2023 JANUARY
POINT-IN-TIME COUNT OF HOMELESSNESS
MADISON/DANE COUNTY

I. INTRODUCTION

The Point-in-Time Count of Homelessness (PIT) provides a snapshot of people who are experiencing homelessness on a given night in a community. The Homeless Services Consortium of Dane County (HSC) conducted this year's January PIT on the night of January 25, 2023.

Methodology

The PIT consists of two components: sheltered and unsheltered counts.

Sheltered Counts: This component involves gathering information on people utilizing emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. The data primarily relies on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) used by the majority of homeless services agencies in Dane County. For organizations not using HMIS, comparable reports are submitted to the HSC. The following shelters and transitional housing programs were included in the 2023 PIT count:

- Emergency Shelters: Briarpatch Youth Shelter; CACSCW SSVF Hotel Voucher Program; City of Madison and Dane County Extreme Weather Respite Hotel Programs; Dane County COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Center; Domestic Abuse Intervention Services Emergency Shelter and Motel Voucher Program; JustDane Healing House; Porchlight Men's Drop-In Shelter; The Salvation Army of Dane County Family Shelter, Single Women Shelter, and Medical Voucher Program; and YWCA Madison Family Shelter
- Transitional Housing Programs: Porchlight Spring Street Veterans Transitional Housing; Shelter from the Storm Ministries Transitional Housing; The Salvation Army of Dane County Holly House; and YWCA Madison Empower Home

Unsheltered Counts: This component involves collecting data on people who are residing outside, in a vehicle, in a tent, or other places not suitable for human habitation. Teams comprised of homeless services agency staff and volunteers visit "known locations" identified by street outreach staff, police officers, parks staff, and other service providers to be potential locations where people may be residing on the night of PIT. If individuals are willing to engage in an interview, a 5-10 minute survey is conducted. When individuals are unwilling or do not wake as the volunteers approached, only the number and location are noted. Additional post-counts are conducted at strategic locations following the PIT, including remote locations that could not be visited during the night and day shelters where unsheltered individuals frequent. This year, 11 teams conducted surveys on the night of the count throughout Dane County, while an additional 4 teams participated in the post count efforts. Weather conditions on the night of the PIT included cloudy skies, scattered snow showers, and temperatures hovering around 30 degrees.

It should be noted that the unsheltered count in Madison/Dane County also encompassed residents of the Occupy Madison temporary tiny homes and Dairy Drive sheltered campground, as it was a local decision to include them under the unsheltered count rather than the sheltered count.

Context and Limitations of the PIT

The PIT count offers valuable insights into the levels and trends of homelessness within our community, but they come with limitations. The count only represents the number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January and includes only those utilizing emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or residing in unsheltered locations. Unsheltered counts, in particular, have constraints and may not fully represent the entirety of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Despite these limitations, the PIT remains a crucial measure providing enumeration of individuals experiencing homelessness in our community and throughout the United States, allowing for the measurement of progress.

Exclusions in the PIT: It is important to recognize that the PIT excludes certain populations. Individuals and families who are "doubled up" with friends or other families in private homes, as well as those residing in hotels or motels, are not accounted for in the PIT, in accordance with the requirements set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Furthermore, individuals in institutions, such as hospitals, jails, or detox centers, are not included in the count.

Complementing Reports: To gain a more comprehensive understanding, the Annual Homeless Assessment Report serves as an additional resource. This analysis captures the unduplicated number of people served by homeless services agencies utilizing HMIS over the course of the year. Additionally, the community's Coordinated Entry Housing Priority Lists identifies the number of households reporting homelessness and expressing a need for housing. School districts also identify students and families experiencing homelessness, including those who are unstably doubled up or self-paying at hotels or motels, according to the McKinney-Vento Homeless assistance Act definition. Some of these reports, along with this and previous years' PIT reports, can be found on the HSC's website data page: https://www.danecountyhomeless.org/data

This report was prepared by the City of Madison Community Development Division on behalf of the HSC. Questions about the report can be directed to Sarah Lim, Community Development Specialist, at slim@cityofmadison.com.

II. 2023 JANUARY PIT OVERVIEW AND TRENDS

On a Single Night in January 2023

On the night of January 25, 2023, a total of 624 persons were identified as experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness in Madison/Dane County.

- 87% (545 persons) were identified as using emergency shelters or transitional housing programs, while the remaining 13% (79 persons) were located in unsheltered settings.
- 36% (224 persons) were in households with children, comprising 60 families.
- 64% (398 persons) were in households without children (singles).
- 2 unaccompanied youth under age 18 were identified.
- 5% (33 persons) were young adults aged 18-24, out of which 10 were parenting youth.
- 37% (230 persons) were considered chronically homeless*.
- 7% (43 persons) were in households of veterans.
- 13% (79 persons) stayed in unsheltered locations, including streets, vehicles, tents, or other places not suitable for human habitation, as well as Occupy Madison temporary tiny homes and Dairy Drive sheltered campgrounds.
- Notably, there was a significant overrepresentation among people of color within the homeless population. People of color accounted for 50% of all people identified as experiencing homelessness despite constituting only 16% of the Dane County population.

Since 2022: Year-to-Year Changes in Homelessness

The overall count of people experiencing homelessness in Madison/Dane County has shown a notable 11% decrease, with the number decreasing from 701 to 624, reflecting a decrease of 77 persons from the previous year.

- Both sheltered and unsheltered counts saw a decrease. The count of persons in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs decreased from 618 to 545, a 12% decrease, while the number of persons in unsheltered locations decreased from 83 to 79, a 5% decrease.
- The count of persons in households without children (singles) decreased from 490 to 398, marking a reduction of 92 persons or 19%.
- The count of persons in households with children (families) has seen a modest increase from 210 to 224, representing a rise of 14 persons or 7%, although the number of families has slightly decreased from 64 families to 60 families.
- The count of persons experiencing chronic homelessness has marked a significant increase from 169 to 230 persons, an escalation of 61 persons or 36%.

* Chronically Homeless Individual refers to an individual with a disability who has been continuously homeless 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 homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months. Chronically Homeless People in Families refers to people in families in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless 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 homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months.

- The count of persons in veteran households has remained relatively stable, showing a marginal increase from 42 to 43 persons.

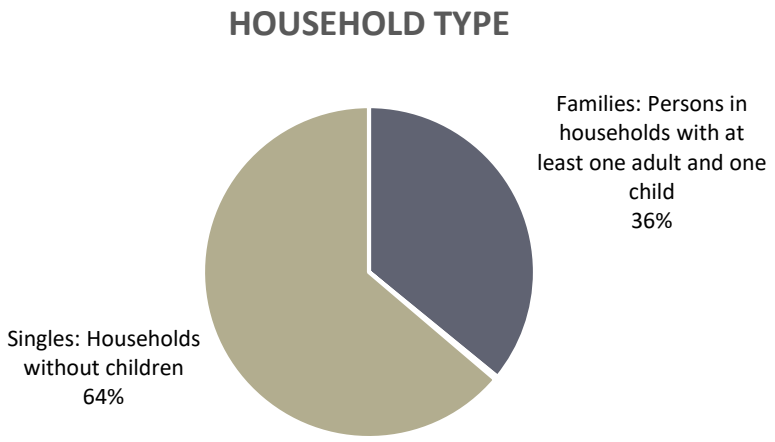
Since 2018: Five-Year Perspective

During the COVID-19 pandemic, overall homelessness increased significantly, reaching a peak of 855 persons in 2021. However, it has since returned to the pre-COVID levels. When compared to the data from 2018, overall homelessness has increased by 10 persons, representing a 2% rise over the five-year period.

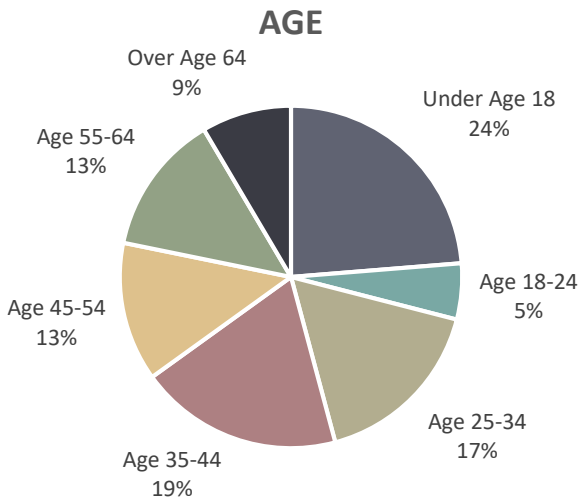
- The count of persons in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs increased from 530 to 545, a 3% increase, while the number of persons in unsheltered locations decreased from 84 to 79, a 6% decrease.
- The count of persons in households without children (singles) decreased from 404 to 398, indicating a reduction of 6 persons or a 1% decrease. At the height of the pandemic in 2021, the number reached a peak of 503 persons.
- The count of persons in households with children (families) has seen a modest increase from 205 to 224, representing a rise of 19 persons or a 9% increase, although the number of families has slightly decreased from 63 families to 60 families. The peak during the pandemic was recorded at 352 persons in 2021.
- The count of persons experiencing chronic homelessness has seen a significant increase from 124 to 230 persons, an escalation of 106 persons or an 85% increase over the five-year period.
- The count of persons in veteran households has remained relatively stable, showing a marginal decrease from 44 to 43 persons.

III. 2023 JANUARY PIT DETAILS†

Household Type	# of Persons	Percentage
Families: Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	224	36%
Unaccompanied youth: Persons in households with only children under age 18	2	0%
Singles: Households without children	398	64%
Total	624	100%

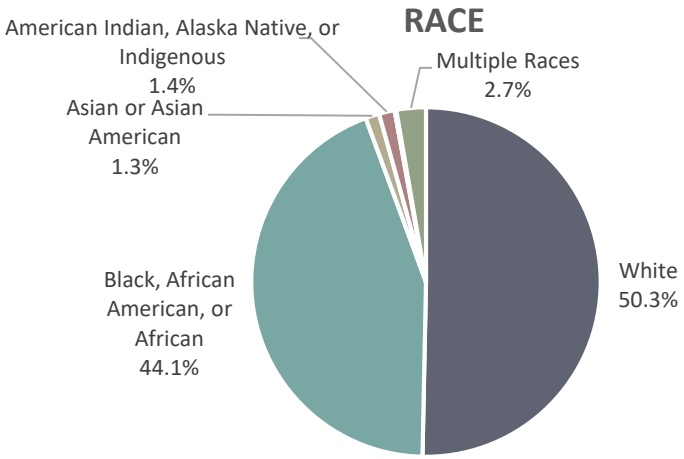


Age	# of Persons	Percentage
Under Age 18	148	24%
Age 18-24	33	5%
Age 25-34	105	17%
Age 35-44	120	19%
Age 45-54	82	13%
Age 55-64	83	13%
Over Age 64	53	8%
Total	624	100%

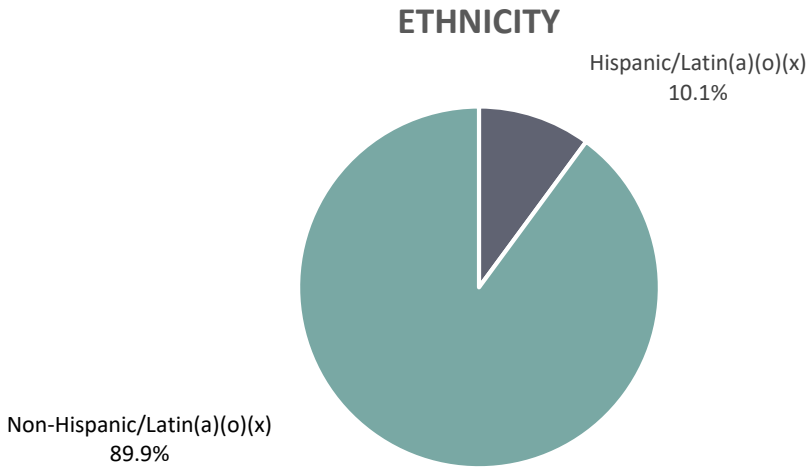


† When certain demographic information was unknown, HUD approved extrapolation method was used to ensure that the total number of persons listed under each category equal the total number of persons counted.

Race	# of Persons	Percentage	Dane County Total Pop‡
White	314	50.3%	84.1%
Black, African American, or African	275	44.1%	5.8%
Asian or Asian American	8	1.3%	6.6%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	9	1.4%	0.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	0.2%	0.1%
Multiple Races	17	2.7%	3.0%
Total	624	100.0%	100.0%

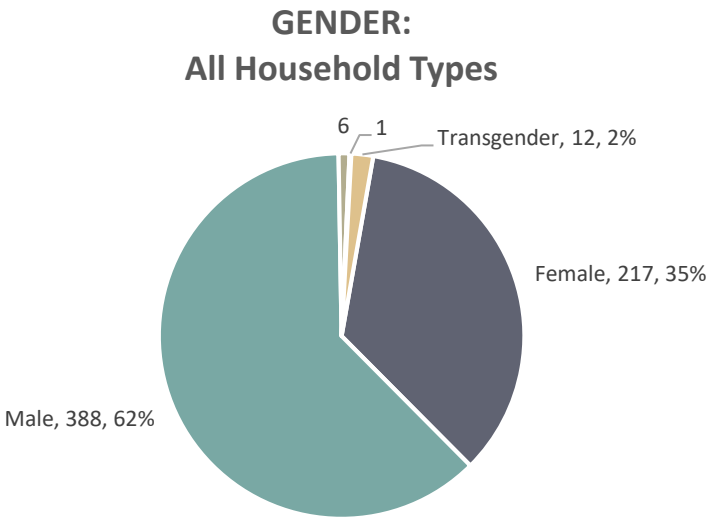


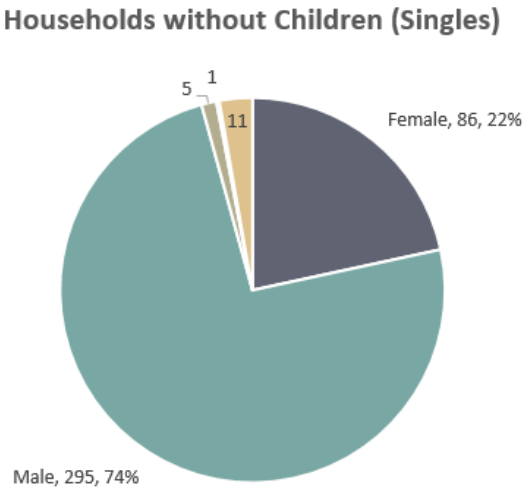
Ethnicity	# of Persons	Percentage	Dane County Total Pop*
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	63	10.1%	7.0%
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	561	89.9%	93.0%
Total	624	100.0%	100.0%

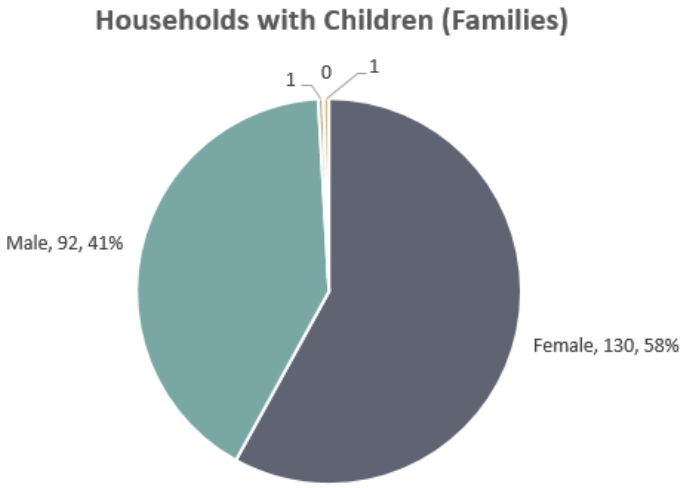


‡ U.S. Census Dane County Population Estimate (V2022)

Gender - *All Household Types*	# of Persons	Percentage
Female	217	35%
Male	388	62%
Gender not singularly 'Female' or 'Male' (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	6	1%
Questioning	1	0%
Transgender	12	2%
Total	624	100%

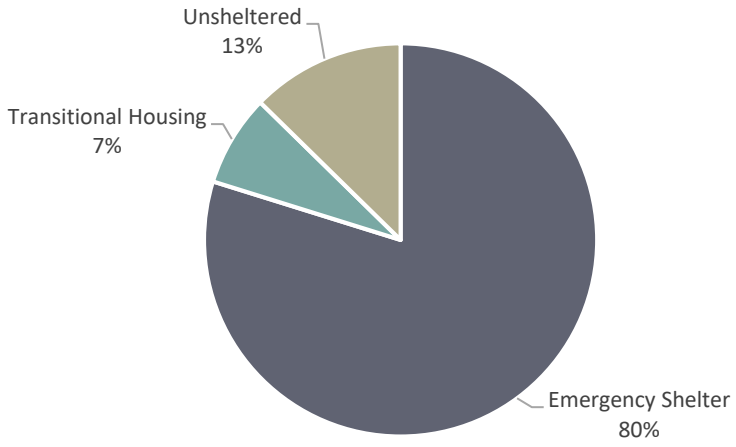






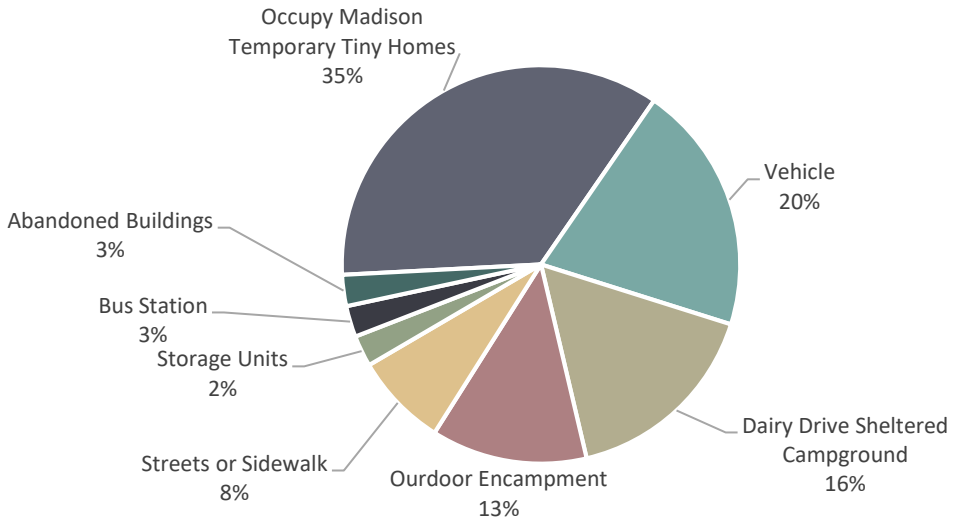
Sleeping Location	# of Persons	Percentage
Emergency Shelter	498	80%
Transitional Housing	47	8%
Unsheltered (places not meant for human habitation)	79	13%
Total	624	100%

SLEEPING LOCATION

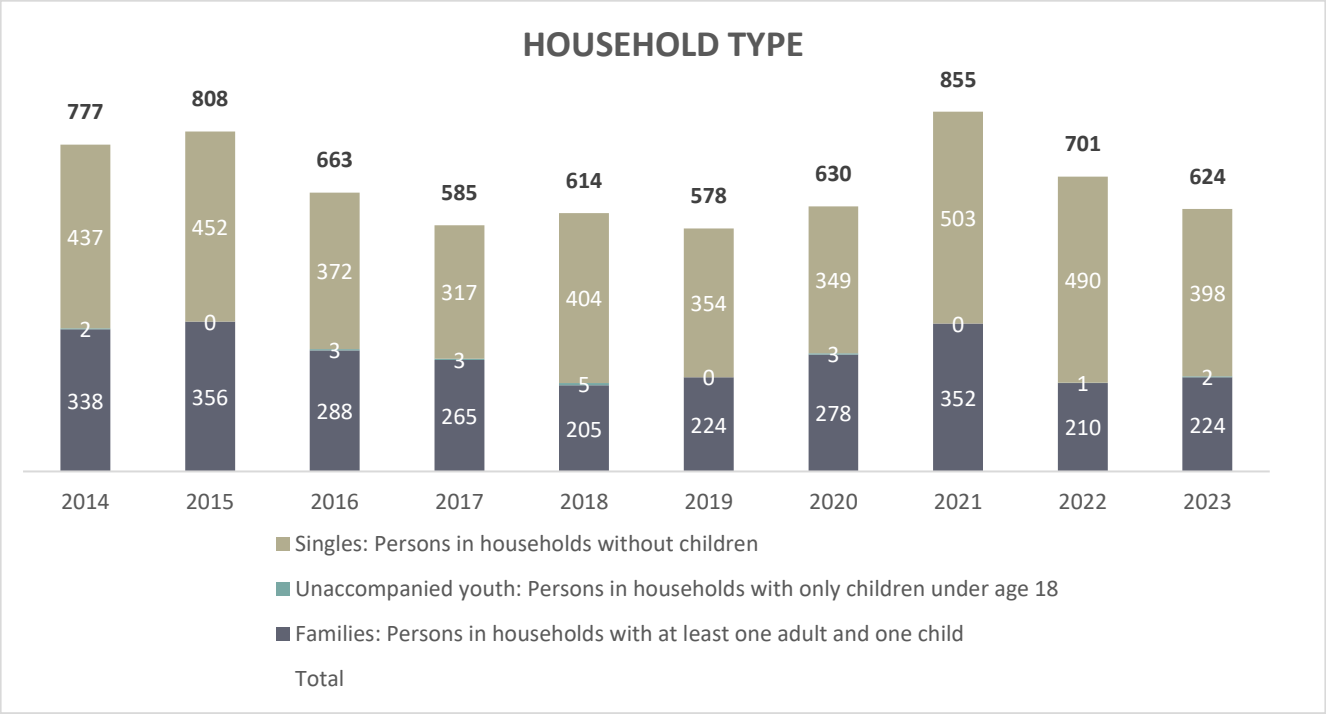


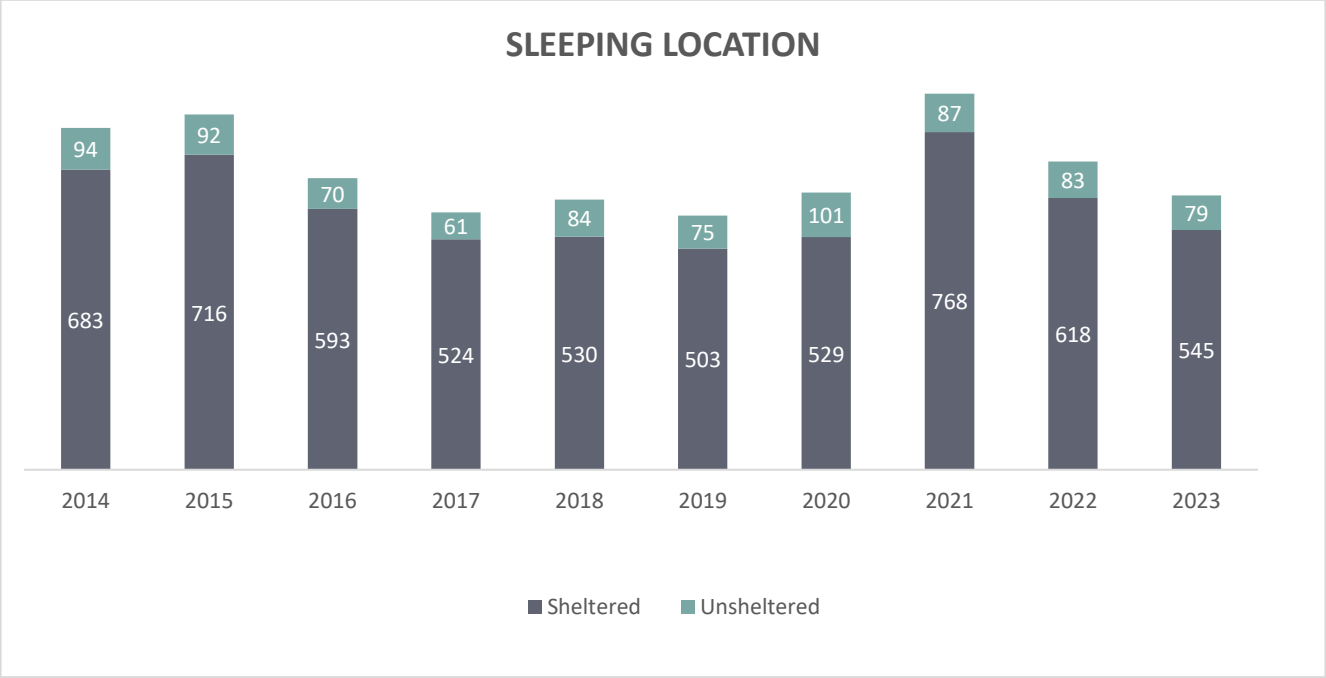
Unsheltered Location	# of Persons	Percentage
Occupy Madison Temporary Tiny Homes	28	35%
Vehicle	16	20%
Dairy Drive Sheltered Campground	13	16%
Outdoor Encampment (Woods, Bridge, Park, etc.)	10	13%
Streets or Sidewalk	6	8%
Storage Units	2	3%
Bus Station	2	3%
Abandoned Buildings	2	3%
Total	79	100%

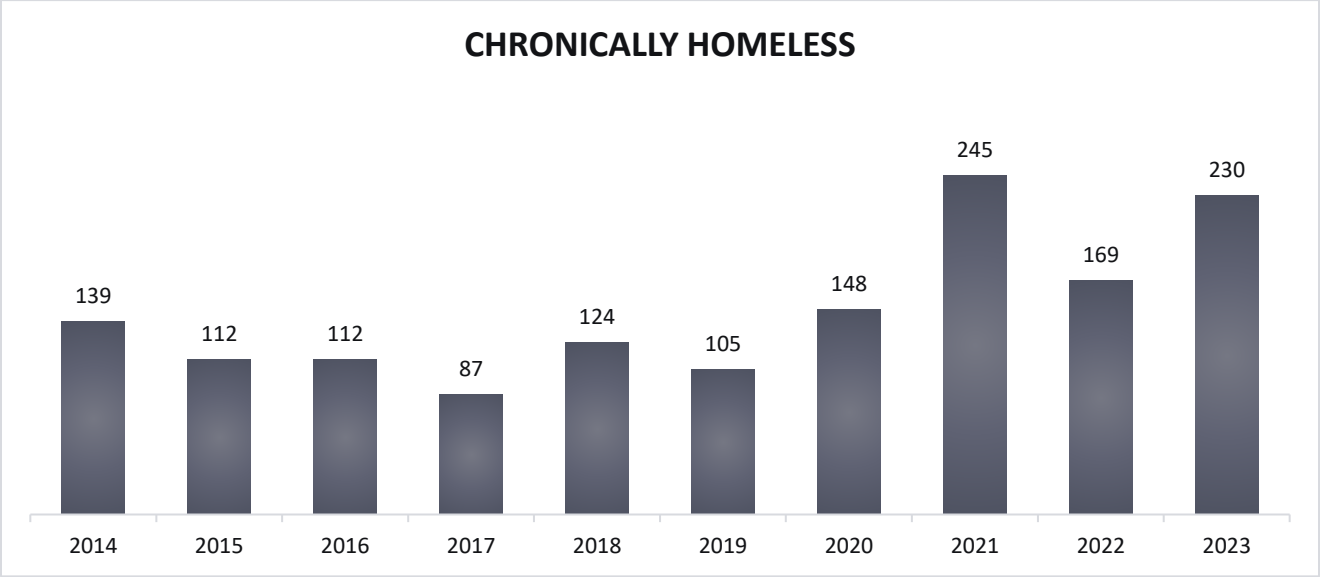
UNSHELTERED LOCATIONS

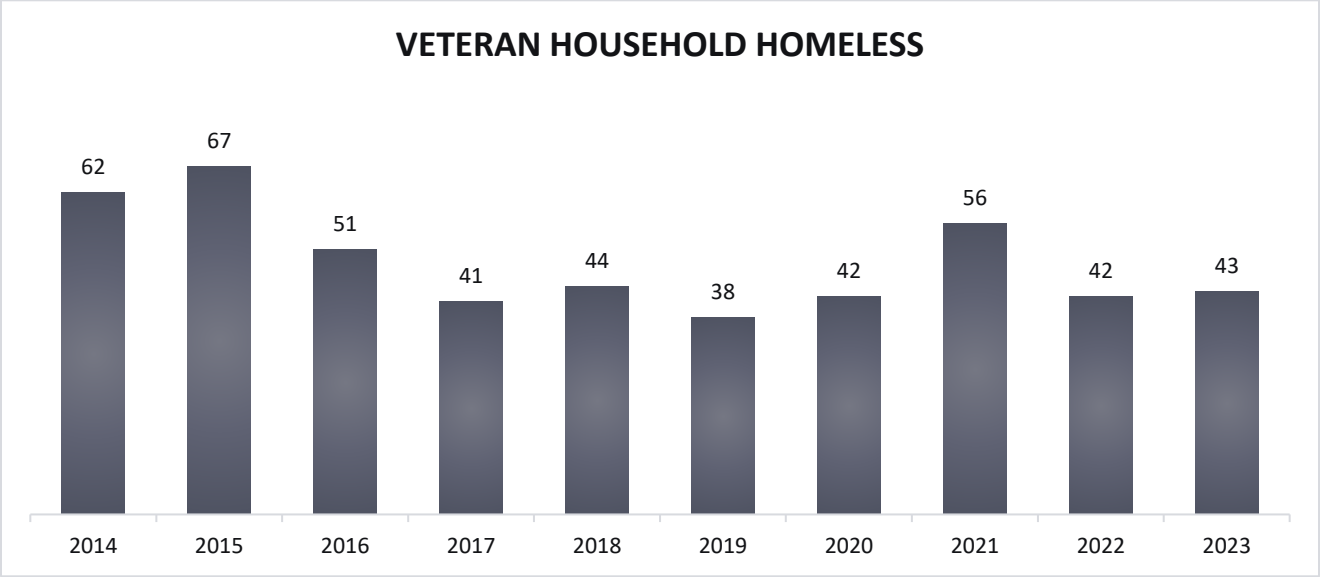


IV. JANUARY PIT DATA: 2014-2023






CHRONICALLY HOMELESS
139
112
112
87
124
105
148
245
169
230
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023


VETERAN HOUSEHOLD HOMELESS
62
67
51
41
44
38
42
56
42
43
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023

APPENDIX

2023 January PIT Sheltered/Unsheltered Report
All Households: Total

Total Households and Persons	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number Of Households	349	31	75	455
Total Number of Persons	498	47	79	624
Number of Children (under age 18)	132	16	0	148
Number of Persons (18 to 24)	26	5	2	33
Number of Persons (25 to 34)	89	5	11	105
Number of Persons (35 to 44)	91	3	26	120
Number of Persons (45 to 54)	61	7	14	82
Number of Persons (55 to 64)	60	5	18	83
Number of Persons (over age 64)	39	6	8	53

Gender	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	178	21	18	217
Male	304	25	59	388
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male' (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	5	1	0	6
Questioning	0	0	1	1
Transgender	11	0	1	12

Ethnicity	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	441	42	78	561
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	57	5	1	63

Race	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	5	4	0	9
Asian or Asian American	7	0	1	8
Black, African American, or African	233	27	15	275
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1
White	241	14	59	314
Multiple Races	12	2	3	17

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total number of persons	188		42	230

Families: Households with Children

Persons in Households with at least one Adult and one Child	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	54	6	0	60
Total Number of Persons (Adults & Children)	202	22	0	224
Number of Persons (under age 18)	130	16	0	146
Number of Persons (18 - 24)	8	2	0	10
Number of Persons (25 - 34)	36	4	0	40
Number of Persons (35 - 44)	21	0	0	21
Number of Persons (45 - 54)	6	0	0	6
Number of Persons (55 - 64)	1	0	0	1
Number of Persons (over age 64)	0	0	0	0

Gender (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	115	15	0	130
Male	85	7	0	92
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male' (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	1	0	0	1
Questioning	0	0	0	0
Transgender	1	0	0	1

Ethnicity (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	165	20	0	185
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	37	2	0	39

Race (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	4	0	4
Asian or Asian American	2	0	0	2
Black, African American, or African	126	17	0	143
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	67	0	0	67
Multiple Races	7	1	0	8

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total number of households	42		0	42
Total number of persons	115		0	115

Singles: Households without Children

Persons in Households without Children	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	293	25	75	393
Total Number of Persons (Adults)	294	25	79	398
Number of Persons (age 18 - 24)	18	3	2	23
Number of Persons (age 25 - 34)	53	1	11	65
Number of Persons (age 35 - 44)	70	3	26	99
Number of Persons (age 45 - 54)	55	7	14	76
Number of Persons (age 55 - 64)	59	5	18	82
Number of Persons (over age 64)	39	6	8	53

Gender	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	62	6	18	86
Male	218	18	59	295
Gender that is not singularly ‘Female’ or ‘Male’ (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	4	1	0	5
Questioning	0	0	1	1
Transgender	10	0	1	11

Ethnicity	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	275	22	78	375
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	19	3	1	23

Race	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	4	0	0	4
Asian or Asian American	5	0	1	6
Black, African American, or African	106	10	15	131
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1
White	174	14	59	247
Multiple Races	5	1	3	9

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total number of persons	73		42	115

Unaccompanied Youth: Households with only children (under age 18)

Persons in Households with only Children[a]	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	2	0	0	2
Total number of children (under age 18)	2	0	0	2

Gender	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	1	0	0	1
Male	1	0	0	1
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male' (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	0	0	0	0
Questioning	0	0	0	0
Transgender	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	1	0	0	1
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	1	0	0	1

Race	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1	0	0	1
Asian or Asian American	1	0	0	0
Black, African American, or African	1	0	0	1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	0	0	0
White	1	0	0	0
Multiple Races	1	0	0	0

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total number of persons	0		0	0

Additional Populations

Additional Homeless Populations	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	100	14	12	126
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	43	10	7	60
Adults with HIV/AIDS	3	1	0	4
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence (optional)	18	1	2	21