

ANNUAL POINT-IN-TIME REPORT

2026

PREPARED FOR

HOUSING FORWARD

TEXAS – 600 DALLAS CITY AND COUNTY, IRVING
CONTINUUM OF CARE



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ACRONYM GLOSSARY

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CoC	Continuum of Care
CH	Chronic Homelessness
DV	Domestic Violence
ES	Emergency Shelter
HIC	Housing Inventory Count
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICA	Institute for Community Alliances
OPH	Other Permanent Housing (Housing with and without services)
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PIT	Point-in-Time
RRH	Rapid Rehousing
SH	Safe Haven
TH	Transitional Housing
TX-600	Dallas and Collin County Continuum of Care

OVERVIEW

POINT IN TIME AT A GLANCE

- 3,513** Individuals identified in the 2026 Point-in-Time
- 23%** **Decrease** in those experiencing homelessness since 2021.
- 25%** **Decline** in those experiencing unsheltered homelessness since 2021.

HOUSING INVENTORY AT A GLANCE

- 4,428** Individuals housed in CoC Permanent Housing programs on January 22, 2026.
- 69** Additional Transitional Housing beds contributing to PIT across 4 programs since 2025.
- 16** Additional Safe Haven beds available for adults since 2025.
- 0** Emergency Shelter weather activated beds on January 22, 2026.

The Annual Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count (PIT/HIC) are federally mandated submissions to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) utilized to monitor national and local progress towards preventing and ending homelessness.

The **Point-in-Time (PIT)** provides counts of Sheltered and Unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness broken out by household type(s) and/or subpopulation(s).

The **Housing Inventory Count (HIC)** is a companion to the PIT and is an inventory of organizations within the Continuum of Care (CoC) that provide beds and units dedicated to serving persons experiencing homelessness.

Housing Forward, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Lead Agency for Dallas and Collin Counties (TX-600 CoC), in collaboration with the All-Neighbors Coalition's Partner Organizations conducted the unsheltered count on January 22, 2026.

Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) conducted PIT/HIC analysis, including identification of the following:

- Data Trends
- Utilization Analysis
- Data Breakouts
 - Project Type
 - County
 - Demographic Details
 - Subpopulations

2026 POINT-IN-TIME

AT A GLANCE

3,513 Individuals identified as experiencing homelessness on January 22, 2026.

70% Of individuals surveyed were in **sheltered** projects in Dallas and Collin County.

39% Emergency Shelter

29% Transitional Housing

2% Safe Haven

30% Of individuals surveyed were **unsheltered** in Dallas and Collins County.

YEAR-TO-YEAR BREAKDOWN

The sections below will further analyze the data collected for both sheltered and unsheltered individuals for the 2026 Point-in-Time. Figure 1 – Overall Trends 2021 – 2026, All Project Types demonstrate the 23% decrease in the total homeless individuals identified in the count since 2021, including a 25% decrease in the unsheltered count since 2021.

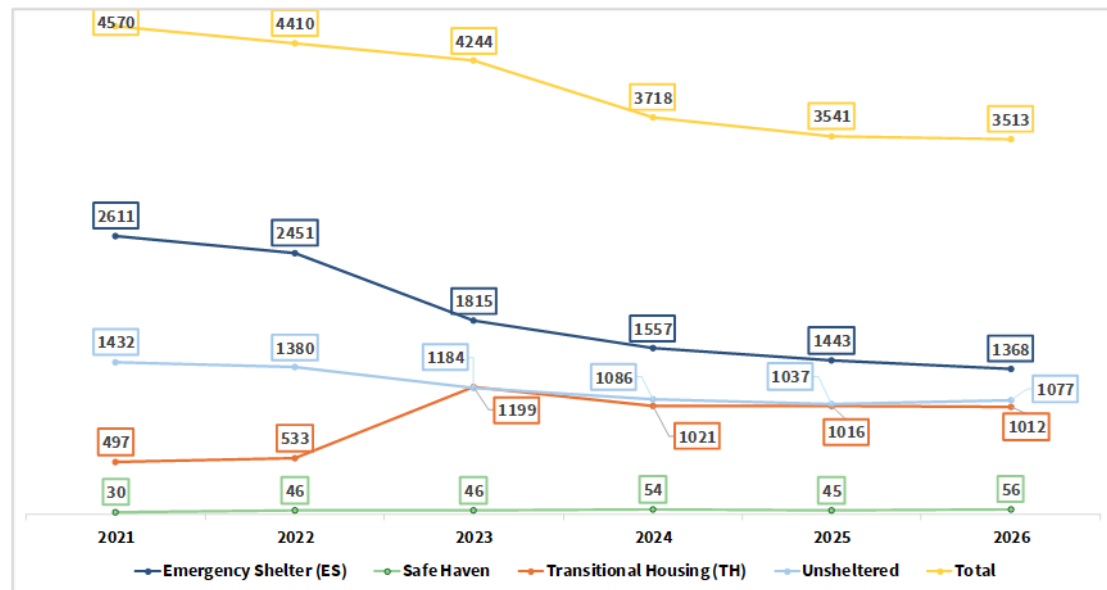


Figure 1 - Overall Trends 2021 – 2026, All Project Types

BY PROJECT TYPE

A total of 3,513 individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties on the night of the 2026 count. 70% of individuals surveyed were in sheltered project types, including 39% in emergency shelter, 29% in transitional housing, and 2% in safe haven projects. 30% were unsheltered, which is defined as staying in a place not meant for human habitation. Figure 2 – Trends by Project Type illustrate data trends by project type since 2021.

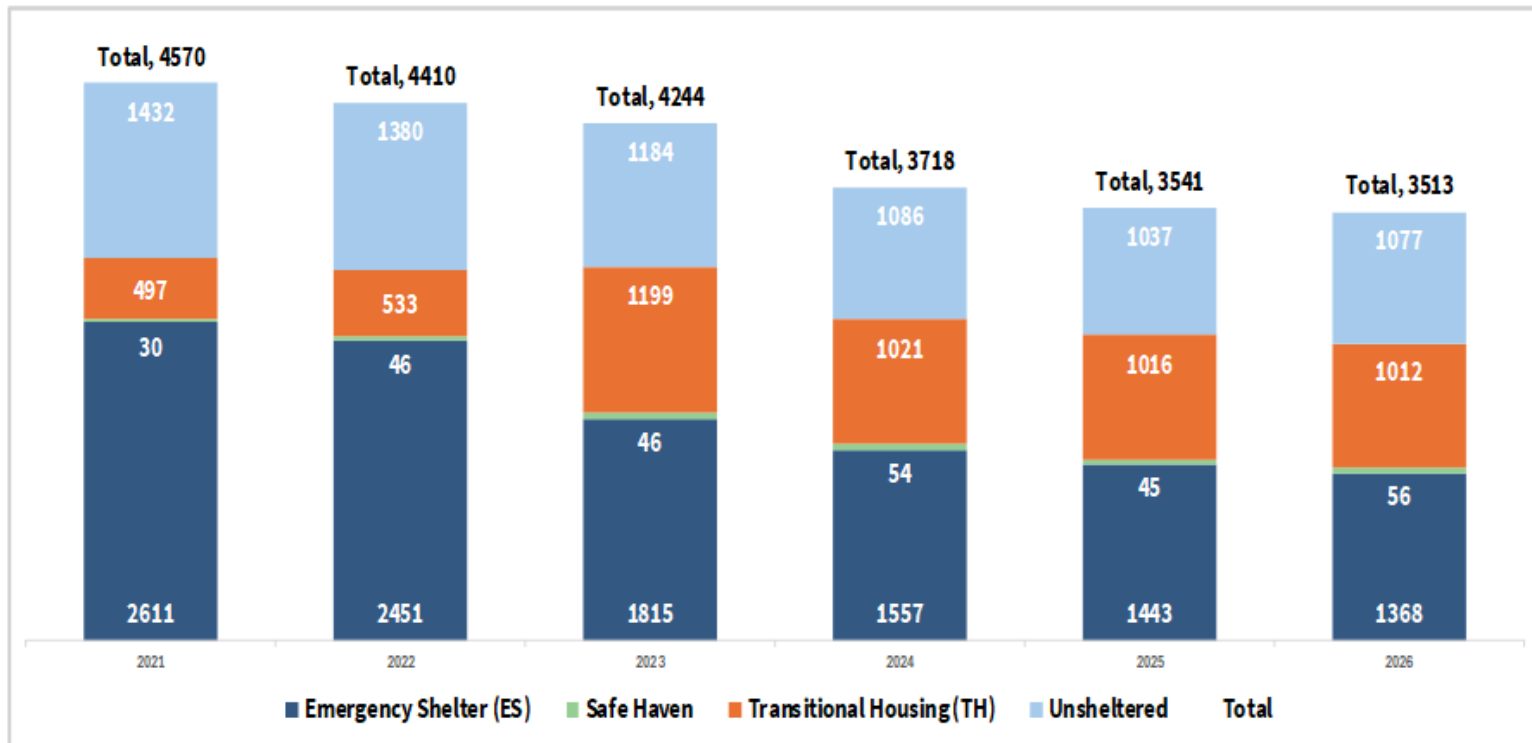


Figure 2 - Trends by Project Type

AT A GLANCE

1,077 Individuals identified as experiencing **unsheltered** homelessness on January 22, 2026.

25% Total **unsheltered** decrease compared to 2021.

2,436 Individuals identified as experiencing **sheltered** homelessness on January 22, 2026.

↓ **8%** Decrease in emergency shelter beds available since 2025.

↑ **8%** Increase in transitional housing beds available since 2025.

54 Residential homeless services projects providing services and contributing data to the **sheltered** count.

UNSHELTERED AND SHELTERED

Since 2025, there was a slight increase of less than 1% in the 2026 unsheltered count. Inclement weather shelters were not activated on the night of the count. In 2026, there was a decrease of 3% for the sheltered count. Figure 3 – Sheltered and Unsheltered Trends illustrates the data since 2021.

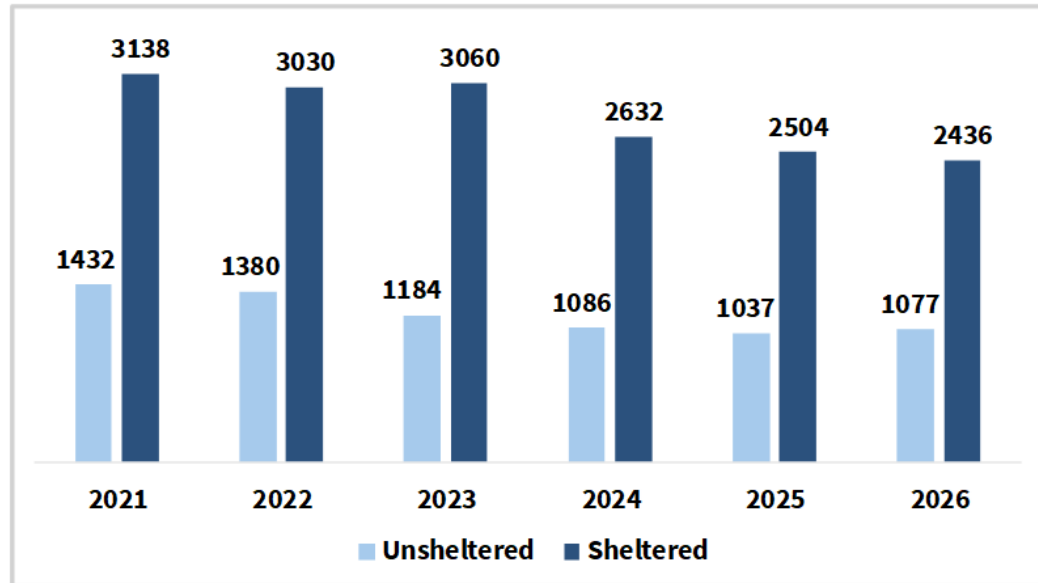


Figure 3 - Sheltered and Unsheltered Trends

DALLAS AND COLLIN COUNTIES

Data for Dallas and Collin Counties were disaggregated to gain a better geographical understanding of homelessness across the CoC. Locations for sheltered individuals were determined by the physical location of the emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven project where the individual was residing. The specific geographic location for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness was determined by the location where the unsheltered survey took place for the individual on the night of the count. 82% of individuals counted in the sheltered and unsheltered count were in Dallas County, while the remaining 18% were in Collin County. Of the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness in the CoC, 27% were unsheltered in Dallas County, 55% were sheltered in Dallas County, 4% were unsheltered in Collin County, and 14% were sheltered in Collin County. Figure 4 – Dallas and Collin County PIT Counts illustrate the data for 2026 by project type for both counties.

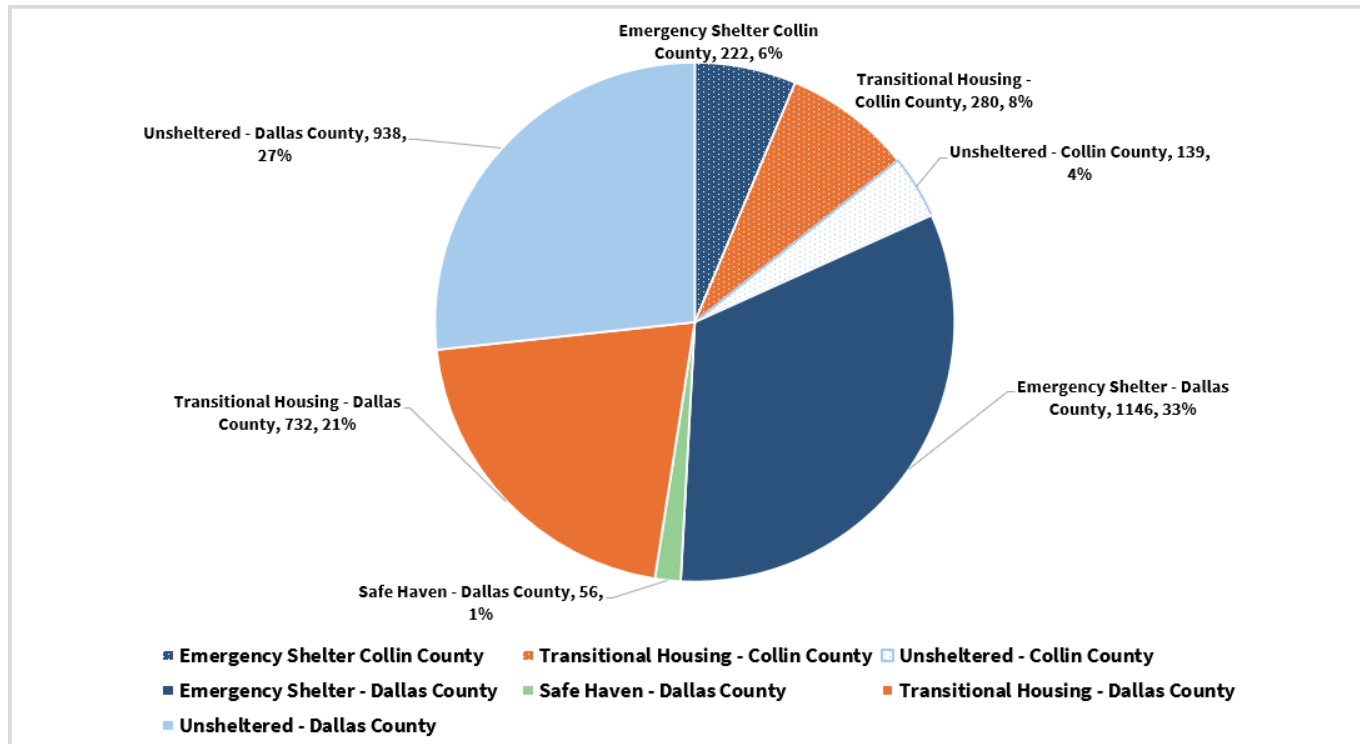


Figure 4 - Dallas and Collin County PIT Counts

HOUSEHOLD TYPES

The majority of individuals experiencing homelessness in both the sheltered and unsheltered populations are represented in households without children (80%). 20% of the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness were in households with both adults and children (at least one individual in the grouping was at least 18 years of age or older). Less than one percent of households with adults and children experiencing homelessness were unsheltered (3 households). Additionally, less than one percent (people) of the total individuals experiencing homelessness were in households with children only, meaning all individuals or members of the grouping under the age of 18.

AT A GLANCE

- 80%** Households without children
- 20%** Households with both adults and children (Persons in Families)
- <1%** Persons in families were unsheltered.
- <1%** Households with children only

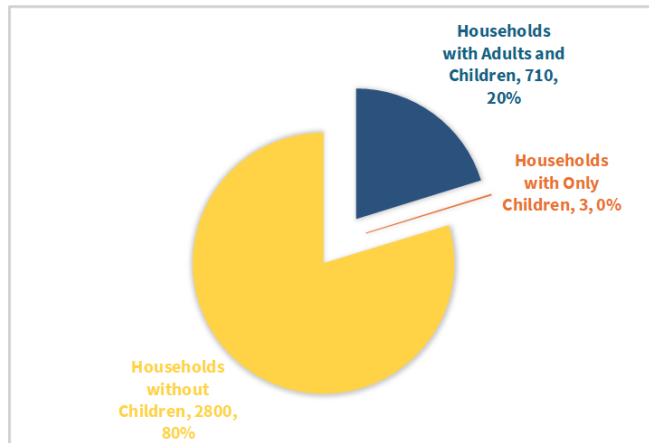


Figure 5 - Persons by Household Type

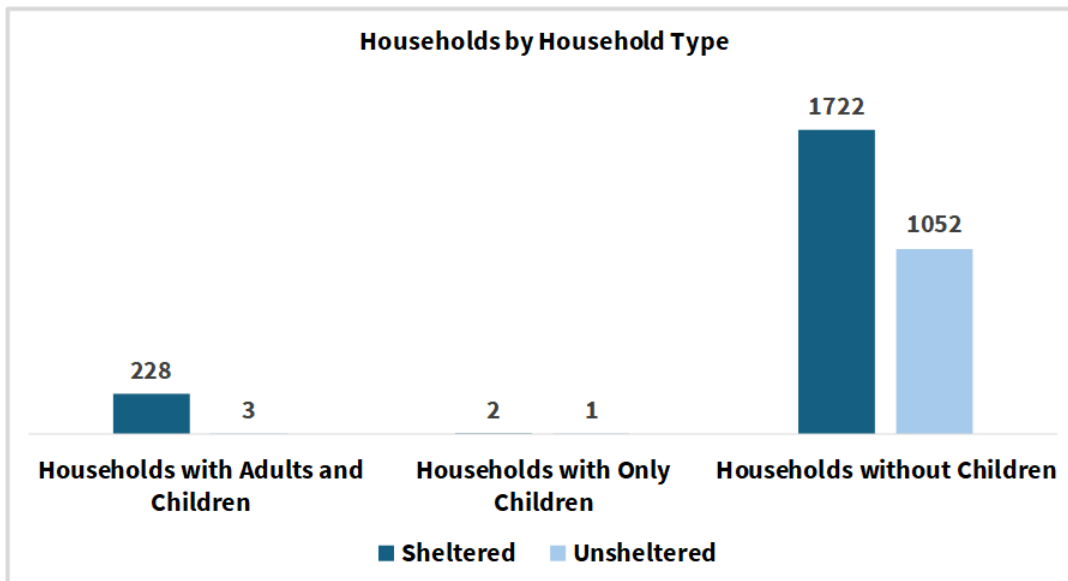


Figure 6 – Sheltered and Unsheltered Households by Household Type

DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

AGE

The age distributions of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the 2026 count are detailed in Figure 7– Age Groups and Trends since 2023 below. 29.8% of individuals on the night of the count were aged 55 or older, with 9.4% of those individuals age 65 or over. As shown in Figure 8 – Age Group Trends since 2023, both of these age groups increased since 2023, while all other age categories declined. This represents a trend in aging populations among homeless individuals.

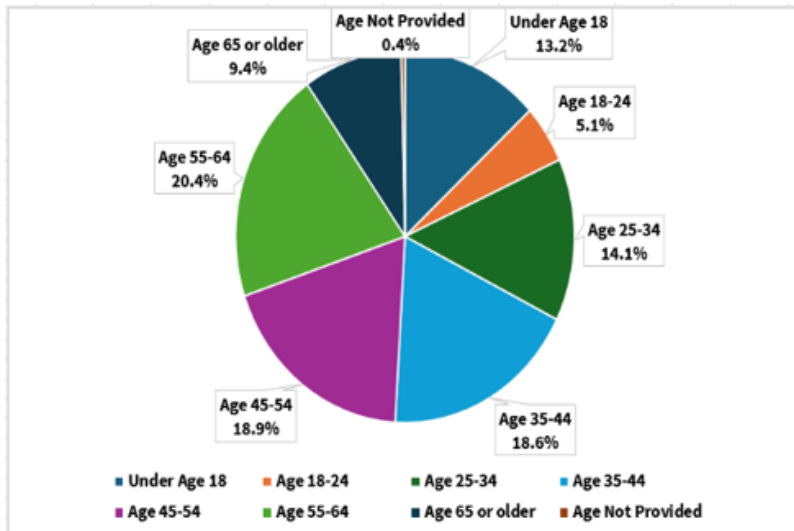


Figure 7 - Age Groups

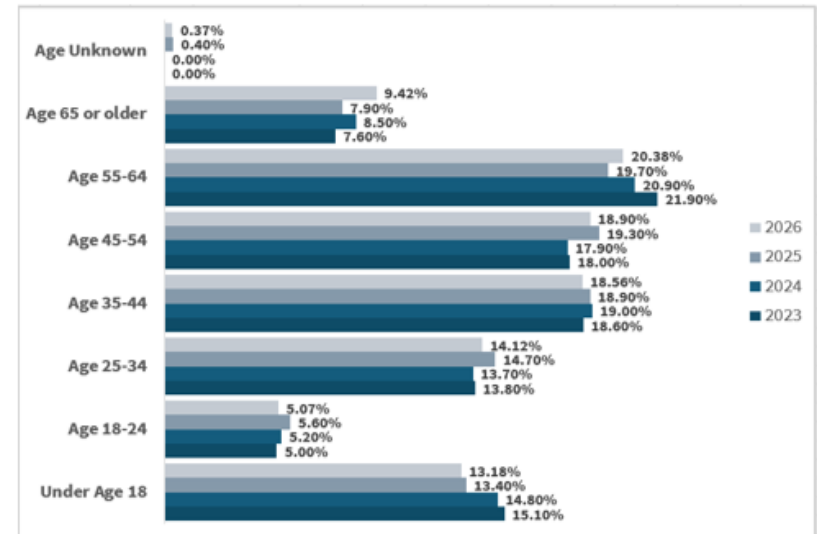


Figure 8- Age Group Trends since 2023

SEX

The sex data element was added to the HUD Data Standards in October 2025. With this change, the historical values collected for gender identity were retired and the new picklist options were limited to Male or Female. Unknown values in Figure 9 below are selections of Client doesn't know, Client prefers not to answer and null values. The unknown values were higher in the sheltered totals for the 2026 PIT count due to the addition of the new data element in late 2025.

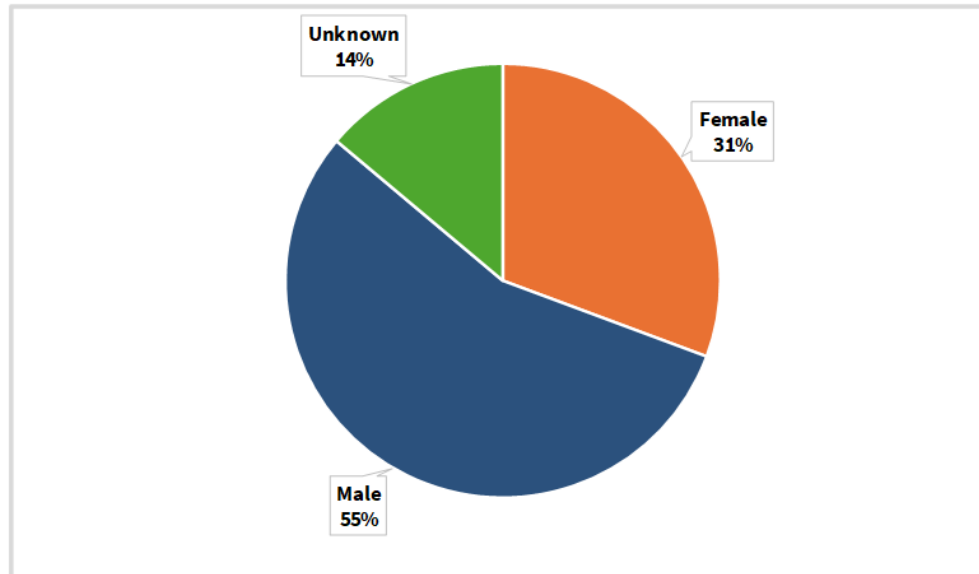


Figure 9 - Reported Sex

RACE AND ETHNICITY

Figure 10 – Reported Race & Ethnicity stands for the data collected for race and ethnicity. Individuals identifying as Black, African American, or African or Black, African American or African and Hispanic/Latina/o experience homelessness in Dallas and Collin Counties at higher rates than White and all other values. 58% of the total number of individuals counted in the PIT in 2026 identified as Black, African American, or African or African or Black, African American or African and Hispanic/Latina/o, while in the 2020 Census, 18% of individuals residing in Dallas and Collins Counties identified as Black, African American, or African. 23% of individuals in the PIT count reported their race as White or White and Hispanic/Latina/o compared to 34% in the Census. Additionally, 11% of clients across all race and ethnicity values identified as Hispanic/Latina/o.

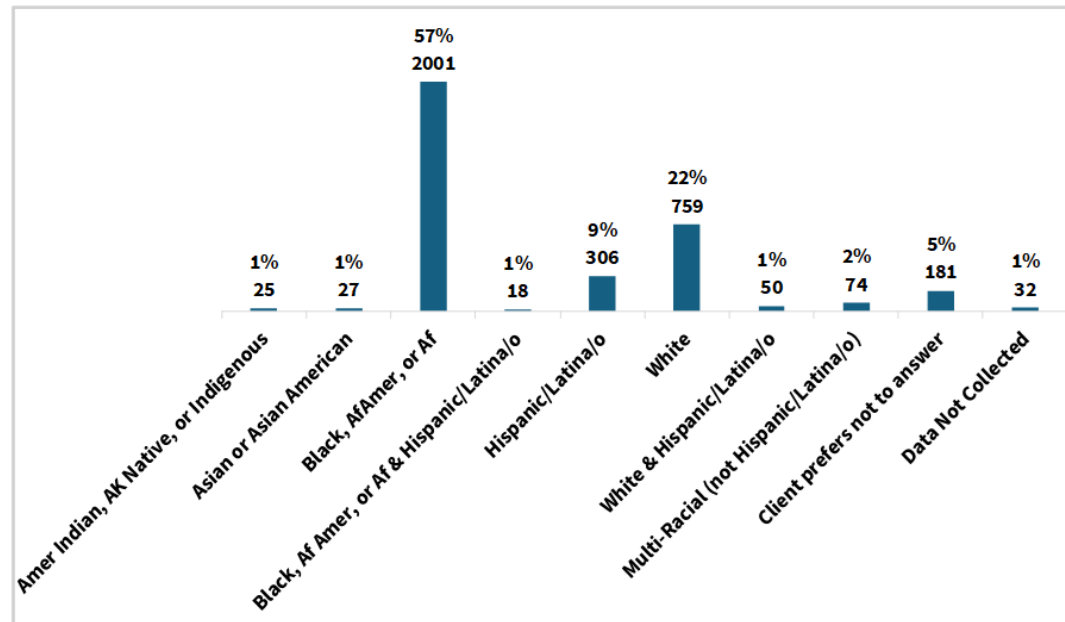


Figure 10 - Reported Race & Ethnicity

SUBPOPULATIONS

HUD defines several subpopulations for the PIT Count, including Veteran status, people experiencing chronic homelessness, adults with children, unaccompanied youth (18-24), adults fleeing domestic violence, adults with serious mental illness, adults with substance use disorders and adults with HIV/AIDS. Figure 10 – Selected Subpopulations shows data for each project type for locally selected areas of focus, including individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, persons in families and unaccompanied youth (ages 18-24). More breakouts and trend data since 2021 are included for the subpopulations in the report below.

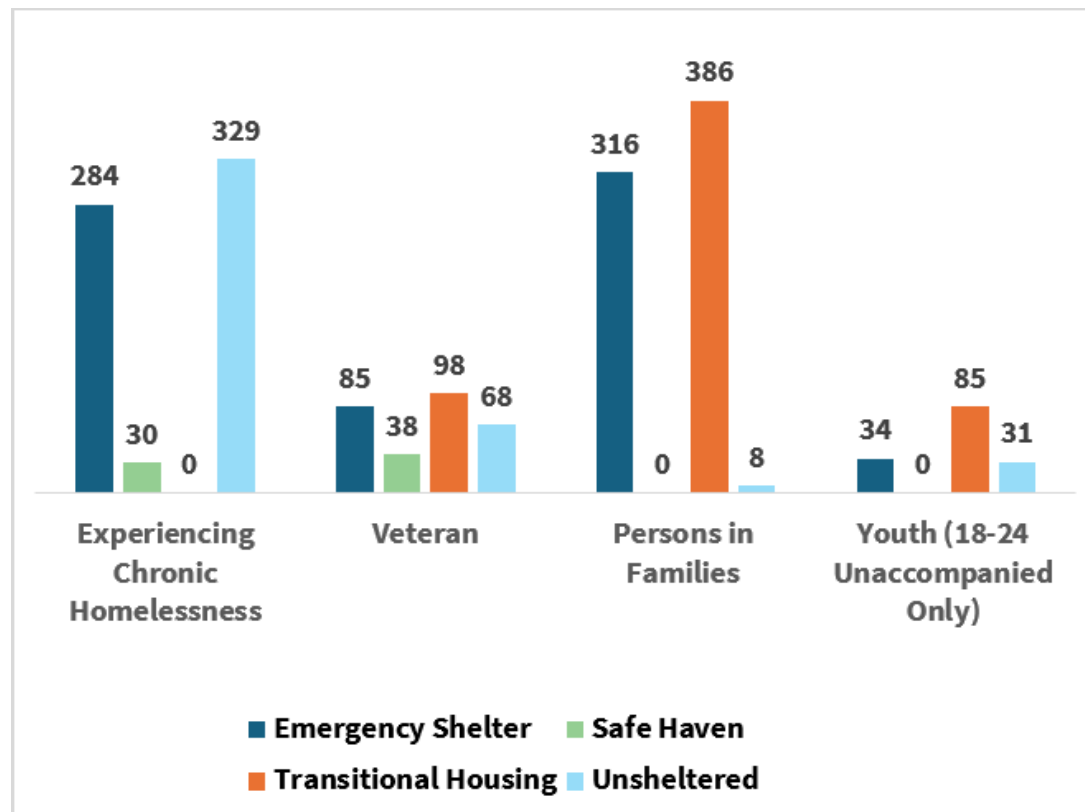


Figure 11 - Selected Subpopulations

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

18% (643/3513) of individuals counted in the 2026 PIT count met the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.¹ In 2026, there were fewer individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in the emergency shelter and unsheltered populations compared with 2025. The data in Figure 12 – Experiencing Chronic Homelessness is shown only for populations that can be considered chronically homeless (individuals and families in emergency shelters, safe haven and unsheltered).

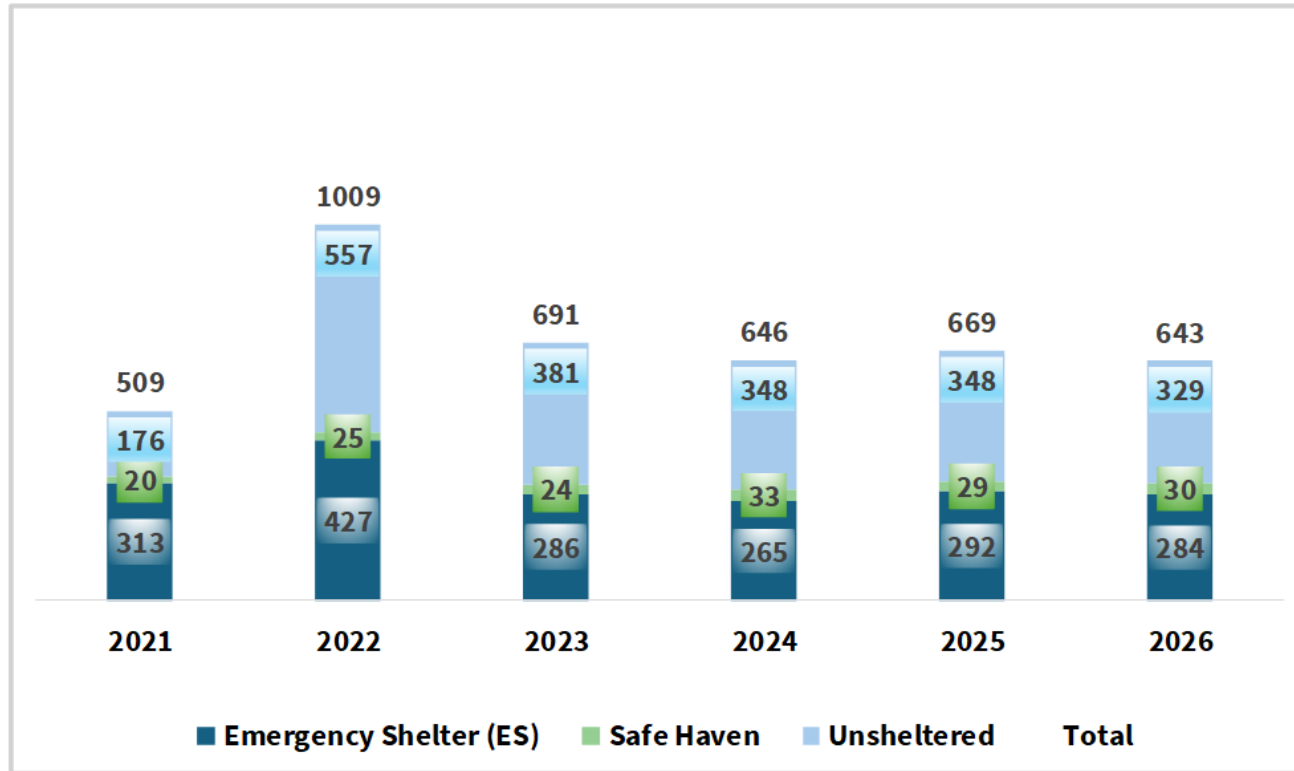


Figure 12 - Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

¹ <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/definition-of-chronic-homelessness/>

VETERANS

In 2026, there were 289 Veterans experiencing homelessness on the count night. This increase is attributed to an increase in the capacity of available veteran dedicated grant per diem safe haven program beds; all other project types saw a decrease in veterans experiencing homelessness. Figure 13 – Veterans Experiencing Homelessness illustrates a decline of 22% in veteran homelessness since 2021.

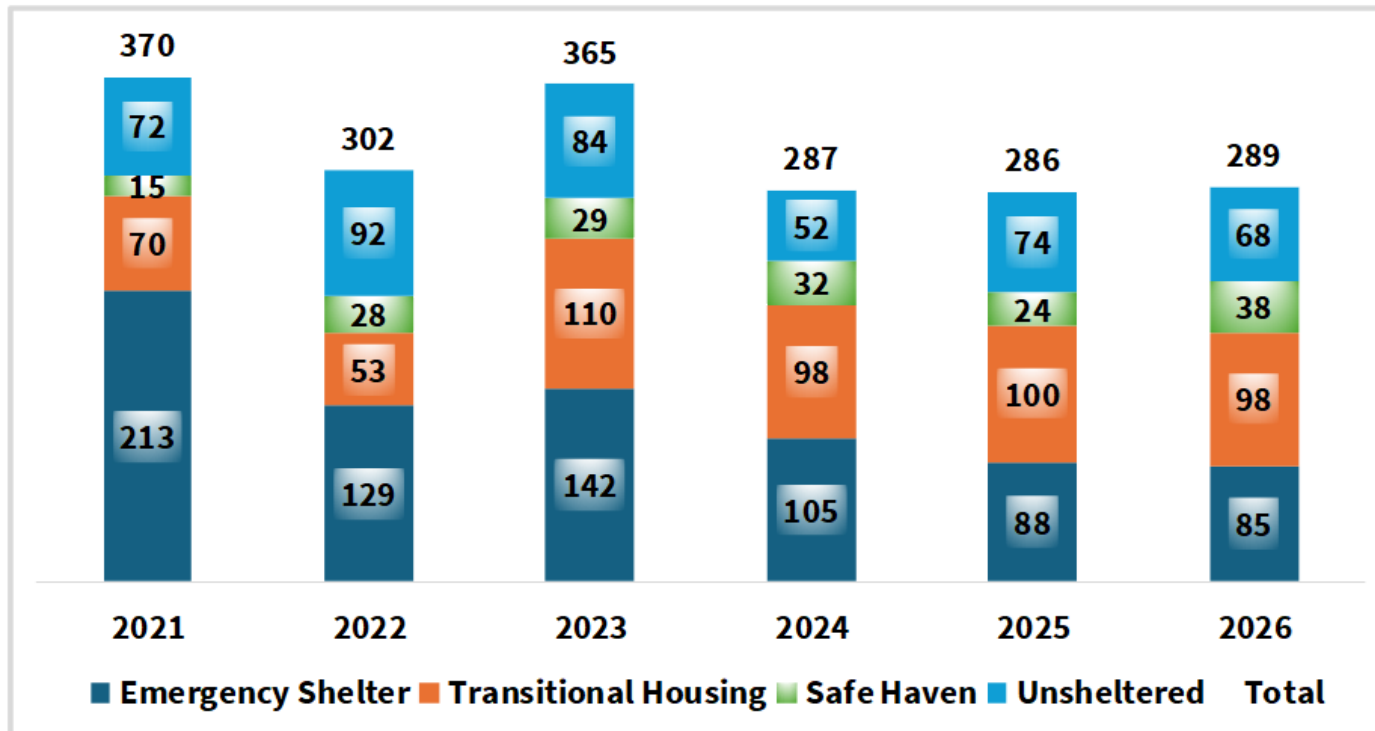


Figure 13 - Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

ADULTS WITH CHILDREN

Figure 14 – Persons in Households with both Adults and Children shows the trends in family homelessness since 2021. In 2026, one percent of families, three households with adults and children (eight individuals), were identified in the unsheltered count. The remaining 99% of families were sheltered on the night of the PIT. 45% of these families were in emergency shelters and 54% were in transitional housing projects. Adults with children are not eligible for safe haven projects. Households with both adults and children staying in emergency shelter decreased by 9% in 2026 (316 individuals) from 2025 (348 individuals). Additionally, households with adults and children participating in transitional housing increased by 6% in 2026 (386 individuals) from 2025 (365 individuals). Seven percent of households with adults and children (18 out of 231) are considered parenting youth, meaning the head of household is under 25 years old. No parenting youth were identified in the unsheltered count.

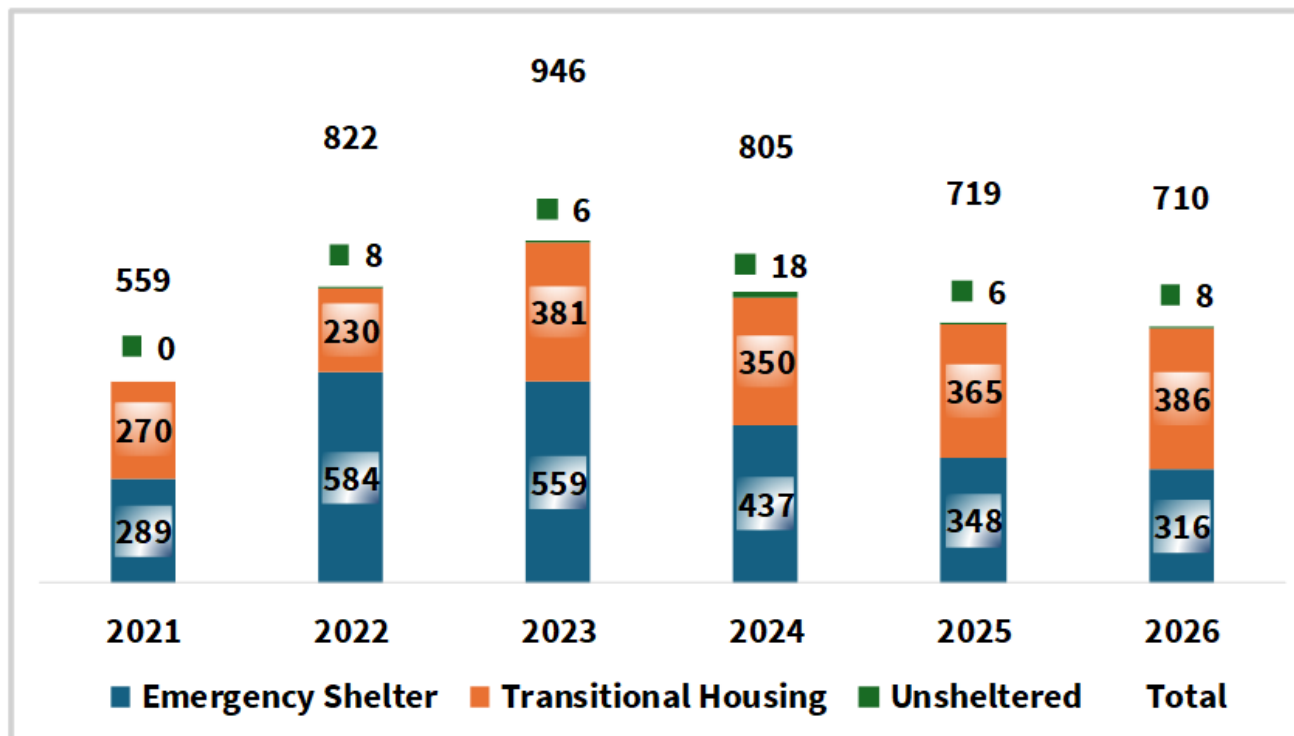


Figure 14 - Persons in Households with both Adults and Children

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Individuals between the ages of 18-24 who are unaccompanied by anyone over the age of 25 or are under the age of 18 are categorized as unaccompanied youth. Figure 15 – Unaccompanied Youth Ages 18-24 represents the youth subpopulation between the ages of 18-24 only. 22% of these individuals were in emergency shelter, 57% were in transitional housing, and the remaining 21% were unsheltered. The number of unaccompanied youth ages 18-24 in emergency shelter decreased by 33% in 2026 (34 individuals) from 2025 (51 individuals). An additional four individuals, not included in Figure 13 were surveyed and are considered unaccompanied youth under the age of 18. Five percent of the total unaccompanied youth population was calculated to be experiencing chronic homelessness.

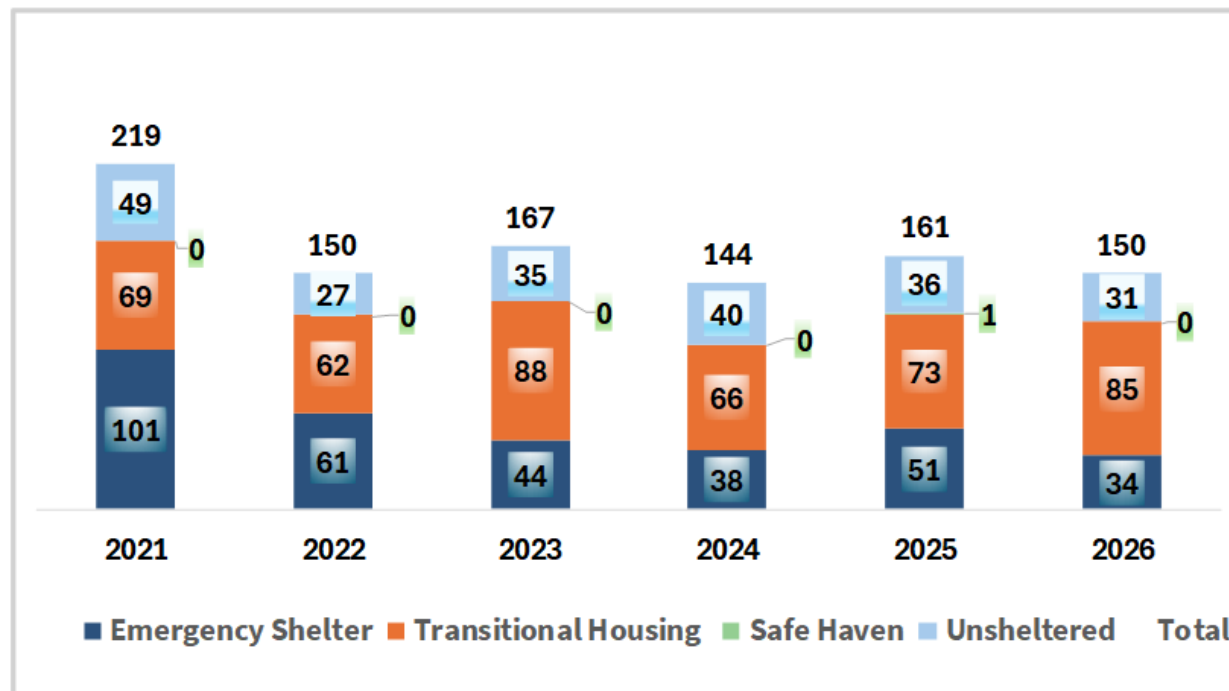


Figure 15 - Unaccompanied Youth 18-24

ADULTS ONLY

Adult individuals (over the age of 18 and unaccompanied by dependent children under the age of 18) represented 80% of the total sheltered and unsheltered populations. In the unsheltered count, 99% of the total population are adults only. Figure 16 – Adults only represent a 36% decline in adults experiencing homelessness since 2021. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of adults experiencing homelessness were in emergency shelters in 2026, 22% were in transitional housing, 2% in safe haven programs, and 38% were unsheltered.

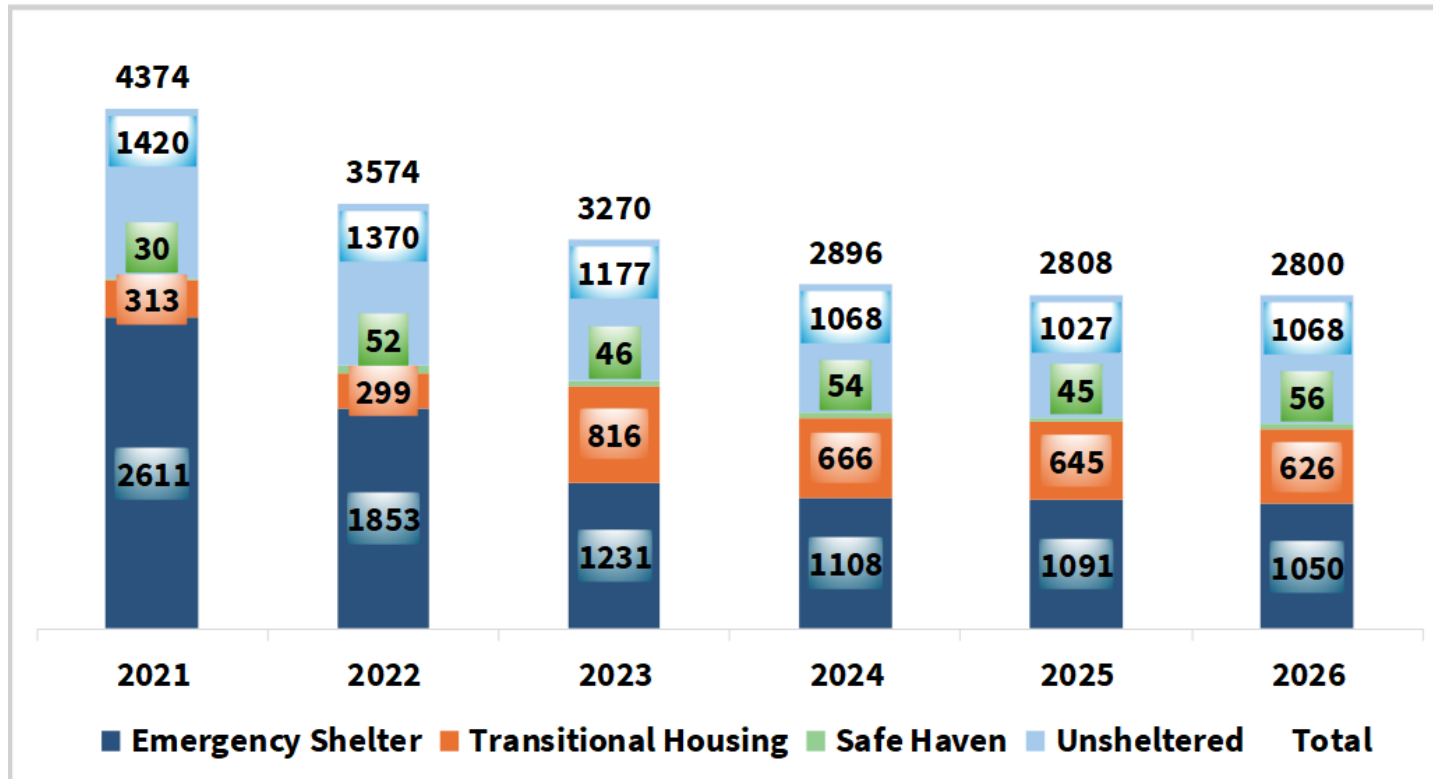


Figure 16 - Adults only

ADDITIONAL SUBPOPULATIONS

HUD requests additional subpopulation data as shown in Figure 17 - Additional Subpopulations. These data points are collected on adults only in the PIT count (N = 3050). Adults represented in the additional subpopulations in this section may be counted in more than one category. Total percentages for all adults in each category are as follows: serious mental illness (27%), substance use disorder (16%), HIV/ AIDS (3%) and those fleeing domestic violence on the night of the PIT count (9%).

ADDITIONAL SUBPOPULATIONS AT A GLANCE

- 27%** Of all adults reported a serious mental illness.
- 16%** Of all adults reported a substance use disorder.
- 3%** Of all adults identified as having HIV/AIDS related diagnosis.
- 9%** Of all adults reported they were fleeing domestic violence.

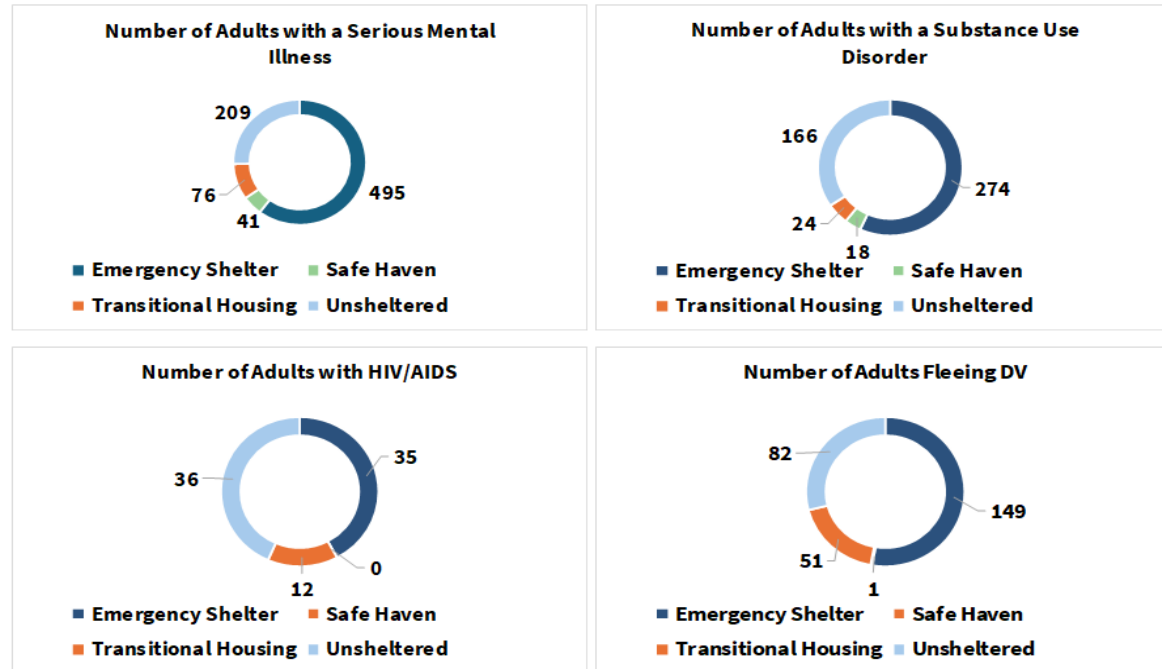


Figure 17 - Additional Subpopulations

HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT – BED INVENTORY

The annual Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is an opportunity to review the utilization of current bed capacity within project types. In addition to the total number of available beds (bed inventory) for the project, the total client count for the night of the PIT is reported for each project.

NOTE For emergency shelter and transitional housing projects below, the client count includes the total number of individuals residing in the project on the night of the PIT.

For permanent housing, permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing and other permanent housing projects, the total client count includes only individuals **housed** on the night of the count; additional clients enrolled into the projects who had not obtained housing or moved into a unit by the night of the PIT are not included in counts below.

EMERGENCY SHELTER BEDS

In 2026, emergency shelter available bed totals decreased by 8% since 2025. As shown in Figure 18 – Emergency Shelter PIT count, Total Beds and Utilization, the total PIT count for individuals occupying available beds also declined. The total clients on the PIT night divided by the available beds on the night of the count (1368/1578) provides a utilization rate of 87% of emergency shelter beds. This represents a decline in the total emergency shelter beds available and an increase in utilization of existing beds. Further analysis of utilization of emergency shelter beds is included in the next two subsequent sections of the report.

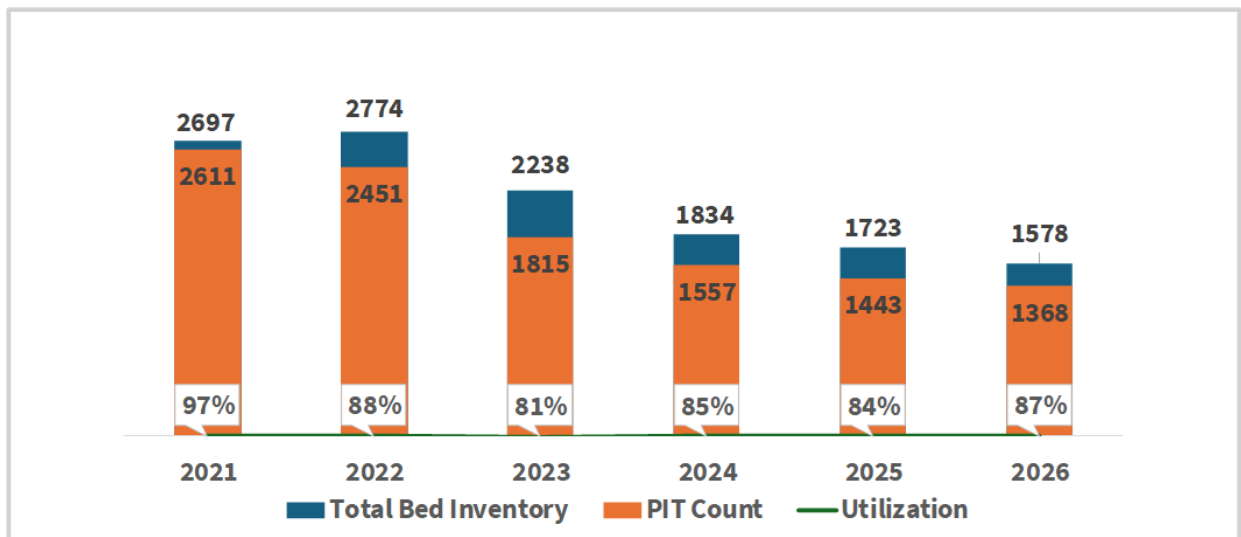


Figure 18 - Emergency Shelter PIT Count, Total Beds and Utilization

EMERGENCY SHELTER BEDS, EXCLUDING OVERFLOW BEDS

In order to further understand emergency shelter utilization, an analysis was conducted to exclude beds considered “overflow” beds within projects operating on the night of the count. Overflow beds are utilized in facilities only when the year-round inventory beds are completely full. Excluding overflow beds, the utilization of emergency shelter beds increases to 89% (1368/1543). Figure 19 – Emergency Shelter, Excluding Overflow, reflects 11% of year-round available beds were not utilized on January 22, 2026.

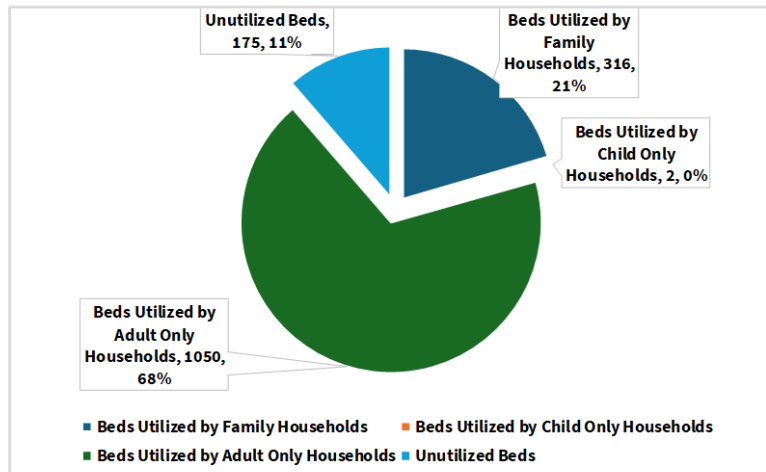


Figure 19 - Emergency Shelter, Excluding Overflow

UNUTILIZED EMERGENCY SHELTER BEDS

Figure 20 – Unutilized Emergency Shelter Beds by Household Types further breaks down by household type the 11% of Emergency Shelter beds that were unutilized on the night of the PIT. 38% of the unutilized year-round beds were available for Adults Only. While 61% of the unutilized beds were dedicated for families, only 8 individuals in families were counted in the unsheltered PIT count. Three seasonal, or weather activated shelter facilities, were not operational on the night of the count. An additional 1235 beds exist in the CoC’s housing inventory that were not activated on the night of the PIT count.

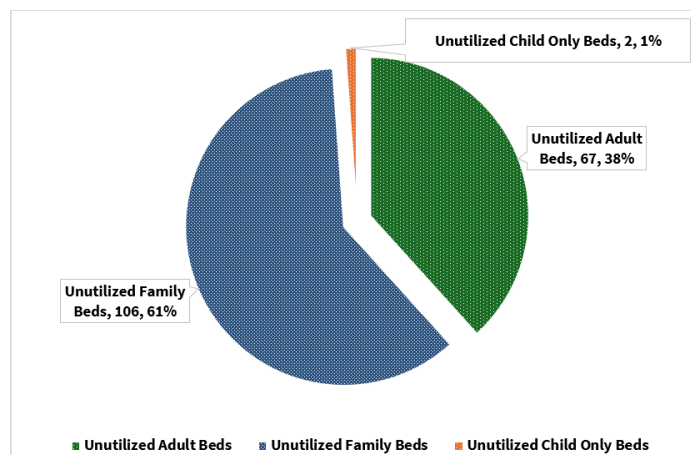


Figure 20 - Unutilized Emergency Shelter Beds by Household Type

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BEDS

In 2026, the total number of transitional housing beds available increased by eight (8) percent (1553) from 2025 (1432). The project utilization rate is determined by dividing the total number of clients in the project on the night of the PIT by the number of beds in the project. The 2026 utilization rate for all transitional housing projects was 70% (1012 individuals/1553 beds). This represents a slight decrease in the utilization of TH available beds.

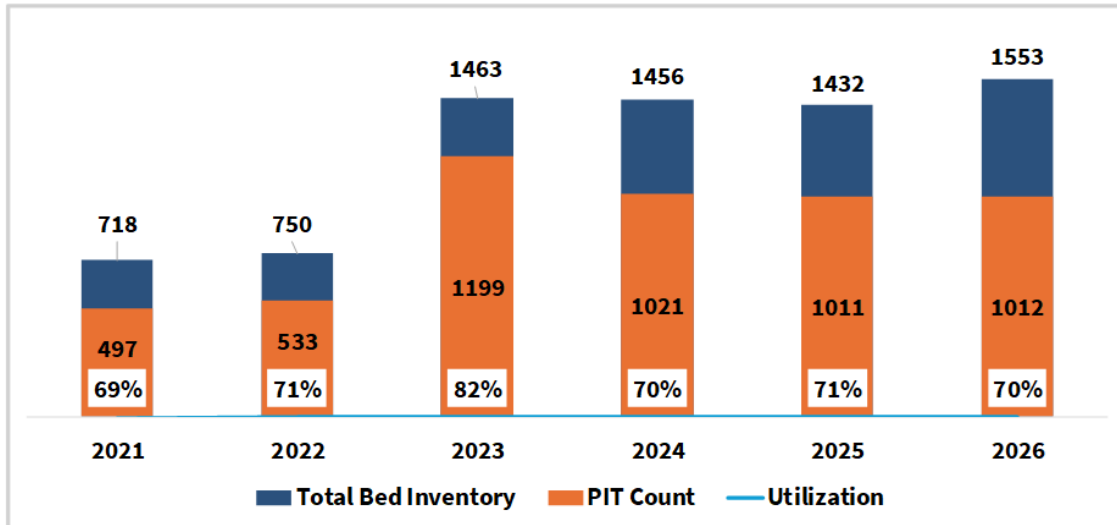


Figure 21 - Transitional Housing PIT Count, Total Beds and Utilization

PERMANENT HOUSING INVESTMENT

On the night of the 2026 PIT count, 4,428 individuals were housed in permanent housing interventions across the CoC, as shown in Figure 22 – Permanent Housing, Clients Housed below. This represents a 14% increase in individuals housed across the three project types of permanent housing.

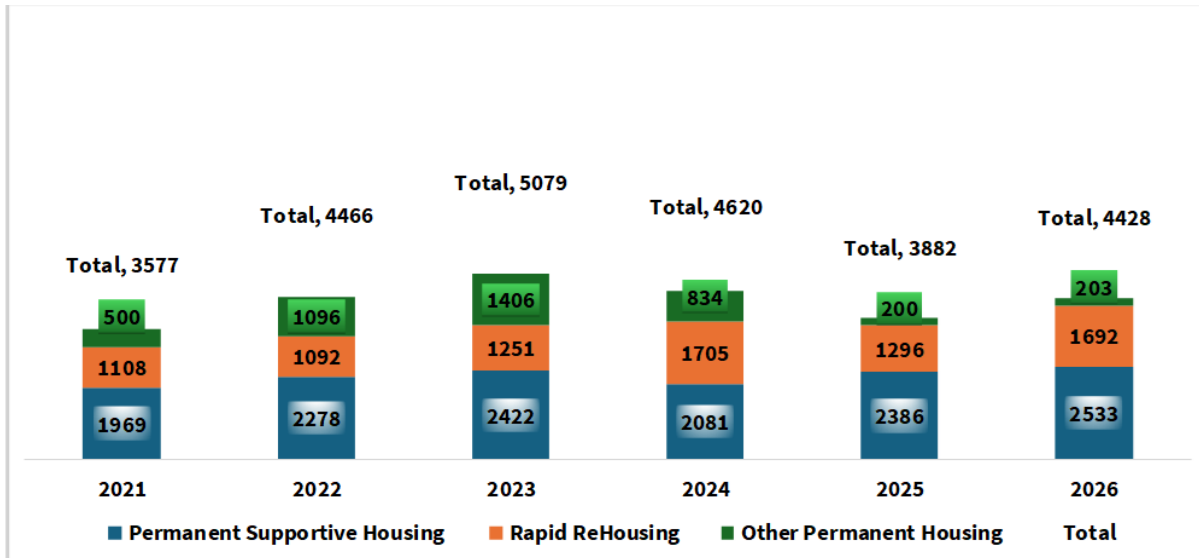


Figure 22 - Permanent Housing, Clients Housed

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING BEDS

The total number of available permanent supportive housing beds reported increased in 2026 by 10%. 95% of the reported beds had individuals moved into the units on the night of the count. Additional individuals were also enrolled in these projects; however, they had not obtained housing through the project by the night of the PIT Count.

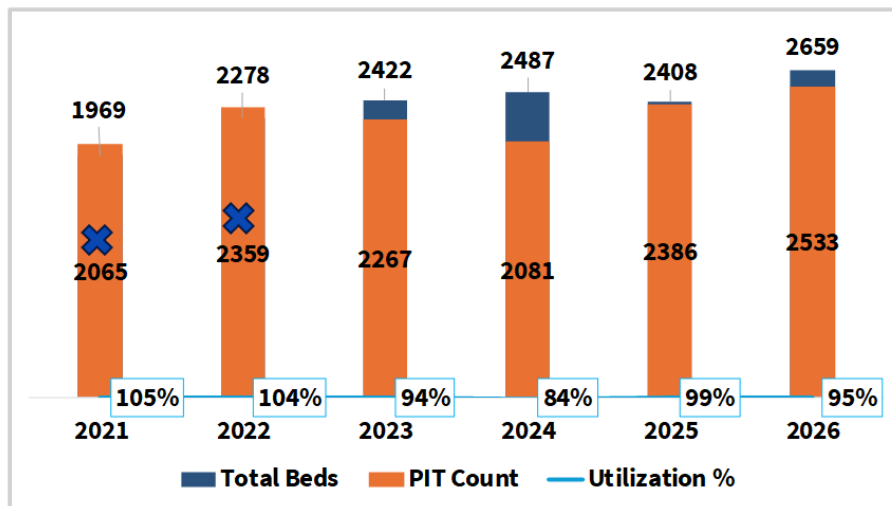


Figure 23 - Permanent Supportive Housing PIT Count, Total Beds and Utilization

OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING BEDS

In 2026, 213 other permanent housing beds were reported in the CoC. This represents a 4% increase from 2025 203 individuals were recorded as housed in other permanent housing units on the night of the 2026 PIT. Other permanent housing projects historically included Emergency Housing Vouchers (note decline from 2024 to 2025). These projects may offer services similar to services available in permanent supportive housing programming but may not require a disability or chronic homelessness for eligibility.

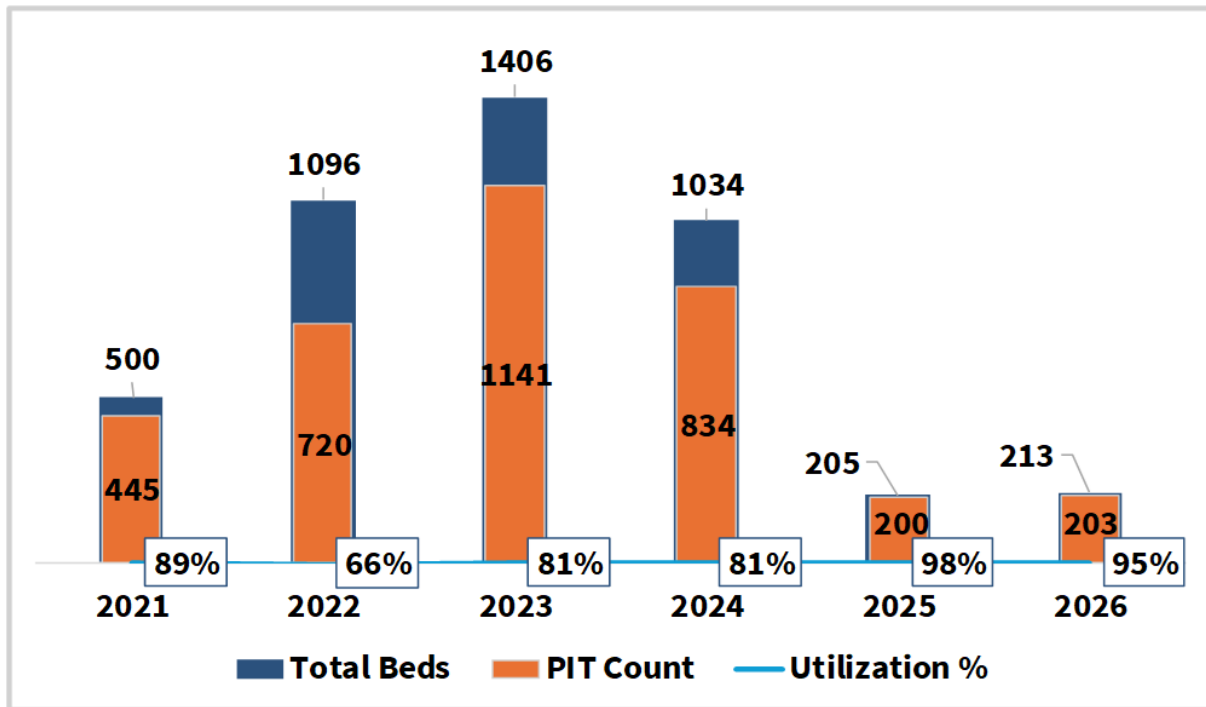


Figure 24 - Other Permanent Housing PIT Count, Total Beds and Utilization

OVERALL ANALYSIS

Conducted on January 22, 2026, the PIT count identified 3,513 individuals experiencing homelessness, representing a 23% decrease since 2021 and a 25% decline in unsheltered homelessness over the same period. Of those counted, 70% were sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven programs, while 30% were unsheltered. Emergency shelters accounted for the largest share of sheltered placements, followed by transitional housing and safe haven programs.

Demographic analysis shows that 23% of individuals were age 55 or above, and 58% of individuals identifying as Black, African American, or African. Key subpopulation findings include 643 individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, 289 veterans, and notable shares of adults reporting serious mental illness (27%), substance use disorders (16%), HIV/AIDS (3%), or fleeing domestic violence (10%).

Emergency shelter utilization was 82% (89% excluding overflow beds), while transitional housing utilization was 70%. On the night of the count, 4,436 individuals were housed in permanent housing programs, representing a 14% increase compared to the previous year. These findings suggest continued progress in expanding housing interventions and reducing overall homelessness in the region.

Additional analysis of the TX-600 CoC Trends with 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR to Congress)² was conducted to compare data with national trends. While this data comparison is between 2024 national data and 2026 data, the CoC's continued decline in total homelessness PIT counts since 2021 demonstrates progress in local efforts to reduce homelessness where national reports continue to show increases in levels of homelessness for both sheltered and unsheltered populations. Nationally, Texas is noted as a state with the largest decreases in people experiencing homelessness in the AHAR.³

The CoC's 2026 bed inventory by program type demonstrates higher rates of permanent housing inventory than national averages in 2024⁴; rapid rehousing (22% compared to 12.3 %) and permanent supportive housing (35% compared to 33.4%). The CoC also has increased programming in transitional housing (20% compared to 7.2%) and safe haven (1% compared to .2%). There was a notable decline in other permanent housing opportunities for the CoC in 2025 that was due to the loss of Emergency Housing vouchers.

At the same time, the system continues to experience ongoing challenges, including reduced sheltered system utilization, threats of future funding cuts to permanent supportive housing and the need for targeted strategies to support vulnerable subpopulations. For example, the CoC's older adult population (age groups 55-64 and 65 and over) is at 29%, compared to 19% nationally⁵. Developing additional homelessness prevention solutions to target the aging homeless population was a national spotlight for the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in 2025.⁶

Overall, the report demonstrates meaningful reductions in homelessness since 2021 alongside increased investment in permanent housing solutions.

² <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2024-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>

³ Exhibit B1-3 Largest Changes by State, 2024 AHAR

⁴ Exhibit 7-2 Distribution of the National Bed Inventory, 2024 AHAR

⁵ Exhibit B1-1: Demographic Characteristics, 2024 AHAR

⁶ [USICH Spotlight on Older Adults](#)

LIMITATIONS

The most significant limitation of the Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Counts is that they reflect only a single night of the year. This single night count does not illustrate the total number of people who experience homelessness over a full year. Many individuals cycle in and out of homelessness, and if they are housed on the specific night, they are not included in the point-in-time count.

Results for the HIC can be skewed in year-over-year analysis if overflow beds are activated for freezing weather nights some years and not during other years. On the night of the 2026 PIT count, inclement weather beds were excluded from the count because they were not activated that night.

The PIT count is comprised of direct data exports from HMIS, sheltered surveys conducted by non-HMIS providers, and unsheltered surveys conducted by volunteers using the Counting Us app. Observational reports were submitted where a standard unsheltered interview was not feasible. Primary justifications for observations included safety risks, language barriers, or individuals who were sleeping, incoherent, or declined to participate. The quality of the survey data is dependent on the training and reach of the volunteers.

The sheltered surveys for Victim Service providers did not contain personally identifiable information. Therefore, these surveys could not be de-duplicated against each other or against unsheltered surveys. However, these surveys were audited to ensure they reflected program participation on the night of the count.

The unsheltered surveys contain self-reported data. Respondents may be hesitant to share sensitive information due to stigma or fear of legal repercussions. During the deduplication process, it was noted that there were surveys with the same name, date of birth, and gender, but different answers to other questions regarding disability, length of time homeless, and veteran status. In these cases, the more complete survey record was kept, and the less complete was archived and therefore not included in the count.

The unsheltered surveys were de-duplicated using name and birthdate against other unsheltered surveys, sheltered surveys, and HMIS data. However, because name and birthdate cannot be collected for observation, there is a risk that a person observed was also included in the survey count or in the HMIS data extract because they ultimately stayed in a shelter that night. In addition, because we cannot link observational data to HMIS or an interview, we do not know if the person observed is a veteran, has a chronic disability, or has been in the system for years, potentially making the unsheltered subpopulation analysis less accurate than the total unsheltered count.

The PIT survey identifies the number of individuals residing in places not meant for human habitation on a single night, but it does not collect data on the underlying reasons for their unsheltered status. This analysis cannot determine whether an individual was unsheltered due to lack of transportation to shelters, personal safety concerns, or restrictive shelter policies. This data identifies a state of being unsheltered, rather than the systemic or individual causes.

The PIT count only counts those that meet HUD's definition of literal homelessness. This analysis excludes individuals who are doubled up or couch surfing with friends or family. In addition, individuals or families may intentionally stay hidden for safety and not be counted by the outreach teams.

METHODOLOGY

To provide additional context for the 2026 PIT, the following section details the methodology used for data collection and analysis. The methodology for both the sheltered and unsheltered PIT counts align with the standards set forth in the Point-in-Time Methodology Guide⁷ published by HUD. Housing Forward also maintains additional documentation on technological aspects utilized by the Institute for Community Alliances for data analysis.

SHELTERED COUNT

The HMIS and non-HMIS participating agencies submit and confirm aggregate and/or client level detail counts on all individuals and households residing in facilities on the night of the PIT count. HMIS uses managed enrollments, shelter stays, and HUD-required data elements within the database to provide aggregate client counts. The HMIS provides a formatted PIT report for agencies to review and confirm the accuracy of data. Non-HMIS participating providers utilize Command Center, the Point-in-Time data entry application selected by the CoC for the PIT survey. Agency users survey each individual (or head of household) and input the data into the application.

Two sources of data were utilized to aggregate a full census for the sheltered count:

1. HMIS participating agencies collected enrollment and client level details directly in ClientTrack (by Caseworthy), the HMIS software solution for TX-600 CoC, for the following projects:
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Safe Haven
 - Transitional Housing
2. Non-HMIS participating agencies, including Victim Services Providers (VSP), were provided with the Counting Us solution to collect survey data. The data entered for VSPs was deidentified to ensure it did not contain personally identifiable information. For this reason, VSP records were unable to be deduplicated with all other surveys. Agencies were allotted one week following the night of the count to update records in their respective data systems or to submit files.

Of the 1,031 sheltered surveys submitted by the non-HMIS participating agencies, 133 surveys (9.8%) were excluded from the count. Table 1 – Sheltered Survey Metadata shows 13 surveys were excluded because the participants had already been surveyed by the agency, and 120 surveys (8.5%) were archived. Of those archived, reasons included duplicate entry and administrative error (often clients entered as individuals instead of households that had to be archived and re-entered to correctly capture household type).

Sheltered Surveys	# of Surveys	% of Total Surveys
Total Surveys Submitted	1031	
# of Surveys Excluded	133	9.8%
<i>Reasons Excluded:</i>		
Already Surveyed	13	1.3%
Archived	120	8.5%
Sheltered Surveys Counted	898	90.2%

Table 1 - Sheltered Survey Metadata

⁷ <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/PIT-Count-Methodology-Guide.pdf>

UNSHelterED COUNT

Housing Forward and volunteers from the partner agencies of the All-Neighbors Coalition conducted the unsheltered count on January 22, 2026. Surveys were conducted using known locations provided by street outreach workers and community organizations. The survey used a census approach, combined with observational surveys.

Observational data surveys were conducted and included in the 2026 PIT count. Table 2 - Unsheltered Survey Metadata shows only 3 surveys excluded from the count. To minimize the risk of duplication, observation surveys were included if they were accompanied with the following details:

- Approval of the observation by trained workers on the night of the count.
- Included sufficient descriptions and notes with specific key words on the observed individual.
- Stamped at a time or in a region that did not have other surveys conducted at the same time or location.

Unsheltered Observation Surveys	# of Surveys	% of Total Surveys
Total Surveys submitted	194	
# of Surveys Excluded	3	1.6%
<i>Reasons Excluded:</i>		
Insufficient Observational Notes	3	1.6%
Unsheltered Observational Surveys Counted	191	98.5%

Table 2 - Unsheltered Survey Metadata

Survey records with duplicate entries were eliminated by using personally identifiable information. Records with duplicate surveys, or individuals counted in shelter, were removed from the aggregation using the record archiving tools within the Command Center software. Of the 1,001 unsheltered surveys submitted, 115 surveys (11.5%) were excluded from the final PIT count. Table 3 – Unsheltered Survey Exclusion Meta data shows the primary reasons for exclusion, including respondents not meeting the HUD definition of literal homelessness (6.9%), records falling outside the designated boundaries (<1%), respondents indicating that they had already been surveyed (2.7%), duplicate entries identified in data cleaning (1.7%), or surveys identified as test entries (<1%).

Unsheltered Surveys	# of Surveys	% of Total Surveys	% of Total Surveys
Total Surveys Submitted	1001		
# of Surveys Excluded	115	11.5%	
<i>Reasons Excluded:</i>			
Already Surveyed	27	2.7%	
Not Literally Homeless	69	6.9%	
Archived	19	1.9%	
Duplicate	17		1.7%
Out of Areas	1		0.1%
Entered as a Test Record	1		0.1%
Unsheltered Surveys Counted	886	88.5%	

Table 3 - Unsheltered Survey Exclusion Metadata

All individuals in this analysis will subsequently be entered into the HUD PIT Data Extrapolation tool. In the final HUD submission, breakout values for missing data in both age and race and ethnicity will be determined based on the extrapolated values across the total PIT population.

CHANGES TO 2026 PIT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA COLLECTION

HUD's FY2026 HMIS Data Standards⁸ were officially released in October 2025. Revisions impacting the PIT/HIC data set included:

- Updated label in Race and Ethnicity option from Hispanic/Latina/e/o to Hispanic/Latina/o.
- Retired Gender data element.
- Added Sex data element.

Additionally, Housing Forward customized the unsheltered data collection form in Counting Us to include:

- Observational survey collection responses (descriptive fields)
- Required fields for demographic data elements (age, sex, etc.)

HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT

To fulfill the HUD requirement of recording updates to specific Project Descriptor Data Elements (PDDE), organizations are expected to report changes in PDDE's (bed inventory, funding, project closures, etc.). Housing Providers confirmed data through an electronic form, including PIT count totals and reported changes were updated in HMIS. This data will be utilized as a primary source of record for reporting the HIC to HUD. Bed inventory counts were compared to PIT counts to understand the utilization of beds across all project types.

In addition to housing inventory data, PIT counts for individuals residing in permanent housing projects were verified using HMIS data. Individuals and households counted in permanent housing projects were required to have a housing move-in date on or before the night of the count in their project enrollment data in HMIS. This report excludes data with known data quality issues related to timeliness, especially with regard to housing move-in date.

⁸ <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HMIS-Data-Dictionary.pdf>

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