

2018 Point-in-Time Count

Of Persons Experiencing Homelessness in the District of Columbia



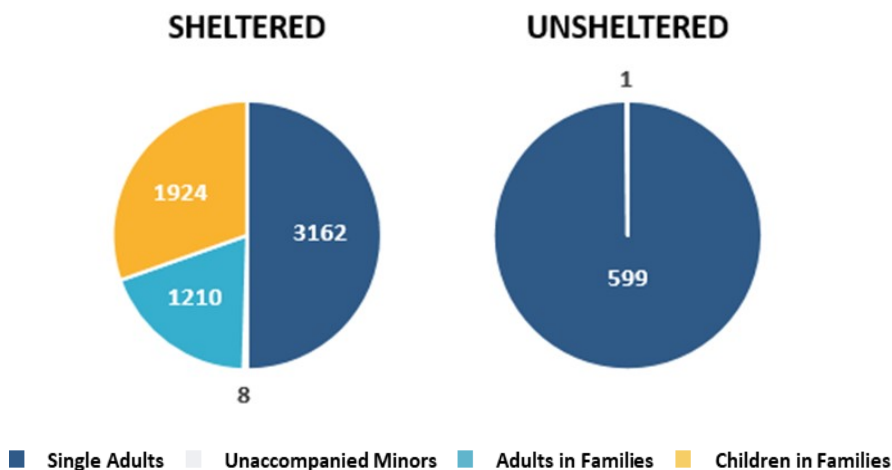
The annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count gives us the number and demographic characteristics of adults and children who are experiencing homelessness at a given time. The Community Partnership (TCP) has conducted the count on behalf of the District of Columbia since 2001. This single-night enumeration of the homeless services continuum of care gives TCP and our partners in District Government an opportunity to identify gaps in the current portfolio of services and informs future program planning in conjunction with *Homeward DC*, the local strategic plan to end homelessness.

At PIT 2018 (January 24, 2018) there were **6,904** persons experiencing homelessness in the District of Columbia — 1 person for every 100 residents in the District. **600 of those persons were unsheltered, 5,095 were in an emergency shelter, and 1,209 were in a transitional housing program** on the night of the count. The total number of people experiencing homelessness has **decreased by 7.6% since the 2017 PIT count.**

Population Totals and Percent Changes, 2017-2018

Household Type	2018	2017	% Change
Total Persons	6,904	7,473	-7.6%
Singles	3,770	3,583	5.2%
<i>Single Adults</i>	3,761	3,578	5.1%
<i>Unaccompanied Minors</i>	9	5	80%
Families	924	1,166	-20.8%
Family Members	3,134	3,890	-19.4%
<i>Adults in Families</i>	1,210	1,609	-24.8%
<i>Children in Families</i>	1,924	2,281	-15.7%

Sheltered and Unsheltered Populations, by Household Type



FAMILIES

Within the family subsystem, the reforms made under the *Homeward DC* strategic plan are having a significant impact, namely the creation of targeted homelessness prevention programming and the investments in housing assistance to help families quickly exit shelter. The number of families experiencing homelessness in the District has decreased by nearly 21% since PIT 2017 and 38% since 2016. The decreases from year to year are driven by the decrease in the number of chronically homeless families in shelter, which was 53% lower in 2018 than 2017. The District has also provided year-round access to its shelter system for families facing housing crises since 2015. Year-round access and prevention also provides families the assurance that if the prevention services did not work to stabilize their housing situation, they are still able to access shelter, regardless of the time of year. Since the launch of *Homeward DC* in 2015, over 5,000 families received assistance to re-stabilize in housing and consequently avoided a shelter stay.

YOUTH

Since 2016, The District has increased its investment in services and programming for youth, particularly for Transition Age Youth (TAY), which has led to more youth being assessed through the District's Coordinated Assessment and Housing Prioritization (CAHP) system and being connected to youth-specific shelter and housing programs. These investments have also helped to improve our ability to connect with and count this population. Since PIT 2017, the District has added new youth-specific emergency shelter beds and new rapid rehousing for youth. These new resources are funded by the Department of Human Services (DHS) for the District and federal Continuum of Care (CoC) funding from the U.S. Dept. of HUD.

VETERANS

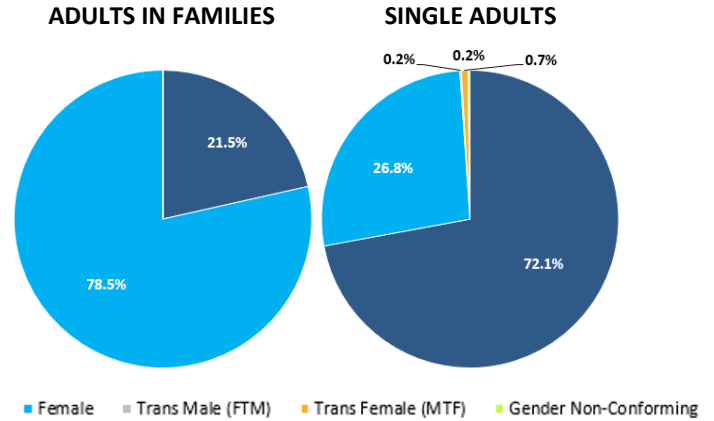
Between 2014 and 2018 the District has seen a 25% decrease in homelessness among veterans due to increased housing resources and tireless efforts of the District's CAHP teams to place veterans into permanent housing. Despite the net decrease since 2014, there was a 7% increase between 2017 and 2018, from 285 to 306 veterans. Still, 449 veterans were housed through CAHP during that time. The increase between 2017-2018 points to the challenge of stemming inflow for this population (over 120 new veterans accessed services in the District every month). Additionally, the work to improve identification of veterans in the District's homeless services system has also likely contributed to the increased PIT count of veterans, as more people are revealing their status as veterans though they have been served by the system for some time.

DEMOGRAPHICS

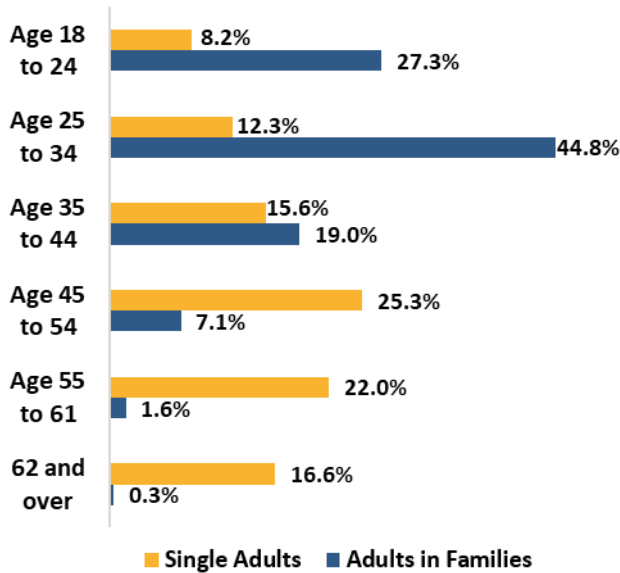
Demographics of persons experiencing homelessness in the District are consistent with past years, with notable differences between family and unaccompanied (single) households. **Adults in families are most likely to be female, while single adults are more often male.** The median age of adults in families skews much younger than single adults, with 29 years old and 51 years old, respectively.

PIT data shows that persons who are Black or African American are disproportionately affected by the drivers of homelessness in the District. **Some 88.4 percent of adults experiencing homeless are Black or African American**, compared to 47.7 percent of residents of District on the whole.

Gender, by Household Type



Age Groups, by Household Type



Disabilities, Conditions, and Experiences by Household Type

Category	Single Adults	Adults in Families	All Adults
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	30.4%	1.7%	23.4%
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	32.4%	7.4%	26.3%
Chronic Health Problem	24.6%	1.5%	19.0%
Developmental Disability	4.9%	1.5%	4.0%
Physical Disability	18.0%	3.1%	14.4%
Living with HIV/AIDS	4.0%	0.2%	3.1%
Domestic Violence History	19.0%	33.6%	22.6%
Formerly Institutionalized	49.6%	22.2%	43.0%
Formerly in Foster Care	8.4%	11.4%	9.1%
U.S. Military Veteran	8.0%	0.3%	6.2%
Limited English Proficiency	4.0%	1.7%	3.4%
Chronically Homeless*	51.4%	19.3%	43.4%

Primary Source of Income, by Household Type

Primary Source of Income of Those Receiving Any Income**	Single Adults	Adults in Families	All Adults
Employment	34.0%	26.0%	31.8%
Pension/Retirement	4.8%	0.0%	3.4%
SSI/SSDI/Disability/VA Disability	32.9%	12.1%	27.1%
TANF/Public Assistance/WIC	23.2%	57.4%	32.7%
Other	5.1%	4.5%	5.0%

** 75.9% of single adults and 80.2% of adults in families reported receiving income.

*Persons living with a disabling condition, who have also been experiencing homelessness continuously for a year or more OR who have had four episodes of homelessness in three years (which total to 12 months or more).

The 2018 PIT Count was coordinated by the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness (TCP) and was conducted with the help of over 300 volunteers from across the District. Thank you to everyone who helped gather this important information.

This information is off-the-record and cannot be quoted or otherwise distributed. To obtain on-the-record comments or further information, send inquiries to Media Contact listed below:

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