



The U.S. Department of
Housing and Urban Development
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The 2023 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress



PART 1: POINT-IN-TIME ESTIMATES OF HOMELESSNESS

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Key Findings

On a single night in 2023, roughly 653,100 people – or about 20 of every 10,000 people in the United States – were experiencing homelessness. Six in ten people were experiencing sheltered homelessness—that is, in an emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), or safe haven (SH) program—while the remaining four in ten were experiencing unsheltered homelessness in places not meant for human habitation.

Experiences of homelessness increased nationwide across all household types. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 12 percent, or roughly 70,650 more people.

The 2023 Point-in-Time (PIT) count is the highest number of people reported as experiencing homelessness on a single night since reporting began in 2007. The overall increase reflects the increases in all homeless populations. Homelessness among persons in families with children experiencing homelessness rose by 16 percent. Similarly, the rise in individuals experiencing homelessness was 11 percent.

People who identify as Black, African American, or African, as well as Indigenous people (including Native Americans and Pacific Islanders), continue to be overrepresented among the population experiencing homelessness. People who identify as Black made up just 13 percent of the total U.S. population and 21 percent of the U.S. population living in poverty but comprised 37 percent of all people experiencing homelessness and 50 percent of people experiencing homelessness as members of families with children.

People who identify as Asian or Asian American experienced the greatest percentage increase among all people experiencing homelessness. Between 2022 and 2023, there was a 40 percent increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness who identify as Asian and Asian American (3,313 more people). This increase was greatest among all racial and ethnic groups experiencing unsheltered homelessness, where the number of people identifying as Asian or Asian American increased by 64 percent between 2022 and 2023 (2,774 more people).

The largest numerical increase in people experiencing homelessness was among people who identify as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x), increasing by 28 percent or 39,106 people between 2022 and 2023. People who identify as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) made up 55 percent of the total increase in people experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023. Most of this increase (33,772 people) was for people experiencing sheltered homelessness.

Six of every 10 people experiencing homelessness did so in an urban area (59%), with more than half of all people counted in the Continuums of Care (CoCs) that encompass the nation’s 50 largest cities (53%). The remaining four of every ten people who experienced homelessness were located in largely suburban areas (23%) and largely rural areas (18%). These patterns hold across people experiencing both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness.

Seven in ten people experiencing homelessness (72%) did so in households without children present. The number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness is the highest it has ever been since data reporting began in 2007. Compared with 2007, 13 percent more individuals were experiencing homelessness in 2023. Increases were highest for unsheltered individuals, which increased by 20 percent (39,598 more people). Experiences of sheltered homelessness also increased, by seven percent or about 15,000 more individuals.

Nearly three of every 10 people experiencing homelessness (28% or roughly 186,100 people) did so as part of a family with children. The number of people in families with children who were

experiencing homelessness increased by more than 25,000 people (or 16%) between 2022 and 2023, ending a downward trend in families experiencing homelessness that began in 2012. This overall increase in the number of families with children experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 reflects a 17 percent increase in the number of families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness (24,966 more people).

On a single night in 2023, more than 34,700 people under the age of 25 experienced homelessness on their own as “unaccompanied youth.” These unaccompanied youth made up 22 percent of all people under the age of 25 who were experiencing homelessness. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of unaccompanied youth increased by 15 percent (4,613 more youth). The number in 2023 is similar to the number of unaccompanied youth observed in 2020, just before the onset of the pandemic.

More than one in five people experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2023 was age 55 or older. More than 98,000 people experiencing homelessness were aged 55 to 64, and almost 39,700 people were over age 64. Nearly half of adults age 55 or older (46%) were experiencing unsheltered homelessness in places not meant for human habitation.

In 2023, 35,574 veterans were experiencing homelessness—22 of every 10,000 veterans in the United States. The number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased by seven percent (2,445 more veterans) between 2022 and 2023. The increase included a 14 percent rise in the number of unsheltered veterans (1,943 more veterans) and a three percent increase in veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (502 more veterans). Despite increases in experiences of veteran homelessness between 2022 and 2023, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness are 52 percent lower than it was in 2009, the baseline year for reporting veterans experiencing homelessness in the AHAR.

About one-third (31%) of all individuals experiencing homelessness reported having experienced chronic patterns of homelessness, or 143,105 people. This is the highest number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness counted in the PIT count since these data were first reported in 2007. Two-thirds of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness, or almost 93,000 people, were counted in unsheltered locations. This is also the highest number recorded.

The national inventory of beds for people currently experiencing homelessness increased by seven percent between 2022 and 2023. The largest increase in year-round inventory for people currently experiencing homelessness occurred in emergency shelters (28,760 more beds). Within emergency shelter programs, the largest increase in inventory was for facility-based beds (which are often in congregate settings), which increased by 14 percent between 2022 and 2023. This increase in facility-based beds reflects a reduction in both the non-congregate beds that became available during the COVID-19 public health emergency and the phasing out of social distancing and shelter decompression efforts that were in place during the 2021 and 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) reporting periods.

The national inventory of beds for people formerly experiencing homelessness increased by six percent between 2022 and 2023. Total inventory increased by 35,709 beds across all rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing programs reported in the HIC. The largest increase in year-round inventory for people transitioning out of homelessness was among other permanent housing programs (32,129 more beds).

Definition of Terms

Please note: Key terms are used for AHAR reporting purposes and accurately reflect the data used in this report. Definitions of these terms may differ in some ways from the definitions found in the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act and in HUD regulations.

Adults refers to people age 18 or older.

Children refers to people under the age of 18.

Continuums of Care (CoC) are local planning bodies responsible for coordinating the full range of homelessness services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or an entire state.

Disability refers to an individual with one or more of the following conditions: (A) A physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that: (1) Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration; (2) Substantially impedes the individual's ability to live independently; and (3) Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions; (B) A developmental disability, as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002); or (C) The disease of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) or any condition arising from the etiologic agency for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.

Emergency Shelter (ES) is a facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness.

Experiencing Homelessness describes a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

Eviction moratorium refers to the federal (or state or local) ban on evicting certain tenants from a residential rental property due to non-payment of rent.

Families Experiencing Chronic Homelessness refers to people in families with children in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously experienced homelessness for one year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years where the combined length of time experiencing homelessness on those occasions is at least 12 months.

Family Households refers to the total number of households made up of at least one adult age 18 or older and one child age under 18 that were experiencing homelessness on the night of the point-in-time count.

HMIS stands for homelessness management information system. CoCs use an HMIS to collect data on people who are experiencing sheltered homelessness in their area, such as information about their characteristics and service-use patterns over time.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is produced by each CoC and provides an annual inventory of beds that provide assistance to people in the CoC who are experiencing homelessness or transitioning out of their experience of homelessness.

Individual refers to a person who is not part of a family with children during an experience of homelessness (i.e., the person is not experiencing homelessness in a household with at least one adult and at least one child under age 18). Individuals may be single adults, unaccompanied children, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

Individual Experiencing Chronic Homelessness refers to an individual with a disability who has been continuously experiencing homelessness for one year or more, or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years where the combined length of time experiencing homelessness on those occasions is at least 12 months.

Multiple Races or Multi-Racial refers to people who self-identify as more than one race.

Other Permanent Housing is housing with or without services that is specifically for people who formerly experienced homelessness but that does not require people to have a disability.

Parenting Children are people under age 18 who are the parents or legal guardians of one or more children (under age 18) who are present with or sleeping in the same place as the child parent and there is no person over the age of 18 in the household.

Parenting Child Household is a household with at least one parenting child and the child or children for whom the parenting child is the parent or legal guardian.

Parenting Youth are people under age 25 who are the parents or legal guardians of one or more children (under age 18) who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

Parenting Youth Household is a household with at least one parenting youth and the child or children for whom the parenting youth is the parent or legal guardian.

People in Families with Children are people who are experiencing homelessness as part of a household that has at least one adult (age 18 or older) and one child (under age 18).

Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts are unduplicated one-night estimates of both sheltered and unsheltered populations experiencing homelessness. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last week in January of each year.¹

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a housing model designed to provide housing assistance (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis to people who were experiencing homelessness when they entered the program and are now considered formerly experiencing homelessness. HUD's Continuum of Care program, authorized by the McKinney-Vento Act, funds PSH and requires that the client have a disability for eligibility.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is a housing model designed to provide temporary housing assistance to people experiencing homelessness, moving them quickly out of their experience of homelessness and into permanent housing.

Safe Havens (SH) are projects that provide private or semi-private temporary shelter and services to people experiencing severe mental illness and are limited to serving no more than 25 people within a facility.

Sheltered Homelessness refers to people who are staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens.

Transitional Housing Programs (TH) provide people experiencing homelessness a place to stay combined with supportive services for up to 24 months (About 2 years).

¹ While CoCs are only required to conduct an unsheltered and sheltered PIT count biennially per 24 CFR 578.7(c)(2), most CoCs conduct a PIT count annually.

Unaccompanied Youth (under 18) are people in households with only children who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their experience of homelessness, and who are under the age of 18.

Unaccompanied Youth (18-24) are young adults in households without children who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness and who are between the ages of 18 and 24.

Unsheltered Homelessness refers to people whose primary nighttime location is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for people (for example, the streets, vehicles, or parks).

Veteran refers to any person who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States. This includes Reserves and National Guard members who were called up to active duty.

About this Report

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR) in two parts. Part 1 provides Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates, offering a snapshot of experiences of homelessness—both sheltered and unsheltered—on a single night. The PIT counts also provide an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness within particular populations such as veterans and individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness. To be included in the PIT count, a person needs to meet the definition of experiencing homelessness used by HUD—which differs from the definition used by other agencies—and is defined as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground; or
- An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals).²

People residing in the following locations on the night of the PIT count are ***not*** included in the sheltered or unsheltered PIT count:

- Persons residing in PSH programs, including persons housed using HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.
- Persons residing in OPH housing, including persons in a GPD Transition in Place (TIP) project on the night of the count.
- Persons counted in any location not listed on the HIC (e.g., staying in projects with beds/units not dedicated for persons who are homeless).
- Persons temporarily staying with family or friends (i.e., “doubled-up” or “couch surfing”).
- Persons residing in housing they rent or own (i.e., permanent housing), including persons residing in rental housing with assistance from a RRH project on the night of the count.

The one-night PIT counts are typically conducted each year during the last 10 days of January. However, in 2022, because of concerns surrounding the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) health emergency, 145 CoCs (more than one-third) received waivers to conduct the PIT count in late February or early March instead of the last 10 days of January. Many seasonal emergency shelter programs were still in operation during the February and early March months, so those programs would still have reported people served in the 2022 sheltered count. However, the 2022 sheltered count may have undercounted the number of people who would have been counted had cold weather or warming shelters been open. Warming shelters typically are open only when temperatures drop to dangerous levels. In late February and early March, some regions’ cold weather shelters may not have needed to open. In 2023, all but seven (of 381) CoCs completed the PIT counts during the last 10 days of January.

To understand our nation’s capacity to serve people who are currently or formerly experiencing homelessness, this report also provides counts of beds in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs,

² For the PIT Count, CoCs must count all individuals or families who meet the criteria in paragraphs (1)(i) and (1)(ii) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3.

safe havens, rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing as reported by CoCs in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC).

In 2023, the PIT estimates of people experiencing homelessness in sheltered and unsheltered locations, as well as the number of beds available to serve them, were reported by 381 Continuums of Care (CoC) nationwide. These 381 CoCs covered virtually the entire United States.

To better understand how experiences of homelessness differs by geography, the AHAR study team categorized CoCs into four groups:

- 1) Major city CoCs
- 2) Other largely urban CoCs
- 3) Largely suburban CoCs
- 4) Largely rural CoCs

First, CoCs representing the 50 most populous cities in the United States, based on U.S. Census data, were assigned to the major city CoC category. Next, the study team used geographic data published by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)³ to determine the urbanicity of the remaining CoCs. NCES defines 12 geographic locales, which were collapsed into three distinct categories: urban (mapping to the three NCES “City” locales), suburban (mapping to the three NCES “Suburban” locales, as well as the “Town – Fringe” locale), and rural (mapping to the three NCES “Rural” locales, as well as the “Town – Distant” and “Town – Remote” locales).⁴ Using the percentage of each CoC’s total population⁵ living in urban, suburban, and rural areas, based on the NCES geographic data, CoCs were classified into categories according to their largest percentage among the three.

In other words, a CoC with a plurality of its population living in rural areas would be classified as a “largely rural CoC.” That does not imply, however, that all people experiencing homelessness in the largely rural CoC were counted in rural areas. CoCs span large territories (even an entire state in some cases) and may comprise a mixture of urban, suburban, and rural areas. Because PIT estimates are reported for an entire CoC, each person experiencing homelessness in the CoC cannot be classified as staying in an urban, suburban, or rural area. Rather, all people experiencing homelessness in the CoC are classified as staying in a CoC that is largely urban, suburban, or rural.⁶

HUD has technical standards for conducting the PIT counts, and CoCs use a variety of approved methods to produce the counts (methodologies). The guide for PIT methodologies can be found here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4036/point-in-time-count-methodology-guide>. While standards exist, each CoC makes choices among the approved methods, so there is no universal method used to collect PIT count data. This results in variations in how CoCs conduct their PIT counts, often based on the size and type of the CoC. For example, some CoCs conduct a full census, capturing data on all people experiencing homelessness. Others, often those with large geographic areas, use a sampling approach to

³ The study team used NCES data from the 2017–2019 school year (the most recent data available when the CoC categories were developed).

⁴ Definitions for each of the 12 NCES locales are available in the Locale Boundaries User’s Manual: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/edge/docs/EDGE_NCES_LOCALE_FILEDOC.pdf

⁵ The study team used population counts from the Census Bureau’s 2010 block-level data. Census blocks are the smallest geographic unit for which the Census reports population counts, and they are the ideal unit for this CoC analysis. Block-level population data are only available in the decennial census reports.

⁶ The median percentage of the population living in urban areas among major city CoCs was 70 percent. The median urban percentage among other CoCs classified as largely urban was 58 percent. The median suburban percentage among CoCs classified as largely suburban was 65 percent, and the median rural percentage among CoCs classified as largely rural was 71 percent.

count a smaller group of people experiencing homelessness and use that sample to estimate the number and characteristics for the entire population of people experiencing homelessness within their community.

HUD also sets several standards for what types of situations qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness. All situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are considered places not meant for human habitation. However, the level of connection to services and resources varies. For example, an experience of unsheltered homelessness includes situations where a person is sleeping in public spaces—possibly with no shelter or connection to resources—as well as encampments that may have water or bathroom facilities and are visited by outreach workers who provide connections to supportive services. Experiences of unsheltered homelessness also includes people sleeping in cars, trucks, and recreational vehicles when it appears to the people conducting the PIT count that the purpose is not recreational but instead because of the lack of an alternative place to sleep. Some communities have established “safe parking” programs that have services similar to those found in shelters. They are also considered unsheltered locations.

When collecting demographic data on people experiencing homelessness, the people conducting the PIT count use pre-established categories to collect data on race, ethnicity, and gender. Those categories are based on current reporting standards, which for the 2023 PIT were defined in the fiscal year 2022 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Standards and similar definitions used in surveys of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Those race, ethnicity, and gender categories were recently updated for the 2022 PIT count and will change in the upcoming 2024 PIT count to better reflect the ways in which people identify themselves. For example, HUD consulted with advocates, providers, researchers, and people with lived homeless experience to arrive at the gender categories. (See Exhibit 1-5, for example.) Also, HUD took guidance from the White House’s *Recommendations on the Best Practices for the Collection of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data on Federal Statistical Surveys* the National Academic of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine March 2022 report *Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation*.

Beginning in 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. Instead of a single category representing all people over the age of 24, five additional categories were used to provide more detail on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. These categories were 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65 or older. As this is the first year these data are reported, comparisons to prior years for the new age categories are not available. It is also expected that the quality of these data will improve over time as CoCs grow accustomed to collecting this level of data.

For the AHAR reporting, if a CoC does not conduct an unsheltered count for the reporting year, their prior year’s unsheltered data is carried forward to avoid misleading changes in the data. In 2023, 22 CoCs conducted a sheltered-only count.⁷ The unsheltered count data was carried forward for these 22 CoCs in the 2023 PIT count. To be able to report the age distribution of people over age 24 for these CoCs, the age category breakouts were estimated. To do this estimation, the total number of people aged 24 and older from the reported 2022 unsheltered data was extrapolated (estimated) using the age distribution of comparable CoCs’ unsheltered populations in 2023. For example, if 20 percent of people in the 2023 count of unsheltered people over 24 in the comparison CoC(s) fell into the 25-34 age category, 20 percent of the 2022 unsheltered population over age 24 was used to estimate the 25-34 unsheltered population for the CoC. For the 15 California CoCs that did a sheltered-only count, the combined age distribution of all other California CoCs that conducted an unsheltered count in 2023 was used. For other CoCs that did not complete an unsheltered count in 2023, the remainder of CoCs in the same state and geographic category

⁷ The 22 CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 included 15 CoCs from California, two CoCs from Georgia, one CoC from Illinois, two CoCs from Michigan, one CoC from Puerto Rico, and one CoC from Washington.

or CoCs from the same geographic category and a similar state were used to impute (estimate) the age distributions.

The PIT count of experiences of homelessness and the housing inventory information are based on data from January 2023 and continue to reflect the impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on levels of experiences of homelessness and characteristics of people experiencing homelessness. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the capacity of homelessness service providers. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds available for occupancy. In some cases, this reduced capacity was reported through the HIC, but in other communities it was not. The effects of the pandemic on the ability to conduct unsheltered counts and on shelter capacity persisted into 2022 in some communities. Therefore, numbers may still have been artificially reduced in 2022 compared with non-pandemic times and should be viewed with caution. By the time of the 2023 PIT and HIC counts, most shelters had resumed operating at full capacity—that is, they no longer practiced the social distancing that had reduced their bed capacity by up to 50 percent—and nearly all COVID-era protections such as city, county, or state level eviction moratoriums, had ended.

In an effort to meaningfully include people with lived experiences and expertise (PLEE) with homelessness as a part of the AHAR process, HUD invited technical assistance providers with lived experiences to provide a review of the AHAR chapters. This review continued a collaboration between HUD and PLEE that began with the 2020 AHAR Part 2 report. The AHAR is an important source of data used to inform policies, programmatic decisions, and funding. HUD will continue collaboration with PLEE in development of the report as it will strengthen and improve the usefulness of the AHAR. The contents of this report do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the PLEE.

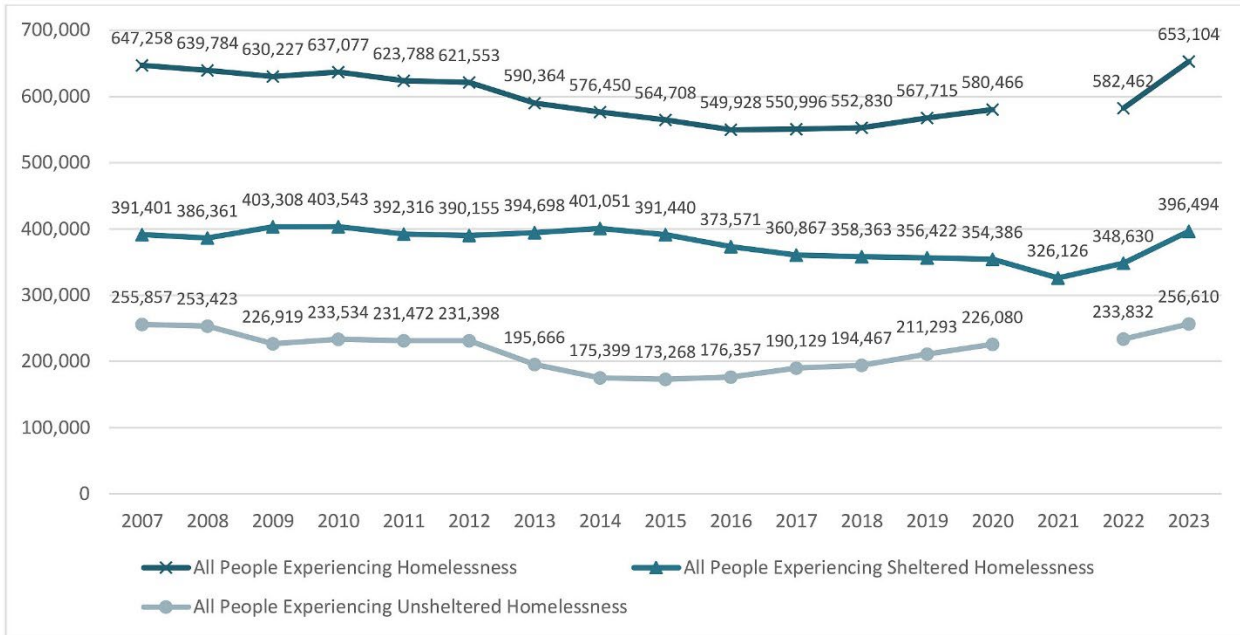
1. Estimates of Homelessness in the United States

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of people experiencing homelessness during a single point-in-time (PIT) count that occurs during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness includes people who were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens on the night of the count. It does *not* include people staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also includes the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are considered places not meant for human habitation such as sidewalks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, and vehicles parked for long periods. However, due to a variety of factors that could affect the accuracy of an unsheltered count, the actual number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

1.1 National Estimates of Experiences of Homelessness

Exhibit 1-1: PIT Estimates of People Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023



Note: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of people experiencing homelessness or the count of all people experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, estimates of the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness at a point in time in 2021 should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 1-2: Experiences of Homelessness by Household Type and Sheltered Status, 2023

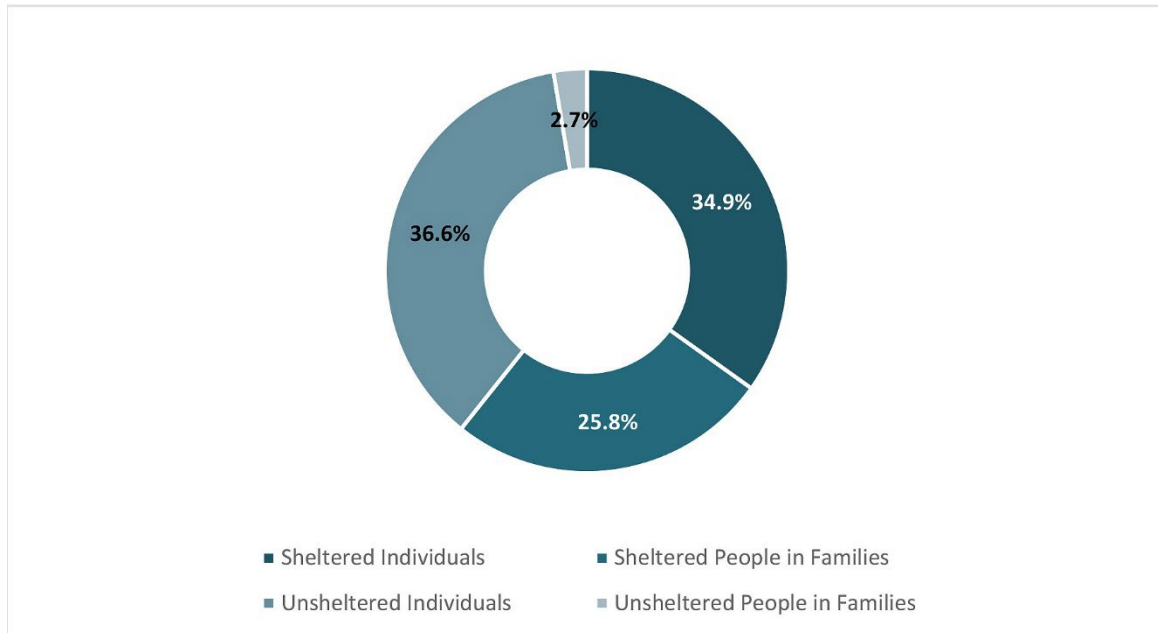
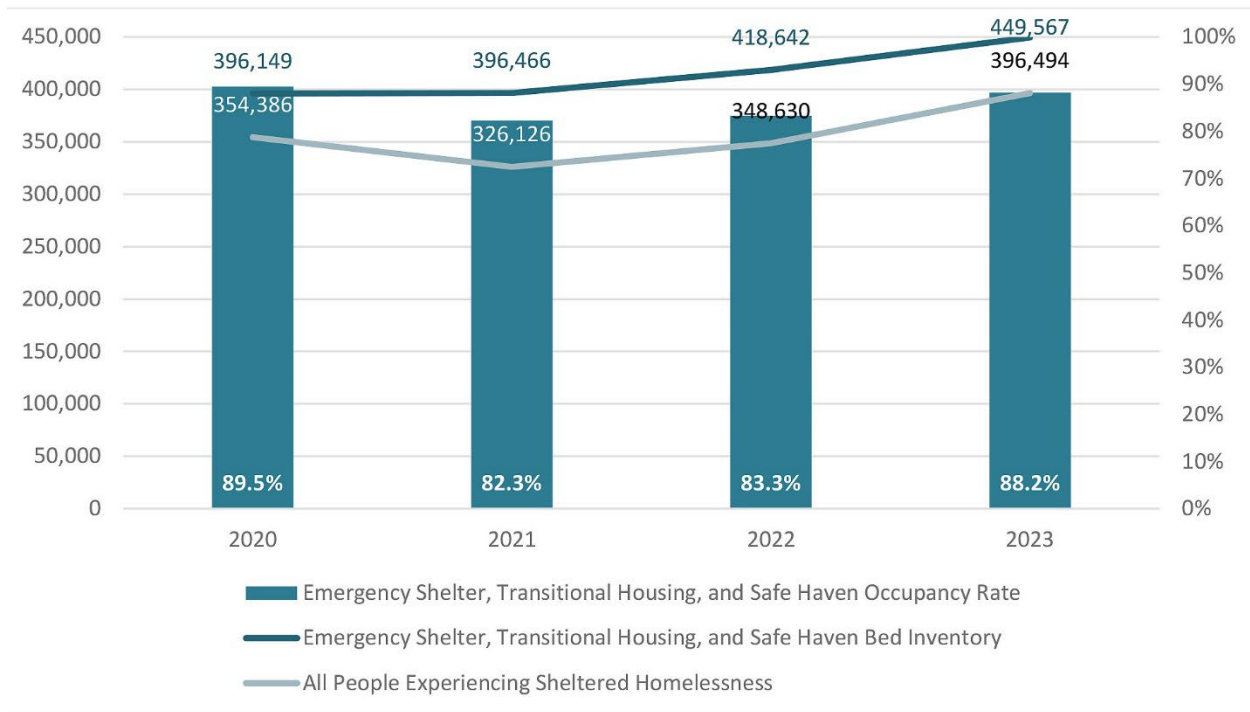


Exhibit 1-3: Change in Number of People Experiencing Homelessness Over Time by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023

	Total Change 2007-2023		Total Change 2010-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
All People Experiencing Homelessness	5,846	0.9%	16,027	2.5%	72,638	12.5%	70,642	12.1%
Sheltered People	5,093	1.3%	-7,049	-1.7%	42,108	11.9%	47,864	13.7%
Unsheltered People	753	0.3%	23,076	9.9%	30,530	13.5%	22,778	9.7%

Exhibit 1-4: Year-Round Bed Inventory, Sheltered Homelessness, and Bed Occupancy Rates of Programs for People in Sheltered Locations, 2020-2023



Note: Occupancy rate is based on year-round beds and does not include seasonal or overflow beds. The exhibit reflects occupancy rates at the national level. Inventory occupancy rates vary across the nation and within CoCs. For example, geographically large CoCs may report available/unoccupied beds, but those beds may not be located in a part of the CoC that is accessible to someone located in other, especially rural, parts of the CoC or people in other CoCs.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 653,104 people – or about 20 of every 10,000 people in the United States – experienced homelessness across the United States.⁸ This is the highest number of people reported as experiencing homelessness on a single night since PIT count reporting began in 2007.
- Six in 10 people experiencing homelessness were staying in sheltered locations, and four in 10 were unsheltered, that is, staying in a place not meant for human habitation.
- Seven in ten people experiencing homelessness were in households with only adults (71%). Households with only adults staying in unsheltered locations comprised the largest single segment of the total population experiencing homelessness (36%), followed by adult-only households staying in sheltered locations (35%). Twenty-nine percent of people experiencing homelessness did so as part of a family with at least one adult and one child under 18 years of age, and most people in families were sheltered.
- Less than one percent of people experiencing homelessness, 3,240 people, were unaccompanied children, people under 18 without a parent or guardian present.⁹

Changes over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency, which was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied by people experiencing homelessness. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds occupied, thus allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. Some shelters closed entirely during the pandemic. In some cases, this was reported through the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) as reduced inventory capacity, but in many communities it was not.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count. In 2022, many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 HIC and PIT counts. This is reflected in the upward trend in both shelter capacity and occupancy rates shown in Exhibit 1-4. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of homelessness and shelter bed inventory are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.

- Continuing the upward trend over the past seven years, the total number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in 2023 has reached the highest count observed since reporting began in 2007.
- The total number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2023 (396,494 people) is the highest observed estimate since 2014 (401,051 people).
- Between 2022 and 2023, the total number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 70,642 people (or 12%). The overall increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 reflects both a sharp increase in the number of people experiencing

⁸ This count does not include people served in rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, or other permanent housing programs, which comprise 60 percent of the national inventory as reported in the 2023 Housing Inventory Count.

⁹ The point-in-time counts include children without an adult present as individuals.

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sheltered homelessness, which increased by 47,864 people (or 14%), and increases in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, which increased by 22,778 people (or 10%) over the last year.

- Reflecting the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness dropped between 2020 and 2021. The number began to climb again in 2022 as pandemic-era restrictions were lifted and eviction moratoria began to end. Since 2021, the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness has increased each year.
- Overall, the number of emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe haven (SH) beds available to people experiencing homelessness was 13 percent higher in 2023 than it was in 2020, just prior to the onset of the pandemic. This increase in bed inventory was matched by an increase in the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness. By 2023, the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness increased by twelve percent (42,108 more people) since 2020, the last count before the COVID-19 pandemic began.
- The increase in the sheltered population and bed inventory between 2020 and 2023 is reflected in the occupancy rates of ES, SH, and TH beds, which also began to rise toward pre-pandemic levels after reduced occupancy rates were observed in both 2021 and 2022.

Exhibit 1-5: Demographic Characteristics of People Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

	All People		Sheltered People		Unsheltered People	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All People	653,104	100%	396,494	100%	256,610	100%
Age						
Under 18	111,620	17.1%	101,072	25.5%	10,548	4.1%
18 to 24	47,436	7.3%	32,662	8.2%	14,774	5.8%
25 to 34	118,882	18.2%	70,135	17.7%	48,747	19.0%
35 to 44	130,387	20.0%	66,535	16.8%	63,852	24.9%
45 to 54	106,690	16.3%	51,625	13.0%	55,065	21.5%
55 to 64	98,393	15.1%	52,053	13.1%	46,340	18.1%
Over 64	39,696	6.1%	22,412	5.7%	17,284	6.7%
Gender						
Female	250,009	38.3%	172,855	43.6%	77,154	30.1%
Male	395,160	60.5%	220,270	55.6%	174,890	68.2%
Transgender	4,087	0.6%	1,895	0.5%	2,192	0.9%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	3,089	0.5%	1,211	0.3%	1,878	0.7%
Questioning	759	0.1%	263	0.1%	496	0.2%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	473,768	72.5%	284,056	71.6%	189,712	73.9%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	179,336	27.5%	112,438	28.4%	66,898	26.1%
Race						
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	23,116	3.5%	10,474	2.6%	12,642	4.9%
Asian or Asian American	11,574	1.8%	4,448	1.1%	7,126	2.8%

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	All People		Sheltered People		Unsheltered People	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Black, African American, or African	243,624	37.3%	176,325	44.5%	67,299	26.2%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	10,712	1.6%	4,514	1.1%	6,198	2.4%
White	324,854	49.7%	178,782	45.1%	146,072	56.9%
Multiple Races	39,224	6.0%	21,951	5.5%	17,273	6.7%

Note: In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. The data for all people experiencing homelessness and people experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes extrapolated (estimated) age data on people aged 25 and over for 22 CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 and thus did not have these new age categories.

Demographic Characteristics of All People Experiencing Homelessness

On a Single Night in January 2023

- The demographic characteristics of people experiencing homelessness vary considerably by household type and shelter status and reflect the large percentage of individuals among the total population experiencing homelessness. Detailed characteristics are shown separately for individuals in Section 2 of this report and for families with children in Section 3.
- Seventy-six percent of all people experiencing homelessness were adults age 25 or older (494,048 people), 17 percent were children under the age of 18 (111,620 children). Seven percent were young adults aged 18 to 24 (47,436 young adults).
- Among adults experiencing homelessness, more than a quarter (28%) were over age 54. Twenty percent (98,393 people) were aged 55 to 64, and eight percent were elderly, that is, over age 64 (39,696 people).
- People experiencing unsheltered homelessness tended to be older on average than those experiencing sheltered homelessness. Just under half of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (46%) were aged 35 to 54, and only four percent were children under age 18.
- Six of every 10 people experiencing homelessness were men or boys (61% or 395,160 men and boys), 38 percent were women or girls (250,009 women and girls), and one percent identified as either transgender (4,087 people), not singularly female or male (3,089 people), or were questioning their gender identity (759 people).¹⁰ People experiencing homelessness who identified as transgender, not singularly female or male, or gender questioning were more likely to be in unsheltered locations than sheltered locations (2% vs. 1%).¹¹
- Nearly 4 of every 10 people experiencing homelessness identified as Black, African American, or African (37% or 243,624 people). A higher percentage of people in shelter identified as Black (45% or 176,325 people) compared to people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations

¹⁰ The AHAR has been reporting demographic information on people experiencing homelessness on a single night since 2017. Beginning in 2022, the ways in which people identified their gender changed considerably, expanding the gender identity categories to include “questioning” and allowing people to select more than one gender. As a result, any comparisons made to prior years are not exact comparisons. For more information on how gender was reported for the PIT, see: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Reporting-Gender-for-the-PIT-Count.pdf>

¹¹ This trend could be due to an increased vulnerability of this population. It is also possible that shelter requirements around gender affect responses, resulting in underreporting of people identifying as other than male or female.

(26% or 67,299). Half of all people experiencing homelessness identified as White (50% or 324,854 people). A higher share of the unsheltered population identified as White (57%) than the sheltered population (45%).

- Among all people experiencing homelessness, six percent identified as more than one race; four percent identified as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous; two percent as Asian or Asian American; and two percent as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. People who identified as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous as well as those who identified as Asian or Asian American were nearly twice as likely to be experiencing unsheltered homelessness than sheltered homelessness (5% vs. 3% and 3% vs. 1%).
- Almost one-third of all people experiencing homelessness, 28 percent, identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) (counting people of all races who identify as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x)). The proportion is slightly higher for people staying in unsheltered versus sheltered locations (28% vs. 26%).

Changes in Demographic Characteristics of All People Experiencing Homelessness

In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. Instead of a single category representing all people over the age of 24, five additional categories were used to provide more detail on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. As this is the first year these data were reported, comparisons to prior years for the new age categories are not available. It is anticipated that data on age will improve as CoCs continue to adjust to collecting this level of information.

- National increases in sheltered homelessness were observed among all age groups. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of sheltered adults (aged 24 or older) increased by 29,071 people, the number children (under age 18) who were experiencing sheltered homelessness increased by 13,112 people, and the number of sheltered young adults (ages 18 to 24) increased by 5,681 people.
- Between 2022 and 2023, the total number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as transgender, not singularly female or male, or gender questioning increased by 31 percent (798 more people). Unsheltered homelessness increased by ten percent among people who identified as transgender (197 more people), 15 percent among people who identify as not singularly female or male (243 people), and 4 percent among people who identified as gender questioning (19 more people).
- Increases in the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness between 2022 and 2023 were largest among people who identified as Black, African American, or African (21,768 more people or a 14% increase). The largest percentage increase was among people who identified as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous, which increased by 18 percent (1,631 more people).
- Over the same time period, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness increased among all racial groups. The largest absolute increase was among people who identified as White (12,314 more people) while the largest percentage increase was observed among Asian or Asian Americans experiencing homelessness (64%, or 2,774 more people).
- The number of people experiencing homelessness who identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) increased by 28 percent between 2022 and 2023. This reflects a considerable increase in the number of people who identify as Hispanic and were experiencing sheltered homelessness, which increased by 43 percent (33,772 people) between 2022 and 2023.

1.2 Estimates of Experiences of Homelessness by State

Exhibit 1-6: Estimates of People Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2023

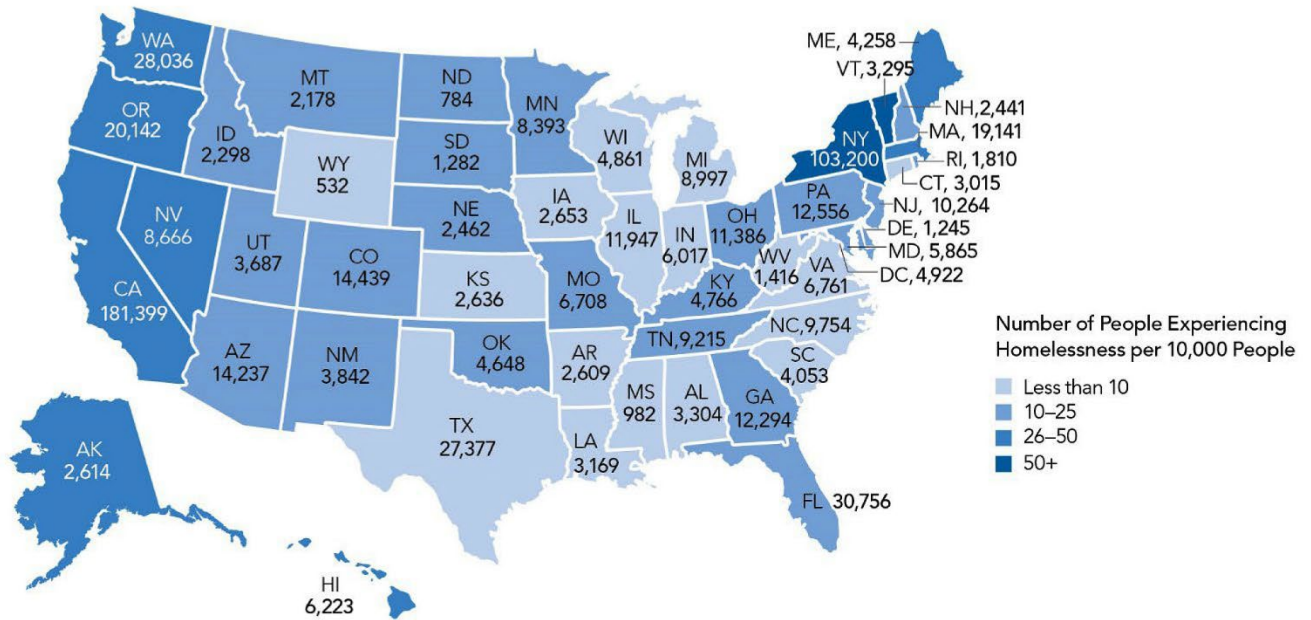


Exhibit 1-7: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of People Experiencing Homelessness Who Are Unsheltered, 2023

State	All People	Unsheltered (n)	Unsheltered (%)
Highest Rates			
California	181,399	123,423	68.0%
Oregon	20,142	13,004	64.6%
Hawaii	6,223	3,907	62.8%
Arizona	14,237	7,615	53.5%
Nevada	8,666	4,555	52.6%
Lowest Rates			
Vermont	3,295	137	4.2%
New York	103,200	5,007	4.9%
Maine	4,258	299	7.0%
Massachusetts	19,141	1,362	7.1%
Wisconsin	4,861	458	9.4%

Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

Exhibit 1-8a: Largest Changes in Experiences of Homelessness by State, 2007-2023

Change 2022-2023			Change 2007-2023		
State	#	%	State	#	%
Largest Increases					
New York	29,022	39.1%	California	42,413	30.5%
California	9,878	5.8%	New York	40,599	64.9%
Florida	4,797	18.5%	Washington	4,657	19.9%
Colorado	4,042	38.9%	Massachusetts	4,014	26.5%
Massachusetts	3,634	23.4%	Oregon	2,552	14.5%
Largest Decreases					
Louisiana	-4,204	-57.0%	Florida	-17,313	-36.0%
Tennessee	-1,352	-12.8%	Texas	-12,411	-31.2%
Delaware	-1,124	-47.4%	Georgia	-7,345	-37.4%
Alabama	-448	-11.9%	New Jersey	-7,050	-40.7%
Mississippi	-214	-17.9%	Maryland	-3,763	-39.1%

Notes: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. Due to changes in their PIT count methodology, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, and Wyoming were excluded from the list of largest decreases between 2007 and 2023.

Exhibit 1-8b: Largest Changes in Experiences of Homelessness by State During the Pandemic, 2020-2022

Change 2020-2022		
State	#	%
Largest Increases		
California	9,973	6.2%
Louisiana	4,200	132.4%
Tennessee	3,311	45.6%
Oregon	3,304	22.5%
Arizona	2,574	23.4%
Largest Decreases		
New York	-17,093	-18.7%
Texas	-2,797	-10.3%
Massachusetts	-2,468	-13.7%
District of Columbia	-1,970	-30.9%
Florida	-1,528	-5.6%

Notes: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- More than half of all people experiencing homelessness in the country were in four states: California (28% of all people experiencing homelessness in the U.S, or 181,399 people); New York (16% or 103,200 people); Florida (5% or 30,756 people); and Washington (4% or 28,036 people).
- California accounted for 49 percent of all unsheltered people in the country (123,423 people). This is nearly eight times the number of unsheltered people in the state with the next highest number, Florida. In the 2023 point-in-time count, Florida reported 15,482 people or just six percent of the national total of people in unsheltered locations.
- States with very high rates of overall experiences of homelessness included New York, Vermont, Oregon, and California, with 52, 51, 48, and 46 people experiencing homelessness for every 10,000 people in the state. In the District of Columbia, a single city, 73 of every 10,000 people were experiencing homelessness.
- While Florida and Texas contributed large numbers of people experiencing homelessness to the national count, they continued to have rates of homelessness lower than the national average of 18 people per 10,000 (14 for every 10,000 people in Florida and 9 for every 10,000 people in Texas).
- States in the West reported some of the highest percentages of all people experiencing homelessness in who were counted in unsheltered locations. In California, 68 percent of people experiencing homelessness did so outdoors. Other states with more than half of their total population of people experiencing homelessness counted in unsheltered locations were: Oregon (65%), Hawaii (63%), Arizona (54%), Nevada (53%), Arkansas (51%), and Florida (50%).
- Two states sheltered at least 95 percent of people experiencing homelessness: Vermont (96%) and New York (95%).

Changes over Time

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased in 41 states and also the District of Columbia, and decreased in just 9 states.
- States with the largest absolute increases in homelessness between 2022 and 2023 were New York (29,022 more people), California, (9,878), Florida (4,797), Colorado (4,042), and Massachusetts (3,634). States with the largest *percentage* increases between 2022 and 2023 were: New Hampshire (52%), New Mexico (50%), New York (39%), and Colorado (39%). For New York, this reflects an increased growth in shelter use beyond just a rebound to pre-pandemic levels. Between 2020 and 2022, there was just a 19 percent decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness in New York.
- Between 2022 and 2023, states with the largest absolute decreases in people experiencing homelessness were Louisiana (4,204 fewer people), Tennessee (1,352), and Delaware (1,124). States with the largest percentage decreases were Louisiana (57% fewer people), Delaware (47%), and Mississippi (18%), and Wyoming (18%).
- Over the longer period, from 2007 to 2023, the number of people experiencing homelessness declined in 25 states and the District of Columbia. The largest absolute decreases were in Florida (17,313 fewer people) and Texas (12,411 fewer people). The largest percentage decreases were in Louisiana (42%), West Virginia (41%), Kentucky (41%) and New Jersey (41%).

- Between 2007 and 2023, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased in 25 states. The largest absolute increases were in California (42,413 more people) and New York (40,599). Vermont had the largest percentage increase (218%), followed by Montana (89%), and New York (65%).

1.3 Estimates of Experiences of Homelessness by CoC¹²

Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories

1. Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
2. Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
3. Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
4. Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About this Report section of this report.

Exhibit 1-9: Share of All People Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category by Sheltered Status, 2023

	All People Experiencing Homelessness	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Major Cities	52.7%	51.9%	54.1%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	6.4%	6.8%	5.8%
Largely Suburban CoCs	22.8%	24.3%	20.4%
Largely Rural CoCs	18.1%	17.0%	19.7%

¹² Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

Exhibit 1-10: Percent of All People Experiencing Homelessness that are Sheltered or Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

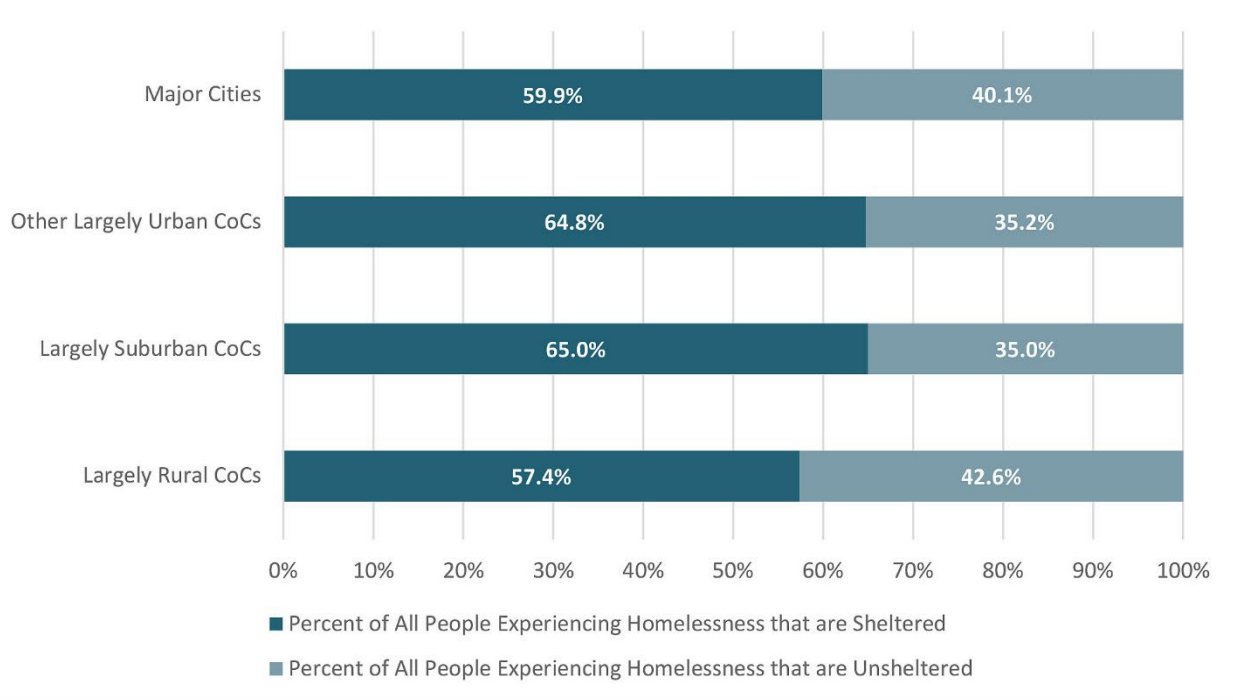
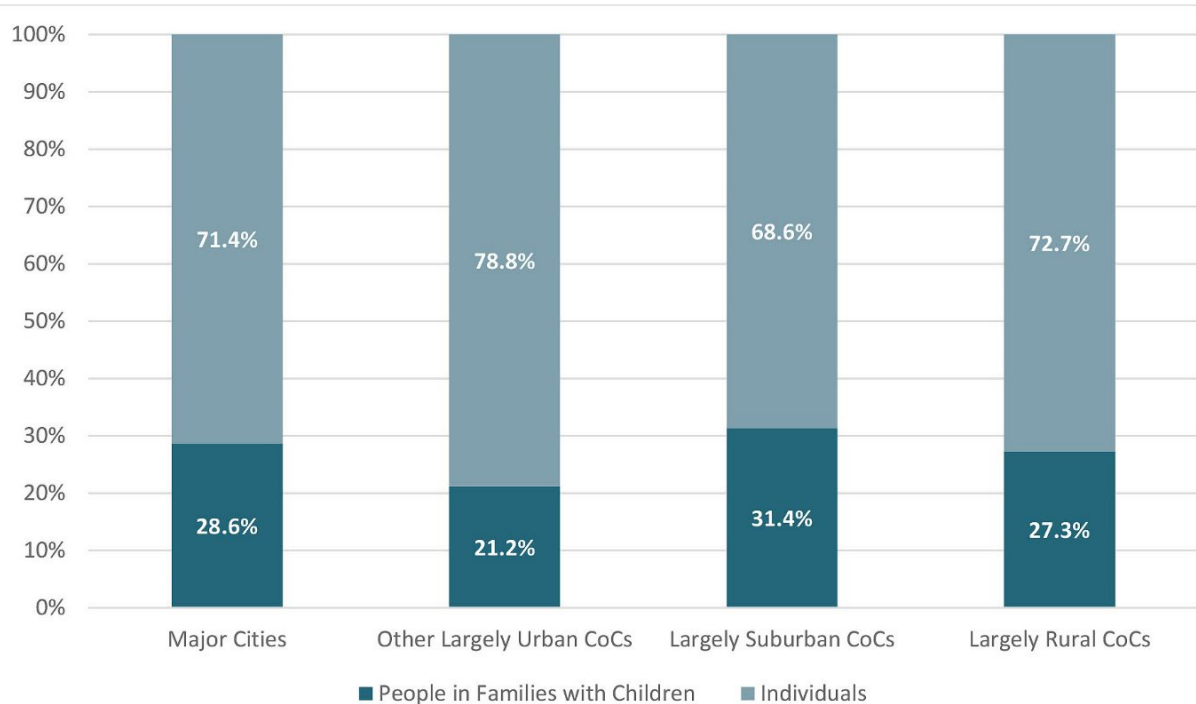


Exhibit 1-11: Percent of People Experiencing Homelessness by Household Type and CoC Category, 2023



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Exhibit 1-12: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of People Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	All People Experiencing Homelessness	CoC Name	All People Experiencing Homelessness
Major Cities		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
New York City, NY	88,025	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	2,824
Los Angeles City & County, CA	71,320	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	2,441
Seattle/King County, WA	14,149	Spokane City & County, WA	2,390
San Diego City and County, CA	10,264	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	2,266
Metropolitan Denver, CO	10,054	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	2,144
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County, CA	6,050	Texas Balance of State	9,065
Massachusetts Balance of State	4,432	Washington Balance of State	6,764
San Bernardino City & County, CA	4,195	Georgia Balance of State	6,388
Honolulu City and County, HI	4,028	Oregon Balance of State	5,365
Riverside City & County, CA	3,725	Indiana Balance of State	4,398

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Exhibit 1-13: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of People Experiencing Homelessness Who Are Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	All People Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	All People Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Major Cities			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	9,903	74.7%	Fayetteville/Cumberland County, NC	474	81.9%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	71,320	73.3%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	2,824	74.7%
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	9,759	73.1%	Napa City & County, CA	506	69.0%
Long Beach, CA	3,447	72.0%	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	2,441	66.9%
Sacramento City & County, CA	9,281	71.8%	Amarillo, TX	683	60.2%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
El Dorado County, CA	491	89.2%	Jackson/West Tennessee CoC	765	91.0%
Imperial County, CA	1,303	88.0%	Hendry, Hardee, Highlands Counties, FL	1,016	88.2%
Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties, FL	925	80.0%	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee CoC	1,735	84.6%
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County, CA	1,804	79.0%	Morristown/Blount, Sevier, Campbell, Cocke Counties, TN	616	83.0%
Slidell/Southeast Louisiana CoC	182	77.5%	Tehama County, CA	304	81.3%

Exhibit 1-14: CoCs with the Largest Changes in Experiences of Homelessness, 2022-2023

CoC Name	CoC Category	Change in All People Experiencing Homelessness 2022-2023	
		#	%
Largest Increases			
New York City, NY	Major Cities	26,185	42.3%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	Major Cities	6,209	9.5%
Metropolitan Denver, CO	Major Cities	3,170	46.0%
Chicago, IL	Major Cities	2,264	58.4%
Texas Balance of State	Rural CoCs	2,011	28.5%
Largest Decreases			
Louisiana Balance of State	Suburban CoCs	-4,053	-85.7%
Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee, TN	Rural CoCs	-1,657	-48.9%
Delaware Statewide	Suburban CoCs	-1,124	-47.4%
Austin/Travis County, TX	Major Cities	-783	-24.8%
Richmond/Contra Costa County, CA	Suburban CoCs	-721	-23.3%

Exhibit 1-15: Change in Experiences of Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	All People		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	71,757	12.4%	47,929	13.8%	23,828	10.4%
Major Cities	50,277	17.2%	38,470	23.1%	11,807	9.4%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	3,145	8.2%	2,145	8.6%	1,000	7.3%
Largely Suburban CoCs	7,417	5.3%	2,643	2.8%	4,774	10.1%
Largely Rural CoCs	10,918	10.3%	4,671	7.4%	6,247	14.3%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Over half of all people experiencing homelessness (53%) were in one of the nation's 50 largest cities. Almost one-quarter (23%) of people experiencing homelessness were in predominantly suburban CoCs, 18 percent were in largely rural CoCs, and the remainder (6%) were in largely urban CoCs that do not contain one of the 50 largest cities.
- Twenty-four percent of all people experiencing homelessness in the United States did so in either New York City or Los Angeles. In New York City, a slight majority (53%) of people experiencing homelessness were people in families with children. In Los Angeles, 85 percent of people experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness were individuals (that is, in a household without both an adult and a child).
- Largely rural CoCs had the largest percentage of people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations, 43 percent, followed by major city CoCs at 40 percent.
- In five major city CoCs, all located in California, more than 70 percent of people experiencing homelessness were unsheltered: San Jose (75%), Los Angeles (73%), Oakland (73%), Long Beach (72%), and Sacramento (72%).
- Nationwide, the highest rates of unsheltered homelessness were in largely rural CoCs. CoCs with the highest rates of unsheltered homelessness were Jackson, TN (91%); Hendry, Hardee, and Highlands Counties, which are located to the north and west of Lake Okeechobee in Florida (88%); and Chattanooga, TN (85%).
- A total of 26 CoCs reported unsheltered rates of 75 percent or higher.

Changes over Time

- Between 2022 and 2023, homelessness increased across all geographic categories, but most notably in major city CoCs, which experienced a 17 percent increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness (50,277 more people). This rise was driven by the 23 percent increase in the number of people staying in shelters in major cities (or 38,470 more people). This pattern likely reflects the easing of shelter de-concentration (social distancing) efforts in major cities which resulted in increased bed capacity in urban areas since 2022. Overall shelter bed inventory increased by 15 percent in major cities between 2022 and 2023.
- Across the nation, New York City experienced the largest growth of any CoC in the number of people experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023, increasing by 26,185 people (or 42%). This growth has led to New York City surpassing Los Angeles as the major city with the greatest number of people experiencing homelessness in the United States.
- While the number of people experiencing homelessness in largely rural and largely suburban CoCs increased among both the sheltered and unsheltered populations, increases were larger among those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Between 2022 and 2023, the unsheltered population increased by 14 percent in largely rural CoCs (6,247 more people), and ten percent in largely suburban CoCs (4,774 more people).
- Other largely urban CoCs experienced increases in both the number of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness between 2022 and 2023. The number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness increased by nine percent (2,145 people) while the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness increased by seven percent (1,000 people).

1.4 Understanding Changes in the Number of People Experiencing Homelessness

As a part of the PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs were asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared with the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from the 2023 PIT count, the authors of this report conducted a review of the CoCs notes. This section profiles three states with large changes in their overall PIT counts and the reasons for those changes reported by the CoCs.

Colorado

Colorado is composed of four CoCs. Three of the four CoCs are in largely urban areas and the remaining, geographically large, CoC is largely rural. Between 2022 and 2023, Colorado had a 39 percent increase in total homelessness. CoCs attributed this increase to changes in shelter capacity, an improved PIT count methodology which included training for street outreach volunteers and recruiting volunteers with lived experience, and an increase in the number of PIT count volunteers. One CoC also noted that it had an influx of more than 1,500 migrants shortly before the PIT count. Those people were housed in temporary shelters and included in the sheltered number on the night of the PIT count.

New York

New York is composed of 24 CoCs. Twelve (50%) of the CoCs are suburban, 11 (46%) are rural, and one CoC is a major city (New York City). Between 2022 and 2023, New York saw a 39 percent increase in homelessness. Several CoCs in the state pointed to the end of the Federal eviction moratorium, lack of affordable housing, and increased rents as interconnected key drivers to this increase. CoCs explained that the end of the eviction moratorium resulted in more individuals and families forced to leave their homes. This policy change, combined with increases in rent driving a lack of affordable housing, led to an increase in shelter stays as people searched for affordable housing. The end of the eviction moratorium also affected the unsheltered count as people were unable to find suitable, affordable housing once evicted. Another key driver that increased the total homelessness count in New York was a more accurate PIT count. Several CoCs noted that they had instituted improved PIT count trainings for their outreach volunteers. This training focused on de-duplicating data, recruiting volunteers with lived experience, and teaching interviewing best practices and techniques. Emergency shelters had also reduced social distancing measures and increased capacity. Finally, one CoC, New York City, experienced a significant influx of asylum seekers in 2023. The CoC noted that these households, who were in emergency shelters, accounted for more than 30 percent of the increase in sheltered homelessness in New York City.

Louisiana

Louisiana is composed of seven CoCs. Two are suburban, two are largely urban, and three are largely rural. During the 2022-2023 reporting period, Louisiana had a 57 percent decrease in total homelessness. This decrease can be attributed to the fact that Louisiana was hit by Hurricane Ida in 2021, and this resulted in a large number of people being displaced from their homes. The hurricane-impacted population increased the total percentage of people experiencing homelessness as captured in the 2022 PIT count. By the time of the 2023 PIT count, Louisiana had experienced a significant decrease in the number of available emergency shelter beds reflecting the end of FEMA-funded motels for Hurricane Ida survivors and the end of ESG-CV funded emergency shelters to address increased homelessness related to the pandemic. This decrease in emergency shelter inventory corresponded with a decrease in the state's 2023 sheltered count. One CoC noted that, by the time of the 2023 PIT count, many of the hurricane impacted households had moved into more permanent housing so they were not included in the 2023 PIT count.

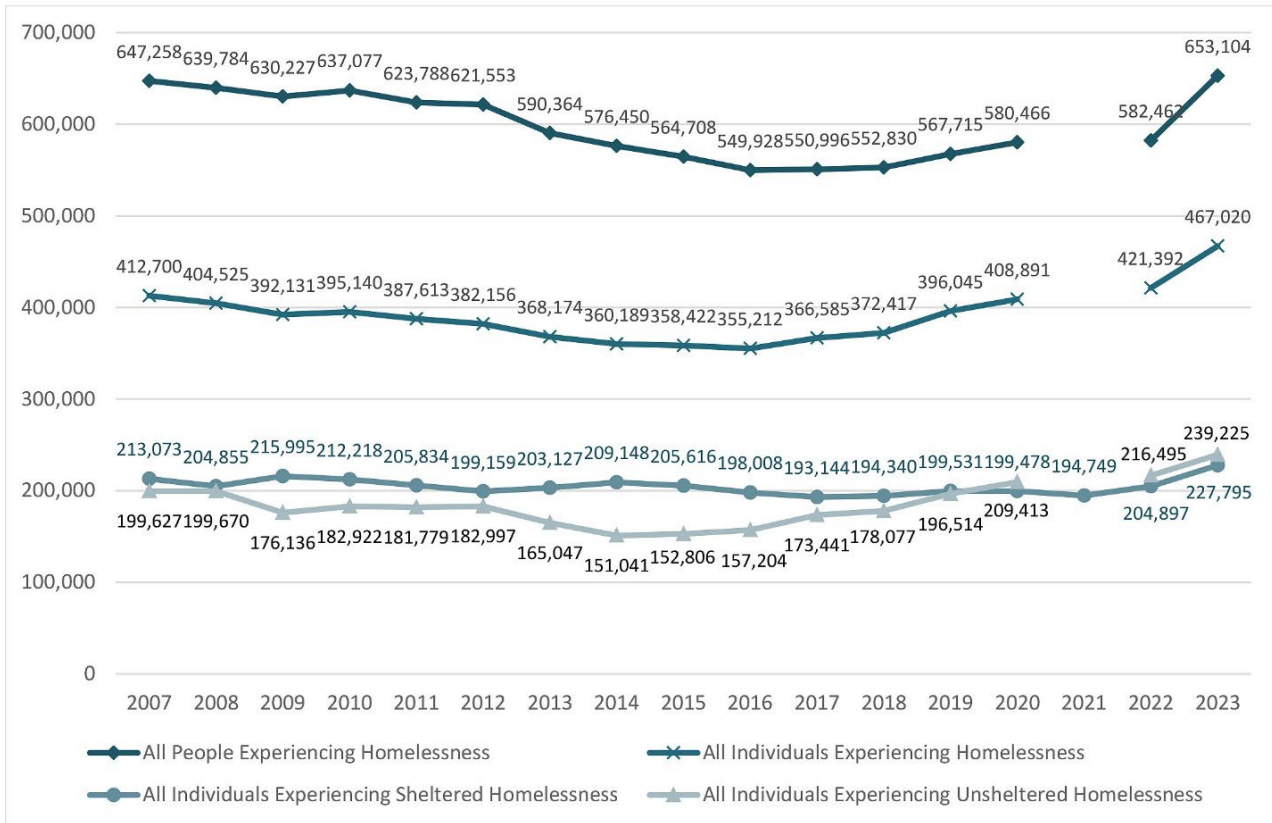
2. Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

2.1 National Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of people experiencing homelessness during a single point-in-time (PIT) count that occurs during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness includes individuals who were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens on the night of the count. It does *not* include individuals staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also includes the number of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are places not meant for human habitation such as sidewalks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, and vehicles parked for long periods. However, due to a variety of factors that could affect the accuracy of an unsheltered count, the actual number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

Exhibit 2-1: PIT Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023

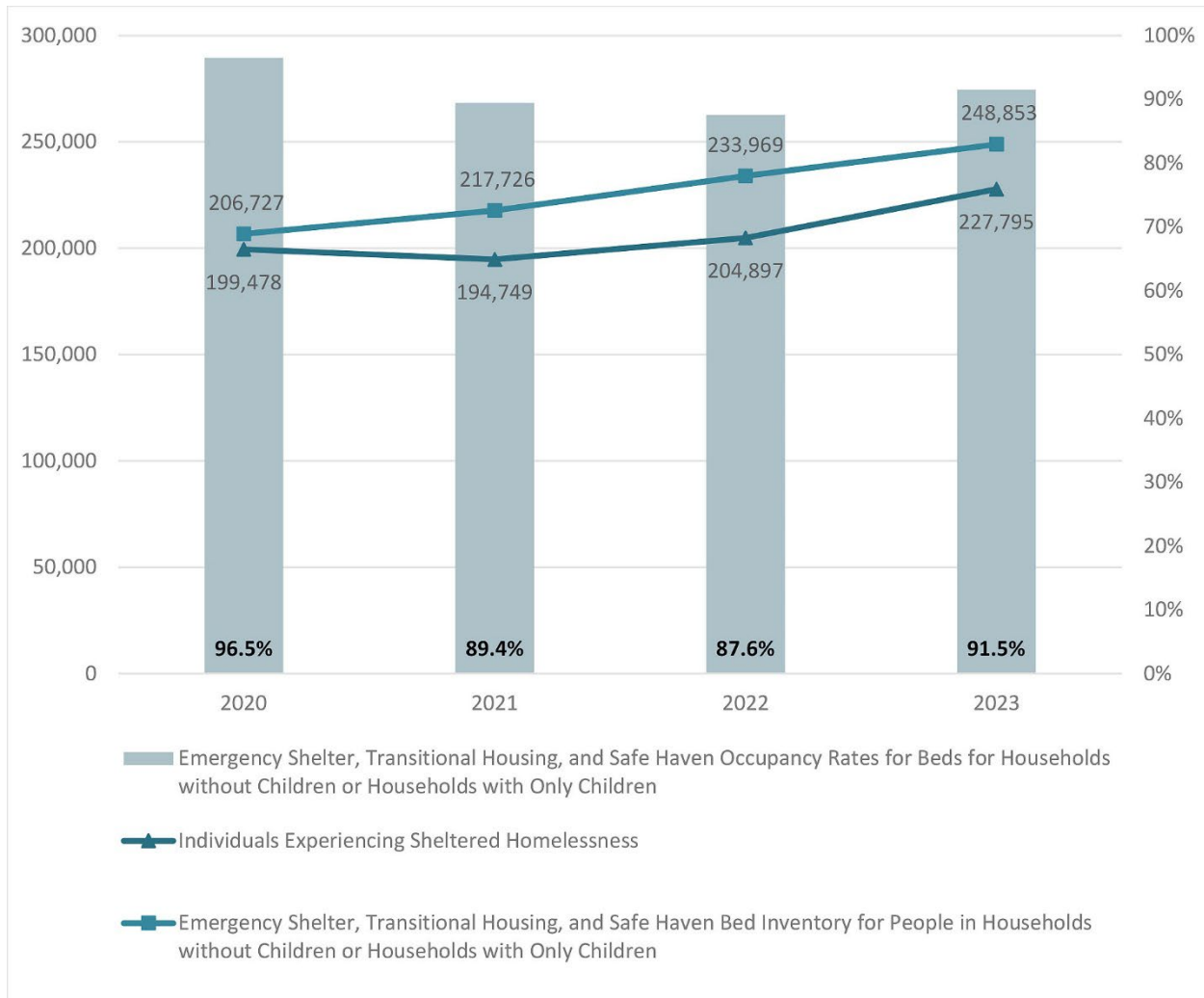


Note: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of individuals experiencing homelessness or the count of all individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, estimates of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness at a point in time in 2021 should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 2-2: Change in Numbers of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness Over Time, 2007-2023

	Total Change 2007-2023		Total Change 2010-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Individuals	54,320	13.2%	71,880	18.2%	58,129	14.2%	45,628	10.8%
Sheltered Individuals	14,722	6.9%	15,577	7.3%	28,317	14.2%	22,898	11.2%
Unsheltered Individuals	39,598	19.8%	56,303	30.8%	29,812	14.2%	22,730	10.5%

Exhibit 2-3: Year-Round Bed Inventory, Sheltered Homelessness, and Bed Occupancy Rates of Programs for Individuals in Sheltered Locations, 2020-2023



Note: Occupancy rate is based on year-round beds and does not include seasonal or overflow beds. The exhibit reflects occupancy rates at the national level. Inventory occupancy rates vary across the nation and within CoCs. For example, geographically large CoCs may report available/unoccupied beds, but those beds may not be located in a part of the CoC that is accessible to someone located in other, especially rural, parts of the CoC or people in other CoCs.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 467,020 people experienced homelessness as individuals—that is, people in households that were not composed of both adults and children (under age 18). Individuals made up 72 percent of the total population of people experiencing homelessness in 2023.
- Just over half of all people who experienced homelessness as individuals were staying in unsheltered locations, 51 percent or 239,225 people. The other 49 percent (227,795 individuals) were in sheltered locations.
- Roughly one in every three individuals experiencing homelessness had experienced a chronic pattern of homelessness (31%), meaning that they have experienced homelessness for extended periods of time and have a disability (as defined by HUD). (These individuals are discussed in detail in Section 6.)

Changes in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency that was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds available for occupancy, allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. In some cases, this was reported through the HIC as reduced shelter capacity, but in many communities it was not.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count. In 2022 many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 HIC and PIT counts. This is reflected in the upward trend in shelter capacity shown in Exhibit 2-3. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of homelessness and shelter bed inventory are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased by 11 percent (45,628 more people). This overall increase reflected 11 percent increases across both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness, increasing by 22,898 more sheltered and 22,730 more unsheltered people.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness dropped between 2020 and 2021 but began to climb again in 2022. The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2023 was 14 percent higher than it was just prior to the onset of the pandemic (28,317 more people).
- As of 2023, the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness is the highest it has ever been since data reporting began in 2007. In 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness was 13 percent higher than it was in 2007. Increases were highest among unsheltered individuals, which increased by 20 percent (39,598 more people). The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness increased by seven percent (14,722 more people).
- Overall, the number of emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe haven (SH) beds available to individuals experiencing homelessness was 20 percent higher in 2023 than it was in 2020, just prior to the onset of the pandemic. This increase in bed inventory was matched by an increase in the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness.
- The increase in the number of sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness and shelter bed inventory between 2020 and 2023 is reflected in the occupancy rates of ES, SH, and TH beds, which also began to rise toward pre-pandemic levels after reduced occupancy rates were observed in both 2021 and 2022.

Exhibit 2-4: Demographic Characteristics of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

	All Individuals		Sheltered Individuals		Unsheltered Individuals	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Individuals	467,020	100.0%	227,795	100.0%	239,225	100.0%
Age						
Under 18	3,430	0.7%	1,854	0.8%	1,576	0.7%
18 to 24	34,147	7.3%	20,592	9.0%	13,555	5.7%
25 to 34	86,797	18.6%	40,794	17.9%	46,003	19.2%
35 to 44	107,915	23.1%	46,605	20.5%	61,310	25.6%
45 to 54	99,483	21.3%	45,568	20.0%	53,915	22.5%
55 to 64	96,215	20.6%	50,425	22.1%	45,790	19.1%
Over 64	39,033	8.4%	21,957	9.6%	17,076	7.1%
Gender						
Female	140,331	30.0%	72,506	31.8%	67,825	28.4%
Male	319,276	68.4%	152,273	66.8%	167,003	69.8%
Transgender	3,884	0.8%	1,747	0.8%	2,137	0.9%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	2,858	0.6%	1,063	0.5%	1,795	0.8%
Questioning	671	0.1%	206	0.1%	465	0.2%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	356,244	76.3%	179,289	78.7%	176,955	74.0%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	110,776	23.7%	48,506	21.3%	62,270	26.0%
Race						
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	18,351	3.9%	6,654	2.9%	11,697	4.9%
Asian or Asian American	10,064	2.2%	3,129	1.4%	6,935	2.9%
Black, African American, or African	150,589	32.2%	87,909	38.6%	62,680	26.2%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	7,045	1.5%	1,877	0.8%	5,168	2.2%
White	255,874	54.8%	118,862	52.2%	137,012	57.3%
Multiple Races	25,097	5.4%	9,364	4.1%	15,733	6.6%

Note: In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. The data for individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes extrapolated (estimated) age data on people aged 25 and over for 22 CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 and thus did not have data on these new age categories.

Demographic Characteristics of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

- Eight percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were unaccompanied youth. Most unaccompanied youth were between the ages of 18 and 24, seven percent of all individuals), and about one percent of all individuals were children under the age of 18.
- For the first time in 2023, communities provided information on the number of people experiencing homelessness who were elderly or near elderly. In 2023, eight percent of all people experiencing homelessness were over the age of 64, and almost 30 percent were elderly or near elderly (55 years of

age or older). A higher proportion of people in shelters were elderly (10%) or near elderly (22%) than people staying in unsheltered locations (7% and 19%).

- Three in ten individuals experiencing homelessness were women (30%), and just under two percent of individuals identified as transgender, a gender other than singularly female or male, or gender questioning.¹³ By comparison, six in ten people experiencing homelessness in families with children were women or girls (59%).¹⁴
- Men were a slightly larger percentage of individuals experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations than in sheltered locations (70% vs. 67%).
- Individuals who identified as transgender, not singularly female or male, or gender questioning were a slightly larger percentage of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness than sheltered homelessness (2% vs. 1%).
- More than half of people experiencing homelessness as individuals identified their race as White (55%), and about a third, 32 percent, identified as Black, African American, or African. White individuals were a slightly higher share of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness than of sheltered individuals (57% vs. 52%), while Black, African American, and African individuals were a substantially higher percentage of sheltered individuals (39%) than of unsheltered individuals (26%).
- Twenty-four percent of all people experiencing homelessness as individuals were Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x). Hispanic individuals made up 26 percent of unsheltered individuals compared with 21 percent of sheltered individuals. In contrast, among people experiencing homelessness in families with children, people who were Hispanic made up a higher percentage of the sheltered population (38% of sheltered vs. 27% of unsheltered).

Changes in Demographics over Time

In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. Instead of a single category for all people over the age of 24, five additional categories were used to provide more detail on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. As this is the first year these data were reported, comparisons to prior years for the new age categories are not available. It is anticipated that data on age will improve as CoCs continue to adjust to collecting this level of information.

- Between 2022 and 2023, overall experiences of homelessness increased across all genders, ages, ethnicities, and races. The only declines in experiences of homelessness were observed among individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (295 fewer people or a 14% decline), and individuals who identified as multi-racial (251 fewer people or a 5% decline).¹⁵

¹³ Shelter requirements around gender may affect responses, resulting in underreporting of people in shelters identifying as a gender other than male or female.

¹⁴ The AHAR has been reporting demographic information on people experiencing homelessness on a single night since 2017. Beginning in 2022, the ways in which people identified their gender changed considerably, expanding the gender identity categories to include “questioning” and allowing people to select more than one gender. As a result, any comparisons made to prior years are not exact comparisons. For more information on how gender was reported for the PIT, see: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Reporting-Gender-for-the-PIT-Count.pdf>

¹⁵ PIT Count data for the Northern Marianas was not included in the 2023 PIT count, whereas it was for the 2022 PIT Count. This could be contributing to the downward trend observed among individuals who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

- The largest increase in people experiencing homelessness as individuals between 2022 and 2023 was among adults over the age of 24, increasing by 40,002 people (10%). The largest percent increase was among children under the age of 18, increasing by 22 percent (626 more people), followed by young adults aged 18 to 24, increasing by 17 percent (5,000 more people).
- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased by 11 percent for both women and men. However, the absolute increase was higher for men, increasing by 31,014 people, compared to women, with an increase of 13,479 people. While their numbers are small, between 2022 and 2023, the number of individuals identifying as transgender increased by 13 percent (444 people), individuals identifying as a gender that is not singularly male or female increased by 24 percent (561 people), and individuals who were questioning their gender increased by 19 percent (108 people).
- Twenty percent more people identifying as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) experienced homelessness as individuals in 2023 than in 2022 (18,195 more people). This overall increase reflects a 39 percent increase in sheltered Hispanic individuals and an eight percent increase in unsheltered Hispanic individuals.
- The number of people experiencing homelessness as individuals who identified as Asian or Asian American experienced the largest percentage increase between 2022 and 2023 at 53 percent (3,505 more people). This increase was highest among Asian and Asian American individuals in unsheltered locations, which increased by 76 percent or 3,000 more people.
- Between 2022 and 2023, the largest absolute increase in individuals experiencing homelessness was among people who identified as White, an increase of 25,035 people (an 11% increase). This increase was fairly evenly split across individuals in sheltered and unsheltered locations (52% of this increase was in sheltered locations and 47% was in unsheltered locations). The next largest increase was among individuals who identified as Black, African American, or Africa, an increase of 12,951 people or nine percent, with about two-thirds of the increase occurring in sheltered locations (8,729 people).
- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous populations also showed a large percentage increase in both sheltered and unsheltered experiences of individual homelessness between 2022 and 2023, both of which rose by 18-19 percent (or 2,860 people total).

2.2 Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by State

Exhibit 2-5: Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2023

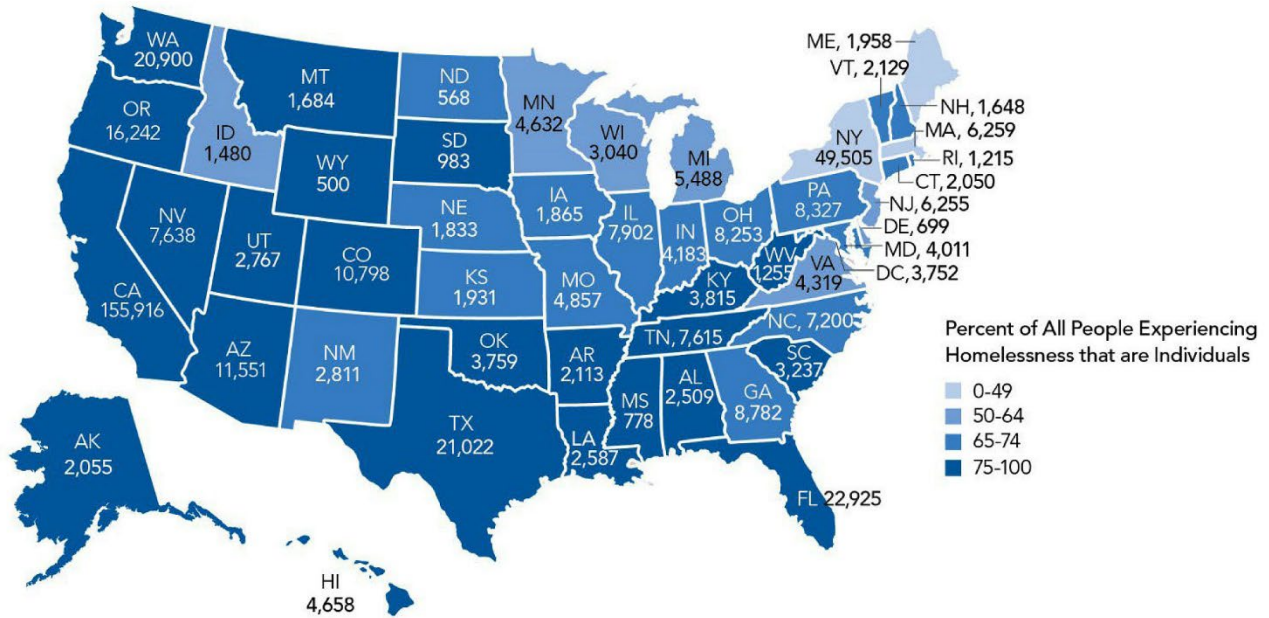


Exhibit 2-6: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness in Unsheltered Locations, 2023

State	All Individuals	Unsheltered (#)	Unsheltered (%)
Highest Percentages			
Hawaii	4,658	3,550	76.2%
California	155,916	117,424	75.3%
Oregon	16,242	10,716	66.0%
Arizona	11,551	7,280	63.0%
Georgia	8,782	5,363	61.1%
Lowest Percentages			
Vermont	2,129	123	5.8%
New York	49,505	4,975	10.0%
Wyoming	500	55	11.0%
Wisconsin	3,040	446	14.7%
Maine	1,958	293	15.0%
Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.			

Exhibit 2-7a: Largest Changes in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2007-2023

Change 2022-2023			Change 2007-2023		
State	#	%	State	#	%
Largest Increases					
New York	10,132	25.7%	California	44,964	40.5%
California	9,933	6.8%	New York	21,449	76.5%
Florida	3,406	17.4%	Washington	7,611	57.3%
Colorado	2,552	30.9%	Oregon	6,371	64.5%
Texas	2,443	13.1%	Arizona	1,531	15.3%
Largest Decreases					
Tennessee	-592	-7.2%	Florida	-10,115	-30.6%
Maine	-499	-20.3%	Texas	-5,284	-20.1%
Louisiana	-472	-15.4%	Georgia	-3,739	-29.9%
Delaware	-366	-34.4%	New Jersey	-2,717	-30.3%
Minnesota	-325	-6.6%	Massachusetts	-2,033	-24.5%
Notes: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. Due to changes in their PIT count methodology, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, and Wyoming were excluded from the list of largest decreases between 2007 and 2023.					

Exhibit 2-7b: Largest Changes in Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by State During the Pandemic, 2020-2022

Change 2020-2022		
State	#	%
Largest Increases		
California	10,212	7.5%
Oregon	2,591	21.6%
Tennessee	2,534	44.7%
Washington	2,527	15.6%
Arizona	2,427	29.3%
Largest Decreases		
New York	-3,910	-9.0%
Texas	-2,536	-12.0%
Maryland	-839	-18.9%
Florida	-825	-4.1%
New Mexico	-769	-30.1%

Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- More than half of all people in the United States experiencing homelessness as an individual were found in one of three states: California (34%), New York (11%), or Florida (5%). California accounted for half of all individuals counted in unsheltered locations (50%).
- Other states with large numbers of individuals experiencing homelessness were Texas (5% of the national total or 21,022 people), Washington (5% or 20,900), and Oregon (4% or 16,242).
- In three states, more than two-thirds of individuals experiencing homelessness were staying in unsheltered locations: Hawaii (76%), California (75%), and Oregon (66%).
- In contrast, five states shelter at least 85 percent of people experiencing homelessness as individuals in their state: Vermont (94%), New York (90%), Wyoming (89%), Wisconsin (85%), and Maine (85%).

Changes over Time

- The number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased in 43 states and the District of Columbia between 2022 and 2023. The largest absolute increase was in New York (10,132 people), followed by California (9,933 people) and Florida (3,406 people). The states with the largest percentage increases were New Mexico (57%), New Hampshire (55%), and Montana (45%).
- Texas experienced a 13 percent increase in individuals experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023, which outpaced the 12 percent reduction observed in the state from 2020 to 2022.
- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness declined in seven states. The largest absolute declines occurred in Tennessee (592 fewer people), Maine (499 fewer people), and Louisiana (472 fewer people). The largest percentage declines were in Delaware (34%), Mississippi (29%), and Maine (20%).
- Between 2020, the last count prior to the pandemic, and 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness declined in nine states and the District of Columbia. The largest declines were in Maryland (419 fewer people), Pennsylvania (259 fewer people), and the District of Columbia (197 fewer people).
- Over the longer period, 2007 to 2023, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness declined in 22 states. The largest absolute decreases were in Florida (10,115 fewer people or a 31% decline) and Texas (5,284 fewer people or a 20% decline), while the highest rates of decline were in Alabama (40%) and Connecticut (35%).
- Over the same period, 28 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness as individuals. The largest increases were reported in California (44,964 people or 41%) and New York (21,449 people or 77%).

2.3 Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category¹⁶

Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories

1. Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
2. Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
3. Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
4. Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For detailed information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About the Report section of this report.

Exhibit 2-8: Share of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category and Sheltered Status, 2023

	All Individuals	Sheltered Individuals	Unsheltered Individuals
Major City CoCs	52.7%	50.5%	54.7%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	7.1%	8.3%	5.9%
Largely Suburban CoCs	21.9%	23.1%	20.7%
Largely Rural CoCs	18.4%	18.0%	18.7%

¹⁶ Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

Exhibit 2-9: Percent of all Individuals Experiencing Homelessness that are Sheltered and Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

Exhibit 2-10: Demographic Characteristics of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

	Major City CoCs	Other Largely Urban CoCs	Largely Suburban CoCs	Largely Rural CoCs
All Individuals	244,489	32,833	101,594	85,343
Age				
Under 18	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%
18 to 24	7.6%	6.7%	6.9%	7.4%
25 to 34	19.3%	17.9%	16.9%	18.9%
35 to 44	23.1%	22.6%	22.1%	24.6%
45 to 54	20.8%	22.1%	21.7%	21.7%
55 to 64	20.2%	21.3%	22.7%	18.9%
Over 64	8.3%	8.6%	9.1%	7.4%
Gender				
Female	28.1%	29.1%	31.3%	34.8%
Male	69.8%	69.7%	67.7%	64.3%
Transgender	1.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Questioning	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	69.2%	87.5%	81.3%	88.1%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	30.8%	12.5%	18.7%	11.9%
Race				
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	3.6%	5.2%	2.4%	6.1%
Asian or Asian American	3.0%	1.1%	1.6%	0.8%
Black, African American, or African	41.0%	26.6%	28.0%	14.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.5%	0.9%	2.0%	0.9%
White	45.3%	61.3%	60.5%	73.3%
Multiple Races	5.5%	4.9%	5.5%	4.4%

Note: In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. The data for individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes extrapolated (estimated) age data on people aged 25 and over for 22 CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 and thus did not have data on these new age categories.

Exhibit 2-11: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	All Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	CoC Name	All Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
Major City CoCs		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
Los Angeles City & County, CA	60,843	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	2,413
New York City	41,102	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	2,222
Seattle/King County, WA	10,298	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	2,063
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	8,949	Spokane City & County, WA	2,061
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	8,677	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	1,638
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County, CA	4,846	Texas Balance of State	7,131
San Bernardino City & County, CA	3,686	Washington Balance of State	4,924
Riverside City & County, CA	3,246	Georgia Balance of State	4,453
Honolulu City and County, HI	3,081	Oregon Balance of State	4,270
Stockton/San Joaquin County, CA	2,102	Indiana Balance of State	2,988

Exhibit 2-12: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of Individuals Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	All Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	All Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Major City CoCs			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	8,677	82.6%	Fayetteville/Cumberland County, NC	425	91.3%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	60,843	80.8%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	2,413	74.9%
Sacramento City & County, CA	7,996	77.4%	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	2,222	72.5%
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	8,949	76.1%	Athens-Clarke County, GA	243	71.2%
Long Beach, CA	3,353	73.9%	Napa City & County, CA	456	70.6%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties, FL	640	91.9%	Hendry, Hardee, Highlands Counties, FL	507	100.0%
Imperial County, CA	1,218	90.8%	Jackson/West Tennessee	584	90.2%
El Dorado County, CA	479	89.8%	Morristown/Blount, Sevier, Campbell, Cocke Counties, TN	512	90.0%
Slidell/Southeast Louisiana	155	87.1%	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee	1,634	89.4%
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County, CA	1,541	86.6%	Tehama County, CA	264	89.4%

Exhibit 2-13: CoCs with the Largest Changes in Individuals Experiencing Homelessness, 2022-2023

CoC Name	CoC Category	Change in Individuals Experiencing Homelessness 2022-2023	
		#	%
Largest Increases			
New York City, NY	Major Cities	8,794	27.2%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	Major Cities	6,374	11.7%
Texas Balance of State	Rural CoCs	1,861	35.3%
Metropolitan Denver, CO	Major Cities	1,715	30.4%
San Diego City and County, CA	Major Cities	1,633	25.1%
Largest Decreases			
Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee, TN	Rural CoCs	-1,003	-38.0%
Richmond/Contra Costa County, CA	Suburban CoCs	-833	-28.9%
Louisiana Balance of State	Suburban CoCs	-707	-56.5%
Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	Other Urban CoCs	-675	-24.7%
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County, CA	Suburban CoCs	-600	-28.0%

Exhibit 2-14: Change in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	All Individuals Experiencing Homelessness		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	45,712	10.9%	22,917	11.2%	22,795	10.6%
Major City CoCs	27,118	12.5%	16,682	17.0%	10,436	8.8%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	2,350	7.7%	1,314	7.5%	1,036	8.1%
Largely Suburban CoCs	6,716	7.1%	2,086	4.1%	4,630	10.4%
Largely Rural CoCs	9,528	12.6%	2,835	7.4%	6,693	17.8%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Six of every 10 individuals experiencing homelessness did so in urban areas. Most (53%) were in one of the nation's largest cities. Seven percent were in other largely urban areas. Just over one of every five individuals experiencing homelessness (22%) was in a largely suburban area, and just under one in five (18%) was in a largely rural area.

- Within major city and largely rural CoCs, somewhat over half of all people experiencing homelessness as individuals did so in unsheltered locations (53% and 52%). Other largely urban CoCs (those that do not contain one of the nation’s largest cities) had the highest rate of sheltered homelessness at 58 percent.
- In four major city CoCs, all located in California, more than 75 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were unsheltered: San Jose (83%), Los Angeles (81%), Sacramento (77%), and Oakland (76%).
- A largely rural CoC reported the highest rate of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, with Hendry, Hardee, and Highlands Counties (which abut Lake Okeechobee in Florida) reporting all individuals experiencing homelessness staying in unsheltered locations. Two other largely rural CoCs reported shares greater than 90 percent: Jackson/West Tennessee (90%), and Morristown/Blount, Sevier, Campbell, Cocke Counties in Eastern Tennessee (90%).
- Three largely suburban CoCs reported a share of individuals who were unsheltered at 90 percent or more: Ft. Pierce, FL (92%) and Imperial County, CA (91%), while just one largely urban CoC reported a rate of unsheltered homelessness above 90 percent: Fayetteville, NC (91%).

Demographic Differences by CoC Category

- Individuals experiencing homelessness in major cities or other largely urban CoCs were somewhat more likely to be male (70% each) than those in a largely rural CoCs (64%) or largely suburban CoCs (68%).
- In major city CoCs, 31 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x), a higher proportion than were reported in other largely urban, largely suburban, and largely rural CoCs, which ranged from 12 to 19 percent.
- Individuals who identified as Black, African American, or African accounted for 41 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness in major cities compared with 15 percent in rural areas. Conversely, nearly three-quarters of people experiencing homelessness as individuals in largely rural areas were White (73%) compared with 45 percent in major city CoCs.
- In major city CoCs, three percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were Asian or Asian American, the highest rate across the geographic categories. American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness made up the largest share of the population in largely rural CoCs at six percent.

Changes over Time by CoC Category

- The number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased across all CoC categories and shelter statuses. The largest absolute increase was in major cities, where 27,118 more individuals were counted in 2023 than in 2022, an increase of 13 percent. This represented a 17 percent increase in sheltered individuals and a nine percent increase in unsheltered individuals. Largely rural CoCs experienced the same percentage increase as major cities at 13 percent, 9,528 more people in rural CoCs.
- New York City experienced the largest total increase in individuals experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023, increasing by 27 percent (8,794 more people). Despite this increase, New York City still has the second highest number of individuals experiencing homelessness in the nation behind Los Angeles, CA.

- Major cities drove the overall increase in the number of sheltered individuals, accounting for 73 percent of the total increase in sheltered homelessness among individuals. Major cities also had nearly half (46%) of the overall increase in individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- Largely rural CoCs experienced the largest percentage increase in the number of unsheltered individuals, with 6,693 more individuals counted in 2023 than 2022, an increase of 18 percent.

2.4 *Understanding Changes in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness*

As a part of the PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs were asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared with the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from the 2023 PIT count, the authors of this report conducted a review of the CoCs notes. This section profiles two states with large changes in their overall PIT counts and the reasons for those changes reported by the CoCs.

California

California is composed of 44 CoCs, 19 are largely suburban, 11 are largely rural, nine are major cities, and five are other largely urban CoCs. The State had largest number of individuals in the nation experiencing homelessness in 2023, with more than 155,000 individuals experiencing homelessness there. California also experienced the largest increase in individuals since 2007 (45,000 or 40% more individuals) and second largest increase between 2022 and 2023 (10,000 or a 7% increase). While most individuals experiencing homelessness in California are unsheltered (68%), the number of sheltered individuals increased by 11 percent or 3,715 people. Communities identified several reasons for increases in the number of sheltered individuals. In several communities, expanded shelter capacity – including through Project RoomKey, a program that provided an influx of resources to temporarily shelter people experiencing homelessness in hotel or motel rooms – was cited as a key factor in increases in the sheltered population. Other commonly identified reasons for increases in sheltered individuals in California were the easing of COVID-19-era restrictions on shelter capacity and increases in the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time because of continued increases in the difficulty of finding affordable housing. Unsheltered homelessness among individuals increased, in some communities following the phase out of Project RoomKey, which reduced shelter capacity. Another factor in the increase in unsheltered homelessness was the expiration of other pandemic-era resources that has been preventing individuals from falling into homelessness. Communities with new or growing encampments cited the need for improved training for outreach workers, including volunteers, on how to respectfully enter that space and gain the trust of encampment residents. Improved unsheltered count methodologies were said to have increased the number of people counted in encampments.

Florida

Florida is composed of 27 CoCs, 17 of which are largely suburban, six are urban (including three major cities), and four are largely rural. While Florida experienced the largest drop in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness between 2007 and 2023, the State experienced one of the largest jumps between 2022 and 2023. This recent increase was driven by changes in the number of unsheltered individuals in Florida, which historically account for at least 60 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness there. Several communities, particularly those that have historically not had much shelter capacity, identified expiration of pandemic-related funding as a reason for the increase in the unsheltered population. However, there were some regional differences identified in reasons for recent increases in unsheltered homelessness. Communities on the west coast of Florida noted the lingering impact of Hurricane Ian, which had occurred just a few months prior to the point-in-time count. Many communities in central Florida and other inland areas reported that housing costs in those areas have increased incredibly quickly, and evictions have become far more common leaving people with no place to go. One central Florida community noted that eviction filings for January 2023 were 40 percent higher than in January of 2022. While east coast communities also identified housing costs as reasons for increases in the unsheltered counts, these CoCs also often identified improvements in unsheltered count approaches as responsible, based on improved community coordination since the pandemic. Miami, the largest city in southeast Florida, reported that the arrival of over 200,000 people from other countries in the last year contributed to the rise there, with few housing options and minimal support networks for the new arrivals.

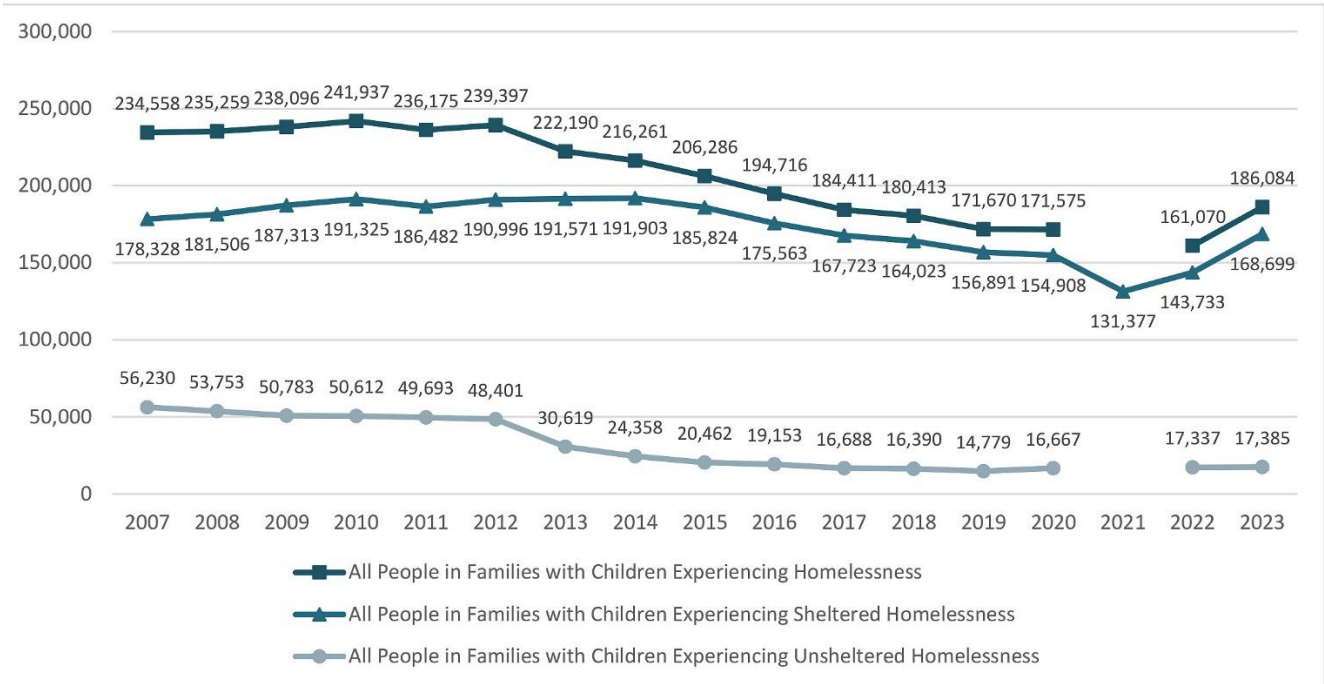
3. Estimates of Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness

3.1 National Estimates of Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of people in families with children experiencing during a single point-in-time (PIT) count that occurs annually during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness include people in families with children who were staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs on the night of the count. It does *not* include people in families with children staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also provides information on the number of people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are places not meant for human habitation such as abandoned buildings and vehicles parked for long periods. However, some experiences of unsheltered family homelessness may be difficult to detect, as family members may take turns sleeping in backyards or in vehicles that are also used for transportation. In addition, the strength of the unsheltered count may vary from community to community. For these reasons, the number of people experiencing unsheltered family homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

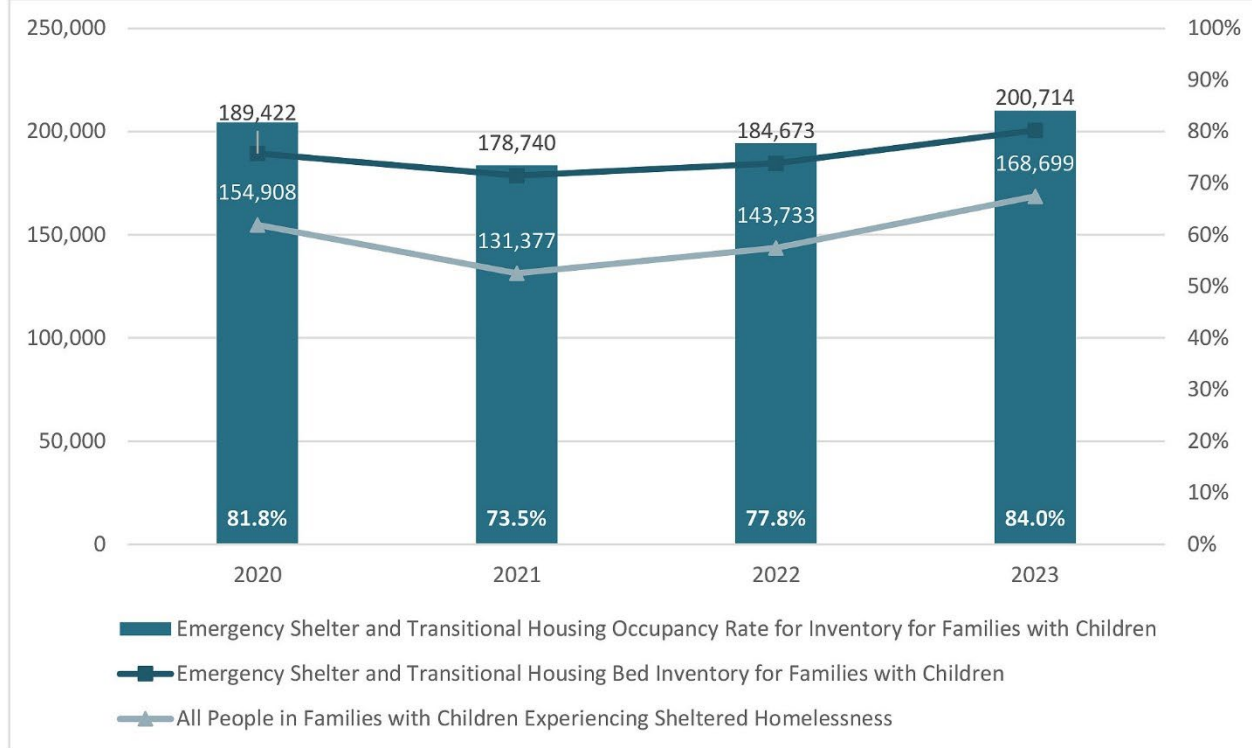
Exhibit 3-1: PIT Estimates of People Experiencing Homelessness in Families with Children by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023



Note: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of people in families with children experiencing homelessness or the count of all people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, estimates of the number of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness at a point in time in 2021 should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 3-2: Change in Number of People Experiencing Homelessness in Families with Children Over Time by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023

	Total Change 2007-2023		Total Change 2010-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
All People in Families Experiencing Homelessness	-48,474	-20.7%	-55,853	-23.1%	14,509	8.5%	25,014	15.5%
Sheltered People in Families	-9,629	-5.4%	-22,626	-11.8%	13,791	8.9%	24,966	17.4%
Unsheltered People in Families	-38,845	-69.1%	-33,227	-65.7%	718	4.3%	48	0.3%

Exhibit 3-3: Year-Round Bed Inventory and Occupancy Rates of Programs for Families with Children in Sheltered Locations, 2020-2023

Note: Occupancy rate for people in families with children is based on year-round beds designated to households with children and the sheltered count of people in families with children. It does not include seasonal or overflow beds. The exhibit reflects occupancy rates at the national level. Inventory occupancy rates vary across the nation and within CoCs. For example, geographically large CoCs may report available/unoccupied beds, but those beds may not be located in a part of the CoC that is accessible to someone located in other, especially rural, parts of the CoC or people in other CoCs.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 186,084 people were experiencing homelessness as part of a family with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18, 29 percent of the total population of people experiencing homelessness.
- Approximately nine in ten people experiencing homelessness in families with children were sheltered (91%) in 2023. Nine percent of people in families with children were found in unsheltered locations such as in cars, abandoned buildings, or outdoors.
- With 57,563 family households experiencing homelessness nationwide on a single night in 2023, the average family size was 3.2 people. The average family size for the 4,083 families experiencing unsheltered homelessness was slightly larger at 3.4 people.

Changes in Experiences of Family Homelessness over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency that was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied by people experiencing homelessness. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds occupied, thus allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. Some shelters closed entirely during the pandemic. In some

cases, this was reported through the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) as reduced shelter capacity, but in many communities it was not. Other factors that may have influenced inflow into experiences of family sheltered homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic included extended unemployment insurance, a larger child tax credit, and eviction moratoria.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count, and some of the safety net measures heavily used by families with children during the pandemic had begun to expire. In 2022 many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 PIT and HIC counts. This is reflected in the upward trend in shelter capacity and occupancy rates as shown in Exhibit 3-3. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of family homelessness and shelter bed inventory for families with children are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.

- The overall number of people in families with children who were experiencing homelessness on a single night increased by more than 25,000 people (or 16%) between 2022 and 2023, ending a downward trend in experiences of family homelessness that began in 2012. This overall increase in the number of families with children experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 reflects a 17 percent increase in the number of families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness (24,966 more people). The number of families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness remained largely unchanged between 2022 and 2023, increasing by 48 people.
- The number of people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness is about the same as the pre-pandemic level, increasing by 718 people.
- While the number of beds available for people in families with children experiencing homelessness declined during the pandemic (10,682 fewer beds between 2020 and 2021), the number of emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) beds in 2023 was six percent higher than it was in 2020, prior to the pandemic.
- Occupancy rates for ES and TH bed inventory dedicated to families with children surpassed the pre-pandemic levels in 2023 after the reduced occupancy rates observed in both 2021 and 2022. This is likely driven by a combination of factors, including a restoration of shelter capacity and the expiration of eviction moratoria and income protections that stemmed the flow into the experiences of unsheltered family homelessness during the pandemic.

SECTION 3: FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Exhibit 3-4: Demographic Characteristics of People Experiencing Homelessness in Families with Children, 2023

	All People Experiencing Homelessness in Families		Sheltered People in Families		Unsheltered People in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
People in families	186,084	100%	168,699	100%	17,385	100%
Age						
Under 18	108,190	58.1%	99,218	58.8%	8,972	51.6%
18 to 24	13,289	7.1%	12,070	7.2%	1,219	7.0%
25 to 34	32,085	17.2%	29,341	17.4%	2,744	15.8%
35 to 44	22,472	12.1%	19,930	11.8%	2,542	14.6%
45 to 54	7,207	3.9%	6,057	3.6%	1,150	6.6%
55 to 64	2,178	1.2%	1,628	1.0%	550	3.2%
Over 64	663	0.4%	455	0.3%	208	1.2%
Gender						
Female	109,678	58.9%	100,349	59.5%	9,329	53.7%
Male	75,884	40.8%	67,997	40.3%	7,887	45.4%
Transgender	203	0.1%	148	0.1%	55	0.3%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	231	0.1%	148	0.1%	83	0.5%
Questioning	88	0.0%	57	0.0%	31	0.2%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	117,524	63.2%	104,767	62.1%	12,757	73.4%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	68,560	36.8%	63,932	37.9%	4,628	26.6%
Race						
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	4,765	2.6%	3,820	2.3%	945	5.4%
Asian or Asian American	1,510	0.8%	1,319	0.8%	191	1.1%
Black, African American, or African	93,035	50.0%	88,416	52.4%	4,619	26.6%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3,667	2.0%	2,637	1.6%	1,030	5.9%
White	68,980	37.1%	59,920	35.5%	9,060	52.1%
Multiple Races	14,127	7.6%	12,587	7.5%	1,540	8.9%

Note: In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. The data for people in families with children experiencing homelessness and people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes extrapolated (estimated) age data on people aged 25 and over for 22 Continuum of Care (CoCs) that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 and thus did not have data on these new age categories.

Exhibit 3-5: Number of People in Parenting Youth Households, 2023

	Parents in Households	Children in Households	Total People in Households
Parenting Youth (Under 18)	54	88	142
Parenting Youth (18 to 24)	7,130	8,381	15,511
Total Parenting Youth	7,184	8,469	15,653

*Demographic Characteristics of People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness**On a Single Night in January 2023*

- Children under the age of 18 made up 58 percent of people experiencing homelessness in families in 2023 (108,190 children). Another 36 percent were adults over the age of 24, and seven percent were young adults between 18 and 24 years of age. Most adults in families with children (70%) were 25 to 44 years of age.
- Fewer people in families experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations were children under the age of 18, 52 percent compared with 59 percent in shelters. Adults in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness also tended to be older than adults experiencing sheltered homelessness. Twenty-three percent of all adults in unsheltered families with children were aged 45 or older compared with 12 percent of adults in sheltered families with children.
- A majority of 18- to 24-year-olds in families with children were parents (about 54% or 7,130 total parenting youth). Children of parenting youth make up eight percent of all children in families experiencing homelessness (8,469 children).
- The racial characteristics of people in families experiencing homelessness were considerably different from those of people in households without a child present. In 2023, 50 percent of people in families with children were Black, African American, or African and 37 percent were White. By comparison, one-third of individuals experiencing homelessness were Black and 55 percent were White. However, among families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness, 27 percent identified as Black, African American, or African and 52 percent identified as White.
- People of multiple races made up eight percent of all families with children experiencing homelessness in 2023, followed by American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Indigenous people (3%); Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders (2%); and Asian or Asian Americans (1%).
- People in families with children experiencing homelessness were more likely to identify as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) than people in households without children. More than one-third of people in families with children experiencing homelessness, 37 percent, were Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) compared with 24 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness.

Changes in Demographic Characteristics of People in Families Experiencing Homelessness

In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. Instead of a single category representing all people over the age of 24, five additional categories were used to provide more detail on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. As this is the first year these data were reported, comparisons to prior years for the new age categories are not available.¹⁷

¹⁷ The AHAR has been reporting demographic information on people experiencing homelessness on a single night since 2017. Beginning in 2022, the ways in which people identified their gender changed considerably, expanding the gender identity

SECTION 3: FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

It is anticipated that data on age will improve as CoCs continue to adjust to collecting this level of information.

- Between 2022 and 2023, experiences of family homelessness increased for all age groups. The largest percentage increase was among young adults ages 18 to 24, which increased by 21 percent (2,259 more people). However, the largest absolute increase was for children, an increase of 12,750 people (13%). The number of people over the age of 24 also increased, by 18 percent or about 10,000 people.
- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) increased by 44 percent (20,911 more people) and by four percent among Non-Hispanic or Non-Latin(a)(o)(x) people (4,103 more people).
- People in families with children who identified as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander experienced the largest decline in homelessness between 2022 and 2023 at 365 fewer people, followed by Asian and Asian Americans (192 fewer people).¹⁸ People who identify as Black, African American, or African experienced the largest increase (13,307 more people, or a 17% increase)
- People who identified as multi-racial had the largest percentage increase in experiences of family homelessness over the past year, increasing by 29 percent (or 3,202 more people). People in families with children experiencing homelessness who identified as Black, African American, or African experienced the largest numerical increase in homelessness between 2022 and 2023, increasing by 13,307 (17%).

categories to include “questioning” and allowing people to select more than one gender. As a result, any comparisons made to prior years are not exact comparisons.

¹⁸ PIT Count data for the Northern Marianas was not included in the 2023 PIT count, whereas it was for the 2022 PIT Count. This could be contributing to the downward trend observed among individuals who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

3.2 Estimates of Families Experiencing Homelessness by State

Exhibit 3-6: State Estimates of People Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

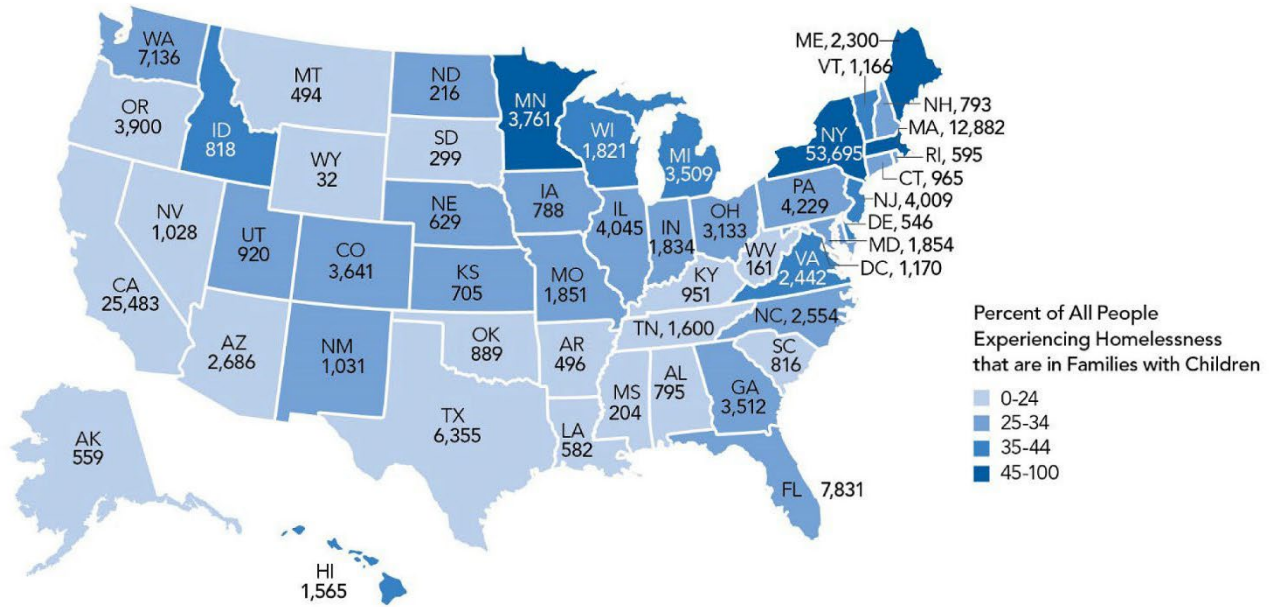


Exhibit 3-7: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness who are Unsheltered by State, 2023

State	All People in Families Experiencing Homelessness (n)	Unsheltered in Families (n)	Unsheltered in Families (%)
Highest Rates			
Oregon	3,900	2,288	58.7%
Idaho	818	358	43.8%
Arkansas	496	140	28.2%
Washington	7,136	1,887	26.4%
California	25,483	5,999	23.5%
Lowest Rates			
Alaska	559	0	0.0%
Massachusetts	12,882	3	0.0%
New York	53,695	32	0.1%
Maine	2,300	6	0.3%
District of Columbia	1,170	4	0.3%

Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

Exhibit 3-8a: Largest Changes in Experiences of Family Homelessness by State, 2007-2023

Change 2022-2023			Change 2007-2023		
State	#	%	State	#	%
Largest Increases					
New York	18,890	54.3%	New York	19,150	55.4%
Massachusetts	2,906	29.1%	Massachusetts	6,047	88.5%
Colorado	1,490	69.3%	Maine	798	53.1%
Florida	1,391	21.6%	Vermont	730	167.4%
Illinois	1,077	36.3%	Delaware	201	58.3%
Largest Decreases					
Louisiana	-3,732	-86.5%	Florida	-7,198	-47.9%
Tennessee	-760	-32.2%	Texas	-7,127	-52.9%
Delaware	-758	-58.1%	New Jersey	-4,333	-51.9%
Pennsylvania	-601	-12.4%	Oregon	-3,819	-49.5%
Alabama	-475	-37.4%	Pennsylvania	-3,762	-47.1%

Notes: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. Due to changes in their PIT count methodology, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, and Wyoming were excluded from the list of largest decreases between 2007 and 2023.

Exhibit 3-8b: Largest Changes of Persons in Families Experiencing Homelessness by State During the Pandemic, 2020-2022

Change 2020-2022		
State	#	%
Largest Increases		
Louisiana	3,732	641.2%
Maine	1,146	141.8%
Delaware	876	204.7%
Tennessee	777	49.1%
Oregon	713	26.8%
Largest Decreases		
New York	-13,183	-27.5%
Massachusetts	-1,766	-15.0%
District of Columbia	-1,427	-58.7%
Florida	-703	-9.8%
Illinois	-468	-13.6%

Notes: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- A little under half of all people experiencing homelessness as part of a family with children were in three states: New York, California, and Massachusetts. Slightly under one-third of the total number of people experiencing family homelessness nationwide were in New York (29 percent or 53,695 people), and they were essentially all sheltered. Seven percent (12,882 people) were in Massachusetts and, similarly, nearly all were sheltered.
- California accounted for 14 percent of the total number of people in families experiencing homelessness in the U.S. (or 25,483 people) but more than one-third of people in families experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the U.S. (36% or 5,999 people).
- While Oregon and Washington both also have large numbers of people in families found in unsheltered locations, the share of people in families experiencing homelessness who are unsheltered was very different between those two states. In Oregon, the 2,288 unsheltered people in families with children made up 59 percent of experiences of family homelessness in the state, while in Washington the 1,887 unsheltered people in families were 26 percent of total experiences of family homelessness within the state.
- Across more than half the country—33 states and the District of Columbia—more than 90 percent of families with children experiencing homelessness were sheltered. The states where experiences of unsheltered family homelessness accounted for more than 25 percent of all people in families experiencing homelessness are Oregon (59%), Idaho (44%), Arkansas (28%), and Washington (26%).

Changes over Time

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness increased in 34 states and the District of Columbia. The largest increases were in New York (18,890 more people, a 54% increase), Massachusetts (2,906 more people or 29%), Colorado (1,490 more people or 69%), Florida (1,391 more people or 22%) and Illinois (1,077 more people or 36%).
- Between 2020 and 2023, experiences of family homelessness increased in 31 states. New York experienced the largest increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness as a family (5,707 more people, a 12% increase). New York's overall increase in experiences of family homelessness between 2022 and 2023 offset the 28 percent reduction that occurred between 2020 and 2022.
- Vermont experienced the largest percentage increase in experiences of family homelessness since the pandemic began, increasing by 213% (794 more people) since 2020, the last count before the pandemic.
- Over a longer period, 2007-2023, experiences of family homelessness increased in only 6 states. The largest numerical increases were in New York (19,150 more people, or 55%), Massachusetts (6,047 more people or 89%), Maine (798 more people or 53%), and Vermont (730 more people or 167%).
- Between 2007 and 2023, the number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness dropped in 44 states and the District of Columbia. The largest numerical decreases were in Florida (7,198 fewer people) and Texas (7,127 fewer people).

3.3 Estimates of Families Experiencing Homelessness by CoC¹⁹

Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories

1. Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
2. Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
3. Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
4. Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About this Report section of this report.

Exhibit 3-9: Share of People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category and Sheltered Status, 2023

	Persons in Families Experiencing Homelessness	Sheltered in Families	Unsheltered in Families
Major Cities	52.9%	53.7%	45.0%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	4.8%	4.8%	4.5%
Largely Suburban CoCs	25.1%	25.8%	17.1%
Largely Rural CoCs	17.3%	15.7%	33.4%

¹⁹ Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

SECTION 3: FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Exhibit 3-10: Percent of People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness that are Sheltered or Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

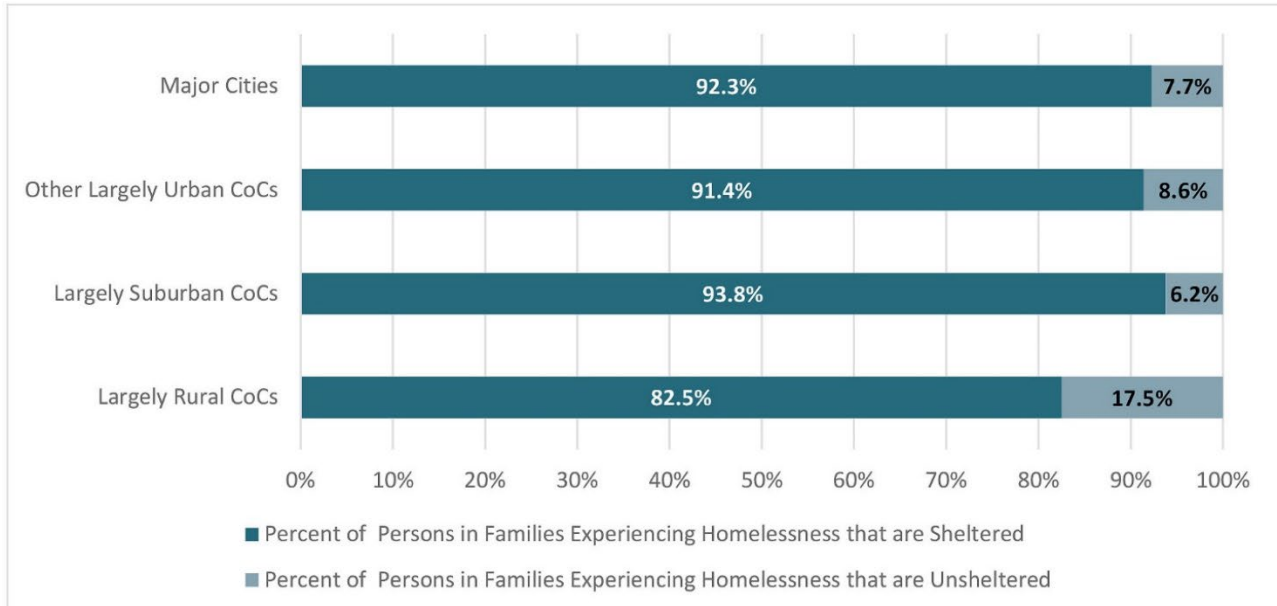


Exhibit 3-11: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of People Experiencing Family Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	People in Families Experiencing Homelessness	CoC Name	People in Families Experiencing Homelessness
Major Cities		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
New York City	46,923	Saint Paul/Ramsey County, MN	581
Los Angeles City & County, CA	10,477	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	506
Seattle/King County, WA	3,851	Augusta-Richmond County, GA	427
Boston, MA	3,399	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	411
Metropolitan Denver, CO	2,701	Spokane City & County, WA	329
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Massachusetts Balance of State	3,175	Maine Statewide	2,300
Nassau, Suffolk Counties, NY	2,456	Georgia Balance of State	1,935
Springfield/Hampden County, MA	2,093	Texas Balance of State	1,934
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County, CA	1,204	Washington Balance of State	1,840
Quincy, Brockton, Weymouth, Plymouth City and County, MA	1,098	Indiana Balance of State	1,410

SECTION 3: FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Exhibit 3-12: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of People in Families Experiencing Homelessness who are Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	People in Families Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	People in Families Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Major Cities			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
Portland, Gresham/Multnomah County, OR	1,299	74.2%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	411	73.7%
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	810	39.8%	Little Rock/Central Arkansas	145	67.6%
Sacramento City & County, CA	1,285	36.7%	Durham City & County, NC	113	24.8%
Seattle/King County, WA	3,851	32.5%	Fayetteville/Northwest Arkansas	101	17.8%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	10,477	29.9%	Huntsville/North Alabama	185	14.6%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
San Luis Obispo County, CA	425	62.1%	Jackson/West Tennessee	181	93.4%
Naples/Collier County, FL	262	53.8%	Hendry, Hardee, Highlands Counties, FL	509	76.4%
Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties, FL	285	53.3%	Central Oregon	311	74.6%
Richmond/Contra Costa County, CA	325	52.9%	Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Suwannee Counties, FL	160	71.9%
Yuba City & County/Sutter County, CA	209	52.6%	Oregon Balance of State	1,095	69.8%

Exhibit 3-13: CoCs with the Largest Changes in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness, 2022-2023

CoC Name	CoC Category	Change in Families Experiencing Homelessness 2022-2023	
		#	%
Largest Increases			
New York City	Major Cities	17,391	58.9%
Metropolitan Denver, CO	Major Cities	1,455	116.8%
Massachusetts Balance of State	Largely Suburban CoCs	873	37.9%
Chicago, IL	Major Cities	805	83.0%
Minneapolis/Hennepin County, MN	Major Cities	746	79.4%
Largest Decreases			
Louisiana Balance of State	Largely Suburban CoCs	-3,346	-96.1%
Delaware Statewide	Largely Suburban CoCs	-758	-58.1%
Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee	Largely Rural CoCs	-654	-86.6%
Alabama Balance of State	Largely Rural CoCs	-507	-81.4%
Austin/Travis County, TX	Major Cities	-484	-44.5%

Exhibit 3-14: Change in Experiences of Family Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	Persons in Families Experiencing Homelessness		Sheltered in Families		Unsheltered in Families	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	26,045	16.4%	25,012	17.4%	1,033	6.6%
Major Cities	23,159	30.9%	21,788	31.7%	1,371	22.1%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	795	9.9%	831	11.5%	-36	-4.5%
Largely Suburban CoCs	701	1.5%	557	1.3%	144	5.3%
Largely Rural CoCs	1,390	4.5%	1,836	7.5%	-446	-7.4%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Over half (53 percent) of all people in families with children experiencing homelessness in the United States did so in one of the nation’s 50 largest cities.
- While less than one-fifth of people in families experiencing homelessness were in largely rural CoCs (17%), more than a third of all people in families experiencing unsheltered homelessness were in largely rural CoCs (33%).

- New York City has the largest number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness in the nation, at 46,923, or 25 percent of all families experiencing homelessness in the United States.
- Of major city CoCs, only one reported that more than half of people in families with children experiencing homelessness were unsheltered: Portland, Gresham/Multnomah County CoC, OR with 74 percent. The top five largely rural CoCs with the highest unsheltered rates among families experiencing homelessness with children all reported rates of 70 percent or higher. In largely suburban CoCs, five CoCs reported rates that exceed 50 percent whereas in other largely urban CoCs, just two did.

Changes over Time

- New York City experienced the largest increase in the number of families experiencing homelessness of any CoC in the nation, with 17,391 more people in families experiencing homelessness in 2023 than in 2022 (a 59% increase). The Louisiana Balance of State, a largely suburban CoC, experienced the largest decrease, with 3,346 fewer people in families with children experiencing homelessness (a 96% decline).
- Between 2022 and 2023, overall experiences of family homelessness increased across all geographic categories. The percentage increases were highest in major cities (31 percent or 23,159 more people) and other largely urban areas (10 percent or 795 more people). Largely rural areas had a 5 percent increase in experiences of family homelessness (1,390 more people) and largely suburban areas reported a 2 percent increase (701 more people).
- The overall increase in experiences of family homelessness was the result of increases in experiences of sheltered family homelessness across all geographic areas between 2022 and 2023. Only two geographic areas reported a decrease in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness since 2022: largely rural CoCs (a 7% decline or 446 fewer people) and other largely urban CoCs (a 5% decline or 36 fewer people).

Exhibit 3-14: Demographic Characteristics of People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

	Major City CoCs (n=49)	Other Largely Urban (n=58)	Largely Suburban (n=165)	Largely Rural (n=109)
People in families	98,024	8,819	46,415	32,018
Age				
Under 18	56.5%	61.8%	60.1%	59.5%
18 to 24	8.2%	5.8%	6.0%	5.7%
25 to 34	18.6%	16.9%	16.2%	14.7%
35 to 44	11.5%	10.6%	12.3%	13.8%
45 to 54	3.7%	3.7%	4.0%	4.2%
55 to 64	1.1%	0.9%	1.1%	1.5%
Over 64	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%
Gender				
Female	58.1%	60.2%	60.0%	59.6%
Male	41.6%	39.5%	39.7%	40.0%
Transgender	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Questioning	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non- Latin(a)(o)(x)	52.0%	82.7%	69.9%	81.8%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	48.0%	17.3%	30.1%	18.2%
Race				
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	2.1%	3.6%	1.5%	5.3%
Asian or Asian American	0.7%	0.8%	1.2%	0.6%
Black, African American, or African	59.8%	46.9%	46.6%	27.0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.9%	2.3%	1.5%
White	28.6%	37.5%	41.1%	57.8%
Multiple Races	7.5%	9.3%	7.3%	7.7%

Note: In 2023, communities were asked to collect additional information on the ages of people experiencing homelessness. The data for people in families with children experiencing homelessness and people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes extrapolated (estimated) age data on people aged 25 and over for 22 CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2023 and thus did not have data on these new age categories.

Demographic Characteristics by CoC Category

- The race and ethnicity of people in families with children experiencing homelessness varies by type of geography. People in families who identify as Black, African American, or African make up 27 percent of people in rural CoCs and 60 percent in major cities. Meanwhile, 58 percent of families with children experiencing homelessness in rural CoCs identified as White, but only 29 percent of

families experiencing homelessness identified as White in major cities. The largest share of people in families with children who identify as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous was found in largely rural CoCs (5%) and the smallest share in largely suburban and Major City CoCs (2% each). Racial composition does not vary much across geographic areas for other racial groups.

- A higher percentage of Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) people in families experience homelessness in major cities (48%) than in the other geographic areas (17% in other largely urban areas, 30% in largely suburban CoCs, and 18% in rural CoCs).
- Age and gender characteristics of people experiencing homelessness in families with children are similar across geographic categories.

3.4 *Understanding Changes in the Number of Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness*

As a part of the PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs were asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared with the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from the 2023 PIT count, the authors of this report conducted a review of the CoCs notes. This section profiles two states with large changes in their overall PIT counts and the reasons for those changes reported by the CoCs.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts is composed of 12 CoCs. It has one major city (Boston) and one other largely urban CoC (Cambridge); the remaining 10 CoCs are largely suburban. Two-thirds of people experiencing homelessness in Massachusetts were doing so in families with children, the highest share in the country. Historically, very few people in families experiencing homelessness are unsheltered there, and in 2023 only one family was found sleeping outdoors, Massachusetts has a “right-to-shelter” law in force since 1983, requiring that no family household be denied shelter. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness increased by 29 percent. Communities in the state identified several factors that contributed to this increase. Out of the 12 CoCs, 11 explicitly identified the worsening housing affordability crisis, with more families priced out of housing and needing emergency housing options. In addition, migrant families arriving in Massachusetts have no place to go other than to shelter programs. Additional factors related to the recent increases in family homelessness included the easing of pandemic-era restrictions on capacity and the opening of additional shelters to meet the expanding demand.

Oregon

Oregon is composed of eight CoCs. One CoC is a major city (Portland), another is largely urban (Eugene), and the remaining six CoCs are rural. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people in families experiencing homelessness increased by 16 percent. Since the AHAR began, Oregon has frequently reported the highest rate of unsheltered family homelessness in the nation, and almost six in ten families experiencing homelessness did so outdoors in 2023. Rural communities in the State have reported that a lack of shelter capacity and a scarcity of housing options has historically been responsible for the high rates of unsheltered family homelessness. This past year, Oregon communities noted that more people have lost housing because of climate events such as extreme wildfires across the state, floods in the coastal areas, heavy snowstorms in the eastern region of the State, and a devastating tornado in the northern part of the Oregon. Oregon's urban areas, while reporting increased shelter capacity in 2023, had even more families in need of shelter because of the shortage of affordable housing.

4. Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness

4.1 National Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness

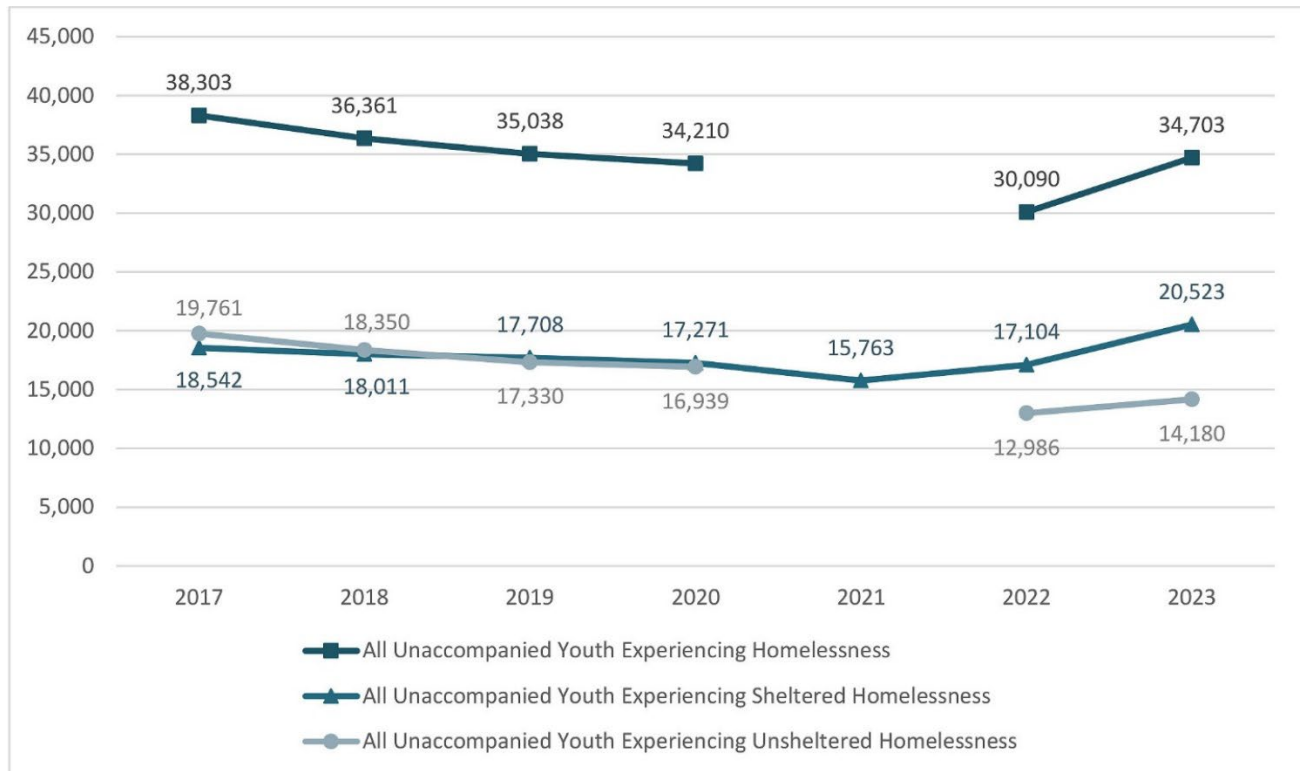
The Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Point-in-Time (PIT) count data collection includes information on the number of young adults and children, people under the age of 25, who are experiencing homelessness “unaccompanied”—that is, without a parent or guardian present. Unaccompanied youth, as defined by HUD, are 22 percent of all people under the age of 25 experiencing homelessness. In addition to not experiencing homelessness with a parent, unaccompanied youth are not themselves experiencing homelessness as young parents with children. Thus, unaccompanied youth are a subset of the population that experiences homelessness as individuals. After many efforts to improve how youth are defined and counted, HUD and its federal partners agreed to use January 2017 as the appropriate baseline for evaluating experiences of homelessness among unaccompanied youth as identified in the PIT count.

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness during a single point-in-time count that occurs during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness includes unaccompanied youth who were staying in emergency shelters (ES), transitional housing programs (TH), or safe havens (SH) on the night of the count. It does *not* include unaccompanied youth staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also provides information on the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Per HUD guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are places not meant for human habitation such as sidewalks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, and vehicles parked for long periods. However, due to a variety of factors that could affect the accuracy of an unsheltered count, the actual number of unaccompanied youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

SECTION 4: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Exhibit 4-1: PIT Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2017-2023



Note: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness or the count of all unaccompanied youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, estimates of the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing sheltered homelessness at a point in time in 2021 should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 4-2: PIT Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by Age and Sheltered Status, 2023

	All Unaccompanied Youth		Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth		Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness (under 25)	34,703	100.00%	20,523	100.00%	14,180	100.00%
Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness (under 18)	3,240	9.34%	1,732	8.44%	1,508	10.63%
Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness (18-24)	31,463	90.66%	18,791	91.56%	12,672	89.37%

Exhibit 4-3: Population Comparisons for People Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2023

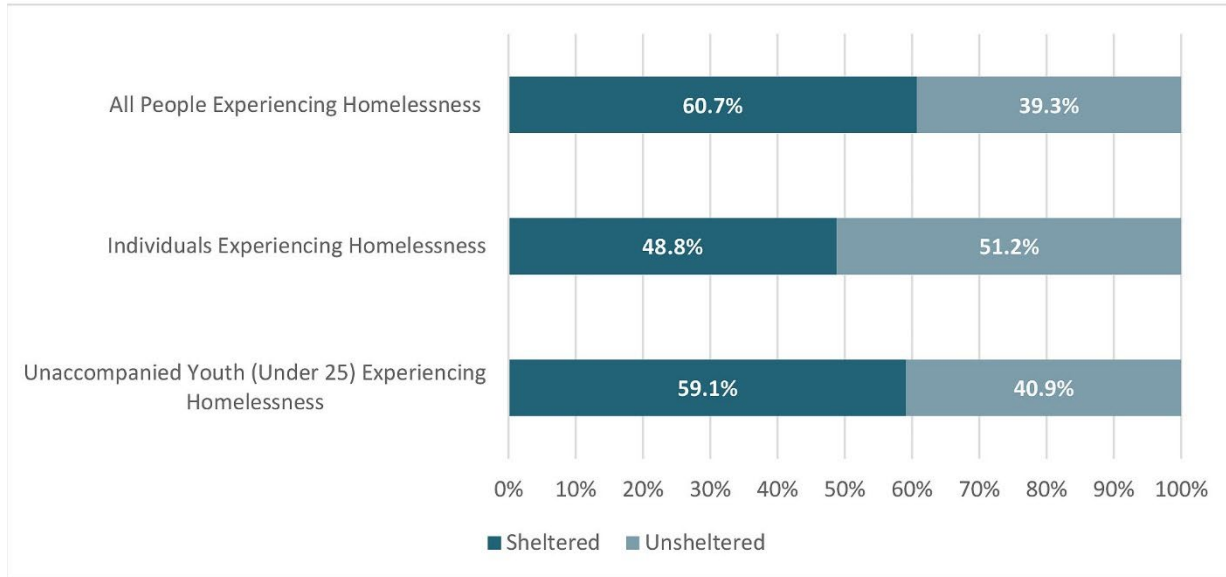


Exhibit 4-4: Change in Numbers of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness Over Time, 2017-2023

	Total Change 2017-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Unaccompanied Youth	-3,600	-9.4%	493	1.4%	4,613	15.3%
Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth	1,981	10.7%	3,252	18.8%	3,419	20.0%
Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth	-5,581	-28.2%	-2,759	-16.3%	1,194	9.2%

SECTION 4: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Exhibit 4-5: Demographic Characteristics of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

	All Unaccompanied Youth		Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth		Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	34,703	100.0%	20,523	100.0%	14,180	100.0%
Age						
Under 18	3,240	9.3%	1,732	8.4%	1,508	10.6%
18 to 24	31,463	90.7%	18,791	91.6%	12,672	89.4%
Gender						
Female	13,176	38.0%	8,215	40.0%	4,961	35.0%
Male	19,875	57.3%	11,300	55.1%	8,575	60.5%
Transgender	719	2.1%	466	2.3%	253	1.8%
A Gender that is not Singularly ‘Female’ or ‘Male’	776	2.2%	473	2.3%	303	2.1%
Questioning	157	0.5%	69	0.3%	88	0.6%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	24,207	69.8%	14,509	70.7%	9,698	68.4%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	10,496	30.2%	6,014	29.3%	4,482	31.6%
Race						
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1,721	5.0%	759	3.7%	962	6.8%
Asian or Asian American	648	1.9%	270	1.3%	378	2.7%
Black, African American, or African	12,441	35.8%	8,981	43.8%	3,460	24.4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	479	1.4%	182	0.9%	297	2.1%
White	17,012	49.0%	9,130	44.5%	7,882	55.6%
Multiple Races	2,402	6.9%	1,201	5.9%	1,201	8.5%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 34,703 unaccompanied youth were experiencing homelessness in the United States. These unaccompanied youth were five percent of the total population of people experiencing homelessness and seven percent of all people experiencing homelessness as individuals. Unaccompanied youth made up 22 percent of all people under the age of 25 who are experiencing homelessness.
- Another 7,184 youth were experiencing homelessness as parents, with at least one child under the age of 18. In total, 8,469 children under the age of 18 were in parenting youth families. (*More detail on parenting youth is in Section 3 of this report, People in Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness.*)

- Most unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were between the ages of 18 and 24 (31,463 people or 91%). The remaining nine percent (3,240 people) were children (under the age of 18) experiencing homelessness on their own.
- Nearly four in ten unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were unsheltered (39%), a smaller percentage than individuals experiencing homelessness (51%).

Demographic Characteristics of Unaccompanied Youth

- The characteristics of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness differ from those of the overall population experiencing homelessness as individuals. Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were more likely than all individuals experiencing homelessness to be women or girls (38% vs. 30%).²⁰ Additionally, youth identifying as transgender, not singularly female or male, or questioning their gender accounted for five percent of the unaccompanied youth population, compared with less than two percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness.²¹
- Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were less likely to be White than all individuals experiencing homelessness (49% vs. 55%). Compared to the larger population of individuals experiencing homelessness, unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were slightly more likely to identify as either Black, African American, or African (36% vs. 32%) or multi-racial (7% vs. 5%).
- Black, African American, or African unaccompanied youth accounted for a larger share of the sheltered unaccompanied youth population (44%) than the unsheltered population (24%). In contrast, unaccompanied youth who identified as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous made up nearly twice as large of the share of youth located in unsheltered locations than sheltered locations (7% vs 4%).
- Unaccompanied youth who identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) made up a larger share of all unaccompanied youth compared the larger population of individuals experiencing homelessness (30% vs. 24%). Hispanic unaccompanied youth also made up a slightly larger percentage of the unsheltered population (32%) than the sheltered population (30%) and continued to be overrepresented in the unsheltered population compared to all individuals (32% vs. 26%).

Changes over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency that was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied by people experiencing homelessness. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds occupied, thus allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to

²⁰ The AHAR has been reporting demographic information on people experiencing homelessness on a single night since 2017. Beginning in 2022, the ways in which people identified their gender changed considerably, expanding the gender identity categories to include “questioning” and allowing people to select more than one gender. As a result, any comparisons made to prior years are not exact comparisons. For more information on how gender was reported for the PIT, see: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Reporting-Gender-for-the-PIT-Count.pdf>

²¹ This could be due to the greater vulnerability of the youth population. It is also possible that shelter requirements around gender affect responses, resulting in underreporting of people identifying as other than male or female.

reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. Some shelters closed entirely during the pandemic. In some cases, this was reported through the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) as reduced shelter capacity, but in many communities it was not.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count. In 2022, many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 HIC and PIT counts. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of homelessness and shelter bed inventory are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.²²

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness increased by 15 percent (4,613 more youth). The number of unaccompanied youth observed in 2023 is similar to the number observed in 2020, the last PIT count prior to the pandemic, increasing by one percent (493 people).
- The increase in unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 was the result of increases in both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. The number of unaccompanied youth in sheltered locations increased by 20 percent (3,419 more youth) while the number in unsheltered locations increased by nine percent (1,194 more youth).
- Between 2017 (the baseline year for youth experiencing homelessness in the PIT count) and 2023, there was a nine percent decline in the overall number of unaccompanied youth reported nationally (or 3,600 fewer people). This was driven by a 28 percent decline in the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness (5,581 fewer people) since 2017. Young adults often stay in locations that are not stable but also do meet the technical definition of homelessness. For example, youth who are couch surfing or otherwise doubling up are not included in this estimate. In addition, youth may be more likely than adults to be unsheltered in places hidden from the Point-in-Time counts.
- Between 2022 and 2023, unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness who identified as transgender, not singularly male or female, or gender questioning increased by 28 percent (362 more youth).
- Hispanic and Latin(a)(o)(x) unaccompanied youth experienced a 35% increase in experiences of homelessness between 2022 and 2023 (2,734 more youth). This was driven by a 55 percent increase in sheltered homelessness among Hispanic unaccompanied youth (2,145 more youth).
- Overall, the number of emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe haven (SH) beds dedicated to youth experiencing homelessness increased by nine percent nationally between 2020 and 2023. This increase in bed inventory was matched by an increase in the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing sheltered homelessness. Between 2020, the last count before the start of the pandemic, and 2023, the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing sheltered homelessness

²² In addition to these changes, beginning in 2017, HUD began issuing funding to CoCs through the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). The goal of YHDP is to support the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

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increased by 19 percent (3,252 more youth). However, many unaccompanied youth accessed shelter programs that were not designed to serve youth or did not have dedicated inventory for serving youth.

4.2 Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by State

Exhibit 4-6 Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2023

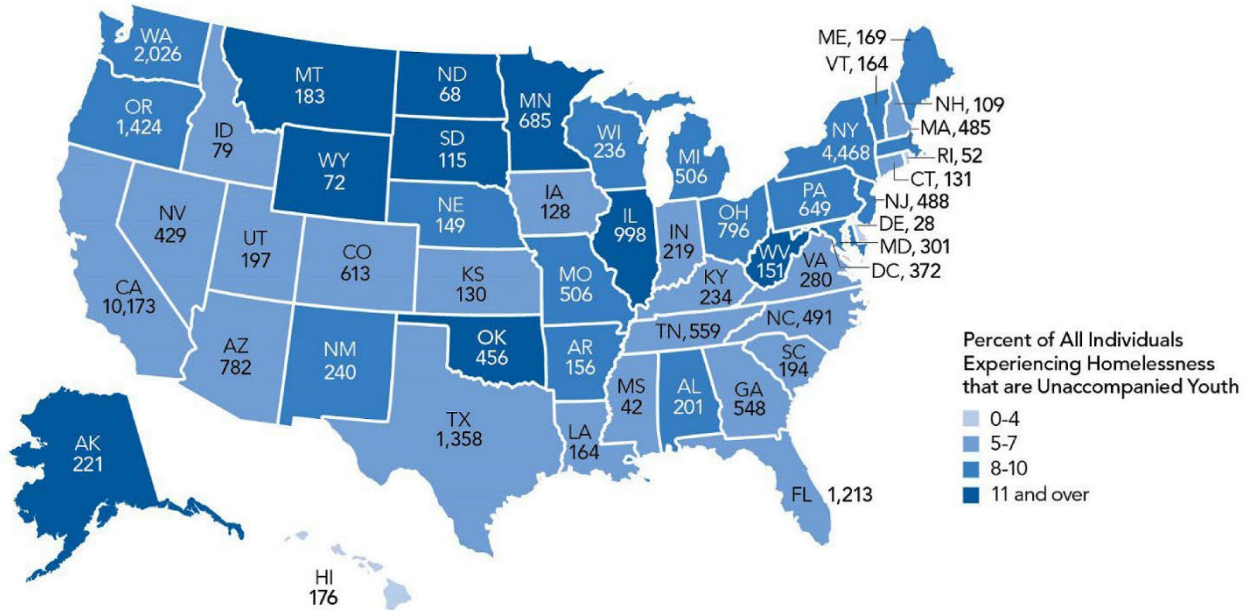


Exhibit 4-7: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness who were Unsheltered, 2023

State	All Unaccompanied Youth	Unsheltered (#)	Unsheltered (%)
Highest Rates			
Oregon	1,424	995	69.9%
California	10,173	6,934	68.2%
Hawaii	176	114	64.8%
Arizona	782	503	64.3%
Tennessee	559	353	63.1%
Lowest Rates			
Wyoming	72	2	2.8%
New York	4,468	209	4.7%
Illinois	998	57	5.7%
Alaska	221	13	5.9%
Vermont	164	12	7.3%

Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

Exhibit 4-8: Largest Changes in the Number of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness, 2022-2023

Change 2022-2023		
State	#	%
Largest Increases		
New York	1,706	61.8%
California	583	6.1%
Illinois	370	58.9%
Oregon	358	33.6%
Washington	224	12.4%
Largest Decreases		
Arizona	-135	-14.7%
Arkansas	-95	-37.8%
Mississippi	-84	-66.7%
Indiana	-48	-18.0%
Maine	-40	-19.1%

Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- California reported the largest number of unaccompanied youth (10,173 people), accounting for more than a fourth of all unaccompanied youth nationally (29%). Other states with large numbers of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were New York (4,468 or 13% of the national total), Washington (2,026 or 6%), Oregon (1,424 or 4%), Texas (1,358 or 4%), and Florida (1,213 or 4%). Together, these six states account for 6 of every 10 unaccompanied youth across the country (60%).
- New York had a higher percent share of the nation's unaccompanied youth than its share of all individuals experiencing homelessness (13% vs. 11%) whereas California had a lower share (29% vs. 34%).
- Two states reported sheltering at least 95 percent of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness: Wyoming (97%) and New York (95%). Five additional states reported sheltering more than 90 percent of unaccompanied youth: Illinois (94%), Alaska (94%), Vermont (93%), New Jersey (92%), and Maine (91%).
- California accounted for 49 percent of all unsheltered unaccompanied youth (6,934 people). Washington (1,196), Oregon (995), Arizona (503), and Florida (473) had the next largest numbers of unsheltered unaccompanied youth, with each accounting for between nine and three percent of the national total.
- Five states reported that more than 60% or more of their unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were staying in unsheltered locations: Oregon (70%), California (68%), Hawaii (65%), Arizona (64%), and Tennessee (63%).
- California and Washington account for large shares of the national total unaccompanied youth under 18 nation (20% and 17%).

Changes over Time

- Experiences of homelessness among unaccompanied youth increased in 39 states and the District of Columbia between 2022 and 2023. The largest absolute increases were in New York (1,706 more youth), California (583 more youth), Illinois (370 more youth), and Oregon (358 more youth). The largest percentage increases were in North Dakota (89%), Montana (76%), New Mexico (71%), and New York (62%).
- Experiences of homelessness declined for unaccompanied youth in 11 states between 2022 and 2023. The largest absolute decrease was in Arizona, with 135 fewer unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in 2023. Arkansas had the next largest absolute decrease (95 fewer youth), followed by Mississippi (84 fewer youth). Mississippi experienced the largest percentage decline, with the unaccompanied youth population dropping by 67 percent, followed by Delaware (57%) and Arkansas (38%).

4.3 Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category²³**Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories**

- Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
- Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
- Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
- Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For detailed information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About the Report section of this report.

Exhibit 4-9: Share of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category and Sheltered Status, 2023

	All Unaccompanied Youth	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Major City CoCs	52.6%	52.0%	53.4%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	6.9%	7.1%	6.7%
Largely Suburban CoCs	20.5%	22.2%	18.1%
Largely Rural CoCs	20.0%	18.7%	21.9%

²³ Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

Exhibit 4-10: Percent of all Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness that are Sheltered and Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

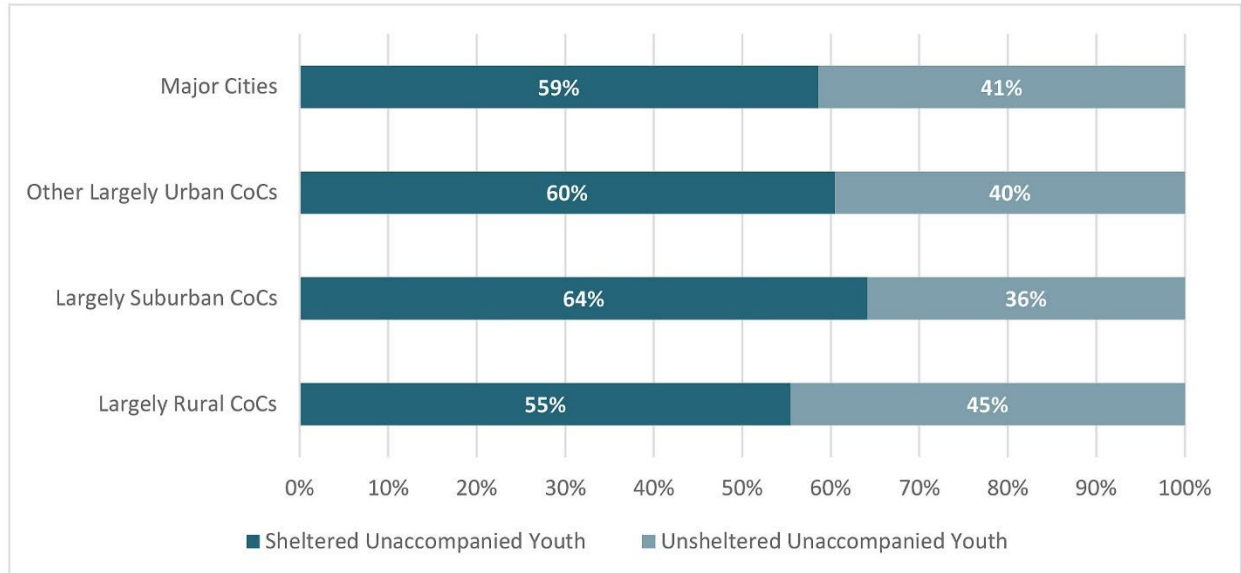


Exhibit 4-11: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	All Unaccompanied Youth	CoC Name	All Unaccompanied Youth
Major City CoCs		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
New York City	3,673	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	294
Los Angeles City & County, CA	2,871	Spokane City & County, WA	217
Seattle/King County, WA	1,177	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	168
San Francisco, CA	1,113	Anchorage, AK	151
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	863	Saint Paul/Ramsey County, MN	122
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County, CA	334	Oregon Balance of State	589
San Bernardino City & County, CA	244	Texas Balance of State	475
Riverside City & County, CA	234	Washington Balance of State	365
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County, CA	178	Ohio Balance of State	272
Tacoma, Lakewood/Pierce County, WA	132	Georgia Balance of State	264

SECTION 4: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Exhibit 4-12: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness Who are Unsheltered by CoC, 2023

CoC Name	All Unaccompanied Youth	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	All Unaccompanied Youth	Percent Unsheltered
Major City CoCs			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	764	86.1%	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	294	91.2%
San Francisco, CA	1,113	81.0%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	168	72.0%
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	863	76.7%	Spokane City & County, WA	217	50.2%
Tucson/Pima County, AZ	140	67.9%	Saint Paul/Ramsey County, MN	122	40.2%
Seattle/King County, WA	1,177	66.1%	Anchorage, AK	151	7.3%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County, CA	334	98.5%	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee	197	95.9%
Marin County, CA	125	96.0%	Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties, CA	216	93.5%
Riverside City & County, CA	234	74.4%	Central Oregon	163	81.6%
San Bernardino City & County, CA	244	66.0%	Oregon Balance of State	589	81.0%
Honolulu City and County, HI	130	56.2%	Georgia Balance of State	264	69.3%

SECTION 4: UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Exhibit 4-13: Demographic Characteristics of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

	Major City CoCs	Other Largely Urban CoCs	Largely Suburban CoCs	Largely Rural CoCs
All Unaccompanied Youth	18,190	2,392	7,102	6,930
Age				
Under 18	8.3%	9.7%	7.7%	13.9%
18 to 24	91.7%	90.3%	92.3%	86.1%
Gender				
Female	35.7%	38.3%	39.5%	42.4%
Male	58.9%	55.5%	57.0%	53.8%
Transgender	2.4%	2.5%	1.6%	1.6%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	2.5%	3.2%	1.7%	1.9%
Questioning	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	61.9%	80.4%	74.4%	82.6%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	38.1%	19.6%	25.6%	17.4%
Race				
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	4.8%	7.8%	2.2%	7.4%
Asian or Asian American	2.5%	1.1%	1.4%	1.1%
Black, African American, or African	44.2%	31.1%	36.1%	15.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.5%	2.0%	0.6%
White	40.3%	50.9%	50.8%	69.5%
Multiple Races	6.9%	7.6%	7.5%	6.0%

Exhibit 4-14: Change in Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	All Unaccompanied Youth		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Unaccompanied Youth	4,607	15.4%	3,418	20.0%	1,189	9.2%
Major Cities	3,315	22.3%	2,763	35.0%	552	7.9%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	49	2.1%	105	7.8%	-56	-5.6%
Largely Suburban CoCs	473	7.1%	398	9.6%	75	3.0%
Largely Rural CoCs	770	12.5%	152	4.1%	4.1%	-18.8%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Over half of all people under the age of 25 and experiencing homelessness on their own were counted in the nation’s major cities (53%). New York City and Los Angeles had the largest numbers, reporting 3,673 and 2,871 unaccompanied youth.
- Among geographic areas, largely rural CoCs had the highest percentage of unaccompanied youth found staying in unsheltered locations (45%), followed by major cities (41%), and largely urban CoCs (40%). Largely suburban CoCs had the lowest percentage of unsheltered unaccompanied youth, at 36 percent.
- Three major city CoCs, all located in California, had percentages of unaccompanied youth staying in unsheltered locations exceeding 75 percent: San Jose (86%), San Francisco (81%), and Oakland (77%).
- In two largely suburban CoCs, more than 95 percent of their unaccompanied youth were unsheltered: Santa Cruz County, CA (99%) and Marin County, CA (96%).
- Among largely rural CoCs, four CoCs had more than 80 percent of their unaccompanied youth found in unsheltered locations: Chattanooga, TN (96%), Monterey and San Benito Counties, CA (94%), Central Oregon (82%), and Oregon Balance of State (81%).
- In all categories of CoCs, nearly all unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (86-92%) were between the ages of 18 and 24. Largely rural CoCs had the highest percentage of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness under the age of 18 (14%).
- Youth who identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) made up 38 percent of all unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in major cities and 26 percent in largely suburban CoCs. Hispanic youth made up the smallest share of all unaccompanied youth in largely rural CoCs (17%).
- In major cities, Black, African American, and African youth made up just under half of the unaccompanied youth population (44%), and youth who identified as White made up another 40 percent. In contrast, Black unaccompanied youth made up 16 percent of unaccompanied youth in largely rural CoCs, whereas White youth made up 70 percent.
- The share of unaccompanied youth who identified as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous was highest in other largely urban CoCs (8%) and largely rural CoCs (7%) and lowest within largely suburban CoCs (2%).

Changes over Time by CoC Category

- Between 2022 and 2023, across all geographic areas the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness increased by 15 percent (4,607 more youth). Increases occurred across all geographic areas, with major cities reporting the largest absolute increase (3,315 more youth) and the largest percentage increase (22%).
- The overall increase in unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness was driven by an increase in sheltered homelessness, with 3,418 more unaccompanied youth reported in sheltered locations in 2023 than in 2022 (a 20% increase). Major cities again represented the largest numerical and percentage increases in unaccompanied youth experiencing sheltered homelessness, increasing by 35 percent (2,763 more youth).
- The number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness increased across all geographic categories except for other largely urban CoCs, where the number of unsheltered unaccompanied youth dropped by 6 percent (56 fewer people).

4.4 *Understanding Changes in the Number of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness*

As a part of PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs are asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared with the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from 2023's PIT count, the authors of this report conducted a review of CoCs' submitted notes. This section profiles one state with a large increase in its PIT count unaccompanied youth, and the reasons for the change, as reported by the CoC.

Illinois

Illinois has 19 CoCs, including one major city (Chicago), three other largely urban CoCs, ten largely suburban CoC, and five largely rural CoCs. Between 2022 and 2023, Illinois had a 59 percent increase in the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (370 more youth). CoCs noted that this increase was partly because of an influx of asylum-seeking individuals. One CoC explained that, in their service area, 314 of the asylum-seeking individuals were unaccompanied youth under the age of 24. Two CoCs also had new youth-serving shelter programs open within their jurisdictions. For one of these CoCs, this was the first youth-serving project within the area.

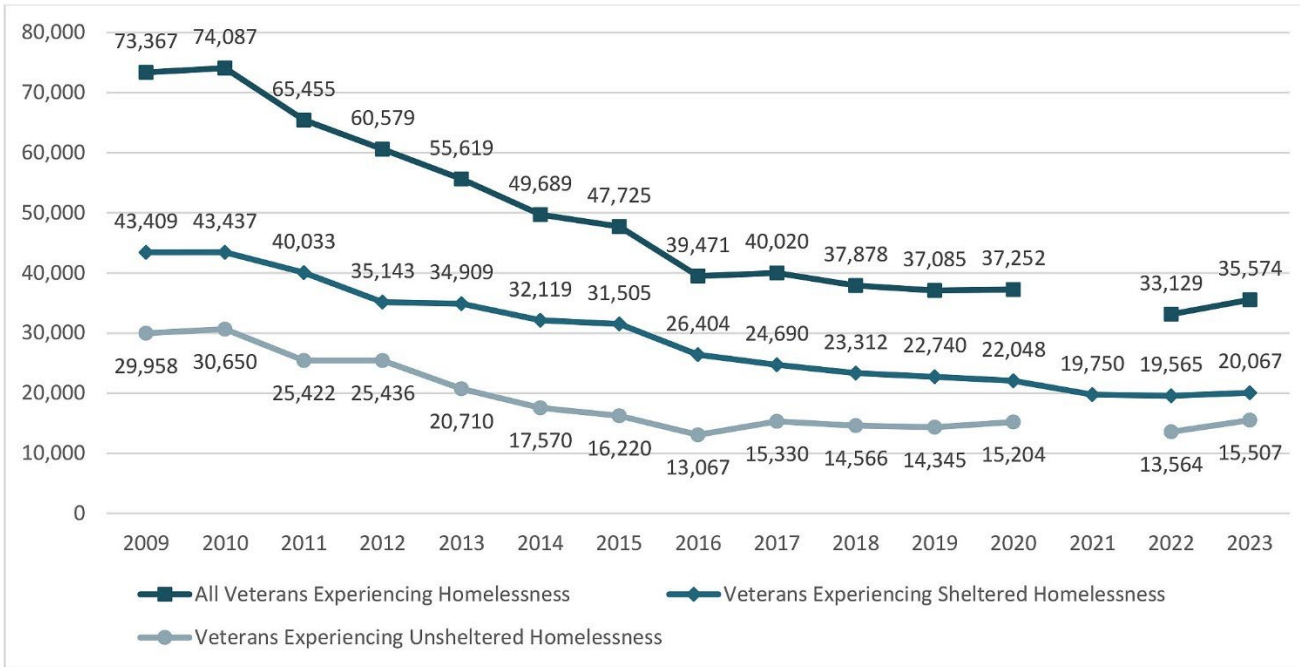
5. Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

5.1 National Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of veterans experiencing homelessness during a single point-in-time (PIT) count that occurs during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness includes veterans who were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens on the night of the count. It does *not* include veterans staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also includes the number of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are places not meant for human habitation such as sidewalks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, and vehicles parked for long periods. However, due to a variety of factors that could affect the accuracy of an unsheltered count, the actual number of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

Communities began reporting PIT data on veterans experiencing homelessness in 2009. Therefore, this report uses 2009 as the baseline measure of veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States.

Exhibit 5-1: PIT Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2009-2023

Note: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of veterans experiencing homelessness or the count of all veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, estimates of the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness at a point in time in 2021 should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 5-2: Proportion of Adults Experiencing Homelessness Who are Veterans by Sheltered Status, 2023

Sheltered Status	All Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	All Adults Experiencing Homelessness	Percent of Adults Experiencing Homelessness Who are Veterans
Total People	35,574	541,484	6.6%
Sheltered	20,067	295,422	6.8%
Unsheltered	15,507	246,062	6.3%

Exhibit 5-3: Change in the Number of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness Over Time, 2009-2023

	Total Change 2009-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Veterans	-37,793	-51.5%	-1,678	-4.5%	2,445	7.4%
Sheltered Veterans	-23,342	-53.8%	-1,981	-9.0%	502	2.6%
Unsheltered Veterans	-14,451	-48.2%	303	2.0%	1,943	14.3%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 35,574 veterans were experiencing homelessness in the U.S., approximately seven percent of all adults experiencing homelessness.
- Of every 10,000 veterans in the United States, 22 were experiencing homelessness. It is somewhat more common for veterans to experience homelessness than for all people in the United States (20 people out of every 10,000).
- Nearly all veterans were experiencing homelessness as individuals, 98 percent. Of those individuals, 30 percent (10,533 veterans) had experienced chronic patterns of homelessness.
- Just over half of all veterans experiencing homelessness were staying in sheltered locations (56% or 20,067 veterans). This is higher than the share of all individuals experiencing homelessness who were sheltered, 49 percent.
- Two percent of veterans experiencing homelessness (720 veterans) were in family households with children (694 households). Overall, 38,893 people experiencing homelessness were in households that included a veteran.
- Veterans experiencing homelessness in families with children were sheltered at a higher rate than veterans experiencing homelessness as individuals (77% vs. 56%) but at a lower rate than all people in families with children experiencing homelessness (91%).

Changes in Veterans Experiencing Homelessness over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency that was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied by people experiencing homelessness. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds occupied, thus allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. Some shelters closed entirely during the pandemic. In some cases, this was reported through the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) as reduced shelter capacity, but in many communities it was not.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count. In 2022, many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 HIC and PIT counts. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of homelessness and shelter bed inventory are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased by seven percent (2,445 more veterans). The increase reflects a 14 percent increase in the number of unsheltered veterans (1,943 more veterans) and a three percent increase in veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (502 more veterans).
- Despite the 14 percent increase in veterans experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023, reductions in the number of veterans experiencing homelessness observed during the pandemic resulted in an overall five percent reduction in veterans experiencing homelessness between 2020 and 2023 (1,678 fewer veterans).
- The number of total number of veterans experiencing homelessness (35,574) is the second lowest count since 2009, the baseline year for veteran homelessness as reported in the PIT. The number

of sheltered veterans (20,067) is the highest it has been since 2020 but is still below pre-pandemic levels.

- Overall, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased by 52 percent between 2009 and 2023 (37,793 fewer veterans). This decrease occurred across sheltered and unsheltered locations, both of which were cut approximately in half (23,342 fewer sheltered veterans and 14,451 fewer unsheltered veterans).
- The number of emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven beds dedicated to veterans experiencing homelessness decreased by three percent nationally between 2020 and 2023. This decrease in bed inventory was matched by a nine percent reduction in the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (1,981 fewer veterans) over the same time.

Exhibit 5-4: Demographic Characteristics of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

	All Veterans		Sheltered Veterans		Unsheltered Veterans	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Veterans	35,574	100%	20,067	100%	15,507	100%
Gender						
Female	3,980	11.2%	1,815	9.0%	2,165	14.0%
Male	31,231	87.8%	18,148	90.4%	13,083	84.4%
Transgender	173	0.5%	74	0.4%	99	0.6%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	161	0.5%	21	0.1%	140	0.9%
Questioning	29	0.1%	9	0.0%	20	0.1%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	30,885	86.8%	18,235	90.9%	12,650	81.6%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	4,689	13.2%	1,832	9.1%	2,857	18.4%
Race						
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1,269	3.6%	461	2.3%	808	5.2%
Asian or Asian American	608	1.7%	183	0.9%	425	2.7%
Black, African American, or African	11,136	31.3%	7,203	35.9%	3,933	25.4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	427	1.2%	169	0.8%	258	1.7%
White	20,287	57.0%	11,343	56.5%	8,944	57.7%
Multiple Races	1,847	5.2%	708	3.5%	1,139	7.3%

Demographic Characteristics

- Men accounted for almost nine of every ten veterans experiencing homelessness in 2023 (88% or 31,231 veterans). This is similar to the share of veterans in the U.S. who are men (90%).²⁴
- Women veterans experiencing homelessness were much more likely to be in a household with a child under 18 years of age (8%) than their male counterparts (1%).
- In contrast to the population of individuals experiencing homelessness, in which women were more likely to be sheltered, women veterans experiencing homelessness were more likely to be found in unsheltered locations than their male counterparts (54% vs. 42%).
- The highest percentage of veterans experiencing homelessness were White (57%), followed by veterans who were Black, African American, or African (31%). This pattern is consistent across veterans experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness.
- People who identify as Black, African American, or African were considerably overrepresented among veterans experiencing homelessness. Black veterans comprised 36 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness and 25 percent of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness but only 12 percent of all U.S. veterans. Conversely, while 57 percent of veterans experiencing homelessness were White, they were underrepresented compared to their share of all U.S. veterans, 75 percent.
- Veterans who identify as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous made up a higher share of the unsheltered veteran population than the sheltered (5% vs 2%) as did veterans identifying as multi-racial (7% vs 4%).
- The percentage of veterans experiencing homelessness who identify as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) was considerably smaller than the percentage of Hispanics among people experiencing homelessness as individuals (13% vs. 24%).

Changes in Demographics over Time

- The only demographic group of veterans that did not see an increase between 2022 and 2023 was veterans who identify as gender questioning, which stayed essentially the same (9 fewer veterans).
- From 2022 to 2023, the largest percentage increase in veterans experiencing homelessness occurred among veterans who identify as Asian or Asian American (a 51% increase, or 204 more veterans). Most of this increase (180 veterans) was among unsheltered veterans.
- Both male and female veterans experienced an increase in homelessness. With an additional 1,839 male veterans experiencing homelessness in 2023 than in 2022, men accounted for most of the increase in veterans experiencing homelessness over the last year.

²⁴ The AHAR has been reporting demographic information on people experiencing homelessness on a single night since 2017. Beginning in 2022, the ways in which people identified their gender changed considerably, expanding the gender identity categories to include “questioning” and allowing people to select more than one gender. As a result, any comparisons made to prior years are not exact comparisons. For more information on how gender was reported for the PIT, see: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Reporting-Gender-for-the-PIT-Count.pdf>

5.2 Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by State

Exhibit 5-5: Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2023

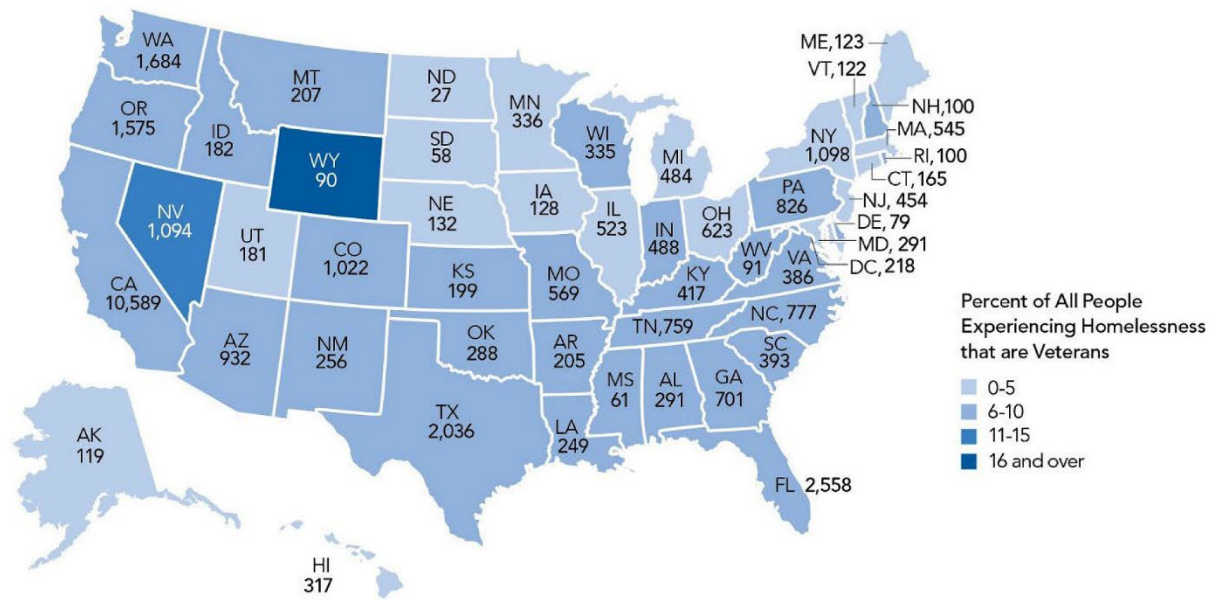


Exhibit 5-6: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of Veterans Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness, 2023

State	All Veterans	Unsheltered (#)	Unsheltered (%)
Highest Rates			
California	10,589	7,436	70.2%
Georgia	701	404	57.6%
Oregon	1,575	889	56.4%
New Mexico	256	141	55.1%
Washington	1,684	904	53.7%
Lowest Rates			
New York	1,098	33	3.0%
Wisconsin	335	11	3.3%
Rhode Island	100	6	6.0%
Massachusetts	545	33	6.1%
Vermont	122	9	7.4%
Note: Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.			

Exhibit 5-7: Largest Changes in the Number of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by State, 2009-2023

Change 2022-2023			Change 2009-2023		
Largest Increases					
Nevada	342	45.5%	Oregon	298	23.4%
Texas	325	19.0%	Vermont	61	99.3%
Colorado	284	38.5%	Utah	15	9.0%
Florida	279	12.2%	Montana	1	0.5%
Tennessee	210	38.3%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Largest Decreases					
Maine	-120	-49.4%	California	-7,384	-41.1%
Mississippi	-78	-56.1%	New York	-4,781	-81.3%
Louisiana	-73	-22.7%	Florida	-4,577	-64.2%
West Virginia	-31	-25.4%	Texas	-3,455	-62.9%
New Hampshire	-27	-21.3%	Georgia	-2,059	-74.6%

Note: Figures from 2009-2020 exclude Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan. All figures exclude Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- California accounted for 30 percent of all veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States (10,589 veterans) and close to half of all unsheltered veterans (48% or 7,436 veterans).
- Florida accounted for the second largest percent share of veterans experiencing homelessness within the nation at seven percent and the second largest share of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness (also 7%). Texas accounted for 6 percent of all veterans experiencing homelessness. Every other state's share was 5 percent or less, and the shares of 27 states and the District of Columbia were less than 1 percent.
- More than seven in ten veterans experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations were in five states: California (48%), Florida (7%), Washington (6%), Oregon (6%), and Texas (5%).
- In six states, more than half of all veterans experiencing homelessness were unsheltered: California (70%), Georgia (58%), Oregon (56%), New Mexico (55%), Washington (54%), and Nevada (51%).
- In 10 states, 90 percent or more of veterans experiencing homelessness were staying in sheltered locations. States with very small percentages of veterans who were unsheltered were New York and Wisconsin at three percent each.

Changes over Time

- The number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased in 20 states between 2022 and 2023. Maine (120 fewer veterans), Mississippi (78 veterans), and Louisiana (73 veterans) had the largest absolute decreases. The largest percentage decreases were also in Mississippi (56%) and Maine (49%).
- The number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased in 30 states and the District of Columbia between 2022 and 2023. The largest absolute increase was in Nevada (342 more veterans), followed by Texas (325 veterans), Colorado (284 veterans), and Florida (279 veterans).

- Between 2020, the last count prior to the pandemic, and 2023, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased in 22 states. The largest numerical increase was in Oregon (246 more veterans) followed by Tennessee (189 veterans).
- Since 2009, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness has increased in only four states: Oregon (298 more veterans), Vermont (61 veterans), Utah (15 veterans), and Montana (1 veteran). Maine is the only state to report the same number of veterans experiencing homelessness in 2009 as they did in 2023.
- Between 2009 and 2023, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased in 45 states and the District of Columbia, with the largest absolute decreases in California (7,384 fewer veterans), New York (4,781), and Florida (4,577). States with large percentage decreases were Louisiana (88%), Mississippi (83%), and New York (81%).

5.3 Estimates of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by CoC²⁵

Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories

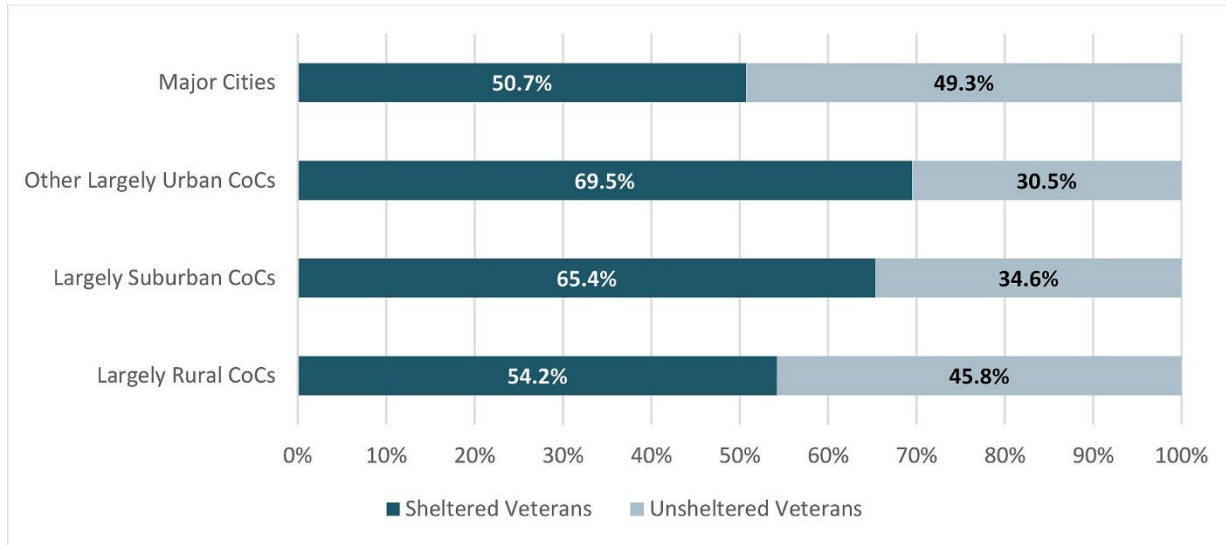
1. Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
2. Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
3. Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
4. Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For detailed information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About the Report section of this report.

Exhibit 5-8: Share of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category and Sheltered Status, 2023

	All Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Major Cities	48.2%	43.2%	54.6%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	8.5%	10.5%	6.0%
Largely Suburban CoCs	23.9%	27.7%	19.1%
Largely Rural CoCs	19.4%	18.6%	20.4%

²⁵ Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

Exhibit 5-9: Percent of all Veterans Experiencing Homelessness that are Sheltered and Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023**Exhibit 5-10: Demographic Characteristics of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023**

	Major City CoCs	Other Largely Urban CoCs	Largely Suburban CoCs	Largely Rural CoCs
All Veterans	17,088	3,022	8,495	6,878
Gender				
Female	12.7%	8.0%	10.2%	10.1%
Male	85.9%	91.6%	89.0%	89.4%
Transgender	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%
A Gender that is not Singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	0.7%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%
Questioning	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	83.4%	92.6%	89.1%	90.6%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	16.6%	7.4%	10.9%	9.4%
Race				
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	3.4%	4.4%	2.6%	4.9%
Asian or Asian American	2.8%	0.4%	1.0%	0.6%
Black, African American, or African	38.7%	29.4%	30.1%	15.3%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	0.5%	1.2%	0.8%
White	48.0%	61.0%	60.6%	73.6%
Multiple Races	5.8%	4.3%	4.5%	4.7%

Note: The demographic data for unsheltered may not sum to the total because three CoCs did not report complete demographic information for the unsheltered data used in this report.

Exhibit 5-11: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
Major City CoCs		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
Los Angeles City & County, CA	3,874	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	292
Las Vegas/Clark County, NV	912	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	197
Seattle/King County, WA	880	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	180
San Diego City and County, CA	814	Reno, Sparks/Washoe County, NV	152
Metropolitan Denver, CO	653	St. Louis City, MO	135
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Riverside City & County CoC, CA	252	Texas Balance of State CoC	584
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County CoC, CA	238	Oregon Balance of State CoC	503
San Bernardino City & County CoC, CA	231	Washington Balance of State CoC	397
Honolulu City and County CoC, HI	226	Indiana Balance of State CoC	306
Asheville/Buncombe County CoC, NC	195	Georgia Balance of State CoC	284

Exhibit 5-12: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness who were Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Major City CoCs			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	552	77.9%	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	180	74.4%
San Francisco, CA	548	73.7%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	197	74.1%
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	479	73.3%	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	110	67.3%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	3,874	72.4%	Spokane City & County, WA	129	33.3%

CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Fresno City & County/Madera County, CA	235	72.3%	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	292	25.7%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
Imperial County CoC, CA	142	99.3%	Chattanooga/South east Tennessee CoC	147	85.7%
San Bernardino City & County CoC, CA	231	87.9%	Georgia Balance of State CoC	284	79.2%
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC, CA	159	87.4%	Oregon Balance of State CoC	503	77.5%
Riverside City & County CoC, CA	252	78.6%	Humboldt County CoC, CA	183	72.1%
Ft Lauderdale/Broward County CoC, FL	128	73.4%	Colorado Balance of State CoC	207	67.6%

Exhibit 5-13: Change in Veterans Experiencing Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	All Veterans Experiencing Homelessness		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Veterans	2,470	7.5%	508	2.6%	1,962	14.6%
Major City CoCs	1,540	9.9%	769	9.7%	771	10.1%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	39	1.3%	-28	-1.3%	67	7.8%
Largely Suburban CoCs	145	1.7%	-36	-0.6%	181	6.6%
Largely Rural CoCs	746	12.2%	-197	-5.0%	943	42.8%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Veterans were less likely than total population of individuals experiencing homelessness to be in major cities (48% vs. 53%). Still, major city CoCs accounted for nearly half of the veterans experiencing homelessness nationwide (48%) and more than half of unsheltered veterans (55%).
- CoCs that were largely suburban accounted for nearly one-quarter (24%) of veterans experiencing homelessness, similar to the 22 percent share for all individuals.
- Nineteen percent of veterans experiencing homelessness were counted in largely rural CoCs, about the same share as individuals experiencing homelessness (18%).
- In major cities, 49 percent of all veterans experiencing homelessness were unsheltered. This is the highest rate of any of the geographic categories. In largely rural areas 46 percent of veterans experiencing homelessness were unsheltered, and in largely suburban areas over one-third (35%)

were unsheltered. CoCs that were largely urban but did not contain one of the nation's largest cities reported the lowest rate of unsheltered homelessness among veterans, at 31 percent.

- The demographic characteristics of veterans experiencing homelessness varied by geography. Veterans who identified as White made up a larger share of all veterans experiencing homelessness in largely rural CoCs (74%) compared with major city CoCs (48%). Conversely, veterans who identified as Black, African American, or African made up a larger share of veterans experiencing homelessness in major cities (39%) than in largely rural CoCs (15%). Veterans who identified as Asian or Asian American made up three times the share of veterans in major cities than all other geographic areas (3% vs. 1% or less).
- Los Angeles, CA and Las Vegas, NV, both major city CoCs, had the largest number of veterans experiencing homelessness, with 3,874 (or 11% of all veterans experiencing homelessness) and 912 veterans experiencing homelessness (or 3% of the national share).
- All five major city CoCs with the highest percentages of veterans experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations were in California, and all had unsheltered rates greater than 70 percent. Oakland and San Francisco had the highest percentages of unsheltered veterans at 78 and 74 percent each. Four of the five largely suburban CoCs with the highest rates of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness were also in California and had rates of 79 percent or higher.
- The CoC with the highest rate of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness was in a largely suburban CoC, Imperial County, CA at 99 percent.
- Three of the five major cities with the lowest percentage of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness were on the East Coast: Baltimore, MD (0%), New York City (1%), and Boston, MA (2%)
- Among largely rural CoCs, Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee CoC and Georgia Balance of State had the highest percentages of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness (86% and 79%).

Changes over Time by CoC Category

- Overall experiences of veteran homelessness increased across all geographic areas between 2022 and 2023. The largest increases were in major cities (a 10% increase or 1,540 more veterans) and largely rural CoCs (12% or 746 more veterans).
- Among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness, only major cities experienced an increase in veteran homelessness between 2022 and 2023 (769 more veterans). Other largely urban CoCs and largely suburban CoCs each reported a one percent decrease in veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness, and largely rural CoCs reported a five percent decrease. All geographic areas reported increases in veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness over the same period with largely rural CoCs reporting the largest absolute increase (943 more veterans) and percentage increase (43%).
- Between 2022 and 2023, the share of veterans who identified as Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) increased 51 percent in largely rural CoCs but only ten to 13 percent in other geographic areas.
- Veterans experiencing homelessness identifying as Asian or Asian-American increased by 80 percent in major city CoCs and by 56 percent in largely rural CoCs from 2022 to 2023. The largest increase in veterans identifying as Black, African American, or African occurred in major cities (13%) and the largest increase in White veterans occurred in largely rural CoCs (13%).
- The largest decreases in the number of veterans experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 were among veterans in other largely urban CoCs, which saw a 29 percent decline in the

share of veterans who identified as Asian or Asian American, a 24 percent decline in multi-racial veterans, and a 12 percent decline in veterans who identified as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

5.4 *Understanding Changes in the Number of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness*

As a part of PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs are asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared to the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from 2023's PIT count, the authors of this report conducted a review of CoCs' submitted notes. This section profiles two states with large changes in veteran PIT counts and the reasons for those changes, as reported by the CoCs.

Texas

Texas has 11 CoCs across the state: six major cities, two other largely urban CoCs, and three largely rural CoCs. Between 2022 and 2023, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in Texas increased by 325 people (19%). Two major cities, San Antonio and Dallas, accounted for over one-third of this increase. One CoC attributed the increase in veteran homelessness to an overall population increase, a redesigned coordinated entry system that prioritized veterans for emergency shelter enrollments, and veterans struggling to maintain permanent housing because of the shortage of extensive supportive services. Another CoC attributed the increase to increased collaboration with veteran partners as part of its effort to declare an effective end to veteran homelessness and also to shelter providers returning back to full capacity.

New Hampshire

New Hampshire has three CoCs: one largely urban CoC, one largely suburban CoC, and one largely rural CoC. New Hampshire was one of just six states that reported an overall decrease in veteran homelessness of 20 veterans or more between 2022 and 2023 (27 fewer veterans, or a 21% decline). One of the CoCs contributing to this decline attributed it to a concerted effort to place veterans into rapid rehousing programs (RRH). Since RRH is considered permanent housing, veterans placed in an RRH program are not included in the PIT count and therefore would reduce sheltered veteran homelessness if their placement in RRH diverted entry into an emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing program.

6. Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness in the United States

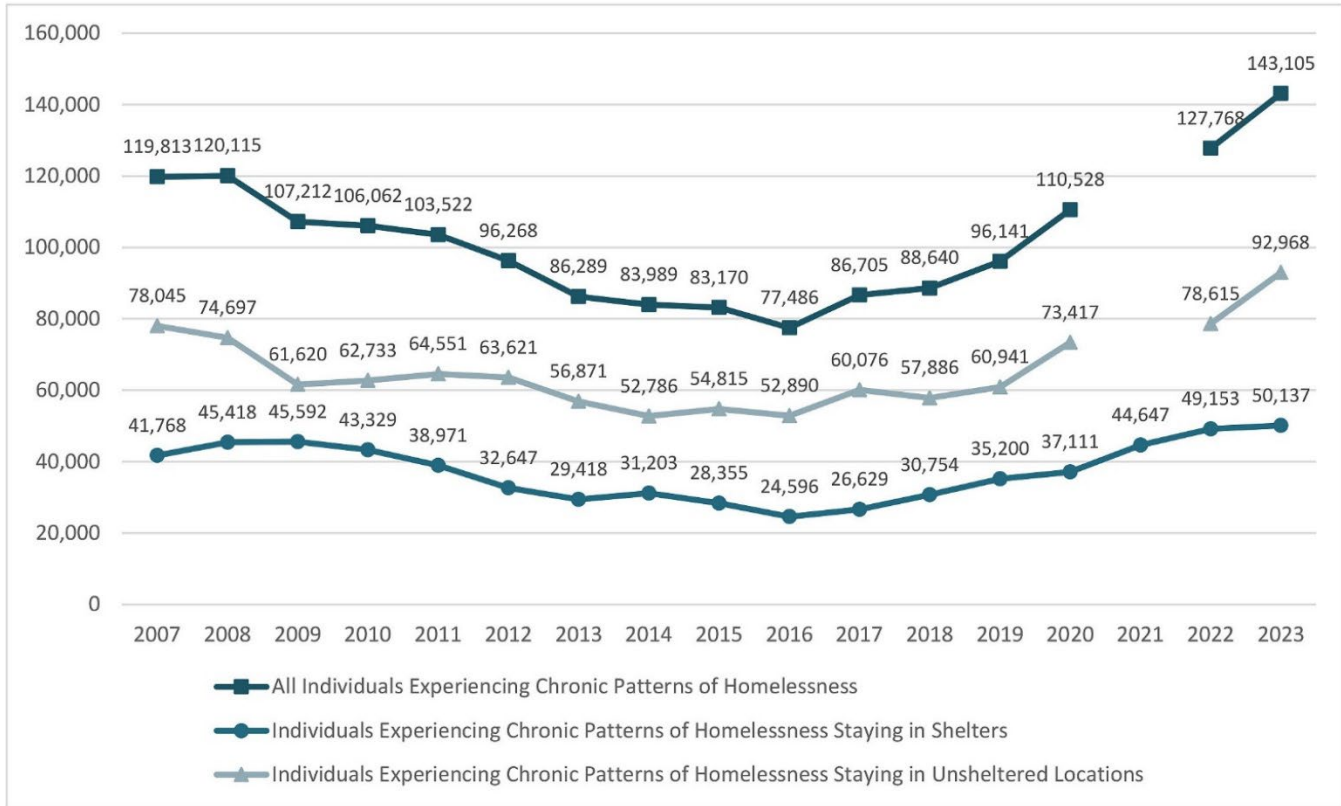
6.1 National Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness in the United States

The estimates presented in this section reflect national data collected on the number of people experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness during a single point-in-time (PIT) count that occurs during the last 10 days in January. The PIT count offers a snapshot of the number of people with chronic patterns of homelessness experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. Experiences of sheltered homelessness includes people who were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens on the night of the count. It does *not* include people staying in rapid rehousing programs, permanent supportive housing programs, and other permanent housing programs (*for more information on these programs, see Section 7*). The PIT count also includes the number of people experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness staying in unsheltered locations. Per the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, all situations that qualify as experiences of unsheltered homelessness are places not meant for human habitation such as sidewalks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, and vehicles parked for long periods. However, due to a variety of factors that could affect the accuracy of an unsheltered count, the actual number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness could be larger than reported.

Although the United States did not declare an end to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency until May 2023, the 2023 national PIT counts reflect a considerable lessening of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter use. Many shelters that had reduced shelter capacity through de-concentration (social distancing) efforts that were in effect during the 2021 and 2022 PIT counts had gone back to full capacity. The strengthening of safety net programs, income protections, and eviction moratoria in-place during the pandemic had also begun to expire. For all these reasons, comparisons to both pandemic and pre-pandemic years should be done with caution.

SECTION 6: CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Exhibit 6-1: PIT Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by Sheltered Status, 2007-2023



Notes: The data for 2021 does not display the total count of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness or the count of individuals staying in unsheltered locations because of pandemic-related disruptions to counts. Also, the 2021 estimates of the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness staying in shelters should be viewed with caution, as the number could be artificially reduced compared with non-pandemic times, reflecting reduced capacity in some communities or safety concerns regarding staying in shelters.

Exhibit 6-2: Change in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness Over Time, 2007-2023

	Total Change 2007-2023		Total Change 2010-2023		Total Change 2020-2023		Total Change 2022-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
All People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	23,292	19.4%	37,043	34.9%	32,577	29.5%	15,337	12.0%
Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness Staying in Shelters	8,369	20.0%	6,808	15.7%	13,026	35.1%	984	2.0%
Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness Staying in Unsheltered Locations	14,923	19.1%	30,235	48.2%	19,551	26.6%	14,353	18.3%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- 143,105 people experiencing homelessness identified as individuals in January 2023 were reported to have experienced chronic patterns of homelessness, which is about one-third (31%) of all individuals experiencing homelessness. This represents the highest share of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness since these data were first reported in 2007.
- Two-thirds of individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness were counted in unsheltered locations (65% or 92,968 individuals).
- Seven percent of all people experiencing chronic homelessness were in families with children (11,208 people). This chapter focuses on the 93 percent of people experiencing chronic homelessness as individuals—that is, not in a household that includes at least one adult and one child under age 18.

Changes over Time

As noted in prior reports, the 2021 and 2022 national PIT counts were strongly affected by the public health emergency that was declared in March 2020. When the 2021 PIT count was conducted, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the way in which shelters were occupied by people experiencing homelessness. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings (in which multiple people share the same space) took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds occupied, thus allowing for more space between people sleeping in congregate settings to reduce their risk of exposure to the virus. Some shelters closed entirely during the pandemic. In some cases, this was reported through the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) as reduced shelter capacity, but in many communities it was not.

In 2022 and into 2023, communities eased some of the pandemic-related restrictions many emergency shelter providers had in place during the 2021 PIT count. In 2022, many communities also received major infusions (payouts) of pandemic-related funding that supported additional (often non-congregate) shelter beds that were in place during the 2022 and 2023 HIC and PIT counts. These recent pandemic-related changes in experiences of homelessness and shelter bed inventory are discussed below and in Section 7 of this report.

- The number of individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness increased by 12 percent (15,337 more people) between 2022 and 2023. This overall increase reflects a two percent increase in the sheltered population (984 more people) and an 18 percent increase in the unsheltered population (14,353 more people).
- There has been a steady rise in the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in recent years. Since 2016, the year with the lowest count of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness, chronic homelessness has increased by about 25,500 individuals found in sheltered locations and about 40,000 individuals found in unsheltered locations.
- Between 2007 and 2023, chronic homelessness increased by 19 percent overall (23,292 more individuals). Compared with 2007, nearly 15,000 more individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness were staying outdoors in 2023 (a 19 percent increase) and over 8,000 more individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness were staying in shelters (a 20% increase).
- While the total number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness declined between 2020 and 2021, the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness found in shelters increased between those two years and then continued to increase each year thereafter. These increases likely reflect the work of communities across the nation to engage with people experiencing chronic patterns of unsheltered homelessness and bring them into sheltered locations.

6.2 Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by State

Exhibit 6-3: Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by State, 2023

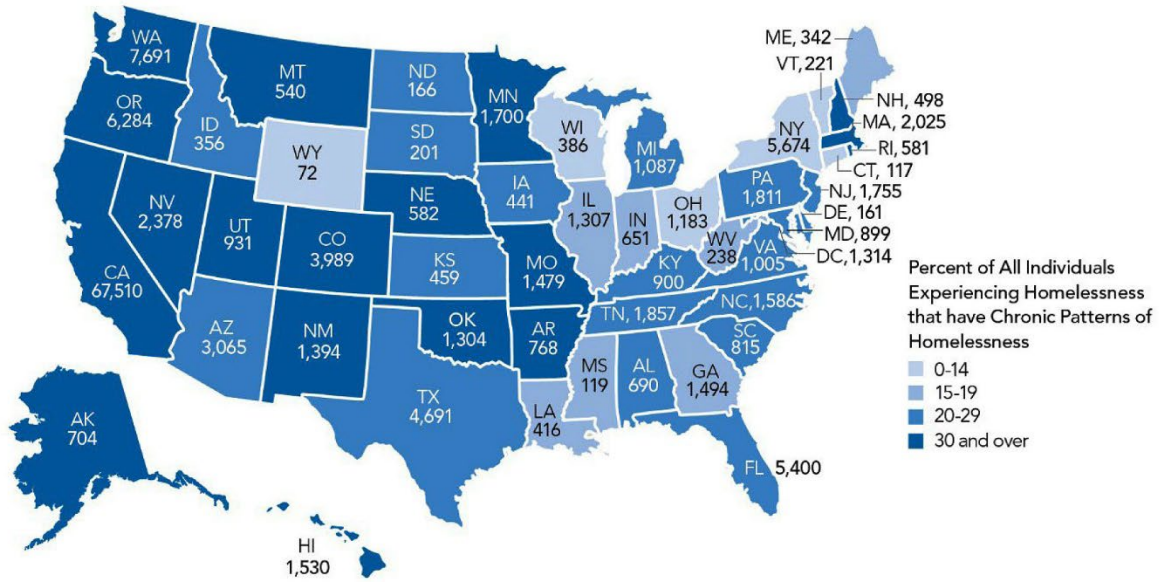


Exhibit 6-4: States with the Highest and Lowest Percentages of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness who were Unsheltered, 2023

State	Number of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	Unsheltered (#)	Unsheltered (%)
Highest Rates			
Hawaii	1,530	1,241	81.1%
Mississippi	119	94	79.0%
California	67,510	53,169	78.8%
New Mexico	1,394	1,063	76.3%
Alabama	690	512	74.2%
Lowest Rates			
Wisconsin	386	38	9.8%
Vermont	221	36	16.3%
Alaska	704	129	18.3%
New York	5,674	1,191	21.0%
New Hampshire	498	114	22.9%

Note: Puerto Rico and U.S. territories were excluded.

Exhibit 6-5: Largest Changes in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by State, 2007-2023

State	Change 2022-2023		State	Change 2007-2023	
	#	%		#	%
Largest Increases					
California	9,750	16.9%	California	27,169	67.3%
Florida	1,167	27.6%	Washington	5,088	195.5%
New Mexico	680	95.2%	Oregon	3,455	122.1%
Arizona	589	23.8%	Nevada	1,507	173.0%
Colorado	523	15.1%	Hawaii	752	96.7%
Largest Decreases					
Nevada	-374	-13.6%	Texas	-3,240	-40.9%
New York	-320	-5.3%	Florida	-2,063	-27.6%
Vermont	-177	-44.5%	Illinois	-1,374	-51.2%
Oregon	-163	-2.5%	Ohio	-1,125	-48.7%
Maine	-158	-31.6%	Georgia	-990	-39.9%

Notes: Puerto Rico and U.S. territories were excluded. Due to changes in their PIT count methodology, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan were excluded from the list of largest changes 2007-2023.

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Nearly half of individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness in the United States were in California (47% or 67,510 people). California accounts for nearly six in ten of all unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in the United States (57% or 53,169 people).
- In four states, more than 70 percent of individuals who experienced chronic patterns of homelessness were staying in unsheltered locations: Hawaii (81%), Mississippi (79%), California (79%), and New Mexico (76%).
- Wisconsin was the only state to shelter 90 percent or more of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in 2023 (90%). The next state with the highest rate of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness found in shelters was Vermont at 84 percent.
- The extent to which individuals experiencing homelessness have chronic patterns varies by state. The highest rate was in New Mexico, where five of every ten individuals experiencing homelessness had chronic patterns (50%). The lowest rate was in Connecticut, where less than one of every ten individuals experiencing homelessness had chronic patterns of homelessness (6%).
- In 18 states and the District of Columbia, 30 percent or more of all individuals experiencing homelessness had chronic patterns of homelessness.

Changes over Time

- Between 2022 and 2023, 33 states and the District of Columbia experienced an increase in the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness. This confirms that these increases are not the experiences of just a few places. The increase in individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness is a nationwide issue.

- California had the largest numerical increase with 9,750 more individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in 2023 than were counted in 2022. The next largest increase was in Florida, where 1,167 more individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness were counted in 2023 than in 2022. Arkansas had the largest percentage increase (104%, or 392 more individuals), followed by New Mexico (95%, or 680 more individuals), and Montana (57% or 197 more individuals).
- Fifteen states saw a decrease in the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness between 2022 and 2023, and two states reported no change over the last year. The largest absolute decreases occurred in Nevada, where 374 fewer individuals were experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in 2023 than in 2022, and New York (320 fewer individuals). The largest percentage decrease occurred in Vermont (45%, or 177 fewer people).
- Between 2020 and 2023, 41 states experienced an increase in the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. The largest increase was in California (18,698 more individuals) followed by Oregon (2,161 more individuals). Just nine states and the District of Columbia reported a decline in the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness over the same period. The largest decrease was in New York (753 fewer individuals) followed by Illinois (751 fewer individuals).
- Over the longer period, between 2007 and 2023, 22 states and the District of Columbia recorded decreases in individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness. Texas experienced the largest decline, with 3,240 fewer individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness counted in 2023 than in 2007. Florida had the next absolute largest decline, with 2,063 fewer individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness. Connecticut, Mississippi, and West Virginia had the largest percentage declines (89%, 80%, and 79%) over this longer period.
- Of the 28 states that experienced increases in the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness between 2007 and 2023, the largest absolute increase occurred in California, with 27,169 more individuals were experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in 2023 than in 2007. Other states with large absolute increases were Washington (5,088 more individuals experiencing chronic homelessness) and Oregon (3,455).
- In nine states, the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness has more than doubled between 2007 and 2023, with the largest increases in Montana (551% more individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness), Rhode Island (334%), Idaho (275%), Maine (253%), and Washington (195%).

6.3 *Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by Continuum of Care (CoC)*²⁶

Continuums of Care (CoC) were Divided into Four Geographic Categories

1. Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
2. Other largely urban CoCs (n=58) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities. Still, the CoCs do not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.

²⁶ Analysis of homelessness at the CoC Category level excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories.

SECTION 6: CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

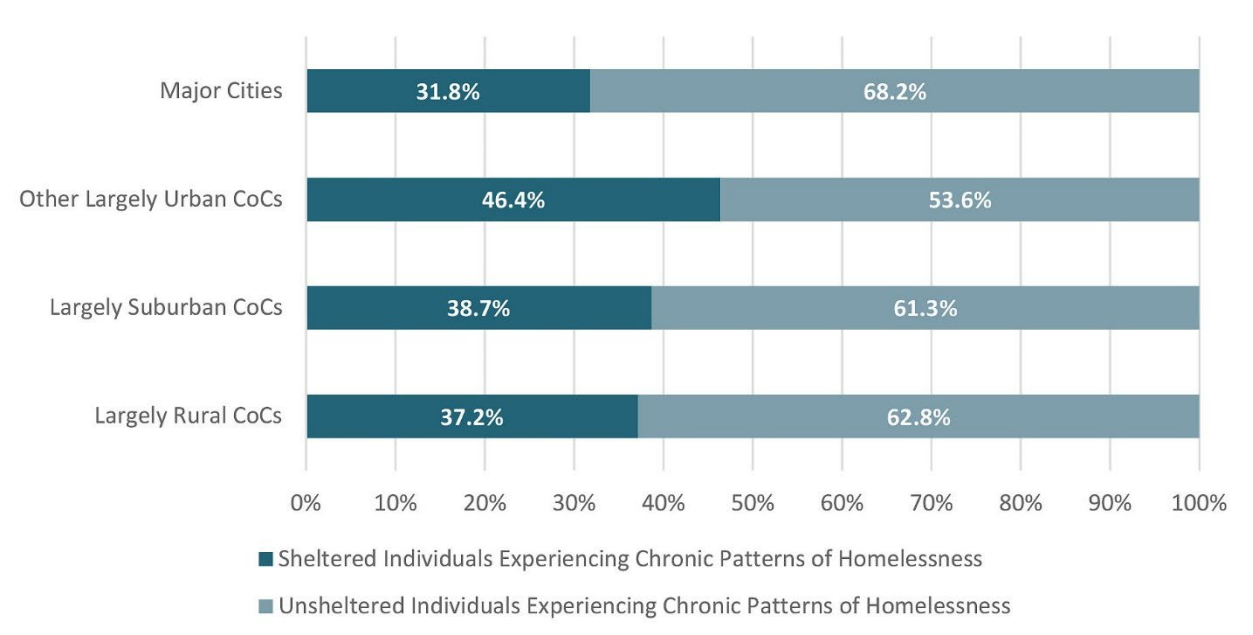
3. Largely suburban CoCs (n=165) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
4. Largely rural CoCs (n=109) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For detailed information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About the Report section of this report.

Exhibit 6-6: Share of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by CoC Category and Sheltered Status, 2023

	All Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Major City CoCs	57.7%	52.3%	60.6%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	7.1%	9.5%	5.9%
Largely Suburban CoCs	21.1%	23.3%	19.9%
Largely Rural CoCs	14.1%	14.9%	13.6%

Exhibit 6-7: Percent of all Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness who are Sheltered and Unsheltered by CoC Category, 2023



SECTION 6: CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Exhibit 6-8: Percent of all Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

	Number of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	Number of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness	Percent of All Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness
Major City CoCs	244,489	82,328	33.7%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	32,833	10,202	31.1%
Largely Suburban CoCs	101,594	30,152	29.7%
Largely Rural CoCs	85,343	20,085	23.5%

Exhibit 6-9: CoCs with the Largest Numbers of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	CoC Name	Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness
Major City CoCs		Other Largely Urban CoCs	
Los Angeles City & County, CA	30,442	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	1,108
New York City	4,548	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	1,092
Sacramento City & County, CA	4,003	Spokane City & County, WA	649
Seattle/King County, WA	3,941	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	545
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	3,485	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	539
Largely Suburban CoCs		Largely Rural CoCs	
Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County, CA	2,458	Washington Balance of State	1,736
Richmond/Contra Costa County, CA	1,494	Texas Balance of State	1,647
San Bernardino City & County, CA	1,421	Oregon Balance of State	1,258
Riverside City & County, CA	896	Colorado Balance of State	740
Stockton/San Joaquin County, CA	876	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties, CA	728

SECTION 6: CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Exhibit 6-10: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Unsheltered Homelessness, by CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	Percent that are Unsheltered	CoC Name	Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	Percent that are Unsheltered
Major Cities			Other Urban CoCs		
Kansas City, Independence, Lee’s Summit/Jackson, Wyandotte Counties, MO & KS	280	95.7%	Amarillo, TX	102	97.1%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	30,442	86.6%	Mobile City & County/Baldwin County, AL	133	91.7%
Long Beach, CA	1,338	85.1%	Huntsville/North Alabama, AL	192	82.8%
Raleigh/Wake County, NC	330	83.3%	Topeka/Shawnee County, KS	162	82.1%
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	3,485	80.5%	Little Rock/Central Arkansas, AR	401	81.0%
Suburban CoCs			Rural		
Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties, FL	202	100.0%	Gainesville/Alachua, Putnam Counties, FL	113	100.0%
Pasco County, FL	136	100.0%	Tehama County, CA	104	99.0%
Palm Bay, Melbourne/Brevard County, FL	212	95.8%	Southwest Oklahoma Regional, OK	170	97.1%
Imperial County, CA	803	95.6%	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee, TN	434	95.2%
San Bernardino City & County, CA	1,421	91.4%	Hawaii Balance of State	696	91.8%

Exhibit 6-11: Change in Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness by Sheltered Status and CoC Category, 2022-2023

	All Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	15,284	12.0%	990	2.0%	14,294	18.2%
Major Cities	8,803	12.0%	719	2.8%	8,084	16.8%
Other Largely Urban CoCs	942	10.2%	-90	-1.9%	1,032	23.3%
Largely Suburban CoCs	2,794	10.2%	-81	-0.7%	2,875	18.4%
Largely Rural CoCs	2,745	15.8%	442	6.3%	2,303	22.3%

On a Single Night in January 2023

- Individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness were more likely to be found in major city CoCs compared to all individuals experiencing homelessness (regardless of chronicity). Fifty-eight percent of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness were counted in CoCs that include one of the nation's 50 largest cities, compared with 53 percent of all individuals.
- While six of every ten individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in unsheltered locations were in major cities (61%), fewer than one in ten (6%) of individuals experiencing unsheltered chronic homelessness did so in largely urban areas that do not contain one of the 50 largest cities. One in every five individuals experiencing chronic homelessness were in largely suburban CoCs (20%) and more than one in ten were in largely rural CoCs (14%).
- The distribution of sheltered and unsheltered locations among individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness varied by geographic region. Within major cities, 68 percent of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness were found in unsheltered locations. Largely rural, largely suburban, and other largely urban CoCs had somewhat smaller percentages of people found outdoors or in locations not intended for human habitation among individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness that exceeded 50 percent (63%, 61%, and 54%).
- Across geographic areas, major cities had the highest rate of experiences of chronic homelessness among all individuals experiencing homelessness at 34 percent. Largely rural CoCs had the lowest rate at 24 percent.
- Los Angeles had, by far, the largest number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness in the country (30,442 people or 21% of the national total). New York City had the second largest number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness, 4,548 people (or 3% of the total). In Los Angeles, more than 8 in 10 individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness were found in unsheltered locations, while in New York City, less than one-fifth (18%) are unsheltered.
- Largely suburban and largely rural CoCs reported some of the highest rates of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness found in unsheltered locations. The highest rates were

in Fort Pierce/St. Lucie, Indian River, Martin County, FL (100%) and Pasco County, FL, both largely suburban CoCs, and Gainesville/Alachua, Putnam County, FL (100%), a largely rural CoC.

Changes over Time by CoC Category

- Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased by 12 percent in major cities between 2022 and 2023 (8,803 more individuals). Over the same period, other largely urban CoCs and largely suburban CoCs saw an increase of 10 percent (942 and 2,794 more individuals), while largely rural CoCs experienced a 16 percent increase (2,745).
- The overall increase in individuals experiencing homelessness between 2022 and 2023 was driven by an increase in the number of people found in unsheltered locations, which increased by 17 to 23 percent across all geographic areas.
- In two areas, other largely urban areas and largely suburban areas, the number of individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness found in shelters decreased slightly, by 2 percent and one percent.

6.4 Understanding Changes in the Number of Individuals Experiencing Chronic Patterns of Homelessness

As a part of PIT data submission and cleaning process, CoCs are asked to submit notes explaining any large shifts in their sheltered and unsheltered counts, large changes across household types, and any irregularities (oddness) in their data compared to the prior year. To help provide context for the findings from 2023's PIT count, the authors of this report completed a review of CoCs' submitted notes. This section profiles one state with a large increase in individuals experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness and the reasons for that change, as reported by the CoC.

New Mexico

New Mexico has two CoCs. One is a major city, Albuquerque, and the other serves largely rural areas across the state. Between 2022 and 2023, New Mexico had a 95 percent increase in the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Both CoC's attributed this increase to five additional counties participating in the PIT counts this year compared to the 2022 PIT count. The CoC's also explained that they had double the number of volunteers to help conduct surveys than in the previous year—when many volunteers were still reluctant to participate in a count because of the risk of COVID exposure—which helped to get a more accurate PIT count. Additionally, the CoCs noted that severe winter weather during the 2022 count, in addition to COVID restrictions, led to a smaller PIT count, whereas this year, the weather was unseasonably warm and most COVID restrictions were lifted.

7. National Inventory of Beds for People Currently Experiencing Homelessness and People Transitioning Out of Homelessness

Exhibit 7-1: Project Types for People Currently Experiencing Homelessness and People Transitioning Out of Homelessness

Shelter for People Experiencing Homelessness	Permanent Housing for People Transitioning Out of Homelessness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Shelter (ES): provides temporary or nightly shelter beds to people experiencing homelessness • Transitional Housing (TH): provides people experiencing homelessness a place to stay combined with supportive services for up to 24 months • Safe Havens (SH): provides private or semi-private temporary shelter and services to people with severe mental illness and are limited to serving no more than 25 people within a facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Rehousing (RRH): a housing model designed to provide temporary housing assistance to people experiencing homelessness, moving them quickly out of homelessness and into permanent housing • Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): a housing model designed to provide housing assistance (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis to people who were experiencing homelessness when they entered the program and are now considered as formerly experienced homelessness. HUD’s Continuum of Care program, authorized by the McKinney-Vento Act, funds PSH and requires that the client have a disability for eligibility. • Other Permanent Housing (OPH): a housing model with or without services that is designed specifically for people who formerly experienced homelessness. OPH does not have a disability requirement.

7.1 Types of Programs in the National Inventory

Communities across the country submit data each year on their residential programs for people experiencing homelessness and their programs that help people end their experiences of homelessness/move into housing. The two basic types of programs are shelter programs for people experiencing homelessness and housing programs for people who formerly experienced homelessness. Communities report the number of beds that are available for both types of programs at the same time each January when they conduct Point-in-Time (PIT) counts. The national inventory is the total number of beds in all communities, as reported through the housing inventory count (HIC), that are available for both types of programs.

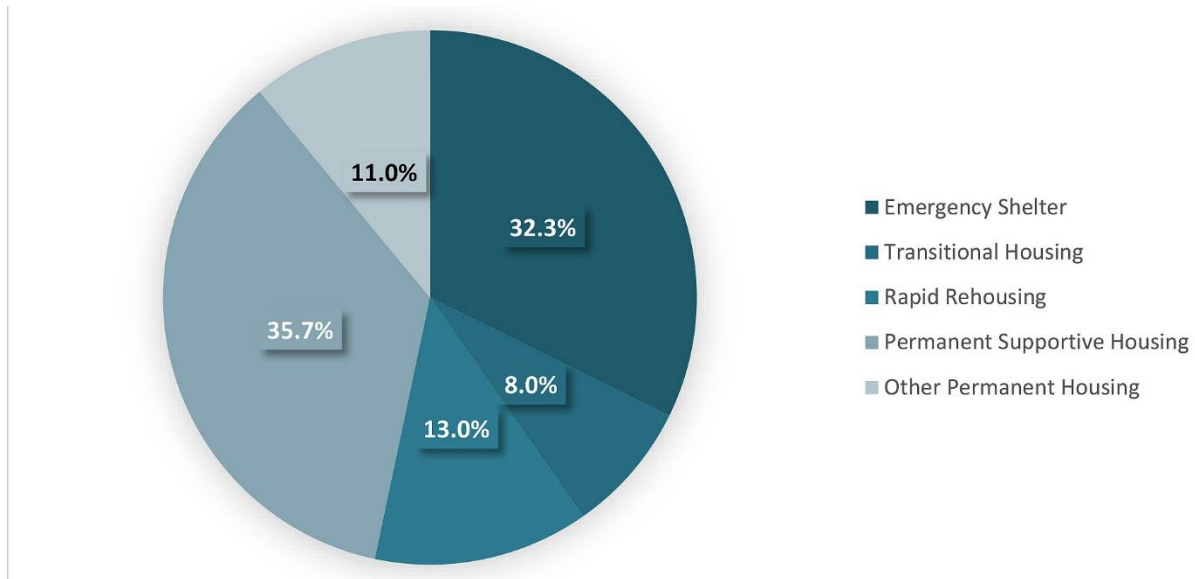
- 1) Shelter is intended to serve people currently experiencing homelessness and is comprised of two main types of programs, emergency shelters (ES) and transitional housing programs (TH). Conceptually, ES is shorter-term and provides less intensive services than TH.²⁷ Shelter also

²⁷ Some transitional housing programs provide housing in which the individual or family may be able to stay after the transitional period with intensive services ending (sometimes called “transition-in-place”), and some emergency shelters have intensive services. Communities decide how to categorize their programs when reporting data to HUD.

includes a small number of programs, called safe havens, for individuals who have been identified as having higher needs (such as severe mental illness). The sheltered data only reports on beds that are available during the entire year. While the HIC includes information on beds available during severe weather events (storms, fires, extreme cold), during seasonal timeframes (open only during specific weeks or months), and beds made available when the number of people seeking shelter exceeds capacity (overflow beds), the focus of this analysis is on the year-round inventory. This information reflects the planned capacity communities rely on to meet the current needs of people experiencing homelessness.

- 2) Permanent housing is intended to serve people who were experiencing homelessness at the time they were enrolled in a permanent housing program. Once the program helps a household (an individual or family) find a housing unit, that housing is considered permanent in the sense that the household has a lease (or similar agreement) and may be able to stay in the same housing unit long-term. This category includes rapid rehousing (RRH), a short-term subsidy in a housing unit in which the individual or family may be able to remain after the subsidy ends; permanent supportive housing (PSH), housing with a long-term subsidy and supportive services for people with disabilities; and other permanent housing (OPH), which also is intended for people transitioning out of homelessness but is not restricted to people with disabilities. The information on permanent housing shows the planned capacity of communities to use these programs to help people no longer experience homelessness. Only programs considered by the Continuum of Care to be part of the homeless services system are included in the HIC as OPH. Communities may use other programs to help people transition out of homelessness.²⁸

²⁸ There are additional programs or housing supports that may house people experiencing homelessness or transitioning out of homelessness. However, to be included on the HIC, the beds and units must be dedicated to serving persons experiencing homelessness, or for permanent housing projects, dedicated for persons who were homeless at entry. Beds in institutional settings not specifically dedicated for persons who are experiencing homelessness, such as detox facilities, emergency rooms, jails, and acute crisis or treatment centers are not included in the HIC.

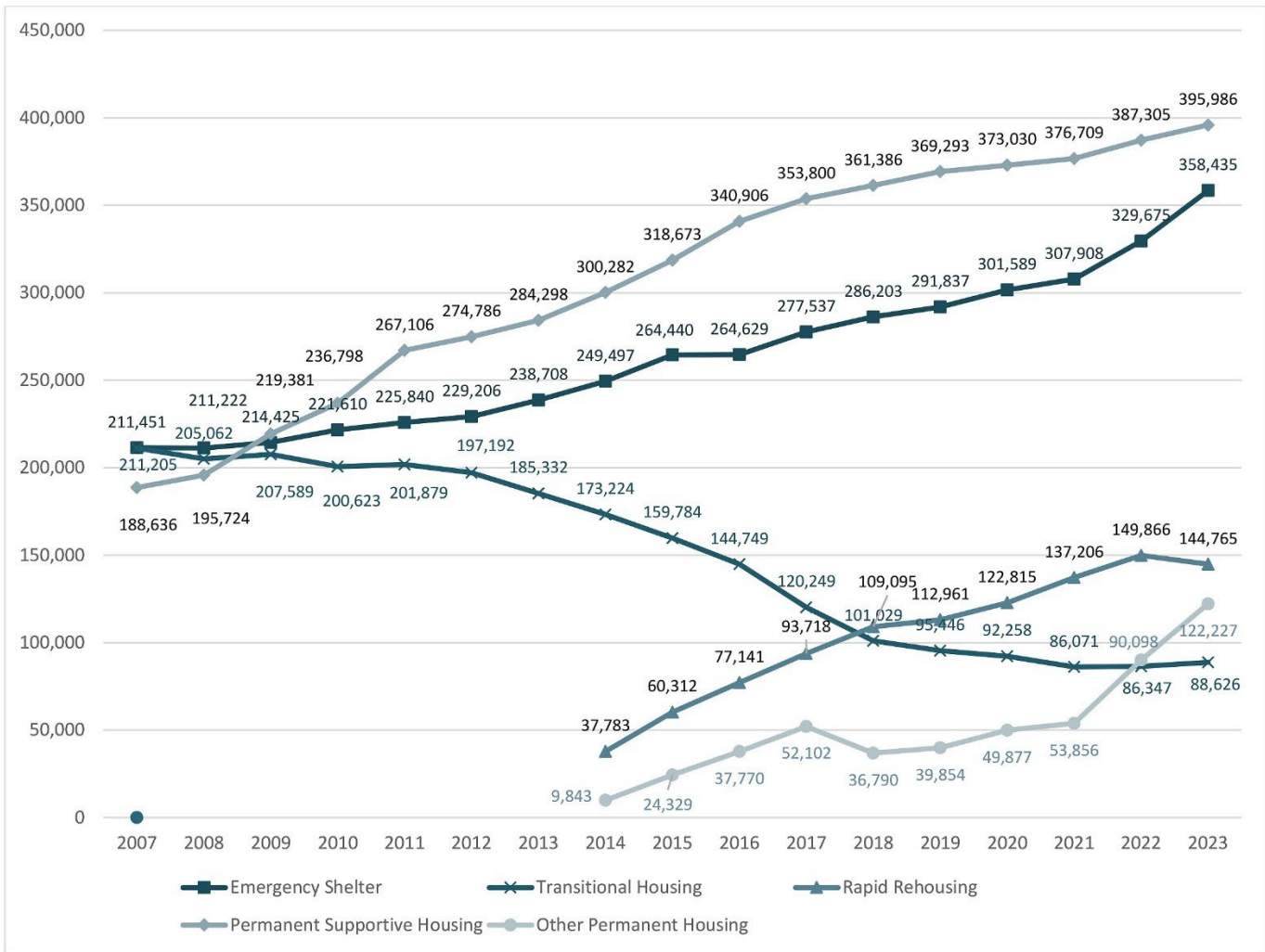
Exhibit 7-2: Distribution of the National Bed Inventory by Program Type, 2023

Note: A small percentage of safe haven beds (0.2%) are in the national inventory but are not included in the exhibit.

The National Inventory as of 2023

- A total of 1,112,545 year-round beds in communities across the nation were dedicated to serving people who are currently experiencing homelessness or transitioning out of homelessness.
- Six of every ten beds, 60 percent, were in permanent housing for people transitioning out of homelessness. Four in ten beds, 40 percent, provided shelter for people currently experiencing homelessness.
- Of the 449,567 beds for people currently experiencing homelessness, 80 percent were in emergency shelters, and 20 percent were in transitional housing programs. Less than one percent (0.6%) were provided through safe havens. Despite this substantial shelter inventory, there remains about a 200,000 bed shortfall compared to the total number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night in the United States (653,104 people).
- Of the 662,978 beds in programs that helped people transition out of homelessness, 60 percent were in PSH, 22 percent were in RRH programs, and 18 percent were in OPH. OPH programs include two types of permanent housing projects: housing that also provides connection to supportive services but does not require the person to have a disability to receive housing, and permanent housing with no supportive services built into the design of the program.

Exhibit 7-3: Inventory of Beds in Shelters and Permanent Housing, 2007-2023



Note: The small share of Safe Haven beds (0.2%) is not included in this exhibit.

Exhibit 7-4: Change in National Inventory of Year-Round Beds for Shelters and Permanent Housing, 2007-2023

	Change 2022-2023		Change 2020-2023		Change 2007-2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Beds	66,634	6.4%	170,674	18.1%	501,253	82.0%
Emergency Shelter	28,760	8.7%	56,846	18.8%	146,984	69.5%
Transitional Housing	2,279	2.6%	-3,632	-3.9%	-122,579	-58.0%
Safe Haven	-114	-4.4%	204	8.9%		
Rapid Re-housing (RRH)	-5,101	-3.4%	21,950	17.9%		
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	8,681	2.2%	22,956	6.2%	207,350	109.9%
Other Permanent Housing (OPH)	32,129	35.7%	72,350	145.1%		

Note: Based on Year-round beds and does not include seasonal or overflow beds. The change 2007-2023 column does not include information for safe havens, rapid rehousing, or other permanent housing because the HIC did not include data collection for these program types in 2007.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in significant changes to the national inventory. At the time of the 2021 HIC, precautions taken to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus resulted in considerable changes to the capacity of homelessness service providers. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (spread of the disease), facility-based emergency shelters with congregate settings took measures to increase physical distancing by reducing the number of beds available for occupancy. In some cases, this reduced capacity was reported through the HIC, but in many communities it was not. As of the 2022 HIC in January of that year, Congress had appropriated (set aside) significant funding to support additional emergency shelter, RRH, OPH, and PSH (see the box at the end of this chapter for more information). In many communities across the nation, these COVID-funded beds were still active as of the 2023 HIC; in others, they were not. This section discusses overall changes to the national inventory.

Changes to the National Inventory Over Time

- The total national inventory for people experiencing homelessness (i.e., the emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe have inventory) has increased by about 27,000 beds since 2007. This change was driven by increases in the number of emergency shelter beds (146,984 more beds) that outpaced declines in transitional housing beds (122,579 fewer beds) over the same time period. However, between 2022 and 2023, the steady decline in transitional housing beds observed since 2011 was interrupted by a three percent increase in transitional housing inventory (2,279 more beds).
- Since 2020, the last pre-pandemic inventory count, the number of available emergency shelter beds increased by 19 percent (56,846 more beds). Over half of this increase (28,760 beds) occurred between 2022 and 2023. These increases likely reflect both an increase in pandemic-related funding available to emergency shelter programs and a reduction in the shelter de-compression (social distancing) measures that were in place during the 2021 and 2022 HIC counts. (The next section discusses changes to the emergency shelter inventory since the start of the pandemic in more detail.)
- The supply of PSH has increased every year since reporting began in 2007. Between 2007 and 2023, there has been a 110 percent increase in PSH inventory nationally (207,350 more beds). Since 2020, the last HIC count prior to the pandemic, the supply of PSH has increased by 22,956 beds.

- Communities began reporting data on OPH programs and RRH programs in 2014, when RRH was a relatively new program model. While RRH saw significant growth between 2020 and 2022, partly reflecting an increase in ESG-CV funding during 2021 and 2022, communities saw a three percent decline in RRH inventory between 2022 and 2023 (5,101 fewer RRH beds), including a decline in the number of RRH beds supported by ESG-CV funding. In 2022, 35,825 RRH beds reported in the HIC were partially or fully funded using ESG-CV funds; by 2023, only 14,830 beds were funded by ESG-CV.
- OPH saw a marked increase in inventory availability since 2020, growing by 145 percent or 72,350 beds. This largely reflects communities recording some of their Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) funding in the HIC as OPH. In 2023, 54,122 OPH beds were funded using EHV funds. The EHV program, another federal response to the COVID-19 pandemic, is administered through memoranda of understanding between CoCs and public housing agencies.

Exhibit 7-5: Year-Round Emergency Shelter Beds by Bed Type, 2020-2023

	2020 ES Beds	2022 ES Beds	2023 ES Beds	Change 2022-2023	Change 2020-2023
Total ES Beds	301,589	329,675	358,435	8.7%	18.9%
Facility-based ES beds	280,617	285,522	323,465	13.3%	15.3%
Voucher-based beds	10,147	33,229	24,888	-25.1%	145.3%
Other ES beds	10,825	10,924	10,082	-7.7%	-6.9%

Note: Beds based on total current, year-round beds.

Exhibit 7-6: Emergency Shelter Beds (Year-Round, Seasonal, and Overflow) Funded by ESG-CV, 2021-2023

	Total ES Beds 2021*	Total ES Beds 2022	Total ES Beds 2023	Change 2021-2023	Change 2022-2023
ESG-CV funded beds	67,814	90,808	39,577	-41.6%	-56.4%
Total ES beds	356,712	373,477	400,512	12.3%	7.2%
Percent of ES beds funded with ESG-CV	19.0%	24.3%	9.9%	-47.9%	-59.3%

Note: Beds based on total current beds (year-round beds and seasonal/overflow beds)

*Uses 2021 as a comparison year because ESG-CV funding was not available in 2020.

Recent Changes to the National Inventory of Emergency Shelter Beds, 2021-2023

Between 2021-2022, communities were responding to the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis. However, by January 2023, most communities began to reduce social distancing and shelter decompression (social distancing) efforts that were in place during the 2021 and 2022 HIC counts. In addition, by the time of the 2023 HIC, many communities had fully spent any Federal COVID-relief funding they received, and many of the social distancing restrictions implemented in 2021 and 2022 had been lifted.

SECTION 7: NATIONAL INVENTORY

- One indication of the impact of the pandemic on the national inventory is changes in the type of emergency shelter beds communities relied on. There are three types of emergency shelter beds: facility-based beds, representing most beds across the country, voucher-based beds (such as hotels and motels used by programs instead of their own facilities), and other beds, such as those in church basements or other private locations not funded by HUD. Many emergency shelters relied on hotels, motels, and other voucher-based shelter beds to reduce the possibility of transmission (spread of the disease) and keep people staying in shelter programs safe. Between 2020 and 2023, the number of voucher-based emergency shelter beds increase by 145 percent. Since its peak in 2022, the number of voucher-based emergency shelter beds has declined by 25 percent.
- Meanwhile, between 2020 and 2023, the number of facility-based beds increased by 15 percent (over 42,800 more beds). Eighty-nine percent of this increase occurred between 2022 and 2023, indicating a shift back to congregate, facility-based shelter beds and a reduction in voucher-based beds between 2022 and 2023.
- During the pandemic, the increase in emergency shelter beds was spurred by a one-time infusion of Emergency Solutions Grants Coronavirus (ESG-CV) funding (see box at the end of the chapter), a funding source used specifically during the COVID-19 pandemic to help communities address homelessness. In 2021, the first year ESG-CV funding was reported in the HIC, 19 percent of all emergency shelter beds—including seasonal and overflow beds—were supported by this funding; by 2022, the share had increased to 24 percent. In 2023, many CoCs had exhausted most if not all of the ESG-CV funding their community received. This is reflected in the 56 percent decline in ESG-CV funded emergency shelter beds between 2022 and 2023 (51,231 fewer beds).

Exhibit 7-7: Inventory of Year-Round Beds for Individuals and Families, 2023

	Beds for Individuals		Beds for People in Families		Beds for Child-Only Households		Total Year-Round Beds	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Emergency Shelter	194,539	54.3%	161,204	45.0%	2,692	0.8%	358,435	100.0%
Transitional Housing	48,617	54.9%	39,510	44.6%	499	0.6%	88,626	100.0%
Safe Haven	2,506	100.0%			0	0.0%	2,506	100.0%
Rapid Re-housing	51,500	35.6%	93,132	64.3%	133	0.1%	144,765	100.0%
Permanent Supportive Housing	273,818	69.1%	122,124	30.8%	44	0.0%	395,986	100.0%
Other Permanent Housing	57,271	46.9%	64,854	53.1%	102	0.1%	122,227	100.0%
Total Beds	628,251	56.5%	480,824	43.2%	3,470	0.8%	1,112,545	100.0%

Note: Safe haven beds are only available for individuals, which may include child-only households.

Beds Serving Individuals and Families in 2023

Just as this report has separate sections on people in families with children (households with at least one adult and one child under 18) and on individuals (people experiencing homelessness who are not part of a family), communities report on the number of beds dedicated to those populations.

- Slightly more emergency shelter beds across the nation were intended for individuals (54%) than for families with children (45%). Less than one percent were for people experiencing homelessness as children under 18 without a parent present.
- Similarly, 55 percent of transitional housing beds were targeted to individuals and 45 percent to families with children. Just under one percent were for child-only households.
- Nearly two-thirds of RRH beds (64%) were targeted to people in families with children, and just over one-third of beds (36%) were for individuals. Individuals usually are experiencing homelessness on their own, so the number of beds available for individuals is often similar to the number of housing units (e.g., apartments). RRH for families, on the other hand, requires multiple beds per unit, so the share of RRH units, as distinct from beds, for individuals is greater.
- Nearly seven in ten PSH beds (69%) were for individuals, and the remaining three in ten (31%) were targeted to families.
- Similar shares of beds in OPH programs—permanent housing programs explicitly for people experiencing homelessness but without a restriction to assist people with disabilities—were for families, 53 percent, and individuals, 47 percent.

Exhibit 7-8: Inventory of Year-Round Beds for Special Populations, 2023

Bed Type	Total Beds	Beds for People with Chronic Patterns of Homelessness		Beds for Veterans		Beds for Youth	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
Emergency Shelter	358,435	N/A		3,772	1.1%	7,926	2.2%
Transitional Housing	88,626			12,108	13.7%	9,345	10.5%
Safe Haven	2,506			1,547	61.7%	17	0.7%
Rapid Rehousing	144,765			17,379	12.0%	7,886	5.4%
Permanent Supportive Housing	395,986	178,681	45.1%	110,794	28.0%	4,987	1.3%
Other Permanent Housing	122,227	N/A		2,454	2.0%	1,784	1.5%
Total Beds	1,112,545	178,681	16.1%	148,054	13.3%	31,945	2.9%

Note: Only PSH programs funded by HUD can report dedicated beds for people experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness on the HIC. According to the Fiscal Year 2022 HMIS data standards, “a dedicated bed is a bed that must be filled by a person in the subpopulation category (or a member of their household) unless there are no persons from the subpopulation who qualify for the project located within the geographic area.” For more information, see page 62 of the HMIS Data Standards Manual: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FY-2022-HMIS-Data-Standards-Manual.pdf>

Beds Dedicated to Veterans and Youth

- Thirteen percent of all beds in the national inventory (148,054 beds in total) were dedicated to veterans experiencing homelessness and their family members. The majority of beds for veterans (110,794 or 75%) were in PSH programs. Although the number of safe haven beds was small (2,506 beds in total), six of every ten safe haven beds (62%) were dedicated to veterans.
- In 2023, 31,945 beds were dedicated to unaccompanied youth or families with young parents (all members of the household are under the age of 25). Of these beds, 54 percent were for youth currently experiencing homelessness, with 29 percent in transitional housing projects and 25 percent in emergency shelters. Overall, beds dedicated to youth represented only three percent of the total inventory of beds available for people experiencing homelessness.
- The total number of beds dedicated to veterans continued to increase between 2022 and 2023, by 5,221 beds overall, despite declines among emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven projects. The overall increase was driven by increases in veteran-dedicated beds in RRH (4,394 more beds), PSH (1,651 more beds), and OPH programs (188 more beds). Over the longer term, the total number of beds dedicated to veterans has increased by 64 percent (57,783 more beds) since 2014, the first year RRH and OPH programs were reported on the HIC.
- The total number of beds for youth also increased between 2022 and 2023, by 467 beds, or nearly two percent. This increase reflects increases in youth-dedicated beds in emergency shelter, RRH, and OPH programs that outnumbered declines in transitional housing and PSH programs. Since 2014, the first year that youth beds were reported on the HIC, the number of beds dedicated to youth has increased by 125 percent (17,716 more beds).

Exhibit 7-9: Inventory of PSH Beds for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness, 2007-2023

Year	Number of Beds
2007	37,807
2008	42,298
2009	50,602
2010	55,256
2011	67,964
2012	74,693
2013	81,666
2014	94,282
2015	95,066
2016	111,390
2017	149,005
2018	168,503
2019	181,505
2020	179,569
2021	173,457
2022	178,545
2023	178,681

	Change 2022-2023		Change 2007-2022	
	#	%	#	%
PSH Beds for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	136	0.1%	140,874	372.6%

Beds Targeted to Individuals with Chronic Patterns of Homelessness

- PSH programs may dedicate all or a portion of their beds to people experiencing chronic patterns of homelessness, and (if funded by the federal government) must serve people with disabilities. In 2023, 45 percent of beds in PSH programs (178,681 of the 395,986 total beds) were explicitly targeted to people experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Despite a slight decline in the number of PSH beds for people who experience chronic patterns of homelessness between 2020 and 2021 (a decline of 6,112 beds), the PSH inventory has increased each year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 and increased nearly four-fold (373%) since these data were first collected in 2007.

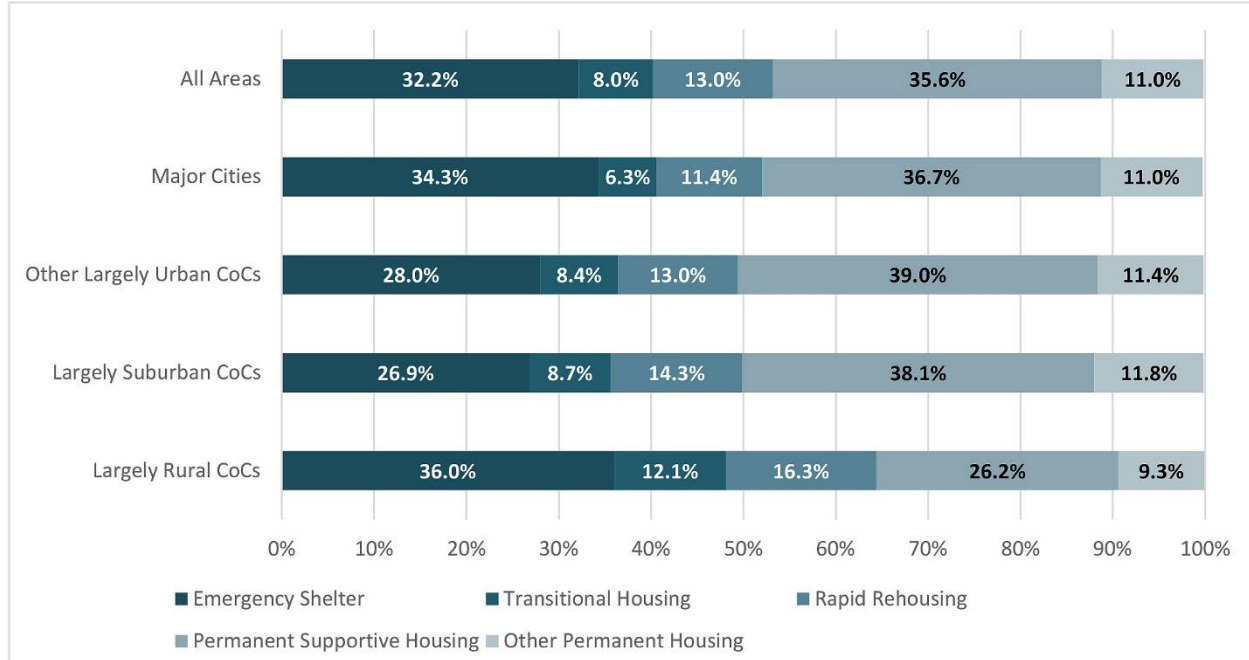
7.2 Beds by CoC Category, 2023

Continuums of Care (CoC) were divided into four geographic categories²⁹

- Major city CoCs (n=49) are CoCs that contain one of the 50 largest cities in the United States. In one case, Phoenix and Mesa, AZ, two of the largest US cities are located in the same CoC.
- Other largely urban CoCs (n=57) are CoCs in which the population lives predominately in an urbanized area within the CoC's principal city or cities, but the CoCs does not include one of the nation's 50 largest cities.
- Largely suburban CoCs (n=159) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in suburban areas, defined as urbanized areas outside of a principal city or urban clusters within 10 miles of urbanized areas.
- Largely rural CoCs (n=104) are CoCs in which the population lives predominantly in urban clusters that are more than 10 miles from an urbanized area or in Census-defined rural areas.

Note: These definitions have been adapted from definitions used by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics to characterize the locations of schools. For detailed information on how they were applied to CoCs, see the About the Report section of this report.

²⁹ CoCs located in Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories were excluded from the CoC Category analysis.

Exhibit 7-10: Inventory of Beds by Program Type and CoC Category, 2023*

*Excludes safe haven inventory, which accounts for between 0.1% and 0.3% of beds across the four CoC categories.

- Across all communities, as of 2023, substantially more than half of bed inventory was for people transitioning out of homelessness. The pattern is similar across major cities, other largely urban CoCs, and largely suburban CoCs. In rural CoCs, the split of inventory for people currently experiencing homelessness and people transitioning out of homelessness is roughly even, with 48 percent of the inventory in emergency shelter or transitional housing programs and 52 percent in RRH, PSH, or OPH.
- The distribution of beds for people currently experiencing homelessness varies modestly across categories of CoCs. As of 2023, communities had many more emergency shelter beds than they did transitional housing beds in 2023. The difference was greatest in major city CoCs, where 84 percent of beds for people experiencing homelessness were in emergency shelters and only 15 percent in transitional housing programs. Largely rural CoCs had the highest percentage of transitional housing beds, accounting for 25 percent of beds for people currently experiencing homelessness.
- Across all CoC categories, PSH was the dominant type of permanent housing for people who were formerly experiencing homelessness. Major cities and other largely urban CoCs had the highest percentage of PSH beds in the permanent housing inventory, at 62 percent each, followed closely by suburban CoCs with 60 percent.
- RRH accounted for a similar share of bed inventory across all communities (11 to 12%) except for largely rural CoCs, where RRH made up a slightly smaller share of all bed inventory (9%).

Context for Changes in the National Inventory, 2021-2023

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in March 2020. As part of the CARES Act, Congress appropriated \$4 billion to the Emergency Solutions Grants - Coronavirus (ESG-CV) program to help communities support additional homeless assistance and prevention activities. ESG recipients could use ESG-CV funds for additional sponsor-based rental assistance, hotel or motel costs for people experiencing homelessness, and temporary emergency shelters. HUD required at least 50 percent of funds be drawn by June 2022 and all ESG-CV funds to be fully spent by the end of 2023 (with the exception of reallocated funds, which could be spent through June 2024). As such, the impact of ESG-CV funds on bed inventory was greatest in 2021 and 2022. The share of the total inventory for people currently experiencing homelessness that was funded using ESG-CV funds increased from 14 percent in 2021 to 19 percent in 2022 but declined to 8 percent in 2023 as ESG recipients spent down remaining ESG-CV funds in anticipation of the spending deadline. ESG-CV funds were also used to support an increase in the rapid re-housing inventory. In 2021, 10 percent of all rapid re-housing was funded using ESG-CV funds, and by 2022 this had peaked at 34 percent. However, by 2023, the share of rapid rehousing funded by ESG-CV went back down to 10 percent.

In March 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which included \$1.1 billion in funding to support Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV). EHV's are used to provide housing support to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. The HIC captures data on OPH and PSH that was supported using EHV funds. CoCs mainly recorded EHV in the HIC as additional OPH inventory. At the time of the 2022 HIC, 34 percent of all OPH and one percent of PSH inventory was supported by EHV funding. By 2023, this has increased to 44 percent for OPH and declined to under one percent for PSH, in accordance with HUD guidance on how to record EHV in the HIC.

Exhibit 7-11: Inventory of Beds Funded by Coronavirus Relief-Related Funding, 2021-2023

	2021		2022			2023		
	Bed Inventory (#)	ESG-CV Funded (%)	Bed Inventory (#)	ESG-CV Funded (%)	EHV Funded (%)	Bed Inventory (#)	ESG-CV Funded (%)	EHV Funded (%)
Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing Inventory	396,466	14%	418,642	19%		449,567	7.8%	
RRH Inventory	137,206	10%	149,866	34%		144,765	10.2%	
OPH Inventory	53,856		90,098		34%	122,227		44.3%
PSH Inventory	376,709		387,305		1%	395,986		0.5%

Note: ESG-CV funding is only available for ES and RRH inventory and was in use by the time of the 2021 HIC. EHV funding can be used to support OPH and PSH housing and was in use by the time of the 2022 HIC. Inventory included is limited to year-round, current inventory.