employment services, and rental assistance.



# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## System Overview

The District of Columbia's Continuum of Care (CoC) includes more than 200 provider agencies delivering services to individuals and families who are facing housing loss, experiencing homelessness, or who have formerly experienced homelessness. In Fiscal Year (FY) 24 alone, these programs served nearly 9,000 families with children and 13,000 unaccompanied persons.<sup>1</sup>

Most CoC programming in the District serves families or unaccompanied men and women, but the program inventory includes offerings for key subpopulations such as youth, veterans, LGBTQ+ persons, seniors, or survivors of domestic or intimate partner violence. In addition to street outreach, emergency shelter, and transitional housing—the provider types that comprise the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count—CoC providers offer meals, medical respite care, prevention and diversion assistance, and/or housing resources like rapid rehousing (RRH), targeted affordable housing (TAH)<sup>2</sup>, and permanent supportive housing (PSH).

The District's Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) is tasked with setting the strategic framework for the CoC. ICH members include representatives from Mayor Muriel Bowser's cabinet, persons with lived experience of homelessness, CoC providers, and advocates. The District of Columbia Department of Human Services (DHS) administers local dollars to support CoC programming, along with its prime contractor, The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness (TCP). TCP and DHS also acquire federal resources through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) CoC Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (respectively), and additional funding comes from the U.S. Departments of Veteran Affairs (VA), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Labor (DOL).

TCP conducts the PIT Count on behalf of the District, having done so since 2001, and administers the District's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the primary repository for person-level information on the individuals and families receiving CoC services. More than 90 percent of the programs in the District use the HMIS and, in turn, TCP produces much of the data that informs the PIT Count using the system.

## Access to Services

Families facing housing loss in the District can visit DHS's Virginia Williams Family Resource Center for connection to homelessness prevention resources, shelter placement, or other services based on the family's needs. Families who are eligible, and placed in emergency shelter via Virginia Williams, are assessed and the majority are connected to the Family Rehousing and Stabilization Program (FRSP). The CoC's family shelters, or Short-Term Family Housing (STFH) programs, provide housing-focused case management in apartment-style living spaces, and FRSP provides shelter exit assistance for families as they move to housing in the community. While in FRSP, families receive time-limited rental subsidies and case management support. After the FRSP subsidy ends, eligible families get matched to other available housing supports that they qualify for such as TAH or PSH resources to support their housing retention.

<sup>1</sup> Figures include family and single person households served by outreach providers, emergency shelters, and transitional housing programs (the program categories that are included in the PIT Count numbers) as well as households served by prevention, rapid rehousing, targeted affordable housing, and permanent supportive housing (which are not a part of the aggregate PIT Count).

<sup>2</sup> Targeted affordable housing is a permanent subsidy that provides quarterly case management services, targeted to those living with a disabling condition, who do not require the level of intensive services associated with permanent supportive housing.

For unaccompanied individuals (i.e. “singles”), access to CoC services is more decentralized and follows a “no wrong door” approach. Individuals in need of shelter assistance can stay at any of the District’s low barrier emergency shelters (and/or additional hypothermia shelter sites between November and March). In addition to overnight accommodations, these sites provide meals and access to case management. Unaccompanied persons may also engage in case management at meal program sites, with outreach teams, and at day centers such as the Downtown Day Services Center, the Adams Place Day Center in Northeast DC, or at 801 East on the Campus of St. Elizabeths.

DHS and CoC partners have worked to re-orient the singles subsystem toward homelessness prevention and diversion in addition to providing shelter and outreach. DHS’s Project Reconnect program deploys staff to shelters, day centers, and with outreach teams to assist individuals newly experiencing homelessness or who are currently facing housing crises. Project Reconnect provides housing counseling and flexible funding to either divert individuals from the homeless services system or will facilitate a rapid exit to stable housing. DHS has also launched the Front Door Navigation Tool with the Homeless Services Hotline to increase opportunities for connection to diversion assistance and resources in a timelier fashion; since its launch, Front Door Navigation has connected 151 referrals to Project Reconnect.

Unaccompanied and pregnant/parenting youth can visit the District’s four youth drop-in centers for case management and referrals to other services, and the District’s CoC includes several youth specific shelters and extended transitional housing sites. The Youth Housing Options Prevention Education (HOPE) program also provides homelessness prevention assistance, family reunification mediation, and connections to permanent housing solutions. The CoC has also extended its Shelter Hotline transportation services to better connect youth to shelters and drop-in centers, and Project Reconnect has expanded its efforts to provide critical diversion support for youth experiencing homelessness and housing crises.

Similarly, the CoC offers specialized services for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Veterans can connect with a VA homeless services care coordinator via the Washington DC Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC); through the CRRC, veterans can receive food assistance, access shelter or housing resources, or can receive referrals for employment opportunities and other financial support, justice system navigation, addiction and/or mental health treatment, and health and dental care.

The CoC’s Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement (CAHP) system, led by TCP, works with CoC providers to provide standardized access and referrals to RRH, TAH, and PSH as well as youth- and veteran-specific transitional housing resources. CAHP uses information from dedicated liaisons at service provider organizations to determine when an individual or family’s service needs are a good fit for an open CoC housing resource. CAHP and staff liaisons match the most vulnerable in the CoC to resources like PSH while others in need of temporary or more affordable housing resources may be prioritized for RRH or TAH respectively. The CAHP implementation is organized by “subsystems” - unaccompanied adults, families, youth, and veterans - each with specific processes for matching households to CoC resources.

### **Recent System Changes and Achievements**

Since the 2024 PIT Count the CoC’s family subsystem has continued to develop innovative programs and invest in high impact interventions. The Homelessness Prevention Program, which provides case management, mediation, financial assistance, and connection to housing resources to help families avoid shelter, has to date prevented nearly 13,000 families from needing a shelter placement; in FY24, the program served 1,850 families.

As noted, families that do enter shelter via STFH are prioritized for FRSP. Since the last PIT Count, the family subsystem worked to align the rent reasonableness process for FRSP with the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) policy to ensure consistency in rental pricing determinations and coordination with the Housing Authority's standard. Additionally, the family subsystem collaborated with DCHA to launch a cross-agency initiative to issue 1,300 federal housing vouchers to families in FRSP who had been in the program for more than a year. The collaboration led to the establishment of dedicated teams within DHS and DCHA to support end-to-end application processing. As of March 2025, this joint effort has resulted in 1,014 voucher approvals, significantly advancing long-term housing stability for these families.

For unaccompanied persons, DHS continued a housing focused case management pilot in 2024 that brought case management into a non-HMIS participating shelter that did not have access to case management onsite prior to this. By September 2024, 86 shelter residents had been successfully and regularly engaged with DHS case management personnel, with 80 percent now matched to PSH (of those matched, nearly half have received their voucher and are actively looking for their unit) and 14 are now housed.

Since PIT 2024, DHS also successfully opened the Aston Bridge Housing program using lessons learned during the COVID-19 public health emergency about the need for different modes of shelter. The Aston program provides 100 shelter beds for unsheltered, adult only families (without minors) and those who cannot be served effectively in low barrier shelters and provides semi-private accommodations with case management and housing navigation services. DHS will open a second non-congregate shelter site in 2025.

The District continues to invest in permanent housing opportunities and leveraging federal dollars to support vulnerable District residents. Specifically, in FY24, the District supported more than 900 individuals and families to lease up with permanent housing vouchers and leveraged Medicaid funding to provide supportive services to nearly 9,000 households.

The youth subsystem continued to provide vital, targeted services to hundreds of young people in the District. This included nearly 500 youth experiencing homelessness who were served in youth-specific shelter and transitional housing programs and more than 1,500 youth at youth-specific drop-in centers. The youth subsystem worked in 2024 to improve collaboration between drop-in centers and youth shelters by adding daily transportation services through the District's shelter hotline and increased the geographic footprint of youth-focused street outreach services.

Additionally, in 2024, DHS graduated its first cohort of the Peer Case Management Institute (PCMI) in partnership with Howard University's School of Social Work. The Peer Case Management Institute provides a pathway for residents with lived experiences of homelessness to become qualified case managers in the Homeless Services System. Thirty-five (35) students graduated from the first cohort, and as of March 2025, 20 had achieved employment as case managers in the CoC. The second cohort is currently underway with an expected completion date of June 2025.

## 2025 Continuum of Care Inventory

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SHELTER & HOUSING INVENTORY		
Category	Units for Individuals	Units for Families
Emergency Shelter <sup>3</sup>	2,742	374
Transitional Housing	869	225
Rapid Rehousing	608	3,257
Permanent Supportive Housing	7,890	3,181
Other Permanent Housing (incl. TAH) <sup>4</sup>	1,709	1,695

The table above shows the number of units of various CoC program types operating as of the night of PIT for unaccompanied individuals and families. Persons served by emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (in addition to unsheltered persons) are the individuals and families included in the PIT Count. PSH, RRH, and TAH participants are not included in the PIT Count as they are no longer experiencing homelessness; however, these programs require that individuals and families served by these resources were experiencing homelessness at entry.

Most of the homeless services in the District are funded by DHS, with additional support coming from federal sources such as the HUD CoC Program. While HUD CoC dollars are the primary federal source of homeless services funding, the District, TCP, and the provider community also receive federal funds from HUD via the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Other federal funding comes from HHS's Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) program and from the VA's Grant Per Diem transitional housing program, Supportive Services for Veteran Families RRH program, and VA Supportive Housing (VASH) PSH program. Some CoC providers use private funds to establish their own programs or to support programs that are also publicly funded.

### 2025 Point-in-Time Count: Methodology

The CoC conducted its PIT Count on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. Information collected on the PIT date provides both an enumeration of all persons experiencing homelessness, using HUD's definition, as well as information on household composition, demographics, life experiences, economic circumstances, and service needs of the persons counted. The PIT Count includes both unaccompanied individuals and family households staying in a shelter or transitional housing program, as well as persons who opted to stay outdoors.

Most of the information collected for PIT comes from the HMIS, as more than 90 percent of all shelter and transitional housing programs operating in the District are represented in that system. TCP trains HMIS users monthly to ensure that information on persons in their care is up to date throughout the year. TCP pulled the information on all households served on the night of PIT in HMIS-participating programs directly from the HMIS.

Providers without access to HMIS submitted the HUD-required PIT data to TCP through alternative

<sup>3</sup> Includes all shelter beds/units for unaccompanied adults, unaccompanied minors, and families located at the District's severe weather, low-barrier, temporary, Short Term Family Housing (STFH), and Bridge Housing programs as well as the non-congregate motel spaces opened as a part of the District's public health emergency response that were occupied on the night of PIT.

<sup>4</sup> Includes Targeted Affordable Housing (TAH) and Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV).

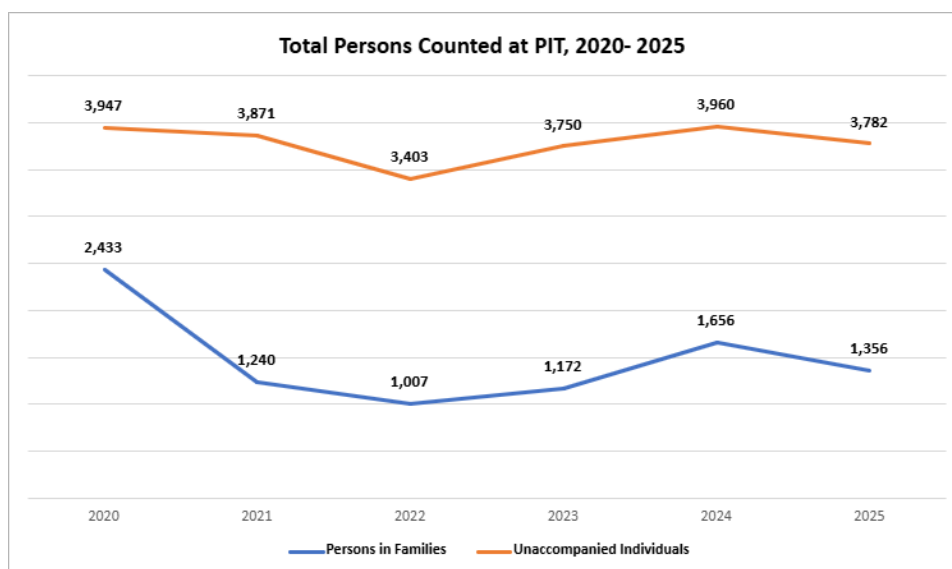
methods. For agencies serving survivors of domestic violence, TCP accepted aggregate, non-identifying data—or “head counts”—on the number of individuals and households, in line with program restrictions<sup>5</sup> that prevent sharing personal information. All other non-HMIS providers submitted full client rosters, including demographic details, using a standardized template provided by TCP.

To enumerate persons staying in an unsheltered location on the night of PIT, TCP started planning with the District’s street outreach providers several months before the PIT Count. TCP also recruited around 300 volunteer surveyors to participate alongside street outreach providers to enhance efforts. TCP trained participants on how to conduct the street-based PIT count and use the Survey123 application by ArcGIS to complete PIT surveys. On the night of the PIT Count, groups of participants were assigned individual street maps comprising the entire geographic area of the District; they used the Survey123 application to record engagements with persons who were unsheltered that night. The morning after, Day Centers and meal programs worked with TCP to report on persons served at their locations who indicated they spent the previous night outdoors.

TCP used personally identifying information collected from survey respondents, HMIS, and other data-submissions to ensure de-duplication within the final set of information.

### 2025 Point-in-Time Count: Results

Following increases in both 2023 and 2024, results from the 2025 PIT Count show a change in course with a total reduction of nine (9) percent for all persons.



The 2025 total is also 19 percent lower than the count from 2020, the last PIT recorded before the COVID-19 public health emergency. Comparing the year-to-year changes between different household types, the results of the 2025 count are a decrease of 300 persons in families and 178 unaccompanied individuals.

### Families

As depicted in the table below, the count of family households decreased 18 percent between 2024 and 2025, equating to the same (18 percent) reduction in the number of persons within families. Even

<sup>5</sup> Information from programs where participants are fleeing domestic/intimate partner programs may not include information like participants’ names or program locations in their submissions in keeping with the *Violence Against Women Act*.

with previous years' increases, the number of families counted in 2025 remains 43 percent lower compared to the number counted in the 2020 PIT Count.

FAMILIES COUNTED AT PIT 2025								
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	% Change 2020 - 2025
<b>Families</b>	768	405	347	389	539	440	-18.4%	-42.7%
<b>Persons in Families</b>	2,433	1,240	1,007	1,172	1,656	1,356	-18.1%	-44.3%

Following historically low family counts in 2021 and 2022—likely influenced by COVID-19 relief programs designed to prevent housing loss—the number of families increased in both 2023 and 2024. While the decline observed this year is encouraging, it is too early to determine whether it signals a lasting shift. Nonetheless, the CoC is proud of its progress in keeping family homelessness down over the past five years. This period has seen meaningful changes to the family system, including the adoption of the STFH shelter model, which is helping to shorten the length of shelter stays for families.

### Unaccompanied Individuals

Overall, the 2025 Count was a slight reduction from the previous year's count with roughly five (5) percent fewer unaccompanied individuals counted. Though there was a less than one (1) percent increase in emergency shelter usage, the count of those residing in a transitional housing program decreased by 13 percent and nearly 11 percent fewer individuals were counted in an unsheltered location. Compared to 2020, the 2025 PIT Count was still lower for transitional housing and emergency shelter programs, yet the count of unsheltered individuals was 21 percent higher.

UNACCOMPANIED INDIVIDUALS COUNTED AT PIT 2025 <sup>6</sup>								
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	% Change 2020 - 2025
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	2,580	2,547	2,166	2,314	2,329	2,347	0.8%	-9.0%
<b>Transitional Housing</b>	714	643	547	615	743	643	-13.4%	-9.9%
<b>Unsheltered</b>	653	681	690	821	888	792	-10.8%	21.3%
<b>Total Persons</b>	3,947	3,871	3,403	3,750	3,960	3,782	-4.5%	-19.5%

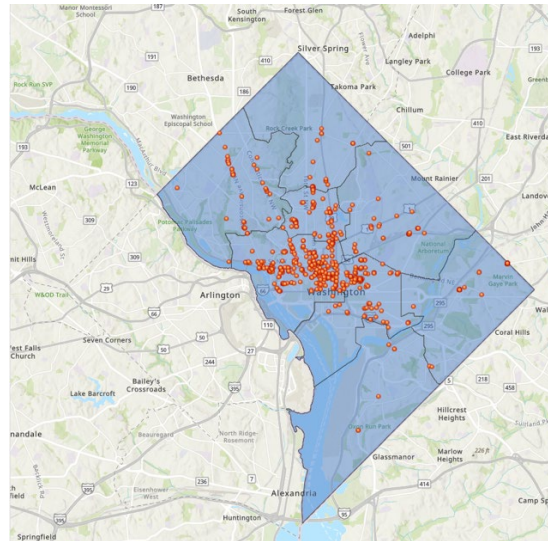
The slight decrease in the number of unaccompanied individuals continues a trend seen in previous years, where year-to-year changes are generally modest—especially when compared to the family system. The reduction in emergency shelter and transitional housing combined was just 82 individuals, while the unsheltered count alone decreased by 96 individuals compared to 2024.

Unsheltered counts tend to vary more from year to year, often influenced by weather conditions. Although the temperatures on PIT night were not extremely cold (however the hypothermia alert was,

<sup>6</sup> The tables and subsequent data for “unaccompanied individuals” does also include a small number of family households where all persons are adults. There were two such households in a Transitional Housing program and ten adult-only households counted in an unsheltered location.

still, activated), the PIT date followed several weeks of frigid weather with nighttime lows in the teens. Anecdotaly, individuals who might typically stay outdoors in milder weather may have sought alternative arrangements—such as staying with friends or family or securing a motel room—when faced with harsher conditions.

**Map: Engagements with Unsheltered Persons at PIT (January 29, 2025)**



## Demographics

The PIT count is a primary performance metric for the CoC, providing key insights into the scope and scale of homelessness within our community at a given time. While important for estimating the number of individuals and families facing homelessness, the PIT survey also sheds light on their demographic characteristics, life experiences, economic conditions, and service needs. These data not only highlight differences between groups like unaccompanied individuals and families, but they also demonstrate variations within these groups based on personal experiences. While the information here primarily focuses on variances between unaccompanied adults and adults in families, TCP's website ([community-partnership.org](http://community-partnership.org)) offers a dashboard tool with further information.

## Race & Ethnicity

A consistent finding from year to year is that people of color are disproportionately represented among those who experience homelessness in the District. This fact is well-understood as taking root from the issues that have historically and generationally impacted these communities, such as discrimination, oppression, and limited access to economic opportunities, housing policies, and social services. These challenges contribute to ongoing disparities in education, health care, employment, and housing opportunities. As a result, not only are homelessness rates higher in these communities, but these obstacles also introduce significant barriers to individuals and families to resolve their housing crises.

Ninety-two (92) percent of all persons (including children) at PIT 2025 identified with a race and ethnicity other than White alone, including persons identifying as White and Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o). Compared to District residents at large, that number is just 62 percent.<sup>7</sup> Breaking out those identifying as Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o) for persons in families and all unaccompanied adults those numbers are six (6) percent and 11 percent respectively.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/DC>



The disproportionality in race and ethnicity is seen most starkly in the family subsystem with all persons of color and those who identify as Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o) making up 99 percent of persons counted at PIT. For unaccompanied individuals, that number is roughly 91 percent.

DEMOGRAPHICS: RACE & ETHNICITY OF ALL PERSONS		
	Unaccompanied Persons	Persons in Families
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous	0.8%	0.1%
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	0.1%	0.0%
Asian or Asian American	1.0%	0.4%
Asian or Asian American & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	0.0%	0.0%
Black, African American or African	75.0%	91.7%
Black, African American or African & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	1.1%	2.1%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	7.1%	3.3%
Middle Eastern or North African	0.8%	0.0%
Middle Eastern or North African & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	0.0%	0.0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	0.1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	0.1%	0.1%
White	9.3%	0.7%
White & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	2.3%	0.7%
Multi-Racial (NOT Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o))	0.5%	0.0%
Multi-Racial & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	1.4%	0.8%

## Gender

The gender distribution among unaccompanied individuals and people in families remains consistent with data from previous years. As shown in the table below, women represent the largest proportion of adults in families, making up nearly 90 percent of the total in 2025. In contrast, men account for the majority of unaccompanied individuals, comprising 68 percent. Overall, unaccompanied individuals show greater diversity in gender identity, with around two (2) percent (74 individuals) identifying as a gender other than exclusively male or female, compared to just one (1) adult in families.

DEMOGRAPHICS: GENDER OF ADULTS		
	Unaccompanied Adults	Adults in Families
Woman	29.9%	88.8%
Man	68.1%	11.0%
Culturally Specific Identity (i.e. Two-Spirit)	0.0%	0.0%
Transgender	1.3%	0.2%
Non-Binary	0.4%	0.0%
Questioning	0.1%	0.0%
Different Identity	0.1%	0.0%
More Than One Gender	0.1%	0.0%

## Age

The PIT survey prompts respondents to provide their date of birth or age for two main purposes: as a deduplication mechanism and to quantify the extent to which the CoC is assisting two significant age-based subpopulation groups – youth and seniors. Youth, as defined by HUD, comprises households with only children (such as unaccompanied minors or pregnant/parenting minors) or Transition Age Youth (TAYs), young adults ages 18 to 24. Seniors, on the other hand, are defined as individuals aged 55 and older.

Among adults counted during the PIT Count, the median age for unaccompanied individuals was 45 (46 for men, 42 for women, and 46 for those identifying as another gender). This group has trended slightly younger over the past two counts, with the median age decreasing from 49 in 2022. For unaccompanied individuals identifying as LGBTQ+, the median age was notably lower at 30. The median age for heads of family households was also 30. Twenty (20) percent of family heads of households fell within the TAY (Transition Age Youth) age range, a slight decrease from 26 percent in 2024.

AGE RANGES, HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD AT PIT 2025 <sup>8</sup>		
	Unaccompanied Individuals	Families
13 to 17 (Households with only children)	0.2%	0.0%
18 to 24 (TAYs)	9.7%	20.2%
25 to 34	18.5%	52.5%
35 to 44	21.2%	20.7%
45 to 54	16.9%	5.2%
55 to 64	21.0%	1.4%
65 to 69	7.2%	0.0%
70 to 79	4.9%	0.0%
80 to 89	0.3%	0.0%
90+	0.03%	0.0%

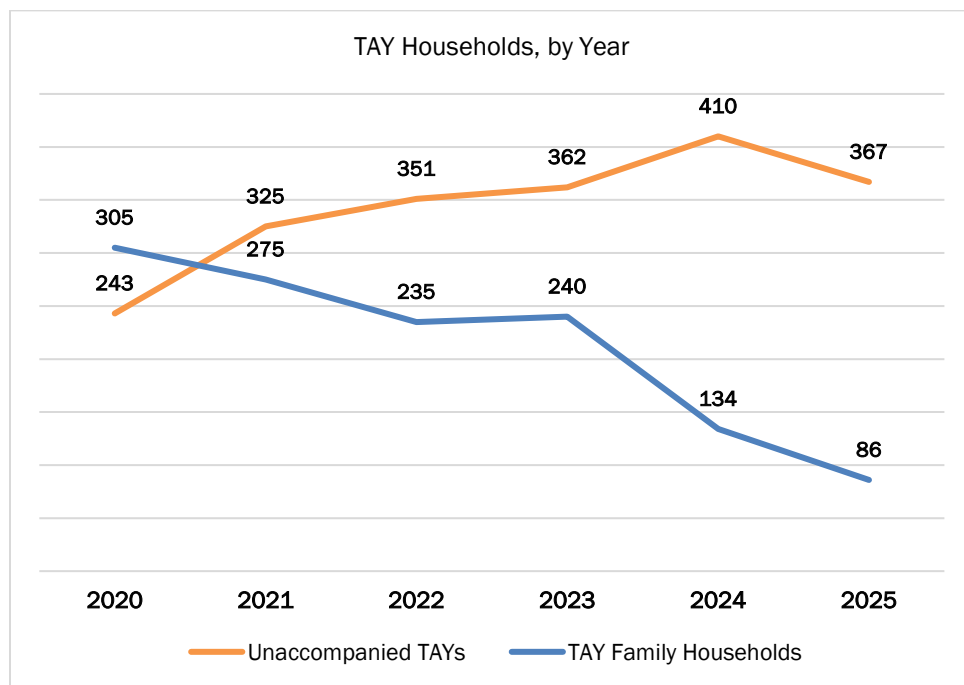
## Youth

Youth ages 18 to 24 who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability have access to developmentally appropriate programs that address their unique needs. These services include support for educational achievement, childcare resources for pregnant and parenting youth, and workforce readiness assistance. In addition to dedicated youth emergency shelter and transitional housing options, the District operates four (4) youth-only drop-in centers—one (1) of which is open 24-hours a day to ensure that youth have a safe place to go at any time, day or night.

As shown in the chart below, the number of TAY-headed households in the family subsystem closely parallels the overall family subsystem, with both experiencing another notable decrease between 2024 and 2025. This trend continues the steady progress made in reducing family homelessness over the past decade, largely driven by the reforms introduced through *Homeward DC*. After several years of increases, the number of unaccompanied TAYs also shifted direction, decreasing by 43 individuals.

<sup>8</sup> While most tables in this narrative include information on all adult persons in both the unaccompanied individuals and family subsystems, this table includes just the designated heads of households for families to ensure inclusion of the households headed by minors and to denote the number of families in the CoC where the family would be eligible for youth specific resource.

Similar reductions were observed in both unaccompanied TAYs and TAY family households during the 2024 Homeless Youth Census conducted in September.



The CoC also includes two (2) programs licensed to provide overnight accommodations to unaccompanied minors. There were seven (7) unaccompanied minors, one (1) of whom pregnant, counted in these emergency shelter programs on the night of PIT. There were no unaccompanied minors surveyed in an unsheltered location in this year's PIT Count.

### Seniors

Adults ages 55 and older accounted for 34 percent of all adults counted in the PIT Count, an increase from the 29 percent reported in 2024. This included 1,266 unaccompanied adults and six (6) heads of family households who were seniors at the time of the count. The CoC's inventory for seniors spans emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing options—resources that are especially critical given the heightened health risks faced by older adults experiencing homelessness. Seniors in this population often experience mental and physical health conditions typically seen in housed individuals a decade older, leading to significantly higher rates of premature mortality compared to the general population.

### LGBTQ+

During the PIT count, 501 adults—or 12 percent of those surveyed—identified as part of the LGBTQ+ community based on their responses to questions about their sexual orientation and gender identity. Of these, 470 were unaccompanied individuals and 31 were adults in families, underscoring the disproportionate representation of LGBTQ+ individuals in the unaccompanied adult subsystem.

As seen in previous years, LGBTQ+ identification was more common among Transition Age Youth (ages 18–24), than older adults to identify. In this group, 38 percent of unaccompanied youth and 25 percent of parenting youth—representing 37 percent of all 18- to 24-year-olds counted—identified as LGBTQ+.

To address the specific needs of LGBTQ+ youth, the CoC provides 26 transitional housing units and a rapid rehousing program serving up to 20 individuals at a time. For LGBTQ+ adults ages 25 and older, the CoC opened its first low-barrier shelter in 2022, which accommodates up to 40 individuals and was at full capacity on the night of the count.

### Life Experiences

The PIT survey also gathers information on life experiences that are known to contribute to housing instability among adults. These insights help the CoC and its partner organizations better support persons, such as survivors of domestic or intimate partner violence and individuals with histories in the foster care or justice systems, meet their specific needs.

REPORTED EXPERIENCES AMONG ADULTS AT PIT 2025		
	Unaccompanied Adults	Adults in Families
Survivor of Domestic Violence	22.4%	48.1%
Limited/No English Proficiency	7.1%	2.6%
Formerly in Foster Care	9.2%	12.0%
Resided in an Institutional Setting	41.6%	7.0%

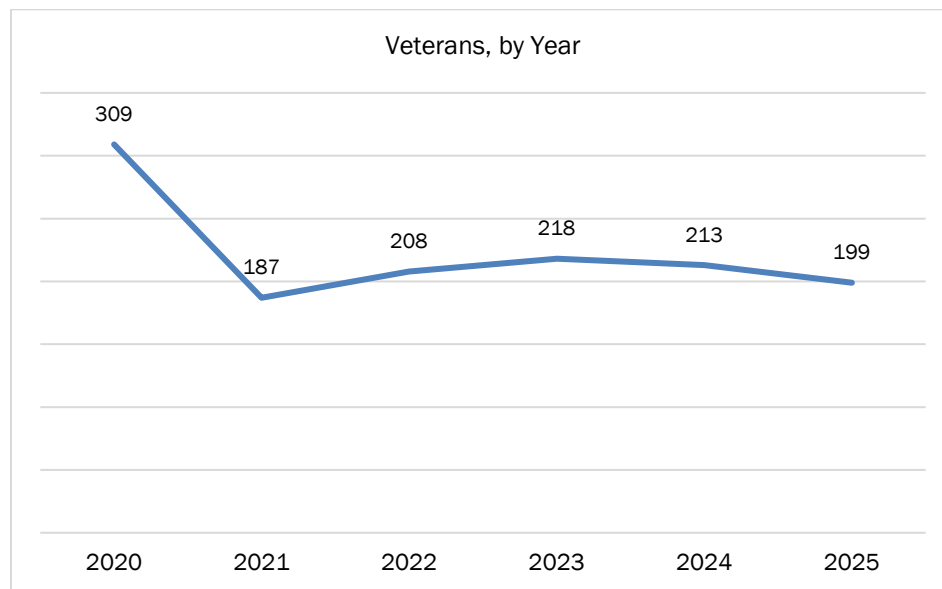
Domestic or intimate partner violence continues to be the most common life experience among adults in families experiencing homelessness. In line with previous PIT Counts, 48 percent of adults in families reported having experienced such violence at some point in their lives, and of those, 77 percent said it directly led to their current episode of homelessness.

Among unaccompanied individuals, 22 percent reported a history of domestic or intimate partner violence, with nearly half (48 percent) indicating it contributed to their homelessness. There are notable differences among gender: 41 percent of unaccompanied women reported this experience, compared to 13 percent of men. Among transgender individuals, 46 percent reported past experiences of domestic or intimate partner violence.

The data also shows that a substantial share, 41 percent, of unaccompanied individuals previously resided in institutional settings, such as treatment programs, residential hospitals, or the justice system, prior to becoming homeless.

### Veterans

Since a significant decrease in 2021, the number of veterans counted in the PIT Count has remained relatively consistent, at around 200 individuals. The 2025 count reflected a modest reduction of 14 veterans compared to 2024. In recent years, the CoC has strategically shifted funding away from shelter and transitional housing toward permanent housing solutions for veterans, while also leveraging private funding to expand support for this population. In FY24, the CoC served 650 veterans and assisted 143 of those to exit to permanent housing.



### Income and Employment

Helping adults secure income—and supporting those who are able to gain or maintain employment—is a key performance measure for the CoC. This measure is closely tracked by the ICH, DHS, and TCP at both the provider- and system-wide levels. While not all individuals will be prioritized for a permanent housing subsidy, employment income is especially critical in the District’s high-cost housing market for both obtaining and sustaining housing stability.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT AT PIT 2025		
	Unaccompanied Adults	Adults in Families
Receiving Income	51.1%	72.9%
Employed	18.1%	29.3%
Employment	35.5%	19.2%
Social Security/Retirement	3.3%	0.2%
SSI/SSDI (Disability Income)	39.8%	7.4%
TANF/Public Assistance	11.4%	43.1%
Other	10.1%	3.0%

Adults in families typically report higher rates of income and employment compared to unaccompanied individuals. In both groups, more than half of adults have some form of income.

Among those with income, the majority in both subsystems rely primarily on public benefits—such as TANF or SSI/SSDI—as their main source. However, employment income remains a close second among unaccompanied individuals, with over one-third reporting some earnings from work.

### Disabling Conditions and Chronic Homelessness

The PIT count also captures data on the prevalence of disabling conditions among adults experiencing homelessness. This information helps guide the CoC's program development to ensure services are responsive to the needs of both individuals and families.

Consistently, PIT data shows a higher prevalence of disabling conditions among unaccompanied adults compared to adults in families. This difference, combined with the CoC's focus on quickly moving families from shelter to permanent housing, has contributed to the District's low rate of chronic homelessness among families.

DISABLING CONDITIONS & CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS AT PIT 2025		
	Unaccompanied Adults	Adults in Families
Substance Use (SU) History	15.7%	1.0%
History of Mental Illness (MI)	27.0%	9.8%
Dual Diagnosis (SU & MI)	8.6%	0.8%
Chronic Health Problem	15.9%	2.0%
Developmental Disability	5.5%	3.0%
Living with HIV/AIDS	1.5%	0.2%
Physical Disability	13.4%	2.6%
Experiencing Chronic Homelessness <sup>9</sup>	45.7%	4.8%

Adults living with disabling conditions, particularly those experiencing long-term or repeated episodes of homelessness, classified by HUD as “chronically homeless”, are among the most vulnerable populations served by the CoC. These individuals are prioritized for access to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

### 2025 Point-in-Time Count: Permanent Housing

In addition to the count of persons experiencing homelessness at the PIT Count, the CoC also tracks those who have exited homelessness and are now living in permanent housing programs specifically designated for people who were homeless at entry.

Although not included in the official PIT numbers, these households represent critical progress—many would likely still be in shelter or unsheltered conditions without access to these long-term housing solutions. At the time of the 2025 PIT Count, 7,554 unaccompanied individuals and 6,823 families were residing in units within the CoC's Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), Targeted Affordable Housing (TAH), and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs.

<sup>9</sup> Other figures in this table use the sum of persons who are unsheltered, in emergency shelter, and in transitional housing as the denominator when calculating the associated percentages. The “Experiencing Chronic Homelessness” calculation is based on those who meet the definition described in footnote 12, and as such, the denominator used to calculate this percentage is only the sum of unsheltered persons and persons in emergency shelter (as persons in transitional housing cannot be considered chronically homeless).

	Unaccompanied Individuals	Family Households
Other Permanent Housing (e.g., TAH)	1,000	1,093
Permanent Supportive Housing	6,093	2,602
Rapid Rehousing	461	3,128
Total	7,554	6,823

Provider agencies and TCP's CAHP team work collaboratively to match eligible individuals and families with available resources in both new and existing programs. In FY24, the CoC helped more than 750 unaccompanied men and women and more than 1,100 families transition into housing.

### Conclusion

The results of the 2025 PIT Count show reductions in homelessness in nearly all categories across the CoC. These reductions are the result of strategic, targeted investments throughout the system that emphasize prevention, diversion, rapid linkage to appropriate services, scaled up and targeted case management, and connection with permanent housing resources. The District focuses on ensuring the resources it has are used for high-impact, evidence-based interventions wherever possible, and the results from this year's PIT Count demonstrate the CoC's effectiveness in service to the residents of the District.



# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## Description of Homeless Services

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness, the community's Continuum of Care (CoC), is comprised of non-profit and governmental partners, faith-based communities, advocates, those with lived experience of homelessness, and other community stakeholders. The Fairfax County CoC is guided by the CoC Board, which serves as the governance of the CoC, and communitywide vision that every person in the community can access and maintain safe and affordable housing.

The homeless services system is comprised of a spectrum of homeless service interventions, all of which are designed to achieve the goal of ensuring homelessness is prevented whenever possible and, when it occurs, it is rare, brief, and only once. This includes the following project types:

- **STREET OUTREACH:** Outreach services include engagement, case management, community linkages, and supportive services to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- **HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION:** Homelessness Prevention is designed to stabilize households in their current housing or help them move into new housing through the provision of services and / or rental assistance.
- **EMERGENCY SHELTER:** Emergency Shelter is a short-term, temporary solution while housing-focused case management services are provided to quickly resolve the immediate housing crisis. Fairfax County's CoC operates with a total of ten shelters serving single individuals, households with children, victims of domestic violence, and youth (ages 13-17).
- **HYPOTHERMIA PREVENTION PROGRAM:** The Hypothermia Prevention Program is an expansion of emergency shelter capacity through existing shelters as well as auxiliary sites based in government buildings and houses of worship during the winter months for single individuals to prevent death and injury due to hypothermia.
- **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:** Transitional Housing includes the provision of case management and services meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing and is primarily used in Fairfax County for special populations, including victims of domestic violence and transition-aged youth (ages 18-24).
- **RAPID REHOUSING:** Rapid Rehousing programs are designed to help households experiencing homelessness move quickly into permanent housing through the provision of housing location support, ongoing case management services, and rental assistance.
- **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING:** Permanent Supportive Housing is non-time-limited, affordable housing with wrap-around intensive support services for people experiencing homelessness where a member of the household has a long-term disability that is not expected to resolve, and the disability significantly interferes with their activities of daily living.
- **OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING:** Other Permanent Housing programs provide non-time-limited housing options for people experiencing homelessness. These programs have specific eligibility and prioritization criteria determined by the project's funding source.

The project types are all connected to the continuum's Coordinated Entry system, which was developed to standardize the access, assessment, and referral process across the Fairfax County CoC to make rapid, effective, and consistent client-to-housing and service matches.

## Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing: Capacity

*Emergency Shelters.* There are ten shelters in the Fairfax County CoC that are operated by non-profit

partner organizations year-round. Shelter composition in Fairfax County includes the following:

- Households without Children (single adults), 3 shelters.
- Households with Children (families), 3 shelters.
- Households with and without Children (single adults and families), 1 shelter.
- Domestic Violence Survivors, 2 shelters.
- Youth shelter (ages 13 – 17 years), 1 shelter.

The shelters also provide limited overflow beds throughout the year. A hypothermia prevention program serving single individuals operates in several locations throughout the county between December 1 – March 31 in collaboration with non-profit partners and faith-based communities. Families with children are also sometimes sheltered in hotels when capacity in the year-round shelter beds is limited.

*Transitional Housing:* There is one transitional housing program that serves households without children and three transitional housing programs for households with children. These programs are operated by non-profit agencies with various combinations of private, county, and federal funding. The transitional housing programs primarily serve special populations, including victims of domestic violence and transition aged youth (18-24).

### **Point-in-Time Count Survey Analysis**

The 2025 Point-in-Time Count was conducted on January 22, 2025, in coordination with the Metro DC region. This annual count, organized in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines, included people who were literally homeless – those in shelters, in time-limited transitional housing programs, as well as those who were unsheltered and living on the street. Conducting the enumeration required extensive efforts by a wide range of community partners, involving dozens of staff from public and private nonprofit organizations that work with people experiencing homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church community.

There were 1,322 people experiencing homelessness on the night of the 2025 Point-in-Time Count, which is an increase of 3 percent (44 people) from the 2024 Point-in-Time Count. The overall increase is primarily driven by the higher number of people in emergency shelters, which increased by 8 percent (84 individuals) between the 2024 and 2025 Point-in-Time Counts. There was a 16 percent decrease (14 fewer) individuals who were unsheltered between the 2024 and 2025 Counts. A possible explanation for this is that the temperatures on the night of the 2025 Count were much colder than in 2024 and individuals sought shelter, accounting for a portion of the increase in the numbers counted in emergency shelters.

The 2025 count saw 67 more people in family shelter, including 49 more people in hotels. These increases reflect the increased demand for shelter. Fairfax County has responded by making hotel rooms available.

The overall increase in homelessness is attributed to inflationary pressures on lower-income households, particularly in terms of basic needs like rent, food, childcare, and transportation, as well as the relatively slower wage growth in common professions among lower-income households, such as retail and food service.

The following tables detail the number of people identified as experiencing literal homelessness during the past five years by household type, as well as project types.

FAIRFAX COUNTY POINT-IN-TIME COUNT (2021 – 2025)						
COUNT OF PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY POPULATION	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	% Change 2024 to 2025
Total # of Single Adults	615	581	555	626	737	6%

Total # of Families with Children	203	201	218	169	140	1%
Total # of Persons in Families	706	694	752	564	480	2%
Total # of Adults in Families	297	278	292	232	189	7%
Total # of Children in Families	409	416	460	332	291	-2%
Total # of Children Only Households	1	3	3	1	5	-67%
<b>Total # of Persons Experiencing Homelessness</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>3%</b>

FAIRFAX COUNTY POINT-IN-TIME COUNT (2021-2025)						
COUNT OF PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY PROJECT TYPE	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	% Change 2024 to 2025
Unsheltered	72	86	113	57	57	-16%
Emergency Shelter	1140	1056	1049	996	1004	8%
Transitional Housing	110	136	148	138	161	-19%
<b>Total # of Persons Experiencing Homelessness</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>3%</b>

### Subpopulations

Within the total population of people experiencing homelessness in Fairfax County there are a variety of subpopulations that have specific needs and require tailored assistance. The following table details some of the most important subpopulations identified in the count.

FAIRFAX COUNTY POINT IN TIME COUNT SUBPOPULATIONS			
CATEGORY	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN (TOTALS FOR ADULTS ONLY)	HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN	TOTAL
Chronic Homelessness	15	248	263
Substance Use Disorder	4	59	63
Serious Mental Illness	19	130	149
Physical Disability	17	137	154
Chronic Health Problems	24	127	151
Domestic Violence—History	109	84	193
Domestic Violence—Current	43	39	82
Limited English Proficiency	95	106	201
U.S. Military Veteran	1	25	26

- **CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS:** The number of adults experiencing chronic homelessness increased significantly between the 2024 and 2025 Point-in-Time Counts. There were 192 adults that identified as experiencing chronic homelessness during the 2024 Point-in-Time Count (22 percent of the total adults counted) and 263 adults experiencing chronic homelessness (29 percent of the total adults counted) during the 2025 Point-in-Time Count.

- **VETERANS:** There were 26 people that identified as veterans identified during the 2024 Point-in-Time Count (3 percent of total adults counted) and 26 people that identified as veterans identified during the 2025 Point-in-Time Count (3 percent of the total adults counted).
- **TRANSITION AGED YOUTH:** There were 53 transition-aged youths (persons between the ages of 18 and 24 years) identified during the 2024 Point-in-Time Count (6 percent of total adults counted) and 50 transition-aged youths identified during the 2025 Point-in-Time Count (5 percent of the total adults counted).
- **SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** There were 59 households identified as currently fleeing domestic violence and 194 households that reported a history of domestic violence during the 2024 Point-in-Time Count (8 percent and 25 percent of total households counted). There were 77 households identified as currently fleeing domestic violence and 193 households that reported a history of domestic violence during the 2025 Point-in-Time Count (9 percent and 22 percent of total households counted).
- **UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS:** The number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness decreased 16 percent or by 14 people, between the 2024 and 2025 Point-in-Time Counts.
- **RACE & ETHNICITY:** The most significant disparity in the demographics of those experiencing homelessness on the night of the 2025 Point-in-Time Count is the disproportionate representation of people identifying as Black or African American. Although only 11 percent of the general population in Fairfax County identifies as Black or African American, 48 percent of people experiencing homelessness on the night of the 2025 Point-in-Time Count identified as Black, African American, or African.

<b>FAIRFAX COUNTY 2025 POINT IN TIME COUNT DEMOGRAPHICS</b>			
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
<b>Age</b>	Number of Persons (under age 18)	410	31%
	Number of Persons (18 - 24)	91	7%
	Number of Persons (over age 24)	821	62%
<b>Gender</b>	Female	606	46%
	Male	707	53%
	Culturally Specific Identify (i.e. Two-Spirit)	0	0%
	Transgender	4	0.3%
	Non-Binary	0	0%
	Questioning	0	0%
	Different Identity	0	0%
	More Than One Gender	0	0%
	Unknown	5	0.4%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	American Indian, Alaska Native Indigenous	22	2%
	American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	3	0.2%
	Asian or Asian American	80	6%
	Asian or Asian American & Hispanic/Latina (a)(e)(o)	1	0.08%

	Black, African American, or African	637	48%
	Black, African American or African & Hispanic/Latin(a)(E)(o)	10	0.8%
	Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	157	12%
	Middle Eastern or North African	16	1%
	Middle Eastern or North African & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	1	0.08%
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0%
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	2	0.15%
	White	178	13%
	White & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	161	12%
	Multi-Racial & Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	4	0.3%
	Multi-Racial (NOT Hispanic/Latin(a)(e)(o)	23	1.7%
	Client Prefers Not to Answer	27	2%

### Year-Round and Winter Inventory of Beds

The following table details the number of emergency shelter beds (year-round, seasonal, and overflow), as well as transitional housing, on the night of the 2025 Point-in-Time Count.

FAIRFAX COUNTY HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT (2025)				
Beds for Persons Experiencing Literal Homelessness BY PROJECT & POPULATION	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN	CHILDREN ONLY HOUSEHOLDS	
	BEDS	BEDS	BEDS	TOTAL
Emergency Shelter	340	164	7	511
Winter Seasonal/Overflow	314	430	0	744
Transitional Housing	126	17	1	144
<b>Total # of Beds</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1399</b>

The following table details the change in the number of emergency shelter beds (year-round, seasonal, and overflow), as well as transitional housing, over the past six years of Point-in-Time Counts.

FAIRFAX COUNTY HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT (2020 – 2025)							
Beds for Persons Experiencing Literal Homelessness BY PROJECT TYPE	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	% Change 2024 to 2025
Emergency Shelter	511	471	453	730	814	507	8%
Winter Seasonal/Overflow	744	670	564	363	292	322	11%
Transitional Housing	144	150	191	200	255	247	-4%
<b>Total # of Beds</b>	<b>1399</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>1208</b>	<b>1293</b>	<b>1361</b>	<b>1076</b>	<b>8%</b>

## **Permanent Housing Inventory Count**

Increasing permanent housing capacity, including rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing, remains a critical strategy in preventing and ending homelessness in Fairfax County. Access to permanent, affordable housing that matches the individualized needs of those experiencing homelessness influences the overall homeless services system performance. Housing is critical to ending homelessness.

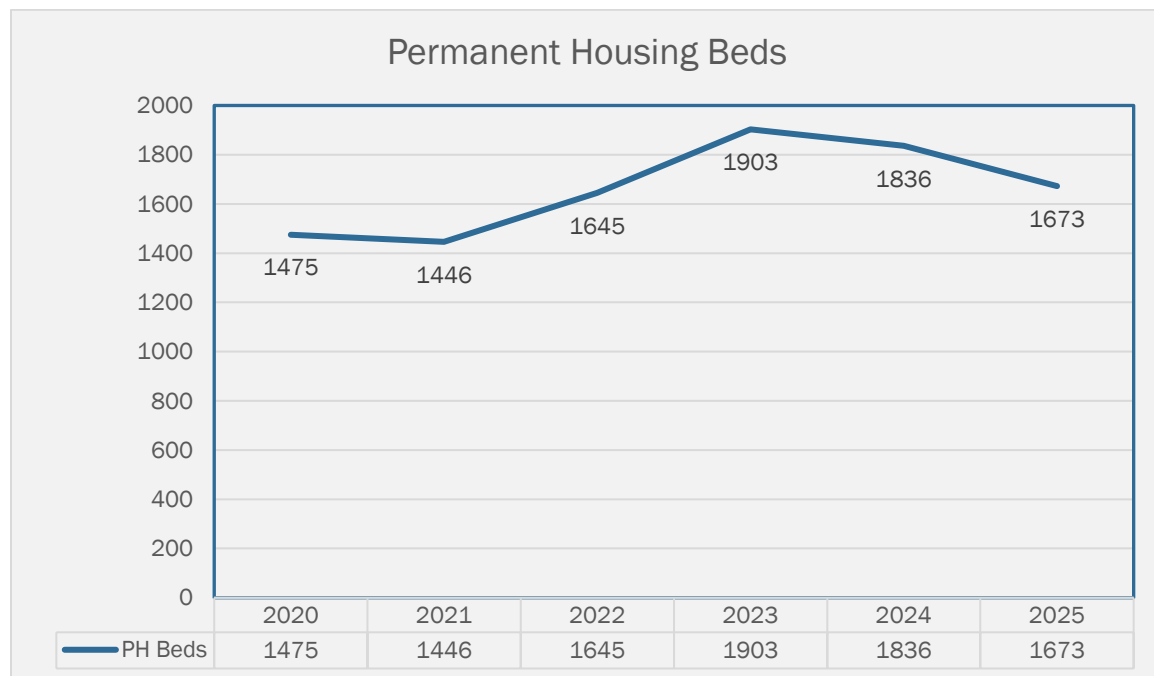
- **RAPID REHOUSING:** The Fairfax County CoC number decreased by 39 percent between the 2024 and 2025 Housing Inventory Counts. The reduction is primarily due to high turnover and low capacity among Fairfax County service providers resulting in the number of people housed in rapid rehousing being down in 2025.
- **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING:** The number of permanent supportive housing beds in the 2025 Housing Inventory Count increased by 18 percent from the previous year. For 2025, there was an increase in Virginia Housing Trust Fund awards for permanent supportive housing. Most of the permanent supportive housing in the Fairfax County CoC is funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Program. The remaining projects are funded through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program, along with smaller state and local county funding. In 2016, a public finance bond was passed that includes \$48 million over several years to renovate the 30-year-old shelters. The first facility, Bailey's Shelter and Supportive Housing, was designed to include co-located emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing. This model supported the addition of 18 new units of permanent supportive housing, which became available in 2019. Development is underway for the other shelters included in the bond.

In response to the pressing need for affordable housing for individuals with serious mental illness, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) assumed a leading role in an initiative to expand permanent supportive housing in the region. This endeavor, undertaken in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA), seeks to provide stable housing and comprehensive support services to vulnerable community members. Under a \$20 million agreement with DBHDS, funding is being made available for 300 new housing vouchers over three years for Fairfax County residents. The FCRHA and the Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development are making important strides by securing additional funding resources for permanent supportive housing and developing more new permanent supportive housing units.

- **OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING:** The number of other permanent housing beds decreased by 17 percent in the 2025 Housing Inventory Count from the 2024 number. The decrease can be attributed to "Emergency Housing Vouchers" (EHV's) and their time-limited funding. Once households turn over units, no new issuance of vouchers can be made to fill those spots. EHV's, paired with supportive services from the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority, serve families and individuals with greater housing challenges and barriers with longer-term rental assistance and more intensive supportive services, much like permanent supportive housing.

The following tables detail the changes in permanent housing beds in the Fairfax CoC by project type and year.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PERMANENT HOUSING INVENTORY (2020 – 2025)								
BEDS BY PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECT TYPE		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	% Change 2024 to 2025
PERMANENT HOUSING FORMERLY HOMELESS	Rapid Rehousing	222	361	520	659	455	366	-39%
	Permanent Supportive Housing	763	644	649	669	668	627	18%
	Other Permanent Housing	688	831	704	317	323	482	-17%
Total # of Beds		1,673	1,836	1,903	1,645	1,446	1,475	-9%





# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA

## 1. Introduction

---

### 1.1. Homeless Services in Loudoun County, Virginia

Established in 1757, Loudoun County, Virginia, is situated within the Washington Metropolitan Area, 25 miles west of the nation's capital, Washington, DC, and covering a total land area of 520 square miles<sup>10</sup>. Characterized by a diverse landscape encompassing mixed-use urban centers, suburban expanses, and rural settings, Loudoun County presents a distinctive environment ripe with myriad opportunities and associated challenges.

Loudoun County has experienced rapid population growth, growing 84% between 2000 and 2010 and another 35% between 2010 and 2020.<sup>11</sup> As of 2024, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated population of Loudoun County to be approximately 443,380 residents<sup>12</sup>.

Loudoun County's demographic fabric is woven with densely populated urban locales to the east, juxtaposed against vast expanses of rural and agrarian landscapes to the west, encapsulating a dynamic blend of lifestyles and economic activities. Established in 2006, the Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) functions as an unincorporated association dedicated to addressing homelessness in Loudoun County, Virginia. The Governance Board, duly elected by the CoC's General Membership, is vested with oversight and decision-making within the CoC. The Loudoun Department of Family Services, serving as the lead agency, provides indispensable technical, administrative, and logistical support to the CoC.

Collaboratively, the CoC orchestrates a comprehensive array of homeless services tailored to meet the needs of individuals and families facing housing crises. Comprising a network of county and community partners, the CoC operates under a Housing First approach, prioritizing immediate access to stable housing as a foundational step in addressing homelessness and preventing its recurrence. This concerted effort aims to support households currently experiencing homelessness or at risk of housing instability. A description of the Homeless Services and programs provided by the Loudoun CoC are listed below:

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.loudoun.gov/173/Facts-Figures>,

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/201824/Loudoun\\_County\\_Population\\_2024](https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/201824/Loudoun_County_Population_2024)

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Loudoun County, Virginia

## 2. Loudoun Continuum of Care Service Components

Component	Description
Community Engagement	Community Engagement is conducted through targeted outreach events, such as a monthly on-site presence at local libraries for anyone experiencing homelessness or who may be struggling to remain housed allowing them to connect with services right in their communities and in a location that does not carry a stigma, providing for greater access to information and programming. Information and Referral staff also conduct outreach to local businesses and attend public events to provide information on community programs and homeless services including homeless prevention interventions, as well as to connect with patrons who may need other county services.
Information and Referral (Coordinated Entry System process)	A single point of entry for people experiencing a housing crisis provides fair and equitable access to services. Callers are assessed, referred to, and connected to programs and supportive services based on their strengths, presenting need and program capacity. The Information and Referral currently serves as the coordinated entry system and operates through a dedicated phone number which is staffed Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm, excluding holidays, and through an online webform which is available at any time. During nights, weekends, and holidays, individuals are connected directly to the emergency shelter for triage and diversion. The Information & Referral program and the coordinated entry system process of Loudoun County operates much like a 2-1-1, which allows residents to utilize one number to access homeless services, health and human services including local, state, and federal programs, as well as services provided by nonprofits.
Domestic Violence Emergency Services	A full array of comprehensive services is provided to adult and child survivors of domestic and sexual violence. In addition to emergency shelter for individuals and families actively fleeing intimate partner violence, survivors have access to a host of services specifically designed to meet their needs to include safety planning, counseling, legal services, support groups, advocacy, and community outreach.
Drop-in Day Center	Drop-in day centers provide services for individuals experiencing homelessness to attend to their daytime needs and access services and support. Meals, showers, laundry facilities, and the opportunity to speak with a case manager to complete a housing assessment are provided on-site. Drop-In services located at the Loudoun Homeless Services Center operate seven days per week. In 2024, a second Drop-in Day Center which operates Monday through Friday was opened in Sterling at Ridgetop Circle.

Component	Description
Emergency Shelter	Designed to provide short-term refuge to Loudoun County residents who are literally homeless <sup>13</sup> , emergency sheltering begins with an initial assessment, which includes diversion. Based on prioritization and capacity, shelter, along with housing-focused case management, employment, housing location assistance, transportation, and other critical services to assist with housing stabilization, are provided. Those who are not Loudoun County residents may also be served; however, preference is given to Loudoun residents.
Homeless Prevention & Diversion Services (HPD)	Homeless Prevention and Diversion (HPD) is designed to prevent episodes of homelessness for households at imminent risk of losing their current housing. Services include conducting initial housing assessments, case management, housing stability planning, monitoring and evaluating participants' progress, and referring to community organizations as needed. Financial assistance may be provided as a last resort after non-financial assistance has been leveraged, where possible, to stabilize households in their current residence. These services are designed to mitigate the number of households becoming homeless.
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	HMIS is a locally administered database used to collect client-level information and data on the provision of housing and other services for homeless individuals and families and those at risk of becoming homeless. The Continuum of Care (CoC) collects data using an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards. The system reports aggregate data to assist with program monitoring and evaluation, outcome measurement, and fiscal management. The system is also used to identify trends and model predictive outcomes.
Housing Location	The Housing Location service works with households experiencing homelessness or at risk of housing loss by helping individuals or families quickly secure affordable and sustainable housing, while also advocating on their behalf with landlords and property managers.
Hypothermia Shelter	The Hypothermia Shelter Program is seasonal and operates from November 15 through March 31 of each year. Temporary beds provide adult residents 18 years or older with a warm place to sleep during winter months. Free transportation between the two Drop-In locations is provided to and from the program, and services include access to showers, laundry facilities, and meals (dinner and breakfast).
Homeless Outreach	Homeless Outreach services support vulnerable, unsheltered individuals—including those with serious mental illness—by addressing their immediate housing needs and connecting them to essential community resources that meet their basic needs. Through consistent, face-to-face engagement, staff work to build trust over time by meeting individuals wherever they are. The goal is to connect residents with primary behavioral healthcare, substance use services, and other supportive services that promote stability and enhance overall functioning within the community.

<sup>13</sup> [https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition\\_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf](https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf)

Component	Description
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) consists of indefinite leasing or rental assistance paired with supportive services provided for households meeting HUD's definition of chronic homelessness and having a qualifying disabling condition. The PSH program differs from other supportive housing programs due to its federally mandated eligibility criteria, such as a strict definition of chronic homelessness, long lengths of homelessness, and severe service needs such as a serious mental illness, a chronic physical disability, and/or a mental health diagnosis.
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	Rapid Re-Housing is an intervention, informed by a Housing First approach, that is a critical part of a community's effective homeless crisis response system. The goal of the Rapid Re-Housing program is to rapidly connect families and individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that may include the use of time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services. RRH programs help families and individuals living on the street or in emergency shelters solve the practical and immediate challenges to obtain permanent housing while reducing the amount of time they experience homelessness, avoiding a near-term return to homelessness, and linking to community resources that enable them to achieve housing stability in the long term.
Transitional Housing (TH)	Transitional Housing is designed to provide individuals and families experiencing homelessness, or those who are at risk of becoming homeless, with time-limited, interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing.
Youth Support and Crisis Services	Youth ages 18-24 experiencing a crisis may access various resources, such as shelter, housing, and supportive services, including re-entry, LGBTQ+ support, and food/nutrition assistance.

## 2.1. Service Changes

In response to the escalating demand for services, specifically during winter months, the Department of Family Services has, for the second year, continued a strategic expansion initiative by utilizing an adjacent facility for seasonal hypothermia sheltering. During this second year, utilization rates remained at or above capacity for the duration of the hypothermia season. Recognizing the importance of proactive measures in addressing homeless hypothermia prevention services, the CoC continues to engage with the community to identify more suitable accommodations for future endeavors. This concerted effort reflects our commitment to ensuring the welfare and safety of individuals experiencing homelessness in our community.

### 3. Point-in-Time Count Survey Analysis

---

In alignment with Continuums of Care nationwide, the Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) conducted the annual HUD Point-in-Time (PIT) Count on the evening of Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The sheltered count was executed through a census method, employing either electronic surveys within HMIS or paper surveys administered by staff at homeless services organizations, including various County Departments dedicated to assisting vulnerable populations. These efforts aimed to identify individuals or families experiencing sheltered homelessness on the night of the count.

The unsheltered count was conducted by a dedicated team of approximately forty volunteers, comprising Loudoun County Government personnel, local homeless service providers' staff, Veterans, and individuals with lived experience of homelessness. These volunteers traversed Loudoun County by vehicle and on foot throughout the night of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, despite temperatures as low as nine degrees Fahrenheit.

#### 3.1. Rural/Western Loudoun Outreach

As previously emphasized, Loudoun County encompasses densely populated urban areas and expansive rural regions. The vast expanse of rural areas poses challenges in identifying and quantifying homelessness during the PIT Count. Consequently, homeless outreach workers conducted targeted outreach across rural western Loudoun County, encompassing small towns and incorporated villages.

Individuals camping in wooded or rural areas may not readily identify themselves as experiencing homelessness despite residing in locations that would be deemed unsuitable for habitation in urban settings. Ongoing outreach efforts serve as a crucial strategy to engage with individuals experiencing homelessness and form an integral part of the Loudoun County Point-in-Time Count.

The outreach efforts for this year's PIT Count were enhanced by the active involvement of individuals with lived experience who played pivotal roles in guiding the efforts and conducting surveys among those similarly affected. Their profound familiarity with common locations within rural and western Loudoun proved immensely valuable in ensuring the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the data collected.

Beginning in summer 2025, the Information & Referral/Coordinated Entry program has planned strategic outreach to the rural areas of Loudoun to offer services and resource connections to residents by establishing a presence at public buildings such as libraries and community centers. This increased presence in the more rural areas will provide easier access to resources before the need for crisis intervention.

#### 3.2. Collaborative Efforts and Additional Considerations

The Loudoun CoC, alongside its community partners, collaborates tirelessly to document and address the needs of all who may be experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. In cases where volunteers noted suspected unsheltered households but were unable to establish contact, dedicated outreach teams were deployed in the ensuing days to connect with and survey individuals who were unsheltered on the night of the count. The deployment of homeless outreach teams focused our targeted approach to outreach and identifying individuals experiencing homelessness. This approach ensured effectiveness, organization, and coordination within our enumeration efforts.

It's imperative to acknowledge that the PIT Count serves as an estimate. HUD mandates CoCs to furnish counts of sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night, categorized by household types and additional subpopulations such as Veterans, youth, and chronically homeless individuals.

Local jurisdictions, including the Loudoun CoC, gather supplementary information such as spoken native languages, previous or current foster-care involvement, and sources of income, among others. Every individual surveyed retains the right to decline to answer survey questions or respond with 'I don't know'. Consequently, the data may include unknown or 'declined to answer' responses. HUD advises jurisdictions to extrapolate this unknown data when necessary, utilizing methodologies based on existing data, resulting in minor discrepancies between data reported to COG and data reported to HUD.

**Table 1** compares the Point-in-Time Count data for the past three years. After a marked increase between 2023 and 2024, the 2025 PIT saw a 17% decrease in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness from the previous year. On the night of the count, 252 individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness, of whom 140 individuals, or 55.55%, reported that it was their first time experiencing homelessness.

Table 1 Yearly Point-in-Time Totals

Yearly PIT Totals by Household and Individuals			
	2025	2024	2023
Overall Total Individuals	252	303	220
Sheltered	151	175	164
Unsheltered	101	128	56
Total Family Households (households with children under 18)	22	26	21
Total Single Adult Households (households with only adults over 18)	175	212	142
Total Number of Persons in Families	73	91	78
Total Number of Adults in Families	33	38	29
Total Number of children in families	40	53	49

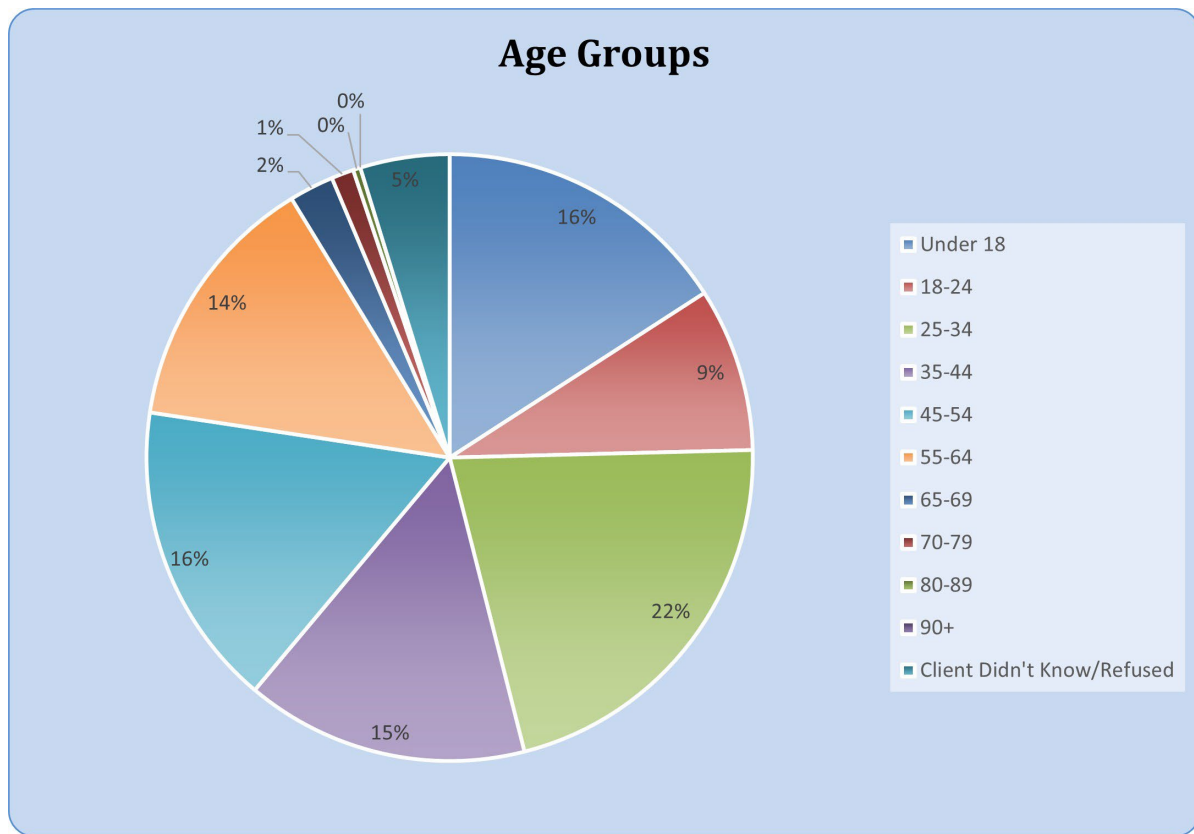
Individuals and families experiencing homelessness can be sheltered or unsheltered. Sheltered individuals and families include those in emergency and domestic violence shelters, hotels/motels paid for by a third party, hypothermia shelters, or transitional housing. In Loudoun, transitional housing is administered by a local nonprofit. In 2025, the nonprofit chose not to include its housing program as part of the PIT Count, contributing slightly to the decrease. Unsheltered individuals include those living in tents, in their vehicles, outdoors, or anywhere 'not fit for human habitation'.

### 3.3 Demographics

The PIT Count serves as a crucial mechanism for gathering demographic data mandated by HUD, enabling comprehensive tracking and assessment of changes over time among individuals and families experiencing homelessness. This data not only aids in fulfilling HUD requirements but also empowers local jurisdictions to effectively address community needs, discern emerging trends, and strategically plan for future resource allocation.

**Age:** According to the PIT Count data, 16% of those experiencing homelessness were children aged 17 or younger. On the night of the count, 22 family households with children 17 or under were experiencing homelessness, of which three were unsheltered. The number of children aged 17 or younger decreased by 1%, from 2024 to 2025, with the CoC continuing to prioritize households with children under 17 years old. Additionally, people aged 25-34 were the second largest demographic, accounting for 21.42% of those experiencing homelessness. One adult between 80-89 years old was identified as experiencing unsheltered homelessness. A breakdown of age categories can be found in Chart 1 below.

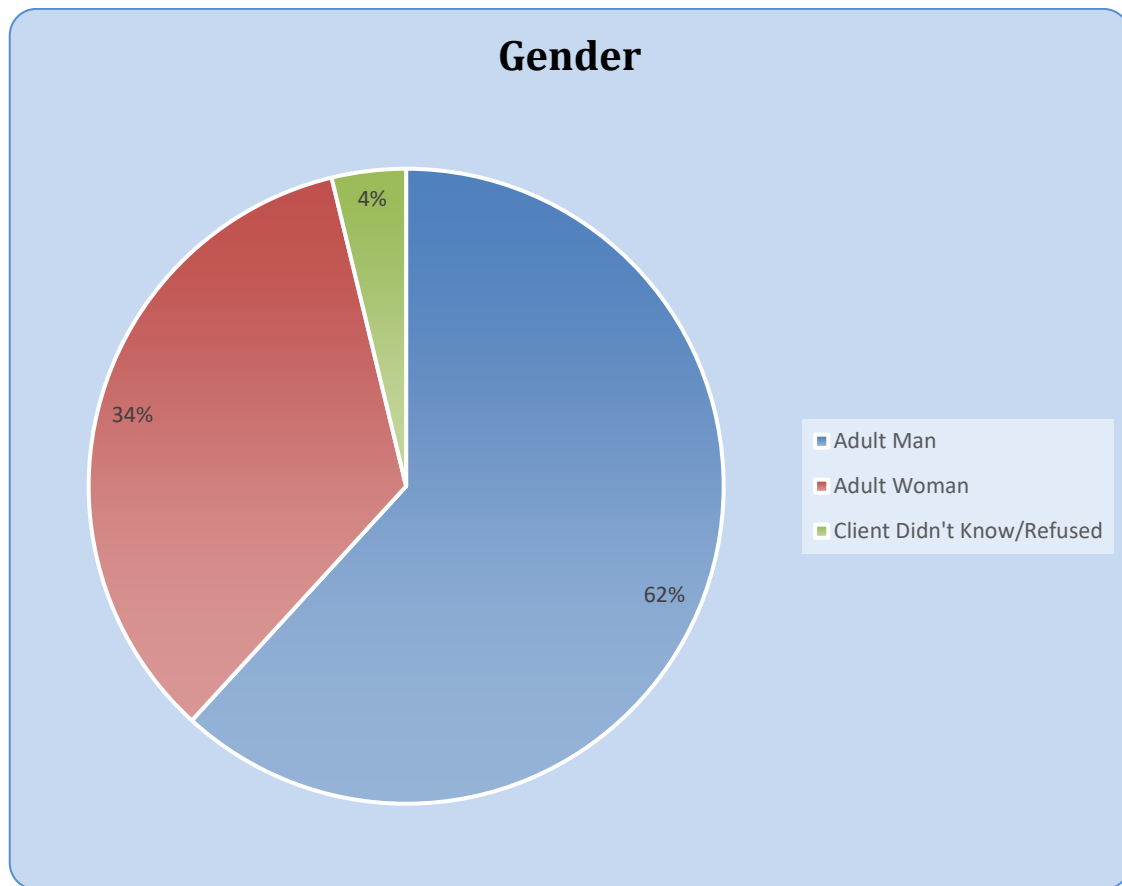
Chart 1 Loudoun CoC 2025 PIT Count Percentages by Age





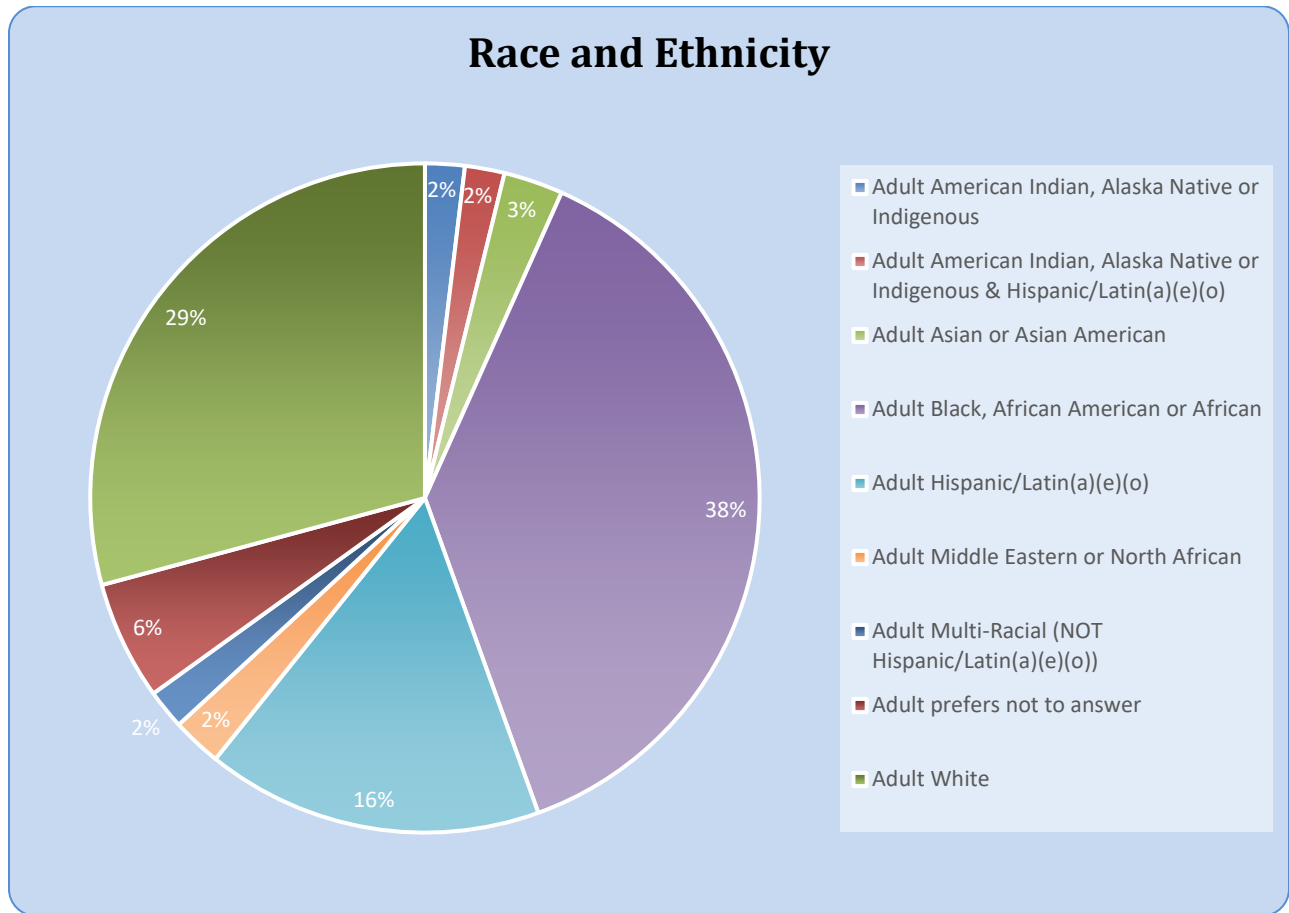
**Gender:** As with all survey questions, individuals have the right to choose all options that apply to them or decline to answer. In the 2025 PIT Count, 144 people identified as man/boy, and among them, 1 was the head of household. Those who identified as woman/girl totaled 100, of which 25 were heads of a household. Chart 2 below provides the percentages. No individuals identified as a gender other than woman or man.

Chart 2 Loudoun CoC 2025 PIT Count Percentages by Gender



**Race and Ethnicity:** Chart 3 shows the breakdown according to race for all adults. Thirty-seven percent of adults surveyed identified as Black, African American, or African, regardless of whether they were single or part of a household. This percentage remained unchanged from 2023. The chart shows the percentage of adults identifying as Hispanic, which declined from 76% in 2024 to 41% in 2025. The Loudoun CoC includes the Equality to Equity Committee, which is tasked with examining policies and procedures, access, and outcomes for equity.

Chart 3 Loudoun CoC 2025 PIT Count Percentages by Race & Ethnicity



## 4. Subpopulations

---

Chronic homelessness, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)<sup>14</sup>, pertains to individuals or heads of households with qualifying disabilities who have either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or have experienced at least four episodes of homelessness within the past three years, with the cumulative total of those episodes amounting to at least 12 months. The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count conducted in Loudoun County identified 27 individuals meeting the criteria for chronic homelessness, a 54% decrease from the previous year.

The Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program addresses chronic homelessness and is backed by federal and state grants. This initiative offers housing and intensive case management tailored to the needs of chronically homeless individuals. Within Loudoun County, the Continuum of Care (CoC) oversees 14 PSH beds and continually seeks additional funding to meet the escalating demand within the community.

In 2024, a surge in first-time homelessness was observed, with a 20% increase from 2023 to 2024. In 2025, the PIT Count revealed a 14% decrease from 2024 findings. The Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program offers vital support to individuals and families on the brink of eviction. Eligible applicants facing imminent court-ordered eviction within 14 days can access services encompassing case management, stability planning, and referrals to relevant community organizations. Financial assistance is provided as a last resort following an exhaustive exploration of non-financial interventions. In the fiscal year 2024, the program successfully extended assistance to nine (9) households through case management services, while an additional 16 households received support through a combination of financial assistance and case management, effectively serving a total of 50 individuals. The allocation of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), was instrumental in enhancing the Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program during this period. This funding facilitated the provision of vital services, enabling more households to access support and maintain stable housing.

Moreover, SLFRF resources were designated for Emergency Shelter and Case Management services, which established secure environments for homeless individuals and families seeking temporary accommodations, including hotel stays. Notably, SLFRF provided \$1 million specifically for an emergency eviction prevention program aimed at assisting households at risk of displacement during the winter months of 2023 and 2024. These essential initiatives played a crucial role in preventing numerous households from experiencing the trauma and instability associated with homelessness.

Although homelessness among Veterans continues to be addressed by the Loudoun CoC and is yielding progress, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT Count increased from 8 to 12 individuals in 2025. The Department of Veterans Affairs remains committed to combatting veteran homelessness through initiatives like the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, which delivers essential case management and support services to prevent homelessness among veterans and their families. Additionally, the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program, integrating HUD's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance with comprehensive case management and clinical services from the VA, offers a lifeline to homeless veterans seeking stable housing solutions. Loudoun County's Veterans Service Coordinator is pivotal in linking veterans with tailored community services to address their specific needs.

<sup>14</sup> CoC and ESG Homeless Eligibility - Definition of Chronic Homelessness - HUD Exchange

In 2024, the Point-in-Time count identified a significant rise in homelessness among transition-age youth (ages 18–24), underscoring the need for a targeted assessment of contributing factors and service gaps. This population, referred to as Transition Aged Youth or TAY, is frequently overlooked in homeless planning and lacks age-appropriate support. Economic hardships, limited housing options, and cultural expectations, such as being asked to leave home upon turning 18 or completing high school, can contribute to youth homelessness.

The impacts are far-reaching: mental health issues, substance use, victimization, involvement in the criminal justice system, unsafe sexual practices, and disrupted access to education and employment. These challenges not only jeopardize long-term outcomes for youth but also strain public systems. The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count identified 16 transition-age youth experiencing homelessness in Loudoun County—a decrease from 2024, but still reflective of unmet needs. The decrease from last year can be attributed to less support from youth service providers in facilitating the count. Among the youth counted in 2025, two had recently exited foster care, and five reported serious mental illness. These findings highlight critical service gaps in housing stability, behavioral health support, and transitional services. Table 2 provides a year-over-year comparison of PIT data for this population.

Table 2: Point-in-Time Data for Transition Age Youth (TAY)

PIT Counts Transition Age Youth Experiencing Homelessness			
	2025	2024	2023
Singles	15	63	13
TAY in Families	1	9	3
Total	16	72	16

To address the complex needs of this population, the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program collaborates closely with Public Child Welfare Agencies (PCWAs) to administer the Family Unification Program (FUP). This collaborative effort aims to prevent homelessness among families receiving support from PCWAs and youth transitioning out of foster care. The partnership between the HCV program and PCWAs is instrumental in providing stability and support, ensuring access to safe and secure housing options for those in need.

Moreover, local nonprofit organizations specializing in services tailored to transition-aged youth are pivotal in providing essential support. These nonprofits offer a comprehensive range of services customized to meet the unique needs of young individuals, including educational and employment assistance, access to food resources, empowerment programs, mentorship opportunities, and assistance in overcoming barriers to self-sufficiency.

Sustaining critical services for transition-age youth requires a diversified funding model that includes federal, state, and local grants, private donations, and volunteer support. This multi-source approach is essential for nonprofits to address service gaps, support youth development, and ensure successful transitions into adulthood.

Older adults (ages 65 and older) experiencing homelessness face greater risks, including higher rates of victimization, mortality, and depression compared to their housed peers. To address these complex needs, case managers specializing in Adult and Aging assess individuals' eligibility for placements in Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing Homes. They may also connect eligible individuals to in-home Companion services. However, access to these services is currently limited, as there is a waitlist, and

new applicants are not being accepted. This situation highlights significant gaps in care for this vulnerable population.

The 2025 PIT Count revealed a slight decrease in the number of older adults experiencing homelessness, with 10 individuals aged 65 or older, down from 14 individuals in 2024. This signifies the additional support provided but also underscores the pressing need to address homelessness among the aging within our communities.

As part of the Loudoun Department of Housing and Community Development's Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan, senior housing developments such as Loudoun View Senior (Sterling), Poland Hill Senior (Chantilly) and Avonlea Senior (under construction - Dulles) remain part of the County's plan to meet the needs of this population.

It is important to recognize that older adults experiencing homelessness face significant vulnerabilities. They are twice as likely to fall victim to victimization, and have nearly a 2% chance of mortality<sup>15</sup>, and are at elevated risk of depression compared to their housed counterparts.

To address these multifaceted challenges, Adult and Aging case managers play a pivotal role in screening clients to determine eligibility for Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing Home placements. Furthermore, eligible clients may benefit from Companion task-based services provided at home. However, it is essential to note that this program currently has a waitlist and does not accept new applicants.

By recognizing and addressing the unique needs of older adults experiencing homelessness, we can mitigate the adverse effects of homelessness on this vulnerable population, promoting their well-being and quality of life.

Survivors of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault are often characterized as the "shadow of the pandemic." Domestic violence has exhibited a disturbing surge in prevalence over recent years. The impact of this distressing trend is underscored by the findings of the 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, which illuminated the extent of individuals and families affected by current or previous incidents of domestic or sexual violence. Detailed statistics regarding these occurrences are outlined in **Table 3** below.

Table 3 Point-in-Time Domestic Violence Trends

PIT Count Domestic Violence Trends			
	2025	2024	2023
Domestic Violence – Current	12	18	26
Domestic Violence - History	32	16	19
Survivors of DV and First-time experiencing homelessness	21	17	17

Domestic violence is the leading cause. Approximately one in four women find themselves experiencing homelessness primarily because of intimate partner violence. As of 2024, women experienced intimate partner violence at higher rates than men. It's worth noting, women are disproportionately affected by gender-based violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking, and sexual assault.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36036902/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.cawc.org/news/understanding-domestic-violence-and-homelessness/>

**Table 4** provides year-over-year comparisons gathered from the questions asked for in the PIT survey. These questions allow the CoC to deeply assess the needs of those experiencing homelessness and engage with community partners that serve individuals experiencing these circumstances.

Table 4 Comparison of Subpopulations by Year

Comparison of PIT Subpopulation Totals, 2025 and 2024				
	2025	2024	Percent Change	
Chronic Health Condition	34	27	26%	▲
Chronically Homeless	23	50	54%	▼
Co-Occurring Disorder	13	10	30%	▲
Formerly Institutionalized	15	13	15%	▲
Foster Care History	12	12	-	-
HIV/AIDS	0	3	100%	▼
Limited English	19	47	60%	▼
Physical Disability	24	22	9%	▲
Serious Mental Illness	40	61	34%	▼
Substance Use Disorder	4	18	78%	▼

## 5. Key Findings

In 2025, a total of 197 households (Adult-only and Households with children) were experiencing homelessness. Among these, there were 22 family households and 175 single adult households. This marks a 17% decrease compared to the previous year's Point-in-Time (PIT) Count in 2024, which identified 238 homeless households. Despite inflation and economic factors that still impact the Northern Virginia region and the entire U.S., Loudoun County experienced a decrease in those experiencing homelessness as documented by the 2025 PIT Count. Factors which may have impacted the count are:

- Temperatures below 10° Fahrenheit
- Additional funding to prevent evictions
- Local funding for rental assistance
- Increased program outreach efforts
- Increased coordination of CoC partnerships and services

Despite the daunting increase in homelessness as indicated in the 2024 PIT Count, several factors have made an overall impact in reducing the count for 2025.

### 5.1. Key Factor: Temperature

On the night of the PIT Count, January 22, 2025 and into the early hours of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recorded low temperatures at Sterling/Dulles in

Loudoun County between 4° and 8° Fahrenheit.<sup>17</sup> With temperatures this low, it is likely that individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness sought refuge with friends and family in order to remain safe from hypothermia and frostbite. The Loudoun CoC's Hypothermia Sheltering remained at capacity throughout January where participants were enumerated as those who were considered sheltered.

## 5.2. Key Factor: Increase in Eviction Prevention

Another factor that may have resulted in decreased numbers of households experiencing homelessness is the additional funds designated through State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) made available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Beginning in last 2023 through much of 2024, a local nonprofit received the contract to administer funding to households facing eviction thus preventing homelessness. This eviction prevention assistance along with the Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program offered through Continuum of Care contributed to households remaining housed.

## 5.3. Key Factor: Local Rental Assistance

Loudoun County's Department of Family Services, Public Assistance and Supports Division, continues to provide short-term case management and limited financial assistance for Loudoun households facing challenging circumstances. Residents access assistance through the Information & Referral/Coordinated Entry line. After a brief triage, callers needing rental assistance are referred to the most appropriate program to suit their situation. The most accessed assistance through the Community Support Services program is rent and utility assistance. Dedicated case managers work with households to assess the most pressing need(s), evaluate available resources, and work with landlords and utility providers to resolve the crisis. Community Support Services provides a robust array of case management services specifically geared to assist households at the onset of difficulties. Assistance through the program is limited, but it is often enough to allow the household a window to resolve the crisis. This short-term case management program is often all that is needed to keep the household from accumulating arrears and eventually being evicted, making it extremely difficult to secure another lease.

## 5.4. Key Factor: Increased Program Outreach

The Information & Referral/Coordinated Entry program is the telephone access point into the Continuum of Care's homeless services, including information about and referrals to emergency shelter, drop-in services, hypothermia sheltering (seasonal), homelessness prevention programs, rental assistance, and housing programs. It also provides detailed information about resources and services in Loudoun County, much like a local 211 service. In addition, the program incorporates outreach services by participating in local community events to spread awareness to the community, giving efficient access to resources that meet their needs. The goal of program outreach is to educate residents about the resources available through this one phone number and to emphasize a proactive approach when a crisis befalls a household. By seeking assistance early on, households can likely avoid spiraling toward eviction and homelessness. The program has recently expanded and targeted outreach to more rural areas of Loudoun County to reach all residents.

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=lwx>



### 5.5. Key Factor: Increased Continuum of Care Coordination

The Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) which is responsible for homeless services in Loudoun County has made continuous efforts to improve overall coordination of HUD and State funded homeless service programs including outreach to community partners, expansion of the range of services offered and the invitation of those with experience and expertise to participate in CoC membership and CoC Governance Board; while inviting relevant stakeholders to regular committee and workgroup meetings all to improve services. The CoC conducts the annual Point-in-Time Count and participates as a member in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, where partners of neighboring CoCs collaborate and share success stories and best practices. This well-rounded effort provides clear and improved guidance to CoC decision makers and service providers. Programmatic standards and benchmarks are continually being developed and adjusted as data and performance are periodically monitored. The result is top-tier services offered to those in need and ongoing monitoring for continued improvement.

## 6. Factors that Impact Homelessness

---

Factors such as high rental rates and insufficient housing inventory continue to burden residents in Loudoun County.

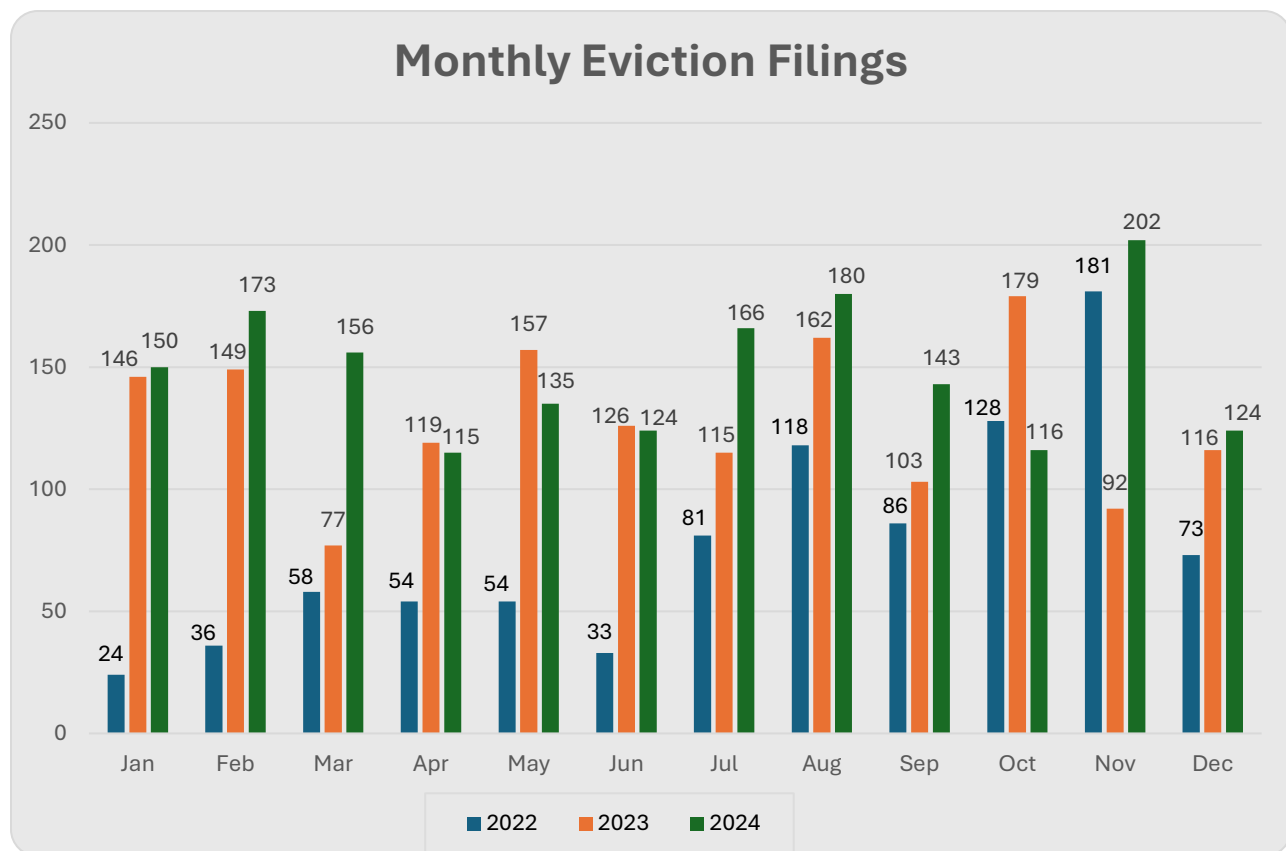
The National Low Income Housing Coalition identifies a shortage of rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income households (ELI) whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% of their area median income (AMI).<sup>18</sup> This number is slightly improved from the previous year. Many of these households are severely cost-burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. Severely cost-burdened poor households are more likely than other renters to sacrifice other necessities like healthy food and healthcare to pay the rent and to experience unstable housing situations like evictions.

<sup>18</sup> Virginia | National Low Income Housing Coalition (nlihc.org)

In 2025, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment in the 20176 zip code in 20176 is \$2,330. The annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's Fair Market Rental rate is \$62,925. This leaves the household with minimal financial resources to cover essential expenditures such as food, utilities, transportation, and basic necessities.

**Chart 5**, published by the Civil Court Data Initiative<sup>19</sup>, shows as of April 2025 the monthly eviction filing rates over the past three years. The data reveals that eviction filings in 2024 met or exceeded filings for the same period in 2023.

Chart 5 Monthly Eviction Filings in Loudoun County by Year



Even more challenging to quantify are informal evictions. An informal eviction occurs when a household leaves their residence as soon as they cannot pay their rent or receive notice of delinquency. Many families, especially those with limited English and/or a poor understanding of tenant rights or those wanting to avoid conflict, may choose to vacate rather than contact the court or homeless services system. Regardless of the outcome, an eviction can make it extremely difficult to rent again, as an eviction can follow an individual for years into the future.

<sup>19</sup> <https://civilcourtdata.lsc.gov/data/eviction/virginia/loudoun>

Default judgments occur when a tenant does not appear for the scheduled hearing. Under Virginia state law<sup>20</sup>, an automatic ruling is rendered in favor of the landlord if a tenant does not appear in court. A tenant may be unable to appear if they cannot take time off work, lack access to childcare or transportation, are sick, do not understand (due to language barriers), or for any other reason. Having a judgment rendered due to the inability to appear in court disproportionately impacts lower-income tenants; they are more likely to be cost-burdened with housing and housing insecure and are less likely to have access to paid leave, transportation, and affordable childcare<sup>21</sup>. Additionally, not only will the landlord be granted a default judgment in their favor, but the landlord will not need to wait 10 days to get the writ of possession, as it can be obtained immediately.

The decrease in rental inventory and the rise in monthly rents, worsened by rising inflation, make it extremely challenging to find affordable housing for individuals earning below the area's median income. Many families struggle to locate low-income housing options. At this point, they may have resorted to staying with friends, paying for an extended-stay hotel, sleeping in their cars, or seeking emergency shelter assistance as a last resort.

On September 8, 2021, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors adopted the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan (UHNSP)<sup>22</sup>. The purpose of the UHNSP is to define how the County will address unmet housing needs strategically and systematically over the short and long term. The Loudoun County 2019 General Plan defines unmet housing needs as “the lack of housing options for households earning up to 100 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI).”

The Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan (UHNSP) entered its third year of implementation in FY2024. It aims to introduce new strategies and programs that bolster Loudoun County's approach to addressing housing needs across the continuum.

The Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development regularly furnishes quarterly updates to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors' Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC), offering comprehensive insights into the progress made towards the objectives delineated within the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan.

New housing developments may secure funding through various avenues, including the County's Affordable Multi-Family Housing Loan Program. This program extends gap financing to affordable multi-family rental housing projects and is supported by allocations from the County of Loudoun Housing Trust, in addition to other grant opportunities such as Virginia Housing's Amazon Resources Enabling Affordable Community Housing (REACH) Program.

With a targeted goal of achieving 16,000 attainable housing units by 2040, "attainable housing" encompasses any housing available for sale or rent annually that is affordable to families with incomes at or below 100 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). As of 2024, the 100% AMI threshold for the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area for a family of four stood at \$154,700.

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/scv/rulesofcourt.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> <http://ilarc.virginia.gov/pdfs/reports/Rpt559.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/167024/Unmet-Housing-Needs-Strategic-Plan-Approved-9821-with-Appendices>

Table 6 Attainable Housing in Development in Loudoun County

Development	Election District	Affordable Multifamily Housing Loan Amount	County Award Date	Estimated Delivery	Total Number of Attainable Units
Tuscarora Crossing, Phase 1	Leesburg	\$5.85 million	February 2020	Summer 2027	90
Tuscarora Crossing, Phase 2	Leesburg	\$4.5 million	February 2021	Fall 2027	90
AvonLea Senior*	Dulles	\$6.01 million	February 2023	Fall 2026	130
Old Arcola School	Dulles	\$2 million	February 2024	Winter 2027	73
Commonwealth Lofts	Broad Run	\$7.57 million	February 2024	Winter 2027	94
Atlantic Boulevard	Sterling	\$6.34 million	June 2024	Fall 2026	80
Cedar Terrace	Dulles	\$3.9 million	June 2024	Fall 2026	52
*AvonLea Senior began construction in December 2024.		TOTAL			609

During 1st and 2nd Quarter FY 2025, the Board of Supervisors also approved six (6) residential rezonings which will result in attainable housing.

To meet these attainable housing goals, a multifaceted approach is underway, encompassing the creation of new housing units and facilitating access to existing ones through a myriad of programs and strategies. These include the Affordable Multi-Family Housing Loan Program, Affordable Dwelling Unit (ADU) rental and purchase initiatives, the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, provisions for down payment and closing cost assistance, and amendments to zoning and land use ordinances.

In response to pressing housing challenges, and in addition to the disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to offer renters a crucial financial lifeline, the Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development took the proactive step of temporarily opening the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waitlist for the first time in over a decade. Visit [www.loudoun.gov/housingneeds](http://www.loudoun.gov/housingneeds) to find updates regarding the UHNSP and track implementation.

Discrimination based on race, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other factors significantly contributes to higher rates of homelessness among marginalized communities in the United States. In Virginia, historical and systemic housing discrimination has disproportionately affected Black, Latino, and Asian populations. Practices such as redlining, race-based mortgage programs, and discriminatory appraisals have led to persistent housing inequities.<sup>23</sup>

In Loudoun County, despite its affluence, homelessness has been on the rise, with the number of individuals experiencing homelessness doubling from 105 in 2022 to 220 in 2023.<sup>24</sup> The county's demographic shifts, including a growing Hispanic and Asian population and an increase in foreign-born residents, highlight the need to address housing disparities.<sup>25</sup>

Nationally, African Americans represent 13% of the general population but account for 40% of the

<sup>23</sup> <https://dmz1.dhcd.virginia.gov>.

<sup>24</sup> <https://patch.com/virginia/ashburn/homelessness-doubles-loudoun-county-2023-report>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/174279/Regional-Fair-Housing-Plan-Loudoun-March-2023-FINAL-PowerPoint?utm>

homeless population, indicating a significant overrepresentation.<sup>26</sup> Latino homelessness is also on the rise, with a 7.6% increase reported in 2022.<sup>27</sup> These disparities are further exacerbated by discrimination in housing access, employment opportunities, and social services. Addressing these systemic issues is crucial for reducing homelessness among marginalized communities.

## 7. Housing Inventory and Services

The Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) and local nonprofits rely on funding from key entities such as The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), as well as local grants to sustain programs aimed at aiding individuals experiencing homelessness in securing stable housing and addressing crisis needs. Nevertheless, prioritizing measures to prevent individuals and families from entering the homeless services system is of paramount significance, potentially outweighing the importance of other interventions. Increased funding for rental assistance, such as Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), and Rapid Re-housing Programs (RRH) is needed. Keeping individuals and families housed reduces housing instability, improves health, improves outcomes for children, and prevents homelessness<sup>24</sup>.

### 7.1. Year-round and Winter Inventory of Beds

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is an inventory of homeless services programs within the Continuum of Care that provide beds and units dedicated to serving people experiencing homelessness. The Housing Inventory reflected in **Table 7** indicates the number of beds on the night of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count. Notably, the emergency shelter bed inventory operated by a local nonprofit was not included in the 2025 count. Additionally, the finalized Housing Inventory Count has yet to be submitted to HUD at the time of submission to MWCOG. Therefore, some data may change slightly before HUD submission.

Table 7 2025 Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

<b>Housing Inventory Count Year-Round Beds</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<i>Emergency Shelter</i>	70	91	57
<i>Overflow Beds</i>	14	8	50
<i>Domestic Violence Emergency Shelter Beds</i>	12	12	12
<i>Hypothermia Shelter Beds (November – March)</i>	30	30	26
<i>Overflow Beds</i>		-	13
<i>Year-Round Beds</i>	-	6	37
<i>Transitional Housing</i>			
<i>Rapid Re-housing Beds</i>	45	45	25
<i>Permanent Supportive Housing Beds</i>	14	14	16

On the night of the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, the Hypothermia Shelter efficiently utilized temporary

<sup>26</sup> <https://endhomelessness.org/resources/research-and-analysis/demographic-data-project-race>

<sup>27</sup> [https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Latino-Homelessness\\_ResearchBrief\\_01242023\\_FINAL](https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Latino-Homelessness_ResearchBrief_01242023_FINAL)

cots to accommodate the heightened demand. However, as documented in the Housing Inventory Count, the Shelter consistently offers 30 dedicated beds throughout the standard winter operating months.

## 7.2. Permanent Housing Inventory Count

In addition to the year-round beds dedicated to serving individuals experiencing homelessness, the Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) administers the Rapid Re-housing (RRH) program. As previously outlined, this initiative aims to promptly secure housing for individuals who are literally homeless, leveraging federal and state funding along with a Housing First approach.

Through a combination of funding allocated across 2023 and 2024, the Loudoun CoC allocates resources to provide 45 Rapid Re-Housing beds to accommodate both individuals and families. Rental assistance under the Rapid Re-housing program must adhere to two essential standards:

- Rent Reasonableness: Ensuring that the rental rate is comparable to or lower than other similar units in the area.
- Fair Market Rent (FMR): Ensuring that the rental cost, inclusive of utilities, does not exceed the Fair Market Rent established by HUD for the respective unit size in the area.

The Loudoun CoC remains committed to securing additional funding to expand support for individuals and families experiencing homelessness through the RRH program. Moreover, the CoC actively collaborates with landlords to foster open communication and collaboration, thereby enhancing services for vulnerable households within the community.

## 8. Making a Difference

---

The Continuum of Care (CoC), in conjunction with local government and nonprofit partners, is steadfast in its commitment to providing equity in service provision by supporting those who find themselves either unstably housed or literally homeless and attempting to match them to the housing that meets their needs. Those who find themselves facing homelessness require preventive strategies, whether through connecting households to vital public benefits and support such as the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or through interventions like the Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program (HPD), which furnishes comprehensive case management to stabilize households and avert homelessness. If individuals must face homelessness in Loudoun County, the goal is to make their experience rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The story of a single mother who was referred to the Rapid Rehousing (RRH) program through the victim services provider after experiencing a period of instability highlights the impact of efforts through the Loudoun CoC. With her young daughter by her side, she was determined to create a better life for her family. Despite the challenges, the participant remained hopeful, and with the support of the RRH case manager, she began taking steps toward a fresh start.

Within just three months of entering the RRH program, the participant and her daughter secured stable housing in Loudoun. It was the first major milestone in a journey filled with courage, hard work, and transformation.

Over the course of eight months, Rapid Rehousing provided rental assistance and personalized case management that helped the family thrive. The mother turned her passion for traditional baking into a small business, renting a bookcase at a local boutique to sell homemade baked goods inspired by her home country. This creative outlet became a source of income and empowerment, allowing her to connect with her community and share a piece of her culture.

At the same time, the participant ensured her child's education remained uninterrupted. She secured internet access at home with support from the local school system. Through the McKinney-Vento program, the child continued attending the original school thanks to reliable transportation services. These resources have brought a much-needed sense of stability and routine for the growing child.

The participant also transitioned from part-time to full-time employment, significantly increasing her income and strengthening her path toward independence.

After eight months in the program, the participant is graduating with \$2,600 in rental credit—enough to cover a month and a half of rent in advance. The current lease continues through August, and the participants plan to renew it without further assistance. This once struggling and fearful mother has created a sustainable future for herself and her child, built on resilience, determination, and support. This participant's story is but one example of what is possible when people are provided with stable housing and given the tools, resources, and encouragement they need to succeed. This journey from crisis to confidence is not just a personal victory, it's a celebration of strength, community, and hope.



## 9. Lessons for the Future

---

The emergency shelter serves as a critical, short-term, life-saving crisis intervention; however, emphasizing access to quality, affordable housing, livable wages, and essential services such as affordable childcare, skills training, and food resources is a multi-faceted approach to helping families remain housed. These comprehensive supports contribute significantly to overall housing stability and are pivotal in reducing homelessness within our community. While programs coordinated through the Continuum of Care (CoC) have demonstrated success, it is imperative to recognize that addressing homelessness requires a collective effort beyond the scope of any single entity. Broad community support is essential to ensure that all residents have access to permanent, suitable housing where they can thrive.

Our coordinated system of homeless services faces various operational challenges, including constraints related to shelter capacity, staffing limitations, and funding constraints. The substantial increase in rental rates and historically low vacancy rates, exacerbated by the limited availability of affordable housing, have led to heightened housing instability across the Washington metropolitan region.

The ongoing efforts of the Loudoun CoC, local government, and critical nonprofit and faith-based partners remain crucial in preventing a larger crisis from unfolding. Through collaborative initiatives, more individuals and families now have access to safe accommodation and housing resources. However, it is evident that much work remains to address the complex challenges of homelessness effectively. Continued collaboration and commitment from all stakeholders are essential as we strive to create a community where everyone can secure stable housing and thrive.

## 10.Call to Action

---

As with Continuums of Care (CoCs) nationwide, the breadth and efficacy of services and programs are heavily reliant on community-based providers, including nonprofits and faith-based organizations. The Loudoun Continuum of Care (CoC) remains steadfast in its commitment to expanding resources by welcoming additional organizations eager to address homelessness within Loudoun County. Recognizing the critical role of collaboration, both federal and state funding opportunities are available to community-based providers seeking to engage in a comprehensive, community-wide solution.

The Loudoun CoC actively encourages local service providers and those interested in offering support services to pursue funding opportunities. To facilitate this process, Loudoun CoC regularly disseminates information regarding funding opportunities to its membership through an email listserv. This ensures that all stakeholders are informed of available funding streams, empowering them to explore potential avenues for collaboration and resource acquisition in the ongoing effort to combat homelessness within our community. For more information, please visit [Loudoun.gov/CoC](https://loudoun.gov/CoC).

# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

## Description of the Homeless Continuum of Care

The Montgomery County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) is a public-private partnership that includes local and state government agencies, non-profit service providers, people with lived expertise, elected officials, landlords, and many other stakeholders who have a role in preventing and ending homelessness. The CoC's governing board is the Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH). Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH) is a division of the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and is the CoC Lead and Collaborative Applicant for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Members of the CoC and ICH work in partnership with one another and are committed to ending homelessness. There is a comprehensive response system in place that aims to prevent homelessness whenever possible, and if it cannot be prevented, the goal is for a household's experience to be rare, brief, and one-time only. Montgomery County fully integrates the Housing First philosophy throughout all CoC services and programs. Housing First recognizes that people are most successful when they have a choice in housing and seeks to eliminate barriers to obtaining housing.



The Montgomery County CoC provides a full range of services to people experiencing homelessness, including:

- Prevention and Diversion Strategies
- Outreach and Engagement
- Emergency and Transitional Shelter
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing

In February of this year, the ICH launched its process to update its strategic plan to end homelessness in Montgomery County. This April, the ICH held focus groups with a wide range of

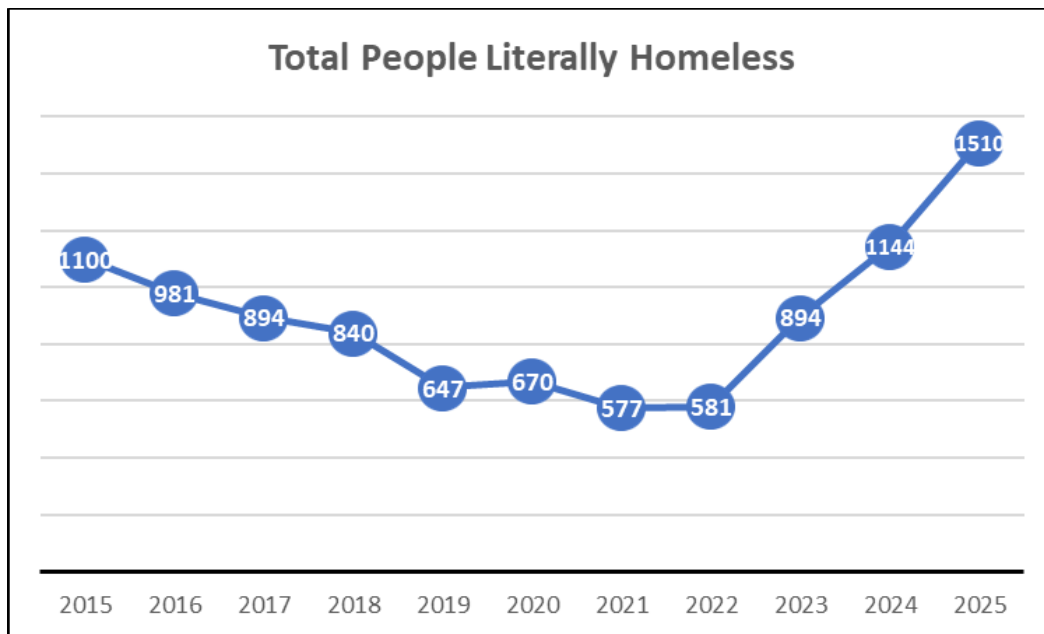
stakeholders including people with lived experience (PWLE), non-profit service providers, representatives from other systems of care and government agencies, and elected officials. Toward the end of the last strategic plan, the ICH voted to maintain the six primary strategies it had been applying: 1. Reduce Racial Disparities Across the System; 2. Build and Support Strong and Adaptable Programs; 3. Build and Support Affordable Housing Solutions within the Homeless Continuum; 4. Coordinate Effectively Across Other Systems of Care; 5. Increase and Diversify Funding; and 6. Educate and Advocate for Change. The current strategic planning process will focus on updating the action steps needed to accomplish these goals. Feedback obtained from stakeholders in the focus groups and at the upcoming Community-Wide Meeting will inform and shape the action steps and objectives.

This report will provide a Point-in-Time Survey Analysis, a review of the strategic planning efforts, and accomplishments of the ICH strategy to end homelessness in Montgomery County.

### **Point-in-Time Survey Analysis**

Montgomery County's Point-in-Time (PIT) survey was conducted on the night of January 29, 2025. The County is deeply thankful for the support and collaboration of the 125 community volunteers who canvassed more than 500 square miles in the County. The teams consisted of experienced outreach workers and the many volunteers who signed up to participate. Training was provided on the night of the count to prepare the teams to conduct the unsheltered survey. Shelter and housing partners also counted all the people served in their programs on the same night. A total of 1510 unhoused individuals were counted that night. This is an overall increase of 32% from 2024.

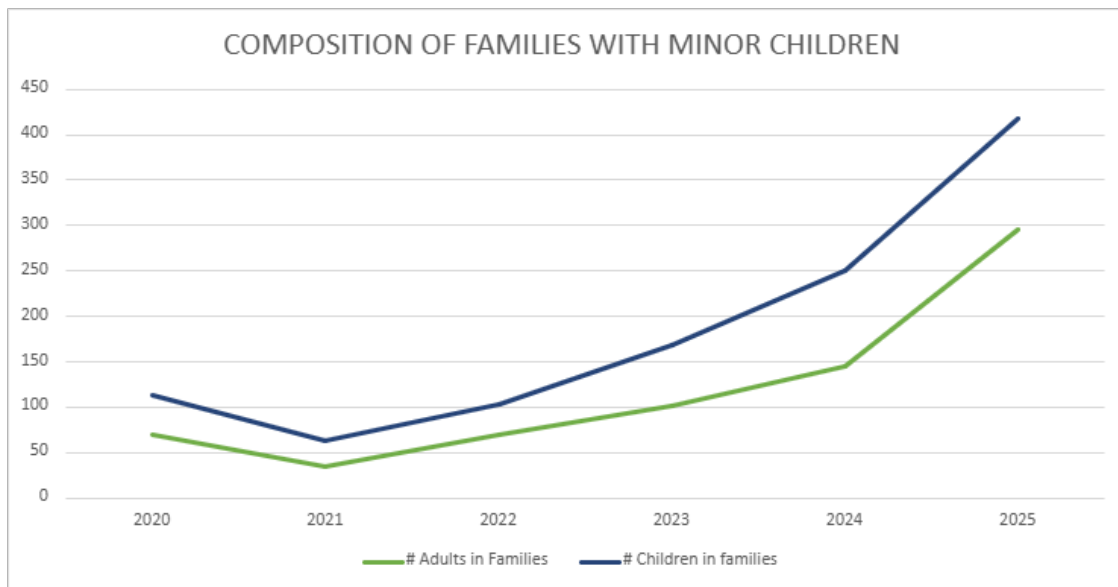




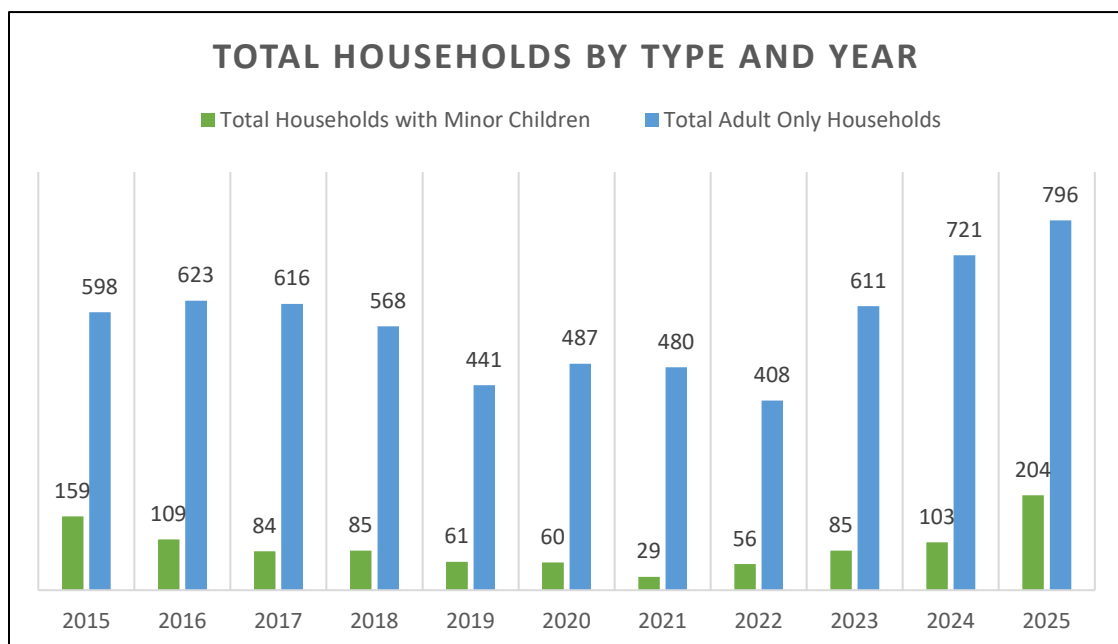
Numerous factors contribute to this increase, including the lack of affordable housing in Montgomery County, continually increasing rents, inflation, and the end of the Covid-era Federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds, leading to increased evictions. Of the 798 individual adults counted as literally homeless on the night of the PIT, 279 or 35% did not indicate their last permanent residence was in Montgomery County.

The factors contributing to the increase in homelessness have had a particularly adverse impact on families since the pandemic. Overall, the number of people counted in family households increased from 396 in 2024 to 712 this year, an 80% increase. The number of households counted increased to 204 from 103 the previous year, a 98% increase. This year's average household size was a family of four, the same as last year.

It remains challenging for larger families to locate affordable housing units with three or more bedrooms. Families must overcome several barriers that limit access to stable, affordable housing and essential supports. Key barriers are rising rents, stagnant wages, and the erosion of the social safety net. Many families are rent burdened, spending a significant percentage of their income on housing, leaving little left for emergencies or basic needs. Inadequate access to childcare, limited access to healthcare, and underfunded public benefits also fail to provide the supports needed to help families remain housed. Moreover, domestic violence continues to contribute to the increased number of single parents experiencing homelessness, creating layers of disadvantage that make it increasingly difficult for families to avoid or exit homelessness.

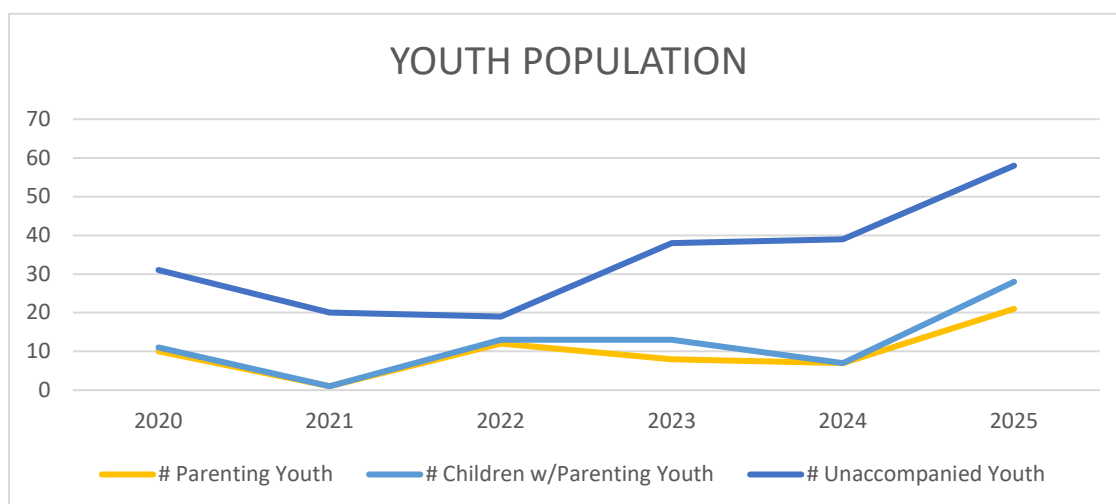


The chart below shows a 28% increase in family households experiencing homelessness from 2015 to 2025. There was a significant decrease in family homelessness leading up to and during the pandemic while the eviction moratorium was in effect and the federally funded Covid Rent Relief Program was available. However, once these preventive measures were not available, the economic impact of the pandemic began causing housing instability of families. This trend is clearly evident in the drastic increase in family homelessness over the past three years.



The chart below indicates that the number of youth has increased, along with the number of parenting youth and their children between 2024 and 2025. The upward trend in youth

homelessness demonstrates the continued need to utilize youth centered approaches to identify and engage youth at risk of and currently experiencing homelessness.



It is important to acknowledge that the annual PIT survey is just a snapshot of one night. Comparing the PIT count with the total number of households served by type each year provides a more thorough understanding of the system’s capacity and operation. Using data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the following chart demonstrates the contrast between the PIT count and the number of households that experience homelessness each year. The PIT reflects less than half of the households served as literally homeless each year.

Yearly Totals by Household and Individuals				
ES, TH, SH, SO	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Overall Total Households</b>	1879	1775	1820	2422
Total Family Households	159	200	215	310
Total Single Adult Households	1720	1575	1605	2112
Total Number of Persons in Families	500	658	766	1117
Total Number of Adults in Families	212	252	296	438
Total Number of Children in Families	288	406	470	648
Total Number of Individual Adults	1816	1654	1679	2124

### *Vulnerabilities and Life Experiences*

Among adult-only households, nearly all the percentages of vulnerabilities and life experiences reported either decreased or remained the same between 2024 and 2025.

- Reports of the current episode of homelessness due to domestic violence decreased by 50%.
- Co-occurring disorders decreased by 33%.
- Chronic health conditions decreased by 20%.
- Substance use disorder decreased by 14%.
- Serious mental illness decreased by 7%.

There was an 8% increase in the percentage of reports of a history of domestic violence and a 3% increase in reports of a history of foster care.

To address the needs of this population, the CoC continues to work with our partnering systems of care, including the behavioral health system (BHCS) and the corrections and rehabilitation system (DOCR), to ensure that those experiencing homelessness have ready access to the resources and services they need. The SEPH Health Care for the Homeless Program has expanded the psychiatric services it offers in shelters and permanent supportive housing programs by adding a psychiatric nurse position who assists the psychiatrist with the engagement of those needing services. SEPH also has a contract to provide peer support to individuals and expects the number of peer specialists working in the CoC to continue increasing.

Households without Children		
Vulnerability/Experience	# Self-Reporting	% Of Total
Substance Use Disorder	92	12%
Serious Mental Illness	209	26%
Co-Occurring Disorder	50	6%
HIV/AIDS	9	1%
Domestic Violence History (any time in the past) - DVH	106	13%
Domestic Violence (this episode) - DVC	16	2%
Physical Disability	175	22%
Chronic Health Condition	60	8%
Limited English	62	8%
Foster Care	35	4%
Formerly Institutionalized	90	11%

The number of vulnerabilities and life experiences reported in the PIT count increased overall among adult households with children.



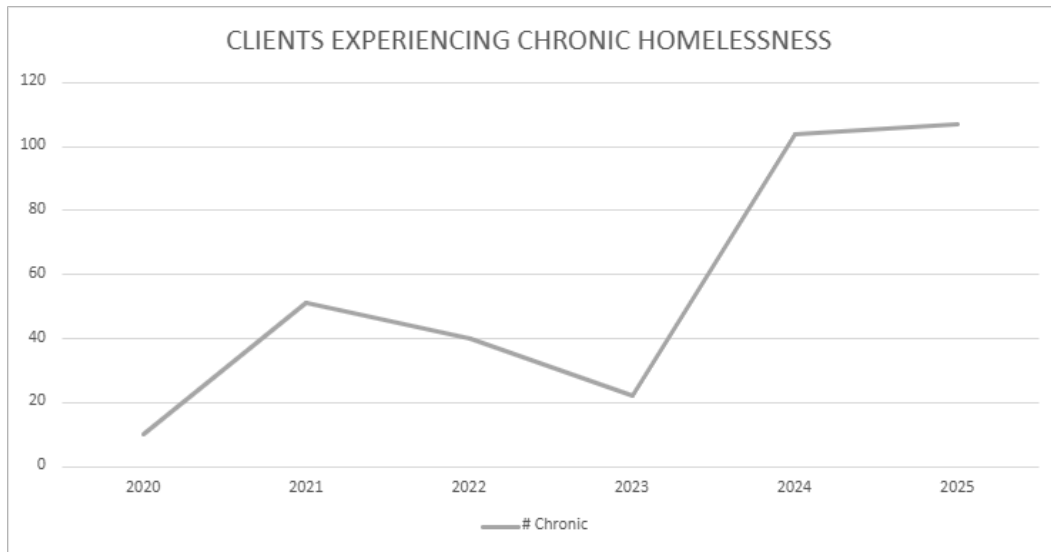
- Report of the current episode of homelessness due to domestic violence increased by 50%.
- Co-occurring disorders increased by 100%.
- Serious mental illness increased by 6%.

There was also a 50% decrease in the percentage of physical disability reported and a 38% decrease in the percentage of chronic health conditions reported. There was a 6% decrease in the percentage of reports of a history of domestic violence. The reality that so many families are losing their housing underscores the need for greater access to both preventive services and behavioral health services.

Adults in Households with Children		
Vulnerability/ Experience	# Self-Reporting	% Of Total
Substance Use Disorder	8	3%
Serious Mental Illness	49	18%
Co-Occurring Disorder	6	2%
HIV/AIDS	0	0%
Domestic Violence History (any time in the past) - DVH	83	31%
Domestic Violence (this episode) -DVC	63	24%
Physical Disability	17	6%
Chronic Health Condition	13	5%
Limited English	21	8%
Foster Care (5)	3	1%
Formerly Institutionalized	3	1%

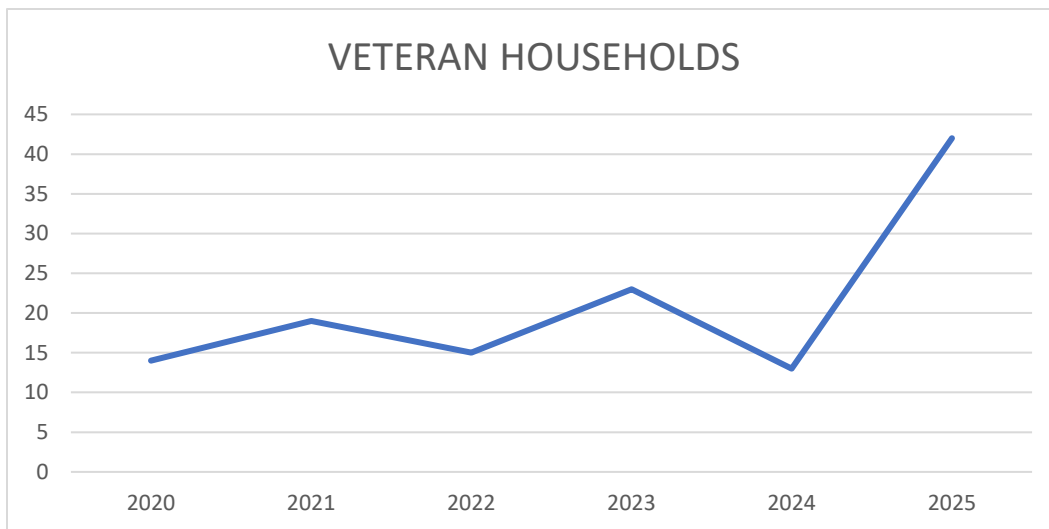
### *Chronic Homelessness*

In the midst of the many economic challenges and limited resources, adults with one or more disability must overcome various barriers to locating and obtaining housing, which can lead to a long length of time experiencing unsheltered or sheltered homelessness. Individuals who have an episode of homelessness lasting more than one year, or four episodes of homelessness in three years, and a disability, meet the definition of chronic homelessness. The increasing number of chronically homeless individuals in Montgomery County demonstrates the disproportionate impact of housing instability on vulnerable and marginalized populations.



### Veterans

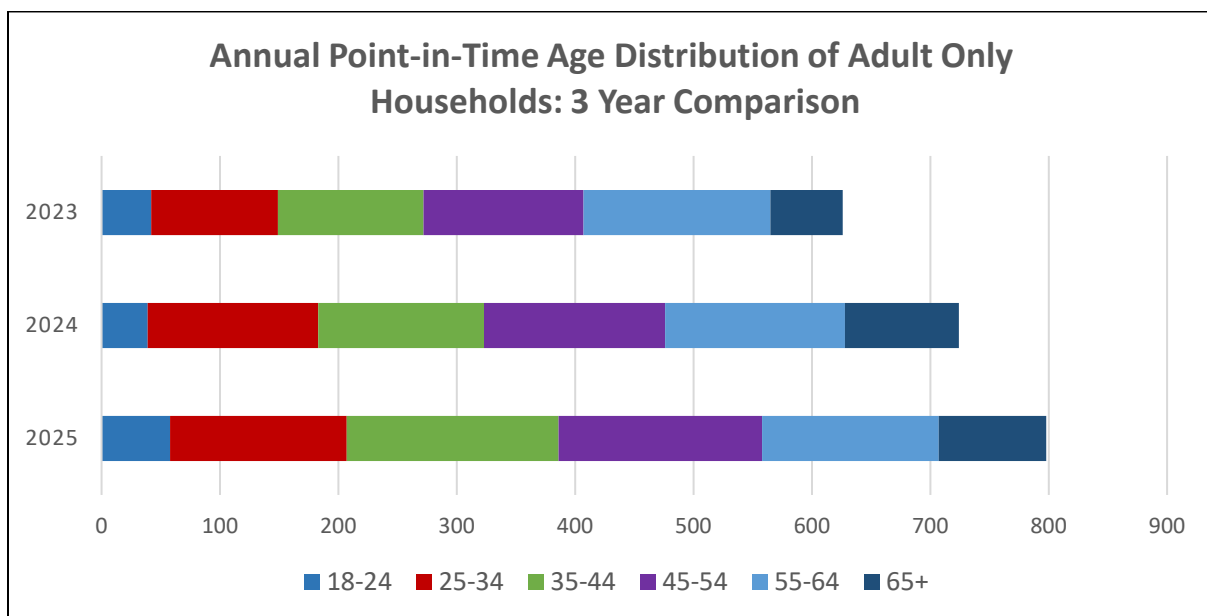
This year, there was a 24% increase in the number of Veterans counted. Part of this increase was because there were more Veterans in families with minor children experiencing homelessness. There was a 57% increase in the number of people in families of Veterans that were counted. In spite of these increases, Montgomery County remains committed to housing Veteran households as quickly as possible.



In December 2015, Montgomery County was one of the first four jurisdictions in the country to effectively end Veteran homelessness. This success was confirmed by HUD, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, and the Community Solutions Built for Zero Movement. At the time, “functional zero” was defined as having no more than six Veterans experiencing homelessness at any given time. For the last two years, the average number of Veterans experiencing homelessness each month has remained at 13. The focus continues to be prioritizing Veterans for permanent housing placements and moving as quickly as possible to end their experience of homelessness. Between January 2015 and December 2024, the CoC has ended homelessness for 266 Veterans.

### *Age Distribution of Adult-Only Households*

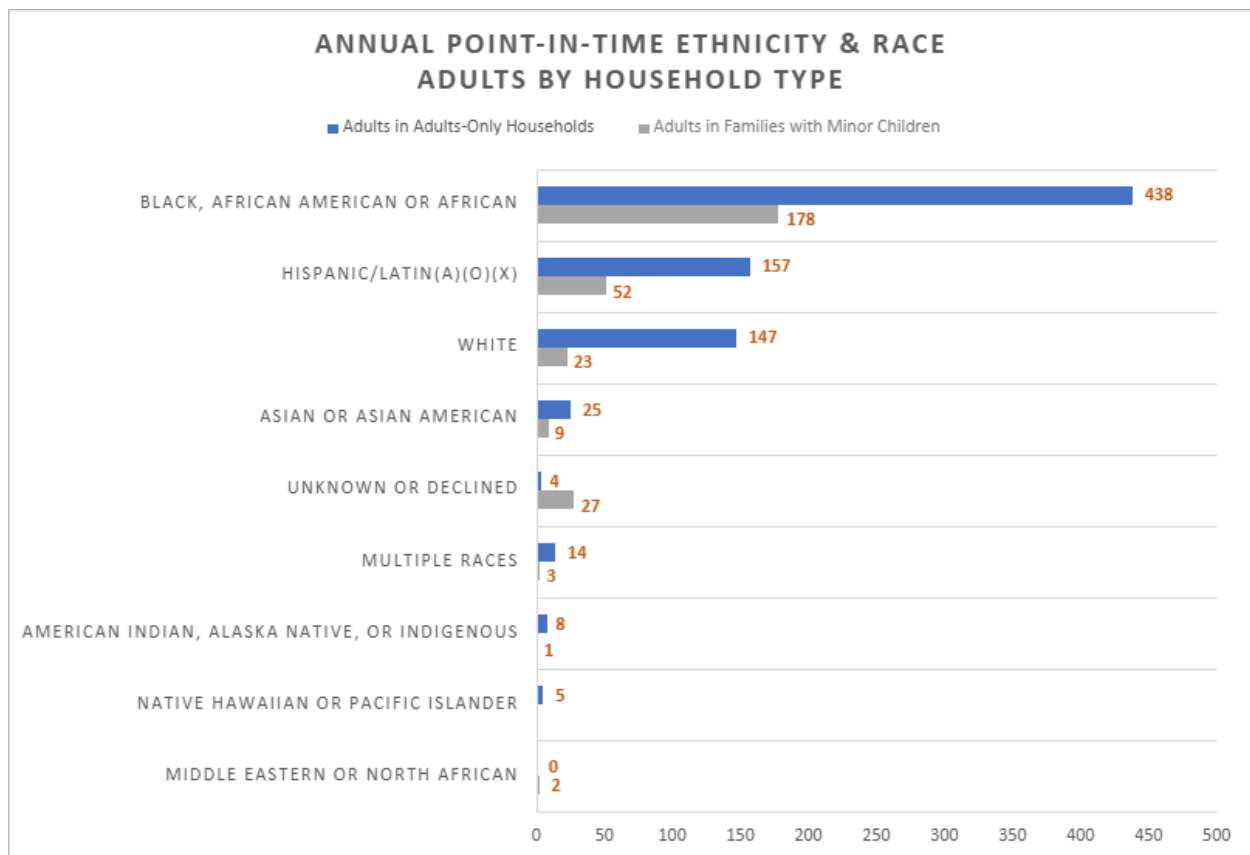
There continues to be a significant number of older adults entering the homeless system. Over half (52%) of all adult-only households were 45 years or older, 30% were 55 years or older, and 11% were 65 years or older. The continued growth of older adults experiencing homelessness in the County is concerning. Studies indicate that people experiencing homelessness die an average of 30 years younger than the average person in the United States. This means that individuals with a history of homelessness age at an increased rate, so those 45 years old may have similar health issues as someone in their 70s. This necessitates increased partnership and access to medical and supportive services for older adults.



### *Income and Racial Disparities*

It is important to note that 60% of adult-only households and 45% of adults in households with children reported having no income in the PIT count. The extreme poverty among those counted demonstrates the need for a sufficient supply of subsidized housing. For adult-only households, SSI/SSDI or retirement/pension programs are the income source for 58% of those with income. This speaks to the challenge for many households on fixed incomes and low incomes to find affordable housing. For this reason, the County's shallow subsidy Rental Assistance Program continues to be an important resource for older adults and people with disabilities on fixed incomes to acquire and maintain housing.

Data analysis continues to demonstrate a disproportionately high representation in our system by people of color. On the night of the PIT, 56% of individual adults counted identified as Black, African American, or African, despite only 18% of the County's population identifying as such at the time of the 2020 census. Overall, 84% of individual adults counted identified as people of color. These ongoing racial disparities make it imperative for us to focus on addressing the root causes of structural racism that lead to inequities.



#### *Year-Round and Winter Inventory of Beds*

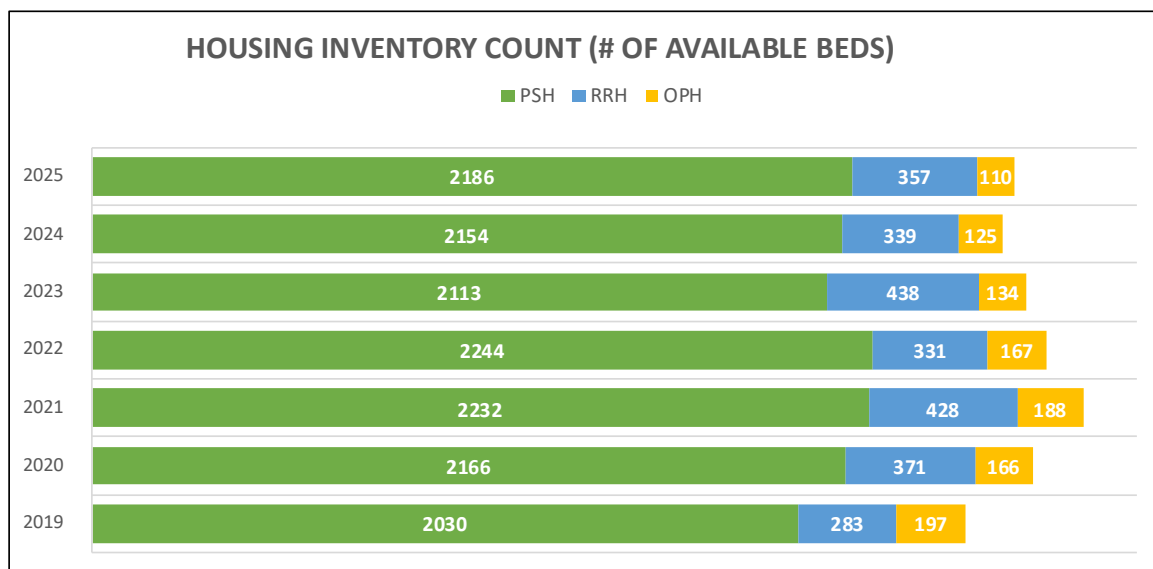
The CoC continues to provide emergency shelter to households with minor children through three year-round family shelters, one domestic violence shelter, and motels used as overflow shelters. During this year's enumeration, 103 households with minor children were residing in emergency, overflow, or DV shelters.

With the opening of the Nebel Street and New Leaf Emergency Shelters and the Medical Respite program in the past two years, emergency shelter capacity for adult-only households increased to over 350 beds for year-round capacity. This includes the DV shelter with six beds designated for adult-only households, three designated medical beds, and two designated for older adults or people with disabilities. The increase in year-round beds was a permanent shift the CoC implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure social distancing and expand year-round availability at all adult-only shelter facilities. Additionally, the County continues to leverage partnerships with local motels to rent rooms as needed for family overflow shelter. In July 2024, with the end of the pandemic, the County stopped using motels for Covid isolation and as overflow shelter for adult-only households.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND AND WINTER INVENTORY OF BEDS			
	Beds for Households w/o Children	Beds for Households w/Children	Total Beds
<b>Overflow Motel</b>	4	583	587
<b>Year-Round Emergency Shelter Beds</b>	377	121	498
<b>Seasonal Beds</b>	253	4	257
<b>Transitional/Safe Haven Beds</b>	46	19	65
<b>TOTALS</b>	680	727	1407

On the day of the 2025 enumeration, 680 emergency shelter and overflow beds were occupied by single adults and 727 beds occupied by members of households with children. In total, 1,293 out of 1,407 year-round, seasonal, and overflow beds were occupied. In 2025, Montgomery County increased the number of year-round, seasonal and overflow shelter beds by a total of 437. This was in direct response to the growing number of households needing emergency shelter.

#### *Permanent Housing Inventory Count*



From 2019 to 2025, the number of permanent housing beds in Montgomery County increased by 6% from 2,510 to 2,653. It is important to note that the available beds have shifted to align with the assessed needs of the households served in the CoC. However, as noted earlier, households continue to face significant housing barriers. The housing market has become tougher to navigate even with a housing voucher, especially for larger families. Since the pandemic ended, landlords

have been raising rents, opting not to renew existing leases, and increasing barriers to housing despite Montgomery County's source of income protections and "ban-the-box" law on criminal histories. Because Maryland still does not have just cause eviction legislation, many households in permanent supportive housing must relocate due to the non-renewal of their leases.

### **Effectiveness of the Montgomery County Coordinated Entry System**

Coordinated Entry is a process developed to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs. Within a Coordinated Entry System (CES), persons are prioritized for housing based on vulnerability using a data-driven, real-time process. Montgomery County's CES embraces Housing First principles across all programs and services. Access to permanent housing is provided without any preconditions, supporting client choice and self-determination. Additionally, individualized and person-driven supports focus on social and community integration. These principles are embedded into the work and drive new programming and program expansion.

Notably, since the CoC was able to expand the successful Centralized Intake and Diversion from just serving families to also serving adult-only households, it has been able to assist over 2,000 households from entering the homeless system. Flexible funds have enabled us to pay for transportation and/or provide financial incentives directly to family or friends who have committed to supporting the household at risk of homelessness. The CoC has also focused on tenant rights and education for tenants, as households continue to abandon housing, due to lack of knowledge about their rights and resources. Empowering tenants with knowledge, access to resources, and consistent supportive services improves housing stability.

The CoC has observed success with exits to housing through the continued investment in minimal support programs designed to empower households in determining the best way to end their experience of homelessness:

- The Short-term Housing and Resolution Program (SHaRP) is a locally funded program that had success housing many people during the pandemic when it was piloted. It provides security deposit, first month's rent, and a rental subsidy for 12 months to allow sheltered or unsheltered households to move into housing. Navigators are available to provide resource connections and monthly check-ins to support households in maintaining their housing. Since its inception in late 2020, SHaRP has assisted over 712 households to move into their own permanent housing with only a 22% overall return rate. The County provided a special appropriation for SHaRP in December 2024 to help the increasing number of families in the shelter system to move into housing. As of the end of April 2025, more than 80 families have moved into housing using this funding.
- The County Rental Assistance Program (RAP) is a shallow subsidy for households where at least one member has a disability or is 55 years or older. Households must be currently experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness. Monthly payments based on the income-rent ratio are provided jointly to the tenant and landlord up to a maximum of \$503 per month. Households complete an annual renewal process to maintain access to the RAP subsidy. In 2024, 825 adult-only households and 143 families with minor children received RAP subsidies.

While these programs are effective methods to increase exits to housing, it is also critical to stem the inflow into the system. The CoC must continue dismantling barriers to housing as highlighted above but also enhance prevention efforts so that the number of households entering homelessness is less than the average number of households exiting permanent housing each month.

## **Strategic Planning**

### *Strategy 1: Reduce Racial Disparities Across the System*

The Racial Equity Work Group of the ICH has done extensive work examining and addressing the racial disparities in the County's homeless population. This work has advanced beyond simply acknowledging that people of color are overrepresented in homelessness to focusing on understanding how structural racism impacts our outcomes.

The workgroup is updating the objectives and action steps required to achieve strategy goal one. The proposed objectives are to refine the strategy to reduce racial disparities in homeless response, identify and address systemic barriers affecting people of color within the homeless response system, and implement measurable indicators to demonstrate reductions in racial disparities over time.

The workgroup aims to achieve several outcomes demonstrating improved service delivery, such as feedback from PWLE that reflects positive, equitable, and culturally responsive support across the continuum and improved equitable access to services and outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.

The People's Committee (PC) of the ICH, comprised of PWLE of homelessness, has grown in its leadership role in the CoC. In 2024, they significantly improved the CoC's Written Standards, clarifying and better defining the steps in the grievance process for clients and households served by the CoC. In addition, they have advocated for an overdose alert system that could save the lives of those living alone in CoC housing. Lastly, PC members were strong and vocal contributors in the focus groups for the new strategic plan. The PC and PWLE have helped the CoC to continue centering its work on lived expertise.

### *Strategy 2: Build and Support Strong and Adaptable Programs*

Montgomery County continues to respond to the changing needs of the CoC with its range of prevention, crisis response, and housing programs.

In 2024, the CoC funded peer specialists to focus on engagement at its largest drop-in center at Progress Place in Silver Spring. These peers were responsible for many successes, including persuading unsheltered individuals to accept shelter during hypothermia season, successfully connecting vulnerable individuals to supportive services and treatment, and saving lives by using Narcan to prevent fatal overdoses.

In addition, the fully operational Centralized Intake and Diversion program has helped mitigate the increased inflow into the CoC. To meet the demand for shelter caused by the increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness, the emergency shelter providers worked with SEPH for the

past two years to expand the number of hypothermia shelter beds, which is reflected in the shelter bed inventory.

To better engage youth, the CoC has partnered with the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth, and Families to develop and operate MoCo Reconnect, a Youth Re-Engagement/Drop-In Center. The center serves youth under age 24 who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County. It provides youth-focused services such as case management, diversion, and access to basic needs (food, laundry, showers), as well as a safe space for engagement. The center also oversees the Youth Advisory Board and works with key stakeholders including the State of Maryland, businesses, and community organizations to support the broader Youth Development Program and increase youth participation in the CoC governing

On the housing front, the CoC maintains a 98% retention rate for households in permanent supportive housing 24 months after being housed. Additionally, the CoC assisted 790 adults in obtaining permanent housing over the last 14 months as part of the Zero for All Campaign to end homelessness in Montgomery County. These successes reflect the quality of the services provided by the CoC and the effectiveness of the Housing First philosophy.

#### *Strategy 3: Build and Support Affordable Housing*

In April 2023, HUD announced that Montgomery County was selected for funding as part of the Special NOFO to address unsheltered homelessness. This award brought another \$4.8 million to the CoC, including 72 new permanent supportive housing units, supported by 30 housing stability vouchers. The partnership for this project includes local non-profit service providers, two local housing authorities, and SEPH.

In March this year, the CoC hosted a landlord recruitment event to bring together private landlords and commercial property managers to support households accessing and maintaining housing. SEPH promoted its Landlord Risk Mitigation Fund, a resource for landlords to submit claims for damage to units or rental arrears. Representatives from the Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA), including the Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs, Licensing and Registration, Code Enforcement, and Rent Stabilization were in attendance, along with the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC), the Sheriff's Office, and community housing partners to provide helpful information to landlords and property managers.

This year, Montgomery County invested \$50 million into the Nonprofit Preservation Fund, which provides low-interest loans for nonprofit housing developers and local public housing authorities to preserve and acquire affordable housing in our community. The fund is administered by DHCA in partnership with HOC.

#### *Strategy 4: Coordinate Effectively Across Other Systems of Care*

In the past year, SEPH has worked collaboratively with refugee resettlement agencies, the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees and other community partners to address housing instability among refugees in Montgomery County. They have been successful in preventing many refugee families from being evicted.

The CoC has also been collaborating with the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) to ensure returning citizens without housing can access diversion resources



and/or shelter beds when they reenter the community. This collaboration reduces the uncertainty returning citizens face as they work through the details of their transition.

SEPH has worked with Behavioral Health and Crisis Services (BHCS), another division of the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, to improve its centralized intake and diversion process and provide behavioral health services in emergency shelters. This past year, BHCS opened a stabilization room in the same building as the diversion room to provide stabilization services to those with behavioral health needs. The Centralized Intake and Diversion team collaborated with the BHCS Crisis Center to help people in need of both shelter and stabilization to access the stabilization room. In addition, BHCS deployed a therapist during specified hours at two of the largest emergency shelter locations in the County.

Additionally, Montgomery County collaborates with neighboring jurisdictions through regular meetings to share data and collaborate on service delivery for households that regularly cross jurisdictional borders.

#### *Strategy Five: Increase and Diversify Funding*

The primary sources of funding for housing in the CoC include programmatic funds from Montgomery County's General Fund and Housing Initiative Fund, awards from the annual HUD CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and the Special NOFO, as well as the expansion of the Medicaid Waiver program and other State funding. The CoC is seeking to expand sources of Medicaid funding for medical respite and low-barrier behavioral health services.

The ICH Partnership & Funding Committee are discussing how to partner more with faith communities for emergent needs in areas of the county that have fewer homeless response programs. CoC partners have a long history of collaborating with the faith community to provide services.

#### *Strategy Six: Educate and Advocate for Change*

SEPH representatives and outreach partners have been meeting with different communities in Montgomery County to hear about their concerns related to the increasing number of unsheltered individuals in their neighborhoods. Whenever SEPH engages with community residents and stakeholders, it provides education on the person-centered, trauma-informed practices used, the resources and services available in the CoC, and the current challenges and efforts to address them.

The CoC has continued to advocate for further understanding of best practices in preventing and ending homelessness. This includes partnering with the County's Intergovernmental Relations Office to create policy changes that promote housing access and security. One of these changes included amending the State of Maryland eviction laws to codify that landlords must accept a government payment as legal funds to stop an eviction. This change has enabled the County to intervene and prevent more evictions. In addition, because the CoC continues to observe incidents of landlord discrimination, it has partnered with organizations to provide fair housing testing in an effort to identify and investigate violations of fair housing laws, including the Housing Justice Act and source of income protections.

# **2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

## **DESCRIPTION OF HOMELESS SERVICES**

The Prince George's County Continuum of Care (CoC) for homeless persons is coordinated through the County's Homeless Services Partnership (HSP); the local Homeless Advisory Board for the County Executive. The mission of the HSP is to ensure that episodes of homelessness are rare, brief and non-reoccurring and to that end, the HSP is responsible for needs assessments, gap analysis, service coordination, resource development, drafting and adoption of policy and system performance evaluation of all homeless services. Membership includes over 200 public and private organizations, consumers with lived experience and concerned citizens with expertise in relevant impact areas including homelessness, education, employment, somatic and behavioral health, aging and vulnerable adult services, public safety, street outreach, mainstream benefits, youth and young adult services, and domestic violence and trafficking which meet regularly and work collaboratively to establish strategic priorities, assess progress, and oversee full implementation of the County's efforts to end homelessness. The Prince George's County Department of Social Services is the lead administering agency for the County's CoC and serves as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administrator; the Collaborative Applicant (CA) for the annual HUD Homeless Assistance grant application process; and Co-Chair of the HSP.

The County has a comprehensive network of programs designed to provide a coordinated and systemic response to persons identified as at risk of, and/or, literally homeless as well as a coordinated entry system that ensures prioritization of those who are most vulnerable. All CoC services are coordinated through a central call center allowing persons in need to gain services and shelter without having to navigate multiple systems. The system currently includes:

- Street Outreach, Mobile Crisis and SOAR;
- 24/7/365 access through the "Homeless Hotline" and Coordinated Entry;
- Integrated Diversion and Homeless Prevention Services;
- Emergency and hypothermic overflow shelters including beds specifically for veterans, DV / trafficking survivors, and unaccompanied youth and young adults;
- Transitional Housing - Rapid Re-Housing combination programs;
- Rapid Re-Housing programs; and
- Permanent Supportive Housing programs.

The County's expiring strategic plan focuses on six (6) key strategies that have proven to be effective in reducing homelessness: 1. coordinated entry, 2. prevention assistance, 3. shelter diversion, 4. rapid re-housing, rapid exit and "moving on", 5. permanent housing, and 6. improved data collection and performance measures. In addition, the County has prioritized six subpopulations to systemically target the unique barriers to housing experienced by these groups: 1. Vulnerable elderly and aging; 2. Unaccompanied youth/young adults; 3. Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and other violent crimes; 4. Returning Citizens, 5. Veterans; and 6. Chronic homeless and other homeless with severe somatic and behavioral health challenges (SMI, SUD and COD). All strategies have been carefully designed to achieve purposeful and intentional reduction in the incidents of homelessness and collectively they form a plan that enhances system accountability, builds on current success, and provides continued flexibility to quickly shift resources to meet newly

emerging needs. System success is measured in part by expansion of sustainable permanent housing resources as well as positive movement in several key indicator areas including: Change in income, Recidivism, Length of Stay in Homelessness, Exits to Permanent Housing, and Reduction in new entry of first time homeless.

	Beds for Individuals*	Beds for Families	Year-Round Beds
Emergency Shelter	137	286	423
TH / RRH	106	206	312
TOTAL	243	492	735

*\*includes beds for unaccompanied youth and young adults ages 13-24*

## HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME RESULTS

The Prince George's County homeless point-in-time count was conducted on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. The County's homeless management information system (HMIS) was used to conduct the sheltered count of individuals and families in emergency shelters and joint transitional housing rapid re-housing programs and the unsheltered count was conducted by professional street outreach teams and paid provider staff targeting 9 County zones. In preparation for the PIT count, the Street Outreach team conducted preliminary blitzes which allowed for real time identification of "hotspot" locations within each County zone which included known encampments, shopping malls, metro stations, libraries, soup kitchens and other areas where people experiencing homelessness have been known to gather. The PIT count teams were disbursed from 10:00 pm to 2:00 am on the night of January 29, 2025, and from 3:00 am until 6:00 pm on the nights of January 30 and 31, 2025. The participants included teams from Police, Fire/EMS mobile integrated health, community health workers, CoC Lead agency personnel, and CoC Street Outreach and PATH teams. The 2-day post canvassing by the street teams allowed for comprehensive coverage and counting of the unsheltered homeless in this year's PIT.

The unsheltered count included an interview component (an electronic and manual PIT Survey) to gather pertinent demographic, subpopulation, employment and other relevant data used to generate comparable data for this report and a command center was established as a point of contact for team leaders to call with any questions, emergencies, supply needs or assistance during the count. During the PIT Count, the observation methodology was added to our count approach to allow the teams to count the people experiencing unsheltered homelessness even when some were unable or declined to take the survey. The observation methodology also aided in deriving sub-population counts as well as assisting with the de-duplication process. The County's CoC PIT Survey Committee in collaboration with the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Administrator used iPads, iPhones, tablets, and had paper surveys available to conduct the 2025 unsheltered count. Training sessions not only prepared PIT staff to effectively use the electronic devices but enabled them to review and provide feedback about the survey questions in advance of the count.

A total of 606 homeless adults and children were counted in Prince George's County, Maryland; (242 single adults, 141 adults with 223 children in adult families, and no child only households identified in this year's count. Of this number, 551 (91%) were sheltered and only 55 (9%) were unsheltered and living on the streets and public places not meant for human habitation. Several factors may have impacted the reduction in unsheltered in the 2025 count including the CoC's Built for Zero effort, the prior week's significant cold snap which drove some to accept shelter as well as some unanticipated and unfortunate encampment sweeps in the weeks leading up to the count. The following charts provide a comparison of the 2023, 2024 and 2025 counts.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HOMELESS COUNT BY CATEGORY				
Category	2025	2024	2023	% Change – 2023 to 2025
Total Number Counted	606	658	659	-8%
Total Number of Singles	242	292	273	-11%
Total Transition Age Youth (TAY) ages 18-24	91	74	85	7%
Total Veterans	8	15	7	13%
Total Number of Families	118	115	119	-1%
Total Number Persons in Families	364	363	376	-3%
Total Adults in Families	141	143	154	-8%
Total Number of Children in Families	223	220	222	.5%
Total TAY – Head of Household	12	7	14	-14%
Total TAY – Children in Household	15	7	20	-25%
Total Veterans – Head of Household	1	3	1	No change
Total Veterans – Children in Household	10	5	2	500%
Total Children w/ONLY Children (under 18)	0	3	10	-100%

The following chart provides a summary of those surveyed by income type. As in prior years, the largest source of income remains employment (73%) for the sheltered population, followed by SSI / SSDI (15%). For unsheltered, a lack of income is dominant at 81% however of those with income, employment and Public Assistance (40% each) are the largest source of income.

HOMELESS COUNT BY INCOME TYPE – ADULTS ONLY				
Category	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	Individuals	%	Individuals	%
Total Number of Adults	330		53	
Income	193	58%	10	19%
Employment	141	73%	4	40%
Social Security /Retirement	6	3%	0	0%
SSI / SSDI	29	15%	0	0%
TANF / Public Assistance	14	7%	4	40%
Other Sources *	3	2%	2	20%
Don't know / refused / no income	137	42%	43	81%

*\*other sources include unemployment, child support, and panhandling.*

This following chart provides a summary of barriers impacting sheltered and unsheltered adults surveyed on the night of the count. Of those that reported barriers, *significant somatic and behavioral health challenges* and *domestic violence* present the greatest barriers to permanent housing and independence. Of particular note is the fact that the County is both a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and Prevention Demonstration Program pilot site and as a result of that intentional effort, unaccompanied youth and young adults under the age of 25 continue to represent a significant number of those served by the CoC (27%), emphasizing the continued need for programs that target this vulnerable subpopulation.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SUB-POPULATIONS – SINGLE ADULTS AND ADULTS IN FAMILIES					
Category	Adults in Families		Single Adults		Total
Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Unsheltered	ALL
Number of Adults (includes TAY)	139	2	191	51	383
Chronic Homeless *	7	0	24	6	37
Veteran	2	0	4	4	10
TAY	12	0	91	0	103
Substance Use Disorder	5	0	6	4	15
Severe Mental Illness	7	0	77	21	105
Co-occurring Disorder	6	1	32	7	46
HIV/AIDS	2	0	2	0	4
DV History ( <i>any time in the past</i> )	7	0	40	10	57
Domestic Violence ( <i>this episode</i> )	9	0	24	1	34
Physical Disability	19	0	41	7	67
Chronic Health Condition	15	2	21	8	46
Limited English	2	0	0	8	10
Foster Care**	2	0	1	0	3
Former Institutionalized***	1	0	4	2	7

*\*Adults meeting the HUD definition*

*\*\*Adults who have been in foster care at any time.*

*\*\*\* Adults who were discharged directly into homelessness from prison or jail, hospitals, psychiatric facilities or other care facilities.*

## PERMANENT AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

While the County has experienced significant success with unsubsidized and non-traditional permanency efforts, there remain individuals and families who require a more structured and supportive housing plan; the greatest of which is the need for expanded rapid re-housing, deeply affordable or subsidized housing for those who are employed and/or reliant on social security, SSI and/or SSDI benefits which insufficient to secure or maintain market rent housing in the region, and permanent supportive housing for those with significant somatic and/or behavioral health challenges. The COC continues to maintain focus on strategies to increase long term stable housing opportunities for these and other priority sub-populations; including partnerships with the local Housing Authorities, affordable housing developers, local landlords, provider partners, and health/human services agencies to increase deeply affordable housing inventory, maximize rental concessions, prioritize access to public housing and vouchers, explore property ownership/project conversion, and apply for new funding opportunities as they become available.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	% Change
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Beds	383	369	369	319	310	24%

## OTHER NOTEWORTHY CONTINUUM OF CARE ACTIVITIES

Highlights include but are not limited to:

1. Launched the **Resiliency Project**; the CoC's direct cash transfer (DCT) pilot which is testing three DCT interventions to prevent homelessness among unaccompanied youth and young adults ages 16-24 with a special focus on understanding the DCT impact on youth who are foreign born, LGBTQIA+, and/or attending college on the state homeless tuition waiver.
2. Partnered with the State of Maryland and selected as one of 38 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Youth Homelessness System Improvement sites working to develop a statewide multi-systemic and coordinated intercept framework that prevents and ends the experience of homelessness for youth and young adults in Maryland.
3. Awarded an ENOUGH Act grant as part of a statewide effort to end concentrated poverty by delivering place-based interventions in communities with disproportionately high numbers of children living in poverty.
4. Partnered with the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, Maryland in a regional data warehouse and all CoCs in Maryland in a statewide data warehouse to identify system overlaps and improve multi-system coordination. These tools also provide opportunities to identify regional and/or state systems gaps, align and de-duplicate resources, and identify trends for future program development.
5. Launched phase 2 of the CoC's strategic planning and community engagement process to develop the new 10-year plan to prevent and end homelessness (Projected publication date is June 30, 2025).

# 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT JURISDICTIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## About Our Continuum

The Prince William Area Continuum of Care (PWA CoC) is comprised of local and county government, non-profit providers, faith-based organizations, outreach organizations, citizens at large, and persons with lived experience of homelessness. The PWA CoC promotes a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. The CoC's goal is to quickly re-house homeless households to minimize trauma and dislocation. The CoC promotes access to effective utilization of mainstream programs and optimizes self-sufficiency among households experiencing homelessness.

The Prince William County Department of Social Services (PWC DSS) currently serves as the lead administrative and fiscal agency for the PWA CoC; managing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as well as the Coordinated Entry System (CES). Programs within the PWA CoC include prevention, diversion, street outreach, drop-in centers, emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing. The PWA CoC includes forty-five (45) member organizations and eighteen (18) funded homeless service providers; twelve (12) of which contribute data into the CoC's HMIS.

## What is the Point in Time (PIT) Count?

The Point in Time (PIT) Count is an annual count of persons experiencing *literal homelessness* on a single night in January each year and is conducted by homeless services continuums across the country as required by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PIT provides a "snapshot" of the nature and extent of homelessness and provides valuable information used to inform local funding decisions, support services and resource planning, as well as to raise public awareness about homelessness on the local and national level. Persons that are *literally homeless* are those living in emergency shelter, transitional housing programs, or places not meant for human habitation (such as a vehicle or somewhere outside) the night of the conducted count.

## How is the Point in Time Count Conducted?

The annual Sheltered Count was conducted throughout the day and night of Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The Unsheltered Count was conducted on the night of the 22<sup>nd</sup> with supplemental counts occurring through Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Sheltered Count is completed by the staff of each participating emergency shelter and transitional housing program. The following organizations and programs participated in the 2025 Sheltered Count:

- Action in Community Through Service – Beverly Warren and Domestic Violence Shelters
- Good Shepherd Housing Foundation – Housing Partnership Program
- Manassas Baptist Church – Hypothermia Shelter
- Northern Virginia Family Service – SERVE Shelter
- PWC Adult Protective Services – Overflow Emergency Shelter

- PWC Child Protective Services – Overflow Emergency Shelter
- PWC DSS – Ferlazzo Shelter and Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center
- PWC Office of Housing and Community Development – Dawson Beach Program
- Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries – Hypothermia Shelter, Supportive Shelter, and Transitional Housing Program

The Unsheltered Count is completed through the support of CoC members, community organizations, and, most importantly, volunteers. In 2025, more than fifty members of the community came together to complete this count. Volunteers worked with street outreach staff to complete surveys with persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This is also an opportunity for street outreach staff to ensure the safety of those sleeping outside as well as connect them with available services.

The following organizations participated in the 2025 Unsheltered Count:

- 3MT, LLC
- Casa BruMar Foundation
- City of Manassas Dept. of Social Services
- City of Manassas Park Dept. of Social Services
- Friendship Place
- New Creatures in Christ Ministries
- NOVA Bulls Organization
- PWC Community Services
- PWC Dept. of Fire & Rescue
- PWC Dept. of Social Services
- PWC Office of Community Safety
- PWC Office of Executive Management
- PWC Police Department
- PWC Transformation Management Office
- Prince William County Community Foundation
- Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries
- Trillium Peer Support Center

**PIT Count methodology** remained mostly the same from 2024 as the CoC's current efforts have proven effective in ensuring accurate counts of our literally homeless population. The CoC did make some adjustments to how they prepared for, and conducted, the unsheltered count. The PWA CoC continued to ensure best practices by providing Personal Protective Equipment, safety equipment, and online training for all participating volunteers and staff. PIT data analysis excludes missing responses and is extrapolated where possible.

*Sheltered Count Methodology:* The methodology for the Sheltered Count remains unchanged from 2024. Survey data is entered into a separate analysis tool and compared to HMIS to ensure accuracy and to complete any missing data. Providers are actively involved in the PIT process and receive training and support to successfully implement the count. The CoC did not add any new sheltered projects to the 2025 count.

*Unsheltered Count Methodology:* The methodology for the Unsheltered Count continues to be improved from year to year as the CoC learns more about the community and increases its resources and staff capacity to conduct outreach. This year the CoC changed the time of their count to ensure coverage during the late night / early morning hours. The CoC has learned most persons do not exhaust their sleeping options until after midnight, making it essential to be out later at night and



into the morning to ensure they are counted. Additionally, visiting known sites too early in the past has resulted in missing persons sleeping in these locations as they have not yet settled into their encampment for the night.

The CoC also expanded their coverage by ensuring teams visited parking lots and 24-hour stores. The CoC learned these areas have several people sleeping in vehicles and store owners often let persons come inside out of the cold throughout the night. The CoC communicated with store management ahead of the count and continued to pre-canvass other sites where persons are known to sleep outside. The CoC rode the bus routes to connect with persons as per the suggestion of their lived experience volunteers. Frequent communication ahead of the count helped teams confirm site activity as well as to inform persons of the upcoming count.

Additionally, the CoC made improvements to their “Observation Survey” to help increase data quality for persons who are unable to be surveyed. They also worked to ensure anyone accessing shelter that could not sleep in a bed was counted as unsheltered (e.g., persons set up in chairs, couches, etc., but cannot sleep in a bed because all shelter beds are full). The CoC also made the most out of the entire 7-day period after PIT to count additional persons by conducting surveys at drop-in centers, community meals, and daytime locations where homeless persons are known to frequent. Street outreach staff also re-visited missed, or unoccupied, sites from the night of the count. The CoC continued to hold the PIT Planning Committee and include persons with lived experience in the planning process. The CoC continued to partner with PWC Community Services to provide Naloxone training and supplies to staff and volunteers. The CoC continued to provide gift cards and hot meals to survey participants.

*Volunteers and CoC staff preparing to launch the 2025 Unsheltered Count*

This year the CoC is happy to share a video about our unsheltered count created and prepared by



Tony Turnage with the Prince William County Transformation Management Office. Please click the link below to learn more about our unsheltered count.

[PWA CoC - 2025 Unsheltered PIT Count Video](#)  
**Point in Time Count Outcomes**

## **1. Persons Served**

The literally homeless count increased by 14% from 2024 to 2025 (compared to 6% from 2023 to 2024). The count of persons in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs increased by 8% and 11% respectively, and the count of unsheltered persons increased by 29%.

The unsheltered count continues to increase each year due to improved PIT Count methodology as well as continued CoC efforts to expand street outreach services. The CoC is seeing unsheltered numbers closer to those recorded pre-pandemic, and that better reflect their annualized HMIS data, due to these efforts.

Table 1.0 below reports the count of persons from 2021 – 2025 while Table 1.1 reports the percent change from the previous year.

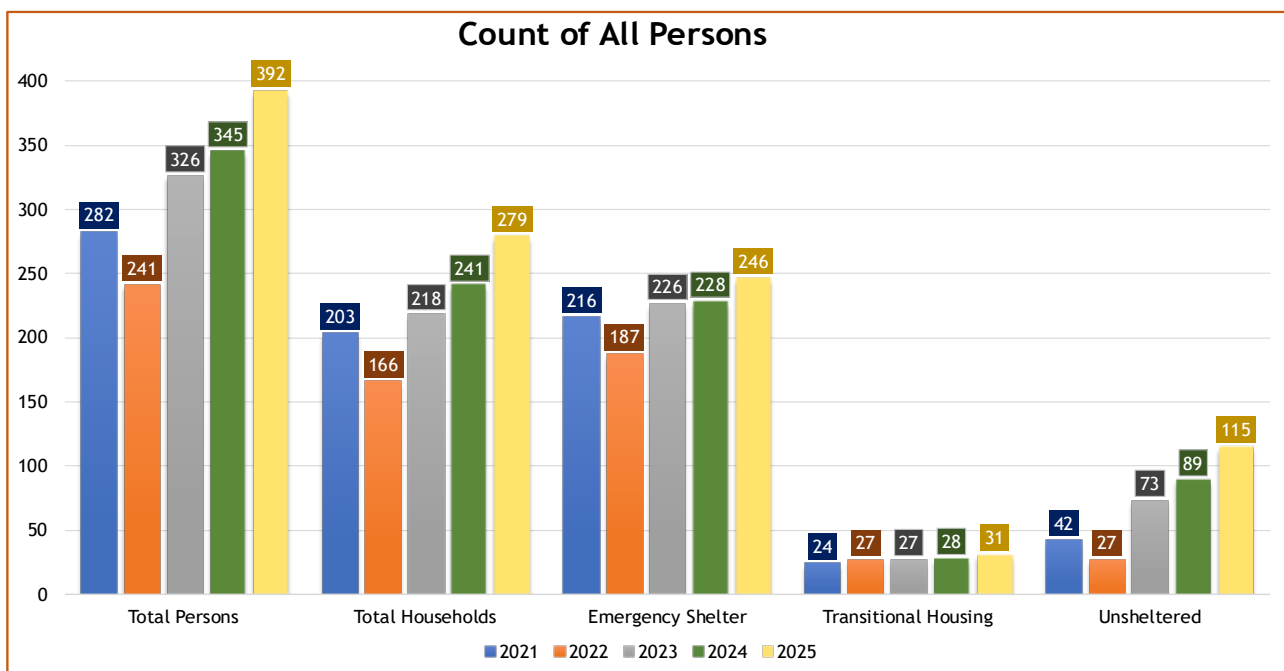


Table 1.0 – Count of All Persons (Five Year Comparison)

Table 1.1 – Percent Change from Previous Year



## Unsheltered Homelessness

The unsheltered count increased by 29% from 2024 to 2025 (compared to 22% from 2023 to 2024). One of the CoC's priorities over the past few years has been to improve and expand street outreach services. The CoC has worked to increase funding, staff capacity, advocacy efforts, and partnerships with community stakeholders to improve outreach services and better understand the needs of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This increase is indicative of the success of these efforts as well as the success of the improved PIT Count methodology. The 2025 unsheltered count represents the highest count the CoC has recorded since 2018.

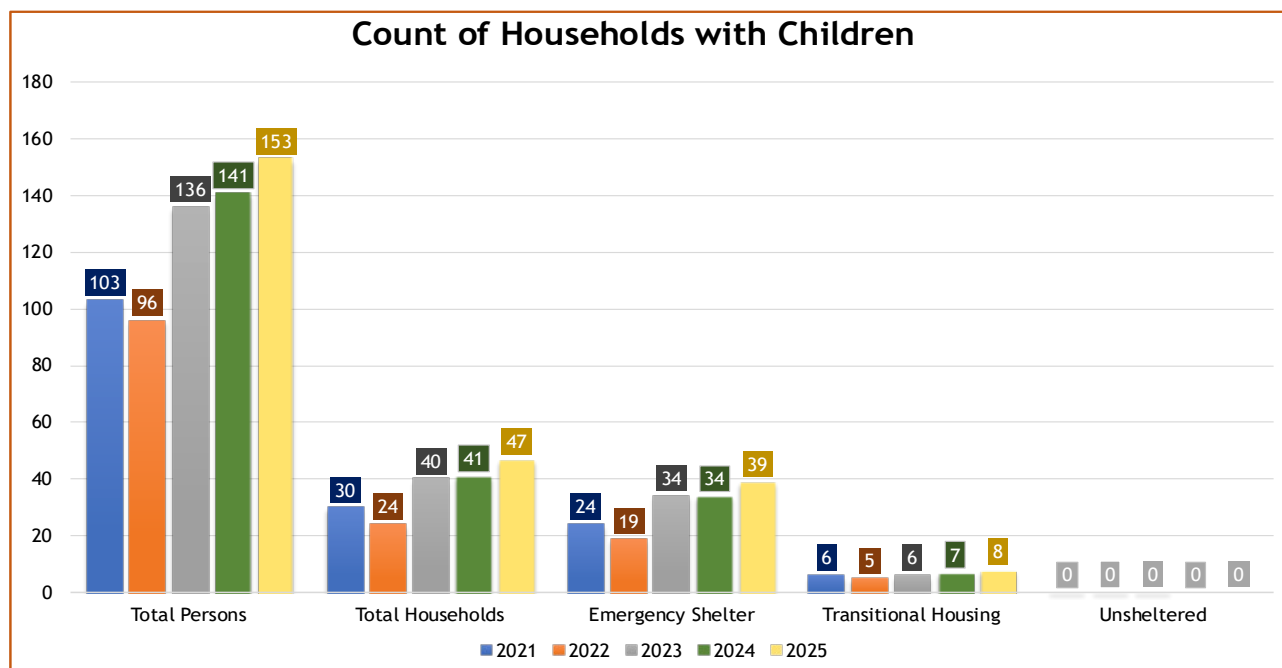


*Photo of an encampment located in the Prince William Area*

### **Households with Children**

The number of persons in households with children increased by 9% from 2024 to 2025 while the household count increased by 15%. The Emergency Shelter count increased by 15% and the Transitional Housing count increased by 14%. The PWA CoC continues not to encounter households with children who are unsheltered during the count.

Table 1.2 below reports the counts of households with children from 2021– 2025, while Table 1.3 reports the percent change from 2024 to 2025.



*Table 1.2 – Count of Households with Children (Five Year Comparison)*

*Table 1.3 – Percent Change from Previous Year*



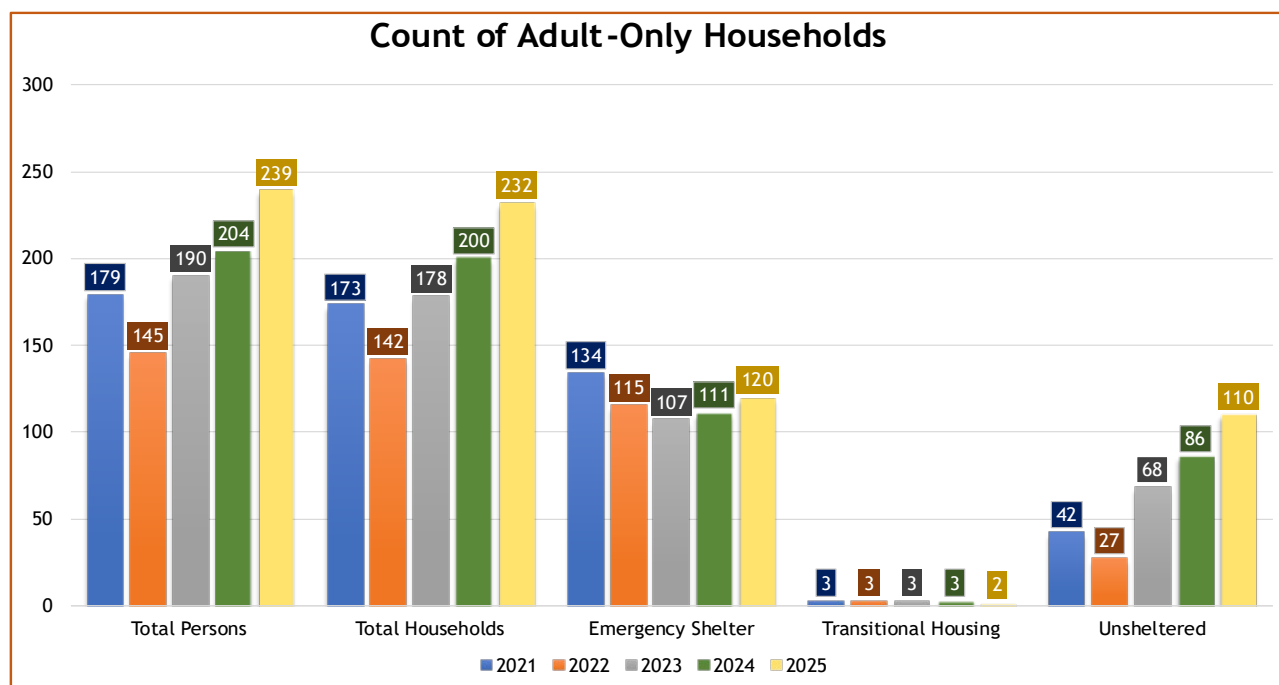
### Adult-Only Households

The number of persons in adult-only households increased by 17% from 2024 to 2025. The increase in this population is attributed to the increase in unsheltered households. Adult-only households continue to be a vulnerable population in the PWA CoC and represent 100% of the unsheltered population and 83% of all households counted.

Table 1.4 below reports the counts of adult-only households from 2021 – 2025, while Table 1.5 reports the percent change from 2024 to 2025.

*Table 1.4 – Count of Adult-Only Households (Five Year Comparison)*

*Table 1.5 – Percent Change from Previous Year*



## Race & Ethnicity of Persons Served

The PWA CoC strives to provide services in a manner that are equitable and free of discrimination. Participation in regional projects as well as increasing partnerships with persons with lived experience are key in addressing racial inequity.



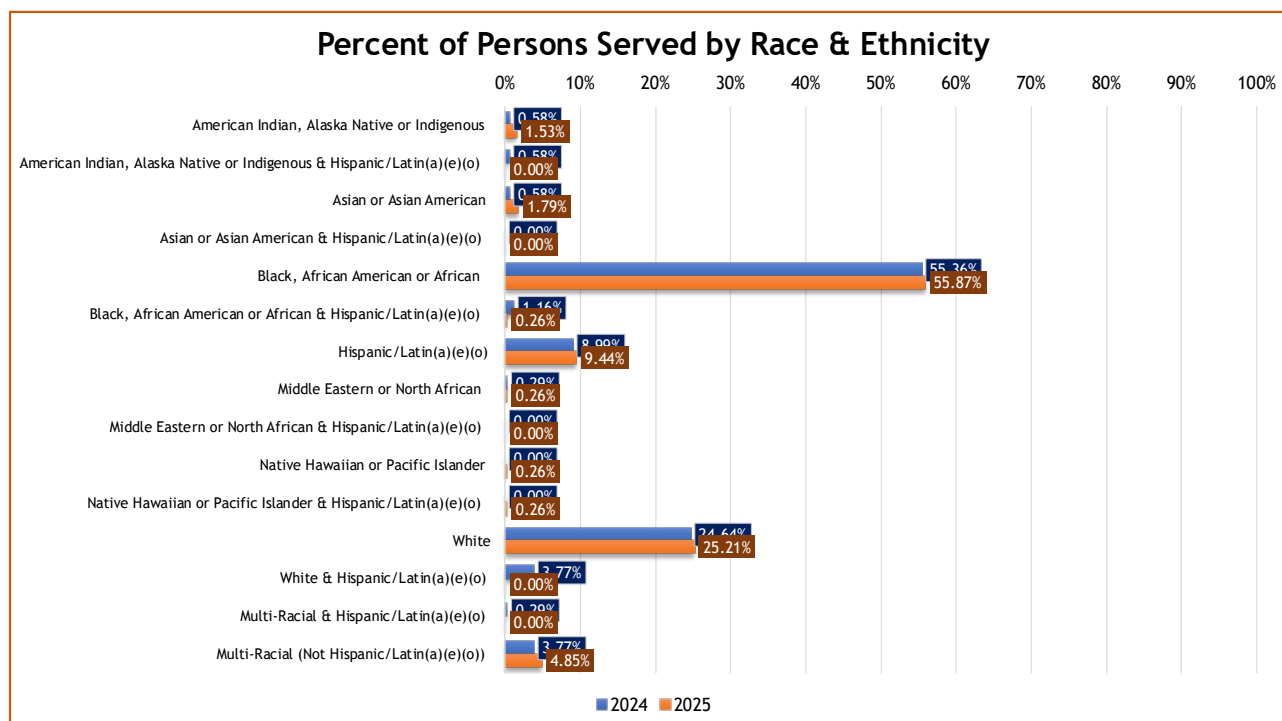
The way race and ethnicity data are collected and reported significantly changed as of October 2023 due to updates to the HUD HMIS Data Standards. These changes are an attempt to better analyze and report this data for persons experiencing homelessness.

This means, at this time, the CoC can only provide comparative data to the prior year (2024). The CoC's race and ethnicity data remains largely unchanged from 2024.

The greatest disparity in the PWA CoC's PIT data for race and ethnicity continues to exist among persons identifying as Black, African American, or African, as they represent 56% of all persons counted. This disparity is concerning when compared to 2020 US Census Data as only 20% of the PWA CoC's general population identifies as Black, African American, or African. This means people in this category are 2.7 times more likely to experience homelessness in the PWA.

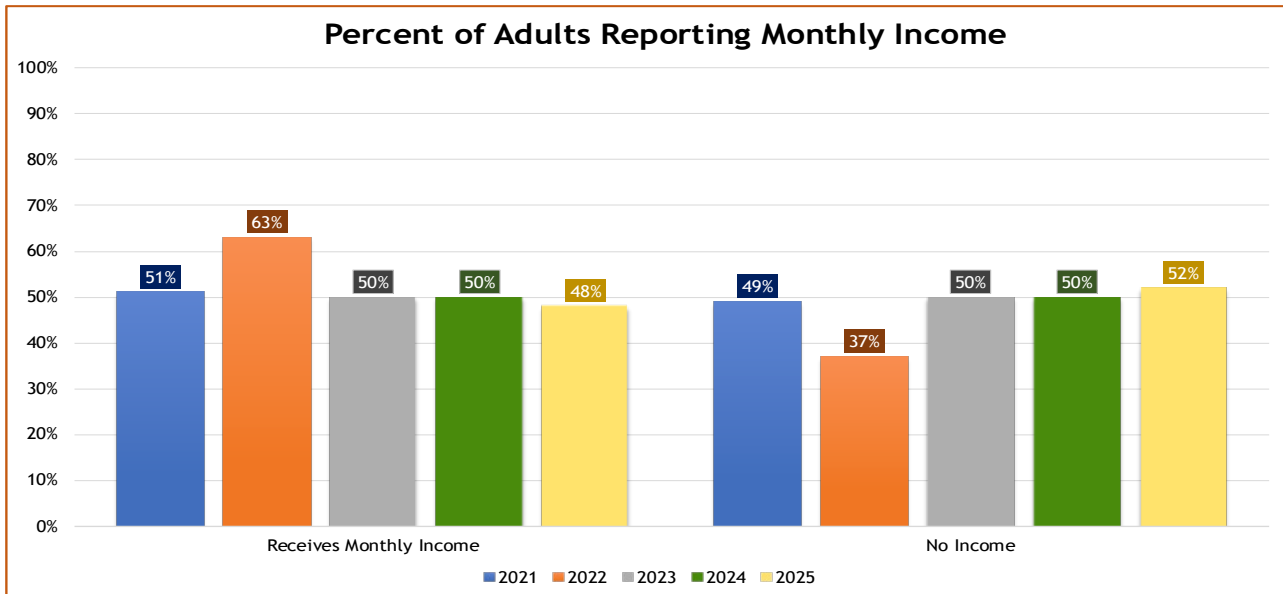
Table 1.6 below reports the percentage of persons counted by race and ethnicity for 2024 and 2025

*Table 1.6 – Percent of Persons Served by Race & Ethnicity (2024 – 2025)*

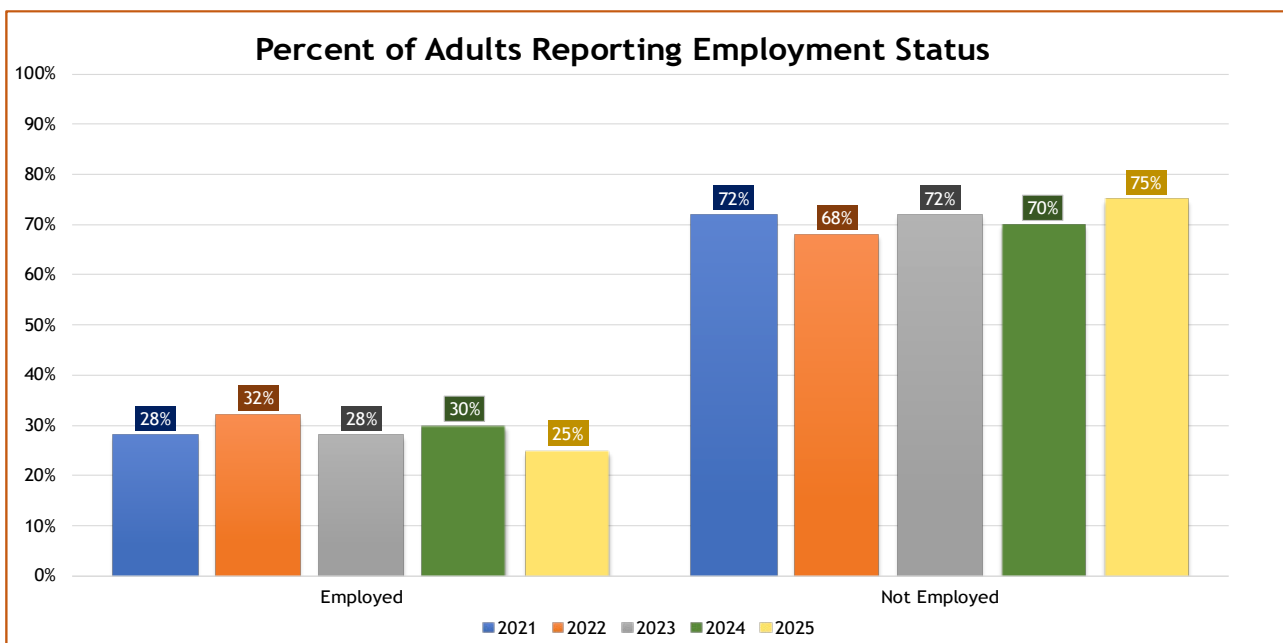


## 2. Income & Employment

Data on income and employment is provided for all adults (18+) counted on the night of PIT. The percentage of adults reporting income decreased by 4% from 2024 and the percentage of employed adults decreased by 17%. On average, 52% of adults surveyed receive some form of monthly income while 29% of adults with income are employed. Table 2.0 below reports the percent of adults reporting any type of income from 2021 – 2025 while Table 2.1 reports the percent of adults who are employed from 2021 - 2025

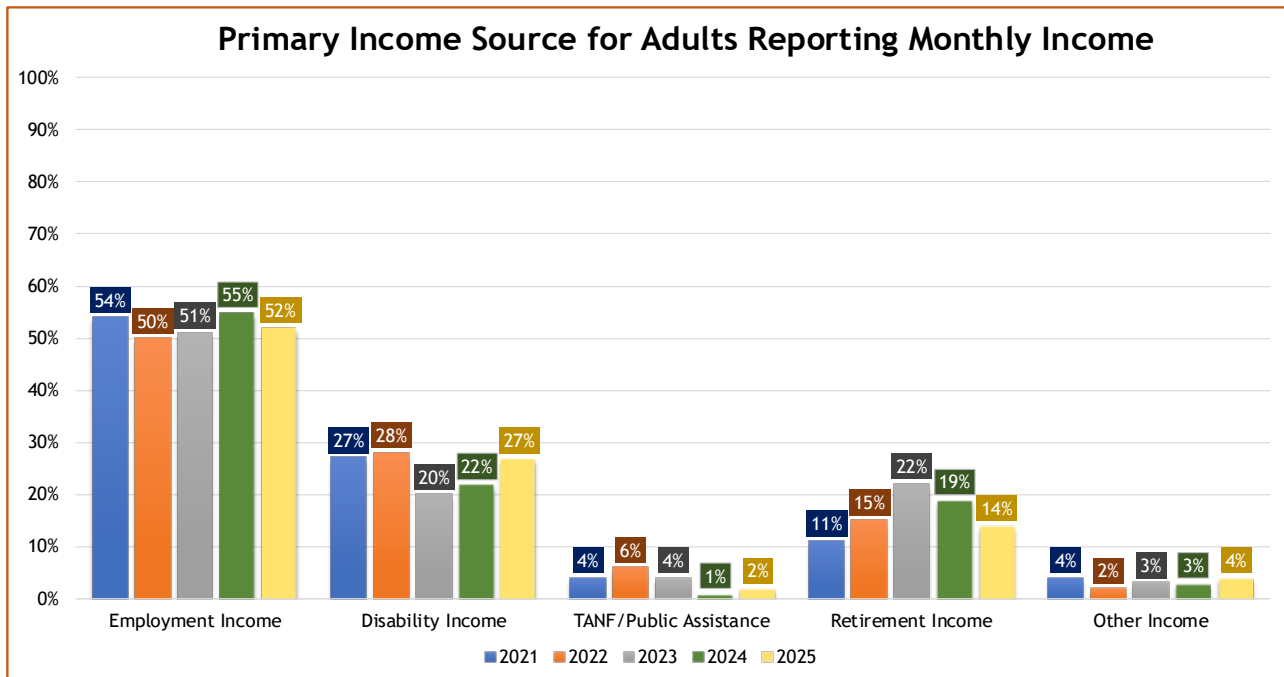


*Table 2.0 – Percent of Adults Reporting Income (Five Year Comparison)*



*Table 2.1 – Percent of Adults Reporting Employment (Five Year Comparison)*

Table 2.2 below reports the “primary income source” for all adults surveyed who also report receiving monthly income from 2021 to 2025. On average, 52% of adults report their employment income is their primary source. There was a 23% increase in the number of adults reporting disability income as their primary source; and a 26% decrease in the number of adults reporting retirement income as their primary source since 2024.



*Table 2.2 – Percent of Households Reporting Primary Income Source (Five Year Comparison)*



### 3. Priority Populations

Priority Populations are additional homeless populations that are overrepresented in the CoC's overall homeless population when compared to national and/or local averages. Table 3.0 below reports the percentage of adults that fall under one or more of this priority population categories from 2021 to 2025. This data helps the CoC shape which populations they will work to prioritize:

- *Disabling Condition(s)*: Person reports living with one or more disabling condition that impacts their day-to-day life; with or without a formal diagnosis.
- *Domestic Violence Survivor*: Person experienced domestic violence recently or any time in the past.
- *Foster Care History*: Person was in foster care recently or any time in the past.
- *Formerly Institutionalized*: Person is homeless due to a release from an institution which includes medical/psychiatric facilities, substance use facilities/detox centers, jail/prison/juvenile detention facilities, long-term care/nursing facilities, and foster care/foster care group homes.
- *Limited English Proficiency*: Person has limited or no ability to understand/read/write the English language.

The count of adults reporting one or more disabling conditions has increased by 21% since 2024 and the count of domestic violence survivors increased by 18%. The count of adults experiencing homelessness due to release from an institution decreased by 18%.

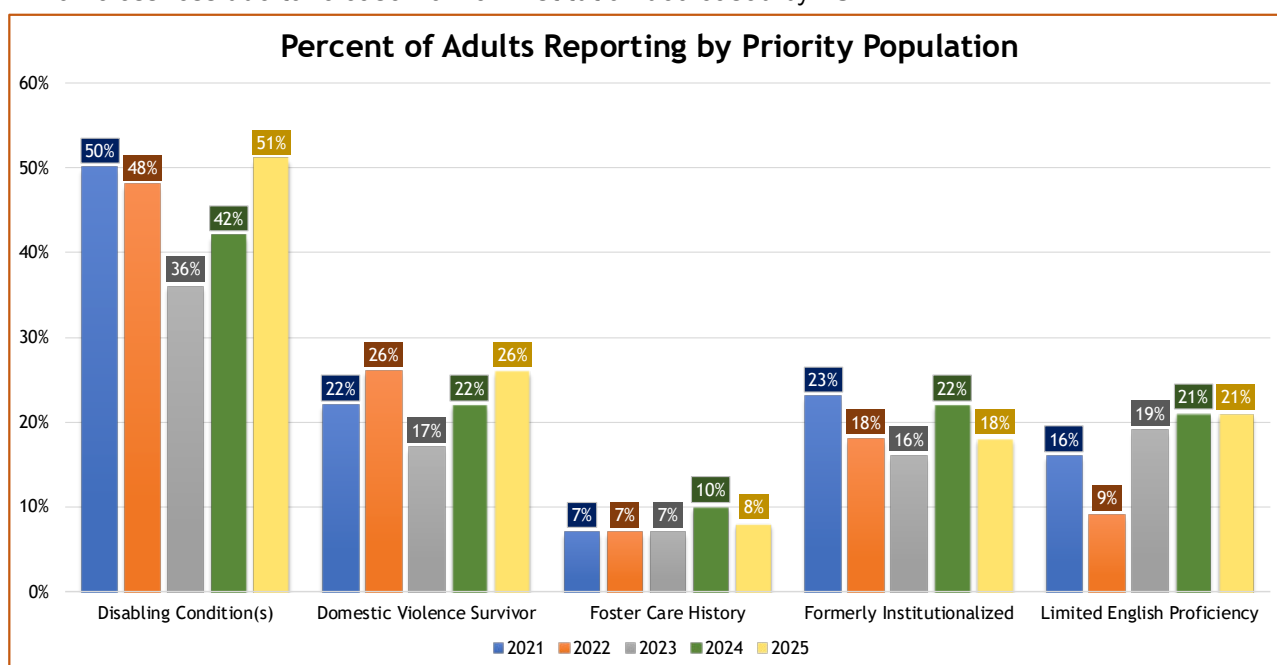


Table 3.0 – Percent of Adults Reporting by Priority Population (Five Year Comparison)

## Disabling Conditions

Table 3.1 below reports the percentage of adults reporting one or more disabling conditions by project type from 2021 - 2025. On average, 45% of adults report living with one or more disabling conditions. There was a 19% increase in reported conditions for adults in emergency shelter, an 18% increase for adults experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and a more than 100% increase for adults in transitional housing.

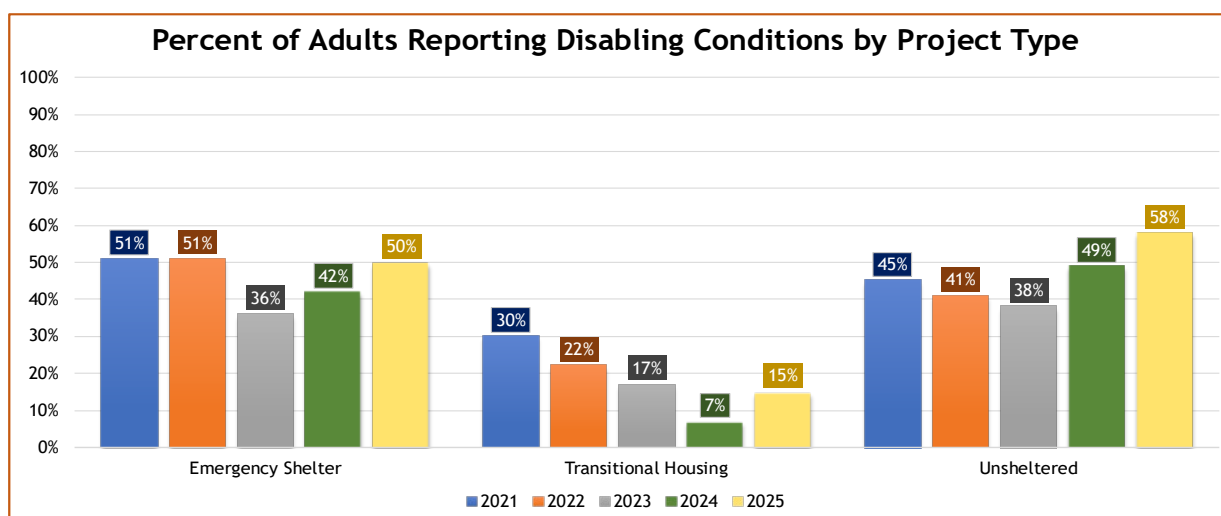
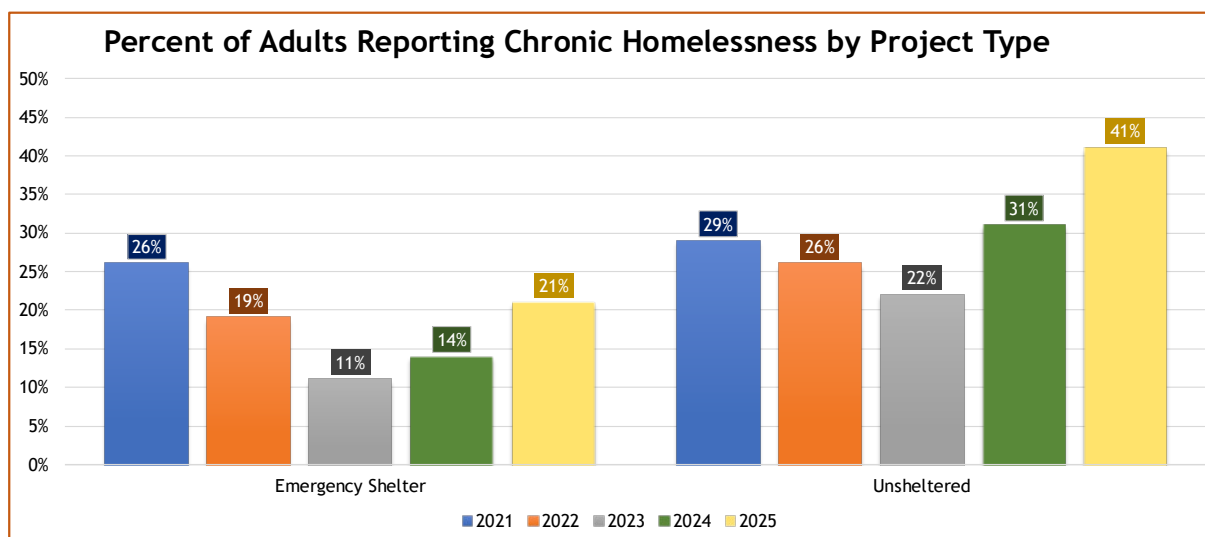


Table 3.1 – Percent of Adults Reporting One or More Disabling Conditions (Five Year Comparison)

Table 3.2 below reflects the types of disabling conditions reported from 2021 - 2025. Persons may report living with one or more of these conditions. The percentage of reported conditions decreased in each category with the exception of persons living with mental health disorders, which increased by 30%. There was a significant decrease (43%) in the percent of adults reporting “co-occurring disorder” (i.e., adults that live with both substance use and mental health disorders) since



2024. Table 3.2 – Percent of Adults Reporting by Disability Type (Five Year Comparison)

## Chronic Homelessness

Chronically homeless persons are persons with a diagnosable disability in combination with long-term episodes of literal homelessness. Persons that meet the definition of chronically homeless are typically prioritized for long-term housing with supportive services such as the CoC's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program. Persons in transitional housing are not considered chronically homeless under the HUD definition.

Table 3.3 below reports the percentage of chronically homeless adults by project type from 2021 - 2025. Unsheltered adults are more likely to be chronically homeless than those in emergency shelters.

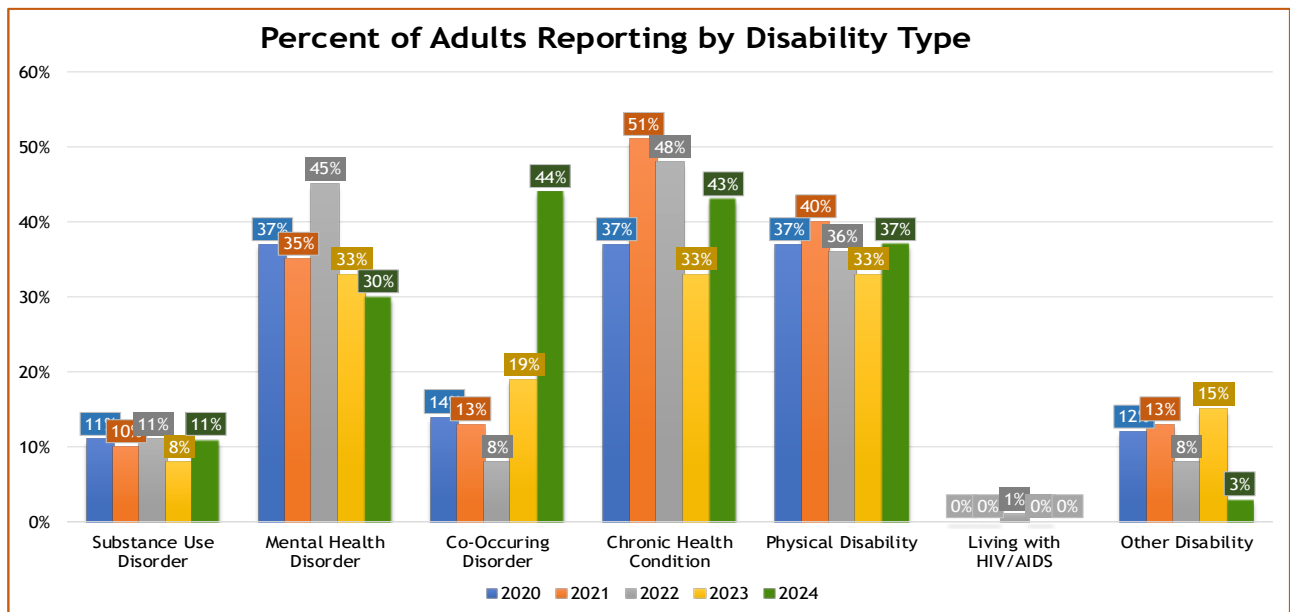


Table 3.3 – Percent of Adults Reporting Chronic Homelessness by Project Type (Five Year Comparison)

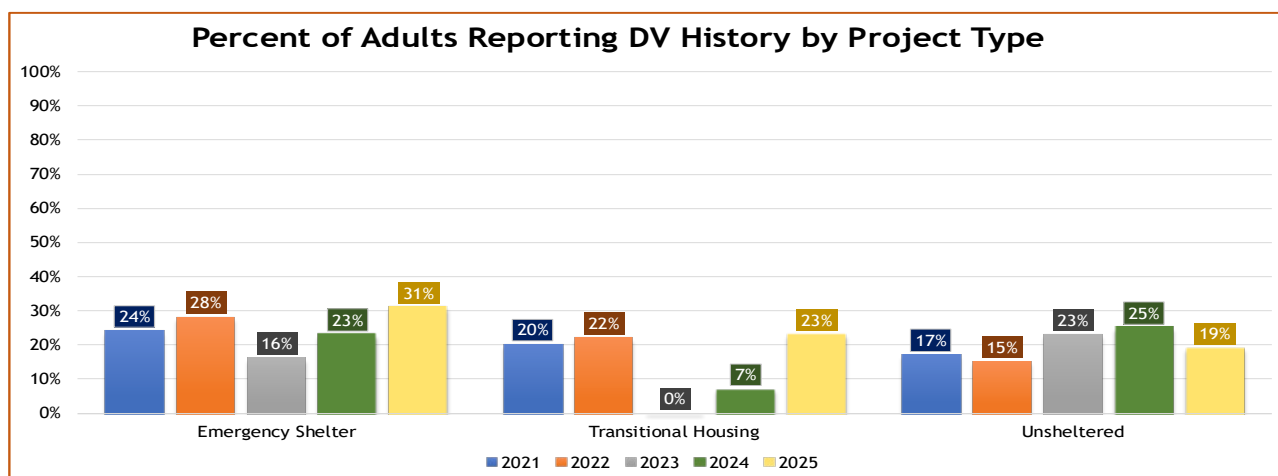
Table 3.4 below reports the total percent by reporting year (2021 – 2025). On average, 22% of adults counted are chronically homeless each year. There was a 40% increase in chronic homelessness among adults from the previous year.



Table 3.4 – Percent of Adults Reporting Chronic Homelessness by year (Five Year Comparison)

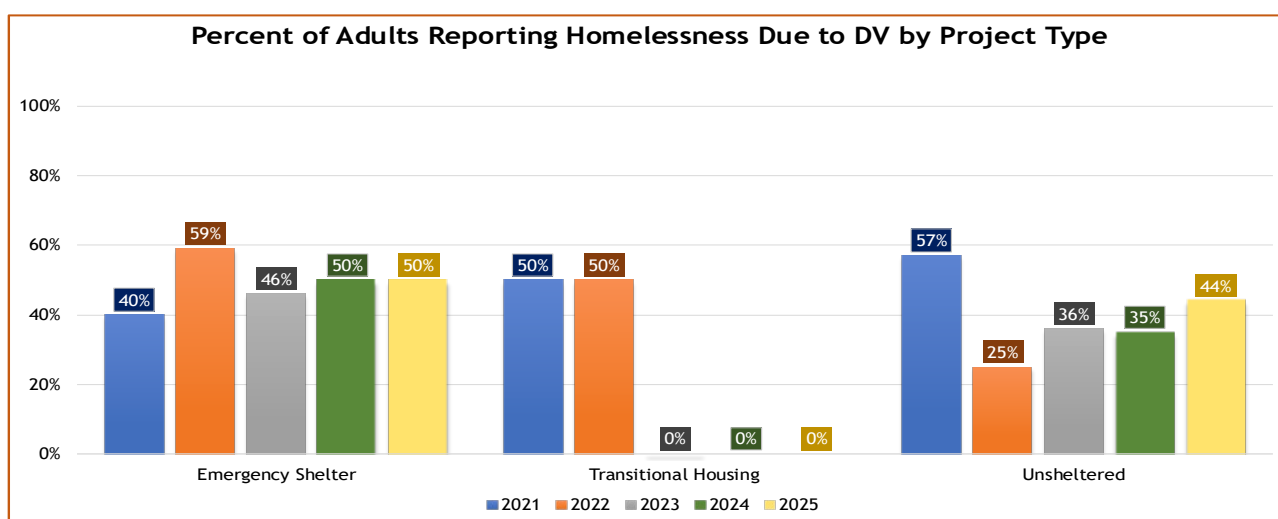
## Domestic Violence Survivors

Table 3.5 below reports the percentage of adults reporting a domestic violence experience recently or any time in the past by project type from 2021 to 2025. On average, 23% of adults report surviving a domestic violence experience. There was a 35% increase in adults reporting domestic violence history in emergency shelters and a more than 100% increase in adults reporting domestic violence history in transitional housing programs. There was a 24% decrease for adults experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



*Table 3.5 – Percent of Adults Reporting Domestic Violence History by Project Type (Five Year Comparison)*

Table 3.6 below reports the percent of adults reporting their current episode of homelessness is due to fleeing a domestic violence experience by project type from 2021 to 2025. On average, 46% of adults reporting they are survivors of domestic violence are homeless due to fleeing a recent experience. The data is unchanged for emergency shelter and transitional housing but increased by 26% for adults experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



*Table 3.6 – Percent of Adults Reporting Homelessness Due to Fleeing Domestic Violence by Project Type (Five Year Comparison)*

## Other Populations

Other priority populations of focus are:

- *Transition Age Youth (TAY)*: Adults 18 to 24 years of age
- *Veterans*: Adults who have served in any branch of service regardless of discharge status
- *Aging Adults*: Adults who are age 55 or older

Table 3.7 below reports the percentage of adults reporting under one or more of the above priority populations from 2021 to 2025. There was a 50% decrease in the number of transition age youth from the previous year. There were no significant changes to the other populations.

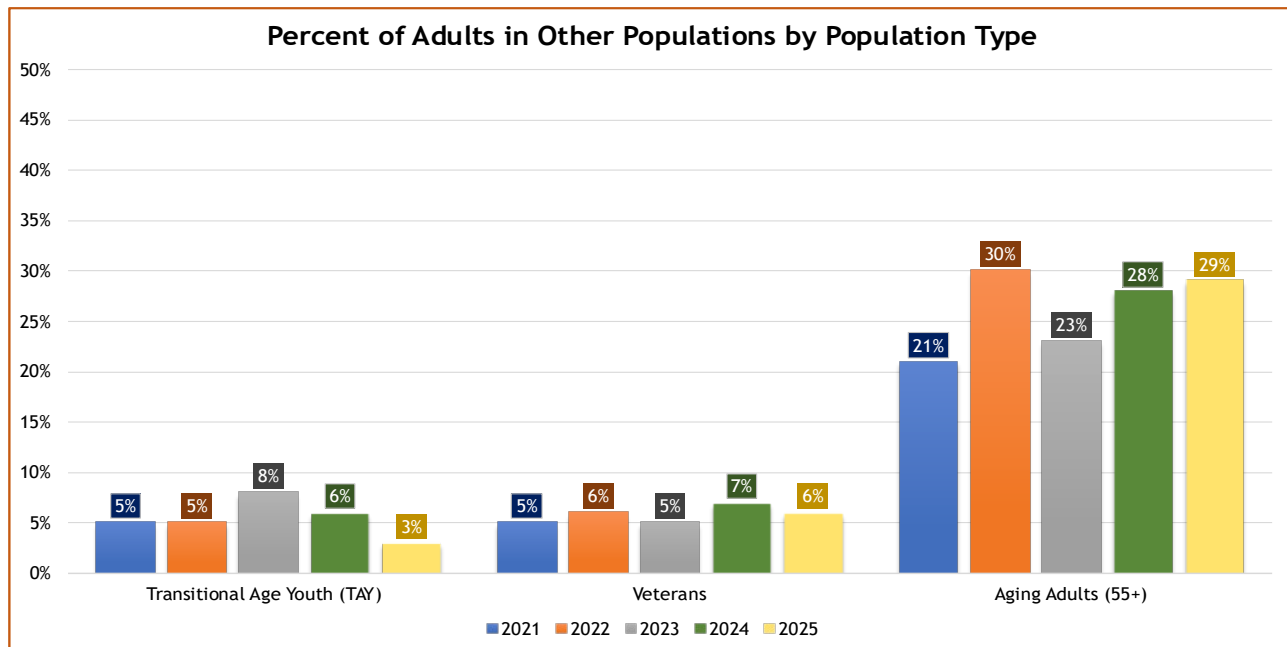


Table 3.7 – Percent of Adults Reporting in Other Priority Populations by Population Type (Five Year Comparison)

## 4. Inventory & Utilization

### Sheltered Inventory

The PWA CoC had a total of 343 sheltered beds (emergency shelter and transitional housing) available the night of the 2025 PIT count which represents an increase of twenty (20) beds from the 2024 count. This results in a utilization rate of 81% based on the 277 persons served in sheltered projects. Utilization of sheltered beds increased by 3% overall since 2024. Utilization of emergency shelter beds increased by 5% while utilization of transitional housing beds decreased by 16%. Table 4.0 below reports the total available beds by year, project type, household type, and availability (emergency shelter only) from 2021 to 2025 as well as the change in bed counts and the percentage change from the previous year.

BED COUNTS BY YEAR							
Project Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Beds 2024 - 2025	Percent Change 2024 - 2025
<b>Emergency Shelter (ES)</b>							
Total Beds	277	232	281	282	289	7	2.48%
Beds for AO HH	148	126	136	126	126	0	0.00%
Beds for AC HH	129	106	145	156	163	7	4.49%
<b>Domestic Violence (DV) Shelter</b>							
Total Beds	21	23	18	18	18	0	0.00%
Beds for AO HH	3	5	3	3	3	0	0.00%
Beds for AC HH	18	18	15	15	15	0	0.00%
<b>ES Beds by Availability</b>							
Year-Round Beds	211	180	235	236	243	7	2.97%
Overflow Beds	2	2	2	2	2	0	0.00%
Seasonal Beds	64	50	44	44	44	0	0.00%
<b>Transitional Housing (TH)</b>							
Total Beds	33	41	41	41	54	0	31.71%
Beds for AO HH	3	3	3	3	3	0	0.00%
Beds for AC HH	30	38	38	38	51	0	34.21%
<b>Total Beds</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6.19%</b>

Table 4.0 – Sheltered Inventory (Five Year Comparison)

Table 4.1 below reports the counts of inventory and persons served in sheltered beds as well as the utilization of those beds as of the 2025 PIT Count. This table also provides counts and bed utilization based on household type (AO = Adult-Only Households; AC = Adult/Child Households).

BED UTILIZATION							
Emergency Shelter (ES)	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	167	289	159	246	177	69	81%
AO Households	124	126	120	122	122	0	97%
AC Households	43	163	39	124	55	69	76%
Transitional Housing (TH)	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	14	54	10	31	13	18	57%
AO Households	3	3	2	2	2	0	67%
AC Households	11	51	8	29	11	18	57%
All Sheltered Projects	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	181	343	169	277	190	87	81%
AO Households	127	129	122	124	124	0	96%
AC Households	54	214	47	153	66	87	71%

Table 4.1 – Utilization of Sheltered Inventory (Current Year)

## Permanent Housing Inventory

The PWA CoC had a total of 283 permanent housing beds available the night of the 2025 PIT which represents a decrease of thirty (30) beds from the 2024 count. Most of this decrease is due to the loss of 22 beds from a state-funded permanent supportive housing program that closed in September 2024. There were 281 persons physically in housing the night of PIT compared to 282 persons in 2024 (which does not represent a significant decrease).

Table 4.2 below reports the total available permanent housing beds by year, project type, and household type from 2021 to 2025 as well as the change in beds and the percentage change from the previous year.

BED COUNTS BY YEAR							
Project Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Beds 2024 - 2025	Percent Change 2024 - 2025
<b>Other Permanent Housing (OPH)</b>							
Total Beds	9	9	9	9	9	0	0%
Beds for AO HH	9	9	9	9	9	0	0%
Beds for AC HH	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)</b>							
Total Beds	166	166	166	216	194	-22	-10%
Beds for AO HH	86	87	87	115	115	0	0%
Beds for AC HH	80	79	79	101	79	-22	-22%
<b>Rapid Rehousing (RRH)</b>							
Total Beds	156	132	82	88	80	-8	-9%
Beds for AO HH	50	45	25	26	17	-9	-35%
Beds for AC HH	106	87	57	62	63	1	2%
Total Beds	331	307	257	313	283	-30	-10%

\* Table includes HUD/VASH program

Table 4.2 – Permanent Housing Inventory (Five Year comparison)

Table 4.3 below reports all non-HUD/VASH (i.e., PSH for veterans and their families) permanent housing beds by year, project type, and household type from 2021 to 2025 as well as the changes in beds and the percentage change from the previous year.

BED COUNTS BY YEAR							
Project Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change in Beds 2024 - 2025	Percent Change 2024 - 2025
<b>Other Permanent Housing (OPH)</b>							
Total Beds	9	9	9	9	9	0	0%
Beds for AO HH	9	9	9	9	9	0	0%
Beds for AC HH	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)</b>							
Total Beds	41	41	41	66	44	-22	-33%
Beds for AO HH	36	37	37	40	40	0	0%
Beds for AC HH	5	4	4	26	4	-22	-85%
<b>Rapid Rehousing (RRH)</b>							
Total Beds	156	132	82	88	80	-8	-9%
Beds for AO HH	50	45	25	26	17	-9	-35%
Beds for AC HH	106	87	57	62	63	1	2%
Total Beds	206	182	132	163	133	-30	-18%

\* Table excludes HUD/VASH program

Table 4.3 – Non-HUD/VASH Permanent Housing Inventory (Five Year comparison)

### *Other Permanent Housing*

The PWA CoC operates two (2) “other” permanent housing projects that are privately funded. These projects offer nine (9) permanent housing beds and supportive services to single individuals with or without a disability.

### *Permanent Supportive Housing*

The PWA CoC operates multiple permanent supportive housing projects that receive funding from the HUD CoC Program. In total, these projects offer 44 permanent housing beds and supportive services to chronically homeless persons and their families.

The PWC Office of Housing and Community Development, in partnership with the DC Veteran’s Administration, operate the HUD/VASH program which offers 100 vouchers and supportive services to disabled veterans and their families.

### *Rapid Rehousing*

The PWA CoC operates multiple rapid rehousing projects that receive funding from various sources such as HUD and the Commonwealth. Inventory for rapid rehousing is calculated differently than other projects as there are typically not a set number of units and beds.

In Table 4.3 above, the number of beds for rapid rehousing reflects the number of persons physically in housing the night of the count while the number of units reflects the number of households.

There were 80 persons physically in housing the night of the 2025 count, which represents a 9% decrease from the previous year (88 persons in 2024). The count may have decreased due to the loss of two (2) rapid rehousing supportive services projects in June of 2024 as well as delays in funding awards.



### Permanent Housing Utilization

Table 4.4 below reports the counts of inventory and persons served for the HUD/VASH PSH program as well as the utilization of this inventory as of the 2025 PIT Count. There were 149 persons physically in housing under the HUD/VASH program on the night of the count which represents a utilization rate of 99% (compared to 81% in 2024).

HUD/VASH PSH UTILIZATION							
HUD/VASH Program Counts	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	100	150	83	149	101	48	99%
AO Households	75	75	60	63	63	0	84%
AC Households	25	75	23	86	38	48	115%
* There are currently 100 vouchers available to the CoC (increased from 75 as of August 2023)							

Table 4.4 – Counts of Inventory & Persons Served in the HUD/VASH Program (Current Year)

Table 4.5 below reports the counts of inventory and persons served for all other permanent housing programs as well as the utilization of this inventory as of the 2025 PIT Count.

- *Other Permanent Housing:* There were nine (9) persons physically in housing the night of the count which results in a utilization rate of 100% (same utilization as 2024).
- *Permanent Supportive Housing:* There were 64 persons physically in housing the night of the count which results in a utilization rate of 98% (compared to 97% in 2024).
- *Rapid Rehousing:* There were 80 persons physically in housing the night of the count; which represents a 9% decrease from the previous year (88 persons in 2024). Utilization for RRH is always 100% due to how the data is reported.

BED UTILIZATION							
Other Permanent Housing (OPH)	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	9	9	9	9	9	0	100%
AO Households	9	9	9	9	9	0	100%
AC Households	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	41	44	40	43	41	2	98%
AO Households	39	40	38	39	39	0	98%
AC Households	2	4	2	4	2	2	100%
Rapid Rehousing (RRH)	Total Units	Total Beds	Total Households	Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Utilization
All Households	35	80	35	80	43	37	100%
AO Households	15	17	15	17	17	0	100%
AC Households	20	63	20	63	26	37	100%
* Table excludes HUD/VASH program							
* Utilization for RRH is always 100% due to how the data is reported							

Table 4.5 – Counts of Inventory & Persons Served in Permanent Housing (non-HUD/VASH) Programs (Current Year)

## 5. Local Measurements

The PWA CoC collects certain data for local use in addition to data collection requirements set forth by HUD and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG). This data helps the PWA CoC better understand the experiences and needs of their local homeless population.

### Prior Year Participation

This measure collects information from all adults on whether they participated in the prior year's count. This information is important as it indicates the effectiveness of PWA CoC efforts to quickly move persons from homelessness to housing as well as concerns with rates of housing retention/recidivism.

Table 5.0 below reports the percentage of adults that participated in the prior year's count from 2021 to 2025. There are no significant changes to the overall outcomes for this measure.

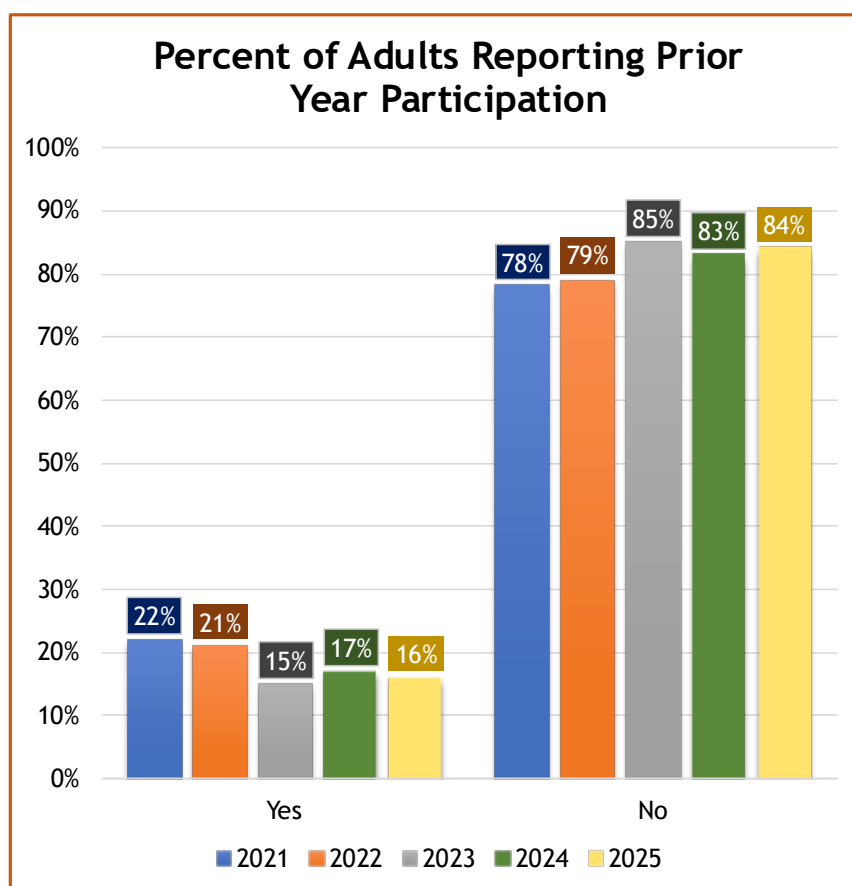
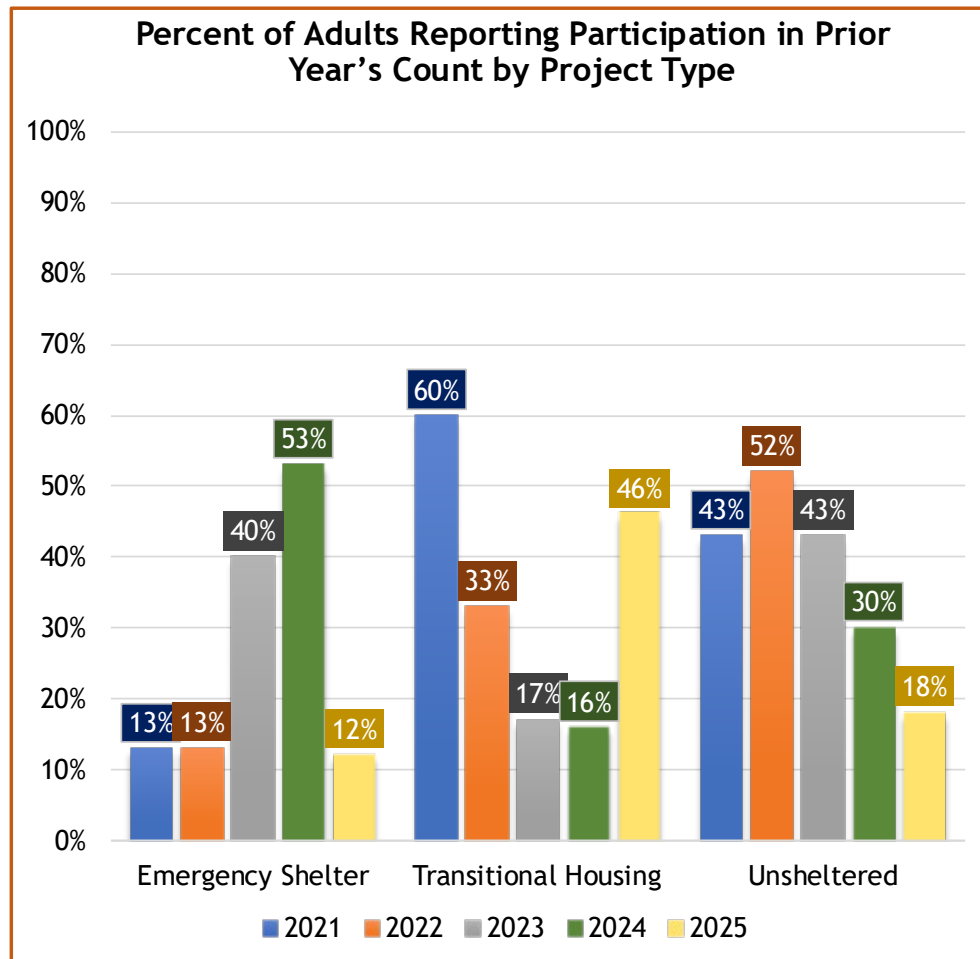


Table 5.0 – Percent of Adults Reporting Prior Year Participation (Five Year Comparison)

Table 5.1 below reports the number of adults that participated in the prior year's count by project type from 2021 to 2025. There were significant changes across all three project types: emergency shelter decreased by 77%, the unsheltered count decreased by 40% and transitional housing increased by more than 100%.



*Table 5.1 – Percent of Adults Reporting Prior Year Participation by Project Type (Five Year Comparison)*

## Permanent Residence Prior to Homelessness

Table 5.2 below reports the last permanent residence of adults where they lived for 90 or more consecutive days prior to their current episode of homelessness from 2021 to 2025. Permanent housing is defined as any form of rental (including rooms) with or without subsidy, home ownership, or long-term stays with family or friends. Data remains consistent with the previous year and suggests 82% of adults surveyed in 2025 resided in permanent housing within the PWA prior to becoming homeless. It is a common misconception that persons experiencing homelessness are largely transient when they are usually residents of the CoC from which they request services.

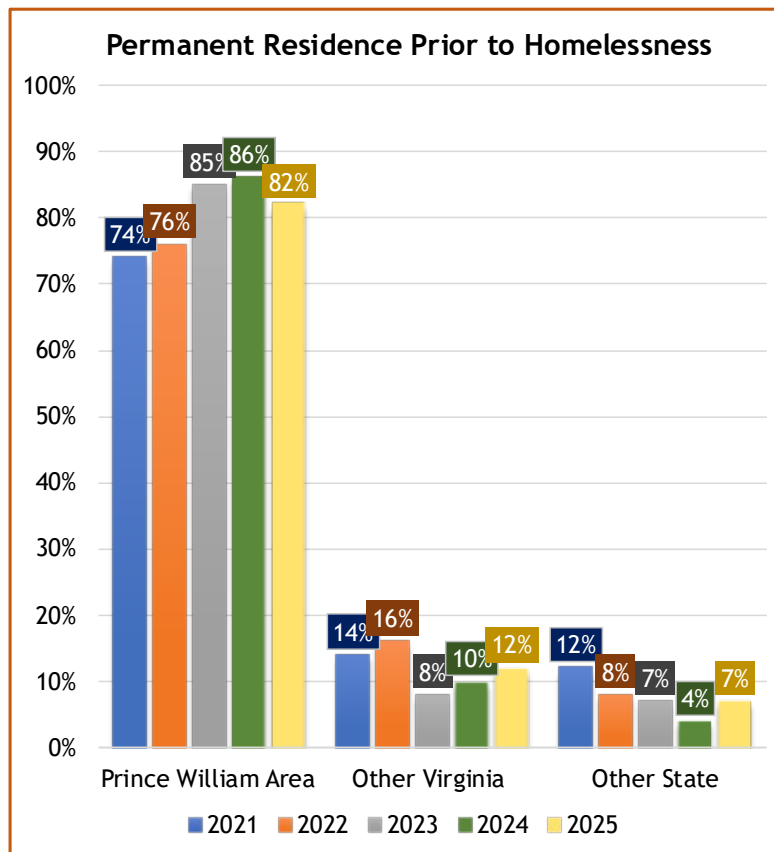


Table 5.2 – Percent of Adults Reporting Permanent Residence Prior to Homelessness (Five Year Comparison)

Table 5.3 below reports the last permanent residence by specific area as of the 2025 PIT. 73% of adults surveyed reported living in Prince William County prior to their current episode of homelessness. Manassas City represents 5% of this data and Manassas Park represents 1%.

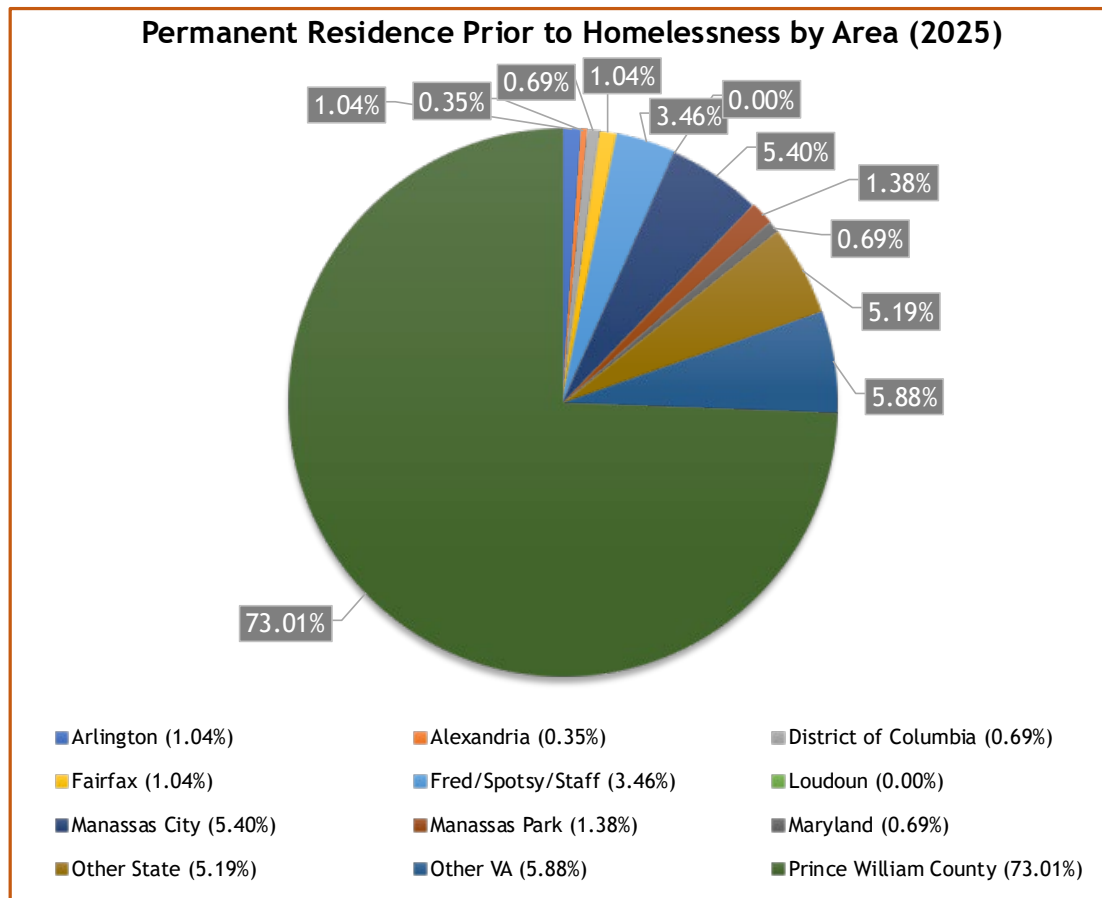
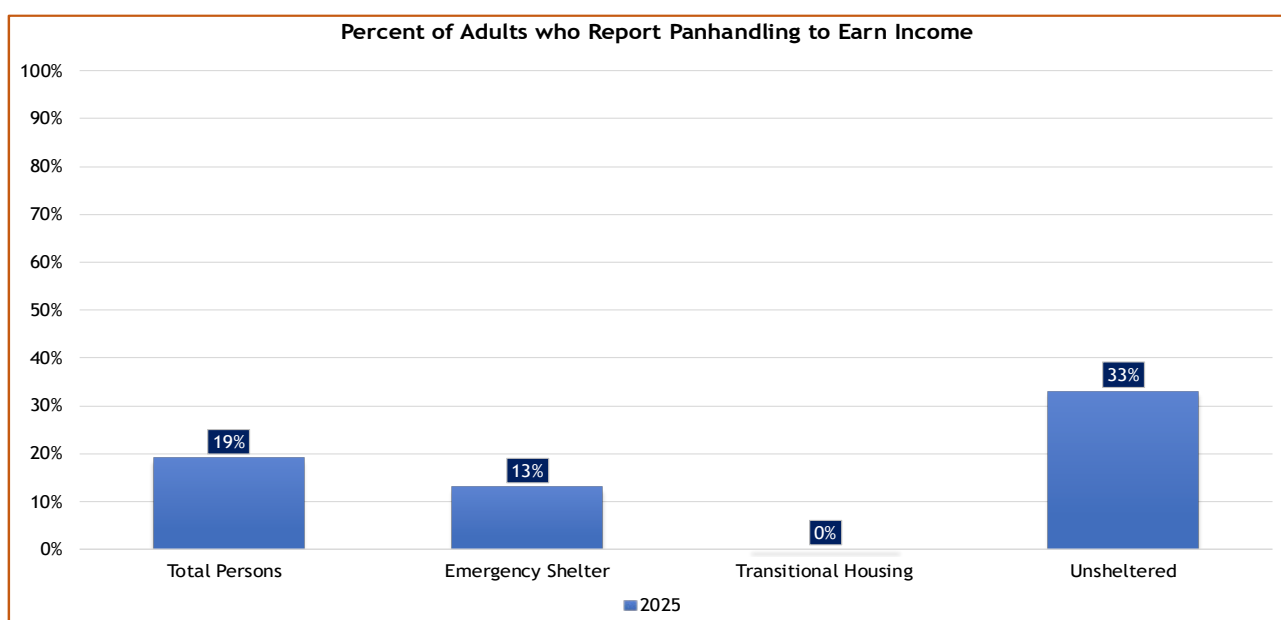


Table 5.3 – Count of Adults Reporting Permanent Residence Prior to Homelessness by Area (Current Year)

## Panhandling Activity

This question was added to the PWA CoC's 2025 PIT Survey to better understand the extent to which persons experiencing homelessness conduct panhandling activities to earn income for themselves or their household members. This data is reported for all adults surveyed.

Table 5.4 below reports the percentage of adults that conduct panhandling activities by project type as well as the overall percentage for all adults surveyed.



*Table 5.4 – Percent of adults that conduct panhandling activities by project type (Current Year)*

# APPENDIX C: HOMELESS SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Stefan Caine  
CoC Lead Administrator  
City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5973  
[Stefan.caine@alexandria.gov](mailto:Stefan.caine@alexandria.gov)

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Theresa Silla  
Executive Director  
District of Columbia Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)  
(202) 727-1751  
[theresa.silla@dc.gov](mailto:theresa.silla@dc.gov)

Joseph Lippi  
Deputy Administrator, Strategic Planning and Data Division  
Family Services Administration, DC Department of Human Services  
(202) 553-0791  
[Joseph.Lippi@dc.gov](mailto:Joseph.Lippi@dc.gov)

Sarah Flinspach, Co-Chair, Regional Case Coordination Learning Collaborative  
CAHP Coordinator  
The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness  
(202) 543-5298  
[sflinspach@community-partnership.org](mailto:sflinspach@community-partnership.org)

Elisabeth Young  
Deputy Chief of Policy and Programs  
The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness  
(202) 543-5298  
[eyoung@community-partnership.org](mailto:eyoung@community-partnership.org)

## MARYLAND

### ***Montgomery County***

Christine Hong  
Chief of Services to End and Prevent Homelessness  
(240) 777-1179  
[Christine.Hong@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Christine.Hong@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Bezawit Beheru  
Program Manager, Data and Research Team  
Montgomery County Department of Health  
and Human Services

(240) 343-5468  
[bezawit.baheru@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:bezawit.baheru@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Diana Bernhardt Pina  
Deputy Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness  
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services  
(240) 777-4594  
[diana.bernhardtpina@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:diana.bernhardtpina@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Rozina Adhanom  
Continuum of Care Coordinator  
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness  
[Rozina.Adhanom@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Rozina.Adhanom@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**Prince George's County**  
Marcia Harris, Co-Chair, Regional Data Metrics Working Group  
HMIS Manager  
Prince George's County Department of Social Services  
(301) 909-6137  
[marcia.harris@maryland.gov](mailto:marcia.harris@maryland.gov)

Renee Ensor Pope  
Deputy Director for Community Programs and Innovation  
Prince George's County Department of Social Services  
(301) 909-6316  
[renee.pope@maryland.gov](mailto:renee.pope@maryland.gov)

Keli Sobers  
Consultant  
Prince George's County Department of Social Services  
Office of Housing and Homelessness Services  
(240) 274-1703  
[keli.sobers.pg.md@gmail.com](mailto:keli.sobers.pg.md@gmail.com)

Jaye Summerlot, Co-Chair, Regional Case Coordination Learning Collaborative  
Coordinated Entry Program Manager  
Prince George's County Department of Social Services  
Office of Housing and Homelessness Services  
(301) 909-6319  
[John.summerlot@maryland.gov](mailto:John.summerlot@maryland.gov)

**VIRGINIA**  
**City of Alexandria**  
Stefan Caine  
CoC Lead Administrator  
City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5973  
[Stefan.caine@alexandria.gov](mailto:Stefan.caine@alexandria.gov)



Alison Coleman  
Director, Office of Community Services  
City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5855  
[alison.coleman@alexandriava.gov](mailto:alison.coleman@alexandriava.gov)

Clara Roberson  
Homeless Services Coordinator  
City of Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5942  
[clara.roberson@alexandriava.gov](mailto:clara.roberson@alexandriava.gov)

JC Severt  
Homeless Management Information System Lead Analyst  
City of Alexandria Department of  
Community and Human Services  
(703) 746-5728  
[justin.severt@alexandriava.gov](mailto:justin.severt@alexandriava.gov)

***Arlington County***

Ahmad Haj Ali  
Business Systems Analyst  
Arlington County Department of Human Services  
(703) 228-1371  
[ahajali@arlingtonva.us](mailto:ahajali@arlingtonva.us)

Kacy Barker  
Homeless Services Management Analyst  
Arlington County Department of Human Services  
(703) 228-1327  
[kbarker@arlingtonva.us](mailto:kbarker@arlingtonva.us)

Triina Van  
Homeless Services Coordinator  
Arlington County Department of Human Services  
(703) 228-3354  
[tvann@arlingtonva.us](mailto:tvann@arlingtonva.us)

***Fairfax County/City of Falls Church***

Tom Barnett  
Director, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness  
Fairfax County Department of Housing  
and Community Development  
(703) 324-9408  
[Thomas.Barnett@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Thomas.Barnett@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Stephen Knippler  
Continuum of Care Manager  
Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community  
Development

(703) 246-5161  
[stephen.knippler@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:stephen.knippler@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Nikki Thomas-Campbell  
Information Systems Manager  
Office to Prevent and End Homelessness  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
(703) 324-3284  
[Nikki.Thomas-Campbell@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Nikki.Thomas-Campbell@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Katrina Wayne  
Coordinated Entry Systems Specialist  
Office to Prevent and End Homelessness  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
(703) 324-6114  
[Katrina.Wayne@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Katrina.Wayne@fairfaxcounty.gov)

***Loudoun County***

Alexander Lucard  
HMIS System Administrator  
Loudoun County Department of Family Services  
(571) 258-3324  
[Alexander.Lucard@loudoun.gov](mailto:Alexander.Lucard@loudoun.gov)

Bobbi Mason  
Community Services Program Manager  
Loudoun County Department of Family Services  
(703) 771-5871  
[bobbi.mason@loudoun.gov](mailto:bobbi.mason@loudoun.gov)

Corinne Wyss  
Homeless Services CoC Coordinator  
Loudoun County Department of Family Services  
(703) 737-8416  
[Corinne.Wyss@loudoun.gov](mailto:Corinne.Wyss@loudoun.gov)

***Prince William County***

Dana Carey  
Senior Business Services Administrator  
Prince William County Department of Social Services  
(703) 792-8818  
[dcarey2@pwcgov.org](mailto:dcarey2@pwcgov.org)

Jeanine Gravette  
Human Services Program Manager  
Prince William County Department of Social Services  
(703) 792-7929  
[JGravette@pwcgov.org](mailto:JGravette@pwcgov.org)

Alicia M. La Patra, Co-Chair, Regional Data Metrics Working Group  
HMIS System Administrator  
Prince William County Department of Social Services  
(703) 792-8791  
[ALaPatra@pwcgov.org](mailto:ALaPatra@pwcgov.org)

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Hilary Chapman  
Housing Program Manager  
Department of Community Planning and Services  
(202) 962-3346  
[hchapman@mwkog.org](mailto:hchapman@mwkog.org)

Sam Kenney  
Regional Homeless Systems Coordinator  
Department of Community Planning and Services  
(202) 962-3312  
[skenney@mwkog.org](mailto:skenney@mwkog.org)





Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002

[mwcog.org](http://mwcog.org)