



OKC POINT-IN-TIME 2025 | **SNAPSHOT OF HOMELESSNESS**

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & KEY FINDINGS

The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count reveals a slight increase of 2.4% in the total number of people experiencing homelessness compared to the 2024 count. The growth rate of those experiencing homelessness has significantly slowed from 2024-2025. Results in this year's count highlight several ongoing challenges faced in addressing homelessness in Oklahoma City (OKC), as well as positive trends. This report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the findings, offering insights into demographic breakdown, geographic distribution, and potential contributing factors that may explain the year-over-year increase.

Many subpopulations surveyed saw decreases in homelessness, including those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, the chronically homeless, and those who are both chronic and unsheltered. Unsheltered homelessness has gradually declined since '23 and chronic unsheltered homelessness dropped significantly from '24 to '25, suggesting efforts to house long-term unsheltered people, like Key to Home's *Encampment Rehousing Initiative*, are having an impact.

Generally, the longer a person remains unhoused, the more intensive intervention and supports they need to exit homelessness. As more people experience homelessness for extended periods, the system becomes overwhelmed, creating a bottleneck. When the number of people requiring long-term supports grows, it slows the process for others trying to secure housing. A funnel is often used to illustrate this challenge. OKC's homeless response system has a wide entry point but narrow exit, allowing many to enter but few to exit to housing. The *Encampment Rehousing Initiative* launched in late '23 to add capacity through expanded housing exits focused specifically to address the growing number of people experiencing chronic and unsheltered homelessness.

Unaccompanied youth homelessness was down 5%. Targeted, low-barrier programs and supports for this age group, like extended hours for drop-in services, expanded housing options like rapid rehousing and host homes, and access to more supportive services to increase self-sufficiency through the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project have likely contributed to the reduction in homelessness for this population. One unaccompanied minor was counted in shelter. Lastly, Veterans experiencing homelessness decreased slightly. The number of families experiencing homelessness increased from '24 to '25 and two families were unsheltered.



While the inflow of people experiencing homelessness continues to rise, pressures on the system are also growing, including inflation, rising cost of rent, shortage of affordable housing, and stagnant wages. These challenges have made it harder to maintain current service levels, let alone achieve reductions. However, despite these ongoing difficulties, we've managed to dramatically slow the growth of homelessness. After a 28% increase from '23 to '24, we've successfully reduced growth to just 2.4% this year — a significant achievement in the face of these persistent obstacles.

To address homelessness more effectively and achieve meaningful progress in reducing homelessness in OKC, we need to reshape the system by inverting our “funnel.” Fewer people should experience homelessness in the first place, and those who do should have a more direct and efficient path to housing. This means continuing interventions that have measurable impacts, like the *Encampment Rehousing Initiative*, as well as prioritizing more upstream prevention efforts whenever possible, investing in diversion programs to stem inflow into homelessness, and expanding housing options to help people transition out of homelessness more quickly. However, securing housing is just the first step — stabilization and community integration are essential for preventing returns to homelessness. We must ensure that once people are housed, they receive the necessary support to maintain their housing, build stability, and successfully integrate into the community.

ABOUT THE COUNT

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandates that all communities receiving federal funds through McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants conduct a Point-in-Time (PIT) count. Each community is required to individually plan and carry out its PIT on a single day during the last 10 days in January, at least every other year.

Oklahoma City conducts our count annually. This year's count took place on January 23rd. This one-day count is only a snapshot and is not designed to be a complete analysis of the issues surrounding homelessness. The Point-in-Time Count is intended to be a tool for understanding trends in homelessness over time. This report provides a longitudinal analysis of the City's PIT data from the '20 through '25 counts. Its findings are one perspective on the state of homelessness in Oklahoma City across one day only. Data gathered during the PIT and described in this report should be considered not an exact and exhaustive number, but a useful tool to understand the scope of the problem and identify areas for improvement.

Based on guidelines from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Area Median Income (AMI)

Midpoint of a region's income distribution. Half of the families in a region earn more than the median, and half earn less. Extremely low incomes are considered at or below 30% of the AMI.

Continuum of Care (CoC)

Local planning body responsible for coordinating the full range of homeless services in a geographic area. Our CoC is referred to as the Key to Home Partnership

Emergency Shelter (ES)

Short-term lodging for people experiencing a housing crisis.

Fair Market Rent (FMR)

40% of typical standard-quality housing units are available at or below this price in an area.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Computerized data collection application for capturing client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of people experiencing homelessness over time.

The PIT collects data from three different household types:

1. Households with at least one adult and one child
2. Households without children
3. Households of children only

The report includes a sheltered count of how many people are in shelters, transitional housing programs and an unsheltered count of how many people are living outdoors. Data from households that are “doubling up” with family or friends, incarcerated, in treatment facilities, emergency rooms or hotel rooms are not included in this report.



Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

A report on the number of program beds and/or housing units available and in use on the night of the count.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Permanent housing with integrated wrap-around services for people who are homeless and have a disabling condition.

Sheltered homeless

People living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements.

Transitional Housing (TH)

Temporary housing and services for people who have multiple barriers to obtaining housing and employment.

Unsheltered homeless

People with a nighttime residence not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation.



COUNTING METHODS

In 2025, the Oklahoma City CoC continued its use of digital surveys, a development the City implemented in 2024. Using Planning funds applied for from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Oklahoma City CoC purchased the Outreach Grid app for all teams to use throughout the count. The app enabled the CoC to customize a survey, reducing data errors and eliminating duplicate surveys. As with previous years, these field surveys were used to collect information from people living outdoors, at meal sites and at locations that don't participate in the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The sheltered counts in this report were pulled from HMIS where organizations collected the data from individuals utilizing their programs on the night of the count. The field survey contains enough personal information to identify and remove duplicates when merged with HMIS data. The use of an app eliminates the need for manual data entry, as all information is immediately entered once surveys are completed.

Location Counts

Emergency Shelters

Nearly all of OKC’s emergency shelters enter information about daily usage of emergency shelter beds into HMIS and gather that data for the count.

Transitional Housing

Transitional housing data for the night of the count comes from the HMIS database. For agencies not using HMIS, transitional housing staff completed computer-based survey forms and returned data to the PIT. This data was collected and counted separately to determine total counts. Duplicate entries were eliminated.

Meal Sites

On January 23rd, volunteers visited sites where free meals were served. This site count focused on identifying and interviewing people who were homeless but did not stay in a homeless shelter that night.

Street

Before the count, a list of locations where people who are homeless are known to sleep and congregate was compiled. These locations included: homeless camps, parks, bridges, libraries, abandoned buildings and downtown. Teams of volunteers led by trained outreach workers visited these locations to engage people there.

Day Shelters

Volunteers visited the Homeless Alliance’s WestTown Day Shelter as well as Second Chance Thrift Store, and conducted surveys there.

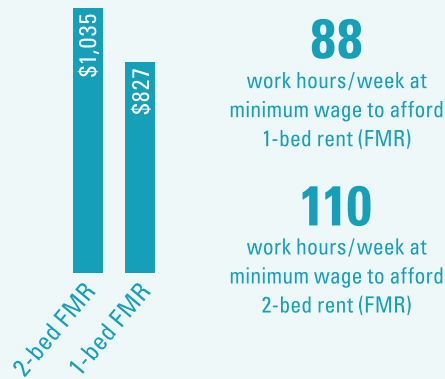
“Two people working full-time on Oklahoma’s minimum wage can’t afford a two-bedroom rental home at fair market value without exceeding the recommended 30% of income to be spent on housing.”

OKLAHOMA HOUSING

Area	Housing Wage
Oklahoma City	\$20.98/hr
Tulsa	\$21.69/hr
Woodward County	\$19.31/hr
Enid	\$19.19/hr
Texas County	\$19.04/hr

Housing Affordability	
Minimum wage	\$7.25/hr
Average renter wage	\$17.99/hr
2-bed housing wage	\$19.91/hr
Number of renter households	518,633
% Renters	34%

Monthly Rent	Amount
Rent affordable at AMI	\$2,043
Rent affordable with full time mean wage	\$935
Rent affordable with full time minimum wage	\$377
Rent affordable at 30% AMI	\$613
Rent affordable on SSI	\$295



FMR: Fair Market Rent AMI: Area Median Income

homelessness

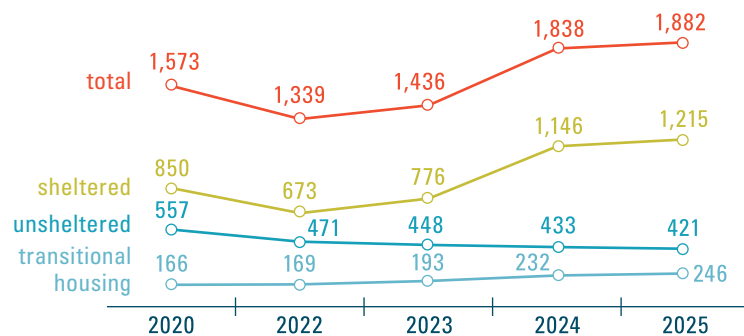
A person or family who:

- > lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence
- > immediately loses their primary residence
- > is fleeing domestic violence with no other residence, or without resources and support networks to secure one

1,882
HOMELESS
IN OKC
JAN 23, 2025

TOTAL HOMELESS

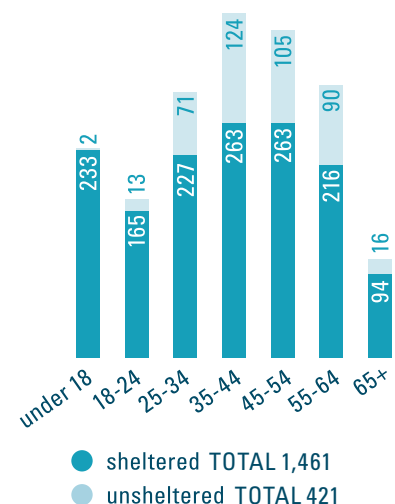
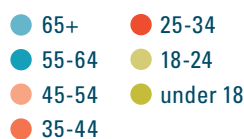
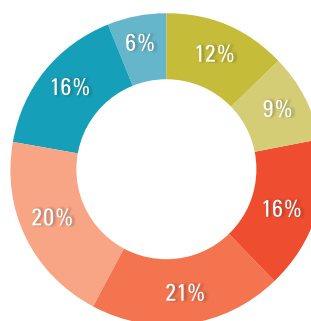
1,882 people were surveyed in OKC the night of the count, up 2.4% from '24. This slight increase is a significant achievement for local service providers, following the 28% increase observed from '23 - '24. Despite significant deceleration in homelessness, we continue to have more people entering homelessness than exiting to housing each year. There is still work to be done before we see meaningful reductions in homelessness in OKC.



*There was no count in '21 due to Covid-19.

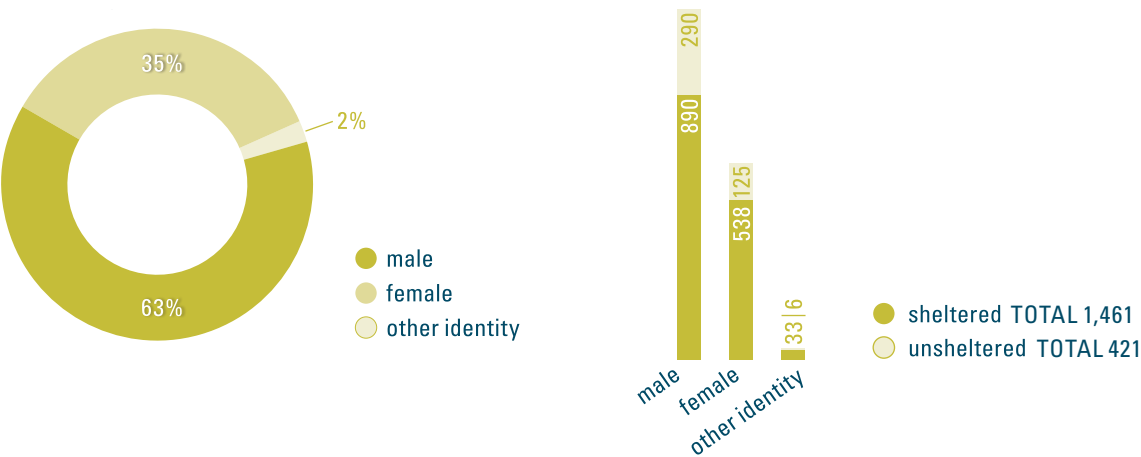
AGE

Homelessness impacts people across every age group. Typically, as a percentage of the total population, each age group remains fairly stable year over year. However, two age groups experienced significant growth from '24 to '25 — children under 18 increased 9%, and those 65 and older increased 35%. This reflects the national trend of homelessness increasing among older adults and families with children.



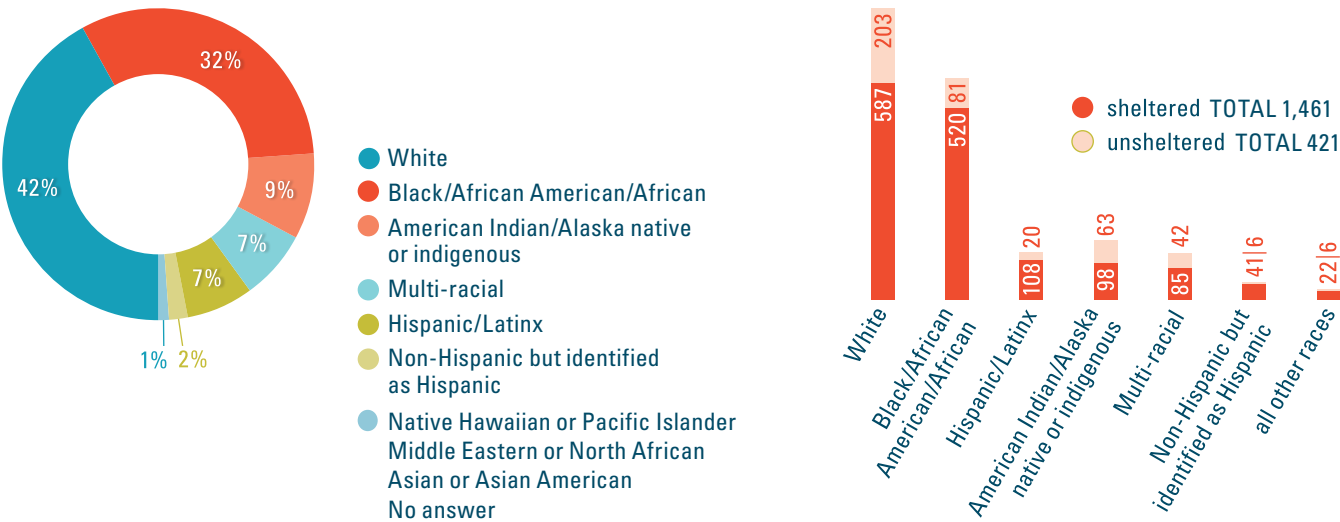
GENDER

Gender varies very little from year to year, which remained the case from '24 to '25. Men are regularly the largest percentage of people surveyed. Additional classifications were included in the count this year. People who identify as a gender other than male or female made up 2% of the surveyed population.



RACE & ETHNICITY

People who are Black, African American, or African account for 32% of the surveyed population and only 13% of OKC's population, and individuals who are American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous account for 9% of the surveyed population and only 3% of OKC's population. Nationwide homelessness data also confirms that Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experience homelessness at disproportionate rates compared to white people.



chronically homeless

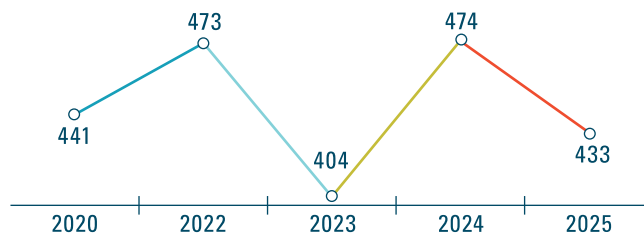
An unaccompanied homeless person with a disabling condition, or a family with a disabled adult head-of-household, who has either been continuously homeless for a year, or at least four times in three years with a combined total of at least 12 months.



Permanent supportive housing is a proven solution to chronic homelessness.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Of all subpopulations, those experiencing chronic, or long-term homelessness, have more frequent emergency room visits, hospitalizations and contact with law enforcement. Length of homelessness often positively correlates with additional barriers to housing and stability. 433 people were experiencing chronic homelessness, a 9% decrease from '24. 32% were also unsheltered, a drastic decline from '24, when 44% of chronically homeless were unsheltered.



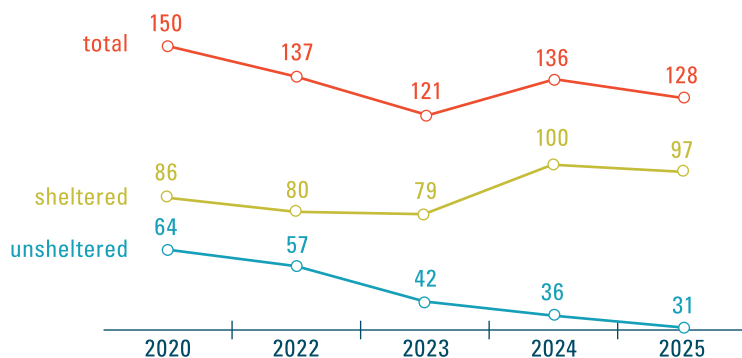
veteran

Someone who has served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. This doesn't include inactive military Reserves or National Guard, unless the person was called to active duty.



VETERANS

The number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased slightly from '24 to '25, as well as veterans experiencing unsheltered and chronic homelessness. In addition to service programs available to all, there are two dedicated programs in OKC that focus only on serving veterans and their families: Veteran's Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) and Supportive Services for Veteran's Families (SSVF).



families

Homeless household living with at least one minor.



2%
ARE UNSHELTERED

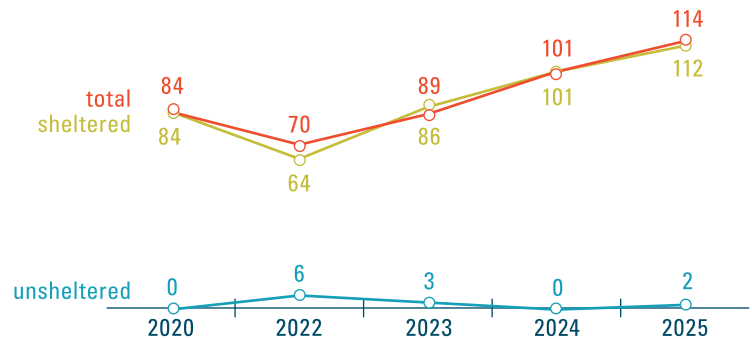


MORE THAN
3 in 5
members of homeless families are **minors**



FAMILIES

Both nationally and locally, more families are falling into homelessness. Rising rent costs, inflation, stagnant wages and high childcare costs are likely contributing factors to this growth. From '24 to '25, the total number of families experiencing homelessness increased by 13%. Two families were unsheltered, another increase when compared to zero families in '24.



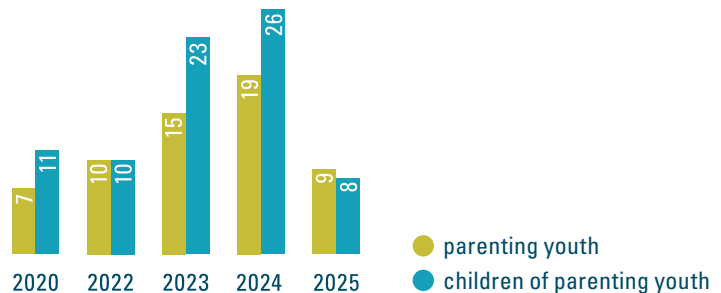
parenting youth

Youth who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with, or sleeping in the same place as, the youth parent, and where there is no one over age 24 in the household.

"All parenting youth were ages 18 - 24. No parenting youth households were unsheltered."

PARENTING YOUTH

Pregnant and parenting youth experiencing homelessness face additional barriers to housing, prenatal healthcare, education and employment compared to non-parenting youth. Supporting young parents experiencing homelessness provides stability for both generations. The number of parenting youth households decreased by 53% between '24 and '25.



unaccompanied youth

People under age 25 who aren't presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent or legal guardian, including single people, couples and groups. Most are ages 18-24.



7%

ARE UNSHELTERED

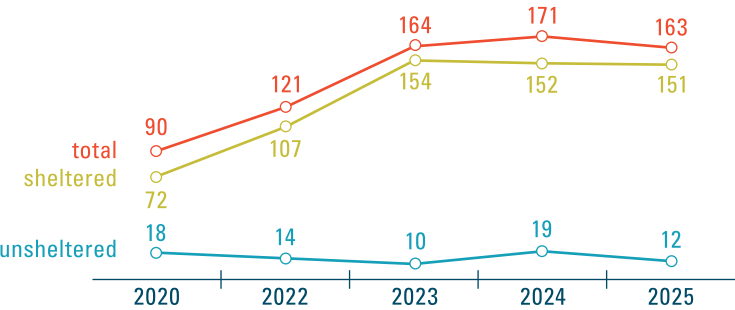


MORE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN OR EXPERIENCE

- > violence
- > sexual assault
- > physical illness
- > severe anxiety & depression

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

It's harder to count unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness because they often try not to be located. They may be nervous about mandated reporting, perceived rules for accessing services, or don't access services because they don't know about them. Unhoused unaccompanied minors sharply declined from '24 to '25, with 11 minors in '24 and 1 minor in '25. No minors were unsheltered in '24 and '25. OKC Public Schools annually report more than 2,000 homeless youth in the school system, the majority are couch homeless.



other subpopulations

Someone living in an emergency shelter, transitional housing or living outdoors who needs additional support to secure housing or access specific housing programs. This includes adults who self-reported living with mental illness, alcohol or drug addiction, HIV/AIDS or are experiencing homelessness because they're fleeing domestic violence.

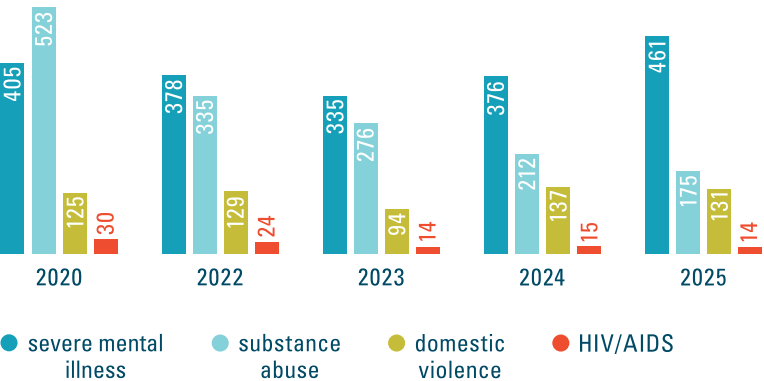


47%

OF THOSE WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS ARE UNSHELTERED

OTHER SUBPOPULATIONS

HUD requires data reported on domestic violence survivors be limited to those currently experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing domestic violence. People belonging to more than one subpopulation were counted in each category. From '24 to '25, people with a severe mental illness increased 22% and survivors of domestic violence decreased 4%.

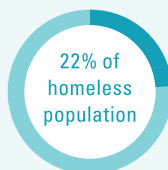




additional unsheltered data

This information was only asked of people living outdoors, not of people staying in shelters or transitional housing.


421
ARE UNSHELTERED



15%
had tribal affiliation

48%
experiencing homelessness for the first time

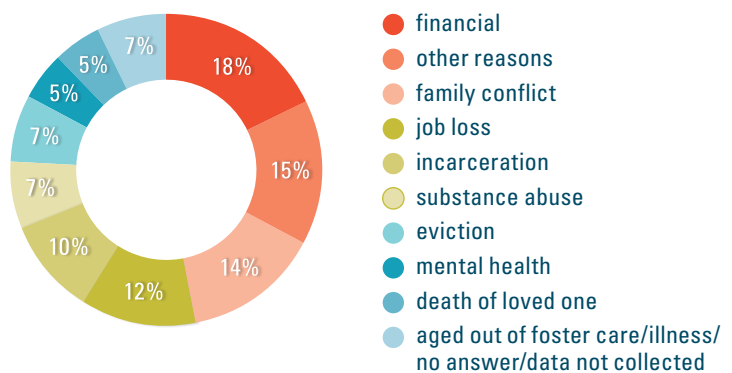
87%
became homeless in Oklahoma

75% in OKC
12%
another city in Oklahoma

UNSHeltered HOMELESS

Unsheltered homelessness decreased slightly from '24 to '25, bringing the number to its lowest in the last five years. Data up to this point is required for all federally funded services to collect during the Point-in-Time count. For the last three years, the OKC service community included additional questions to the street survey to get a better idea of factors contributing to the living situations of people living outdoors. Some of this data, and specific unsheltered subpopulation demographics are shown below.

Primary Cause of Homelessness



BED COUNTS & USE RATES

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (PSH)

Program & Organization	Total Beds	PIT Count	Use Rate
Pershing Center / City Care	60	50	83%
Westlawn / City Care	24	28	117%
City Care Affordable Housing / City Care	18	12	67%
Building Foundations for Families Homeless Alliance	100	125	125%
Hope Chronic 32 / HOPE	32	31	97%
Hope Housing Plus / HOPE	67	67	100%
Shelter Plus Care 39 / HOPE	43	43	100%
LTS OKC Apartments Mental Health Association OK	15	11	73%
MHA Supportive Housing Mental Health Association OK	46	47	102%
Palo Duro I / Neighborhood Services	22	19	86%
Palo Duro II / Neighborhood Services	14	13	93%
YHDP PSH / Homeless Alliance	10	13	130%
Alliance Encampment PSH Homeless Alliance	11	11	100%
City Care Encampment PSH / City Care	16	16	100%
North Care Encampment / North Care	6	6	100%
Catholic Charities Encampment Catholic Charities	34	34	100%
Parkside Red Rock Behavioral Health Services	12	12	100%
Lodges Red Rock Behavioral Health Services	2	12	100%
HOPE CH32 Expansion PSH, CoC	2	2	100%
*VASH / VA	622	622	100%
Total	1,166	1,174	101%

*The VASH program is not required to enter into HMIS. Data is collected and aggregated with supportive housing programs.

People living in permanent supportive housing are not considered to be homeless and are not included in the total count numbers.

Client level data regarding victims of domestic violence is de-identified before aggregate reporting.

Family units may be considered full without all beds being occupied.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (TH)

Program & Organization	Total Beds	PIT Count	Use Rate
Carolyn Williams Transitional Neighborhood Services	10	8	80%
TH / Catholic Charities	20	18	90%
Gatewood / Neighborhood Service	8	6	75%
Hope House OKC / Hope House	69	55	80%
Martha's House / Neighborhood Services	35	47	134%
Housing to Hope Youth Mental Health Association OK	8	3	38%
Park View Place Red Rock Behavioral Health Services	26	21	81%
Phoenix House Phoenix Recovery Institute	18	18	100%
Transitional Living Program / Pivot	25	29	116%
Safe Homes / Homeless Alliance	37	31	84%
YHDP TH / Sisu Youth Services	7	10	143%
Total	263	246	94%

EMERGENCY SHELTER (ES)

Program & Organization	Total Beds	PIT Count	Use Rate
Night Shelter / City Care	145	152	105%
ES / City Rescue Mission	252	278	110%
Winter Shelter / City Rescue Mission	50	34	68%
Recovery / City Rescue Mission	60	48	80%
ES / Grace Rescue Mission	42	42	100%
ES / Cardinal House	55	27	49%
The Point / Pivot	22	28	127%
ES / Salvation Army	109	85	78%
Youth Shelter / Sisu Youth Services	30	30	100%
HCHV ES / Phoenix Recovery Institute	4	4	100%
YWCA ES / YWCA	52	41	79%
Emergency Night Shelter Homeless Alliance	300	390	130%
Hotel Vouchers	26	26	100%
Serenity / VA	10	10	100%
Total	1,157	1,195	103%

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *Key to Home Partnership* extends its heartfelt gratitude to the countless individuals and organizations whose dedication, resources, and unwavering commitment made the Point-in-Time Count possible. This vital work would not have been achievable without the tireless support of the service providers working daily to provide safe housing for those experiencing homelessness in OKC. We owe a special thanks to the volunteers who administered the surveys, the Coordinated Street Outreach team for mapping street count locations, the Homeless Alliance for hosting volunteer trainings, Will Rogers Gardens staff for providing staging and training facilities, and the VA for offering transportation for volunteers.

Most importantly, we are grateful to the people who shared their stories and completed surveys. Their courage and openness not only provide invaluable insight into the scope of homelessness in our community, but they also drive our collective determination to ensure homelessness in OKC is brief, rare, and non-recurring. Together, their contributions help guide our path forward. Contributors to the 2024 Point-in-Time count are listed below.

City Care	Joe's Addiction	Oklahoma Department of Human Services	Red Rock Behavioral Health Services
Catholic Charities	Mental Health Association Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Salvation Army of Central OK
City Rescue Mission	Metropolitan Library System	Oklahoma County Social Services	Second Chances Thrift Store
EMBARK	Neighborhood Services Organization	Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency	Sisu Youth Services
Grace Rescue Mission	NorthCare	Oklahoma VA Healthcare System	Upward Transitions
Heartline 211	OKCPD Homeless Outreach Unit	Phoenix Recovery Institute	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
Homeless Alliance	OKC Housing Authority	Pivot	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
HOPE Community Services	OKC Public Schools	Positive Tomorrows	YWCA of OKC
HopeHouse			
Jesus House			

LOCAL RESOURCES

Heartline • Dial 2-1-1

If you need housing or other assistance someone will connect you with a resource.

Palomar

Domestic Violence Services

1140 N Hudson Ave.
(405) 552-1010

City Care | Overnight Shelter

532 N Villa Ave. • (405) 724-8439

Pivot | Youth Overnight Shelter

201 NE 50th St. • (405) 235-7537

City Rescue Mission

Overnight Shelter

800 W California Ave.
(405) 232-2709

Salvation Army

Overnight Shelter

1001 N Pennsylvania Ave.
(405) 246-1133

Diversion Hub

Justice Involvement Services

220 NW 10th St.
(405) 594-8843

Sanctuary Women's

Development Center

Day Shelter • (405) 526-2321

Homeless Alliance | Day Shelter

1724 NW 4th St. • (405) 415-8410

Sisu Youth Services

Youth Overnight Shelter

2129 NW 30th St.
(405) 459-7478

Homeless Alliance

Overnight Winter Shelter

501 N Indiana Ave.
(405) 415-8410, Open Nov-March

YWCA Domestic Violence

Overnight Shelter

(405) 948-1770

Jesus House

Residential Recovery Program

1335 W Sheridan Ave.
(405) 232-7164

Joe's Addiction | Day Shelter

1725 SE 59th St. • (405) 768-5161

Lottie House | Day Shelter

1311 N Lottie Ave.
(405) 600-3074

SOURCES

"Out of Reach 2024"

National Low Income Housing Coalition (2023)

HUD Homeless Data Exchange 2.0
hudhdx2.info

“The true measure of any society
can be found in how it treats its
most vulnerable members.”

Ghandi



keytohomeokc.org