

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2020

Who is experiencing homelessness in Nashville: a look at a single January night

2,016 individuals were identified as homeless on the night of Jan. 23, 2020.

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is an annual **one-night count** of people experiencing literal homelessness, specifically as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This **total count** includes:

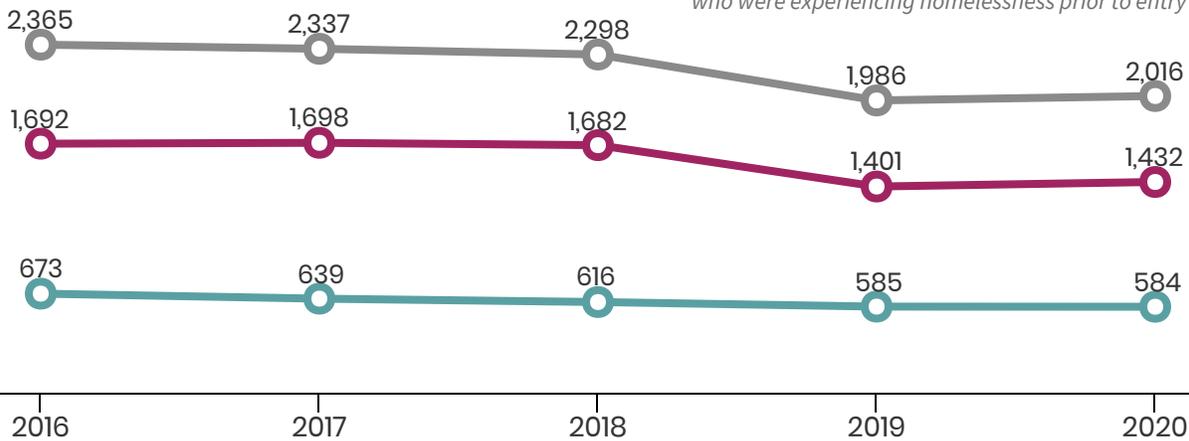


Persons in **sheltered situations** (e.g., emergency shelters, transitional housing, and Safe Haven beds that are dedicated to serving persons experiencing homelessness) and



Persons in **unsheltered situations** (e.g., staying on the street, encampments, in cars, etc.).

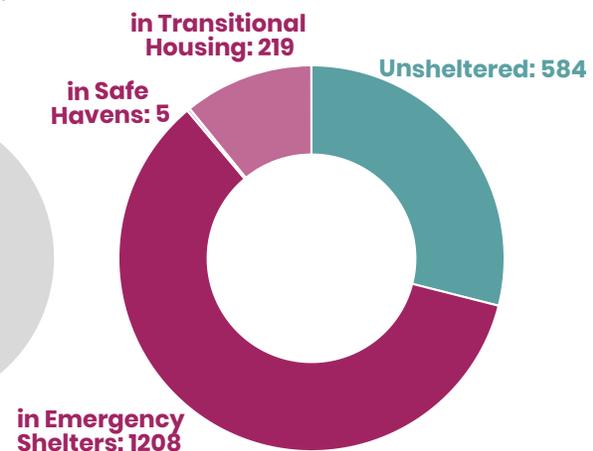
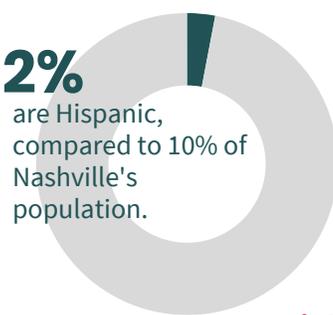
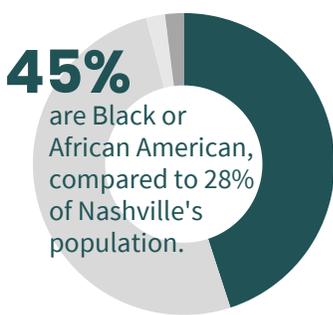
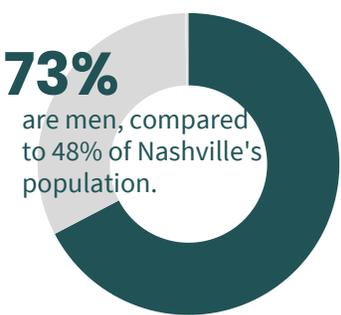
Note: this count does not include people who are doubled up, couch surfing, living in motels, or in institutions such as jails or hospitals and who were experiencing homelessness prior to entry or admission.



That's a total **increase of 1.5%** – or 30 people – from 2019.

Over the past five years since 2016, there's been a **15% total decrease** in the PIT count.

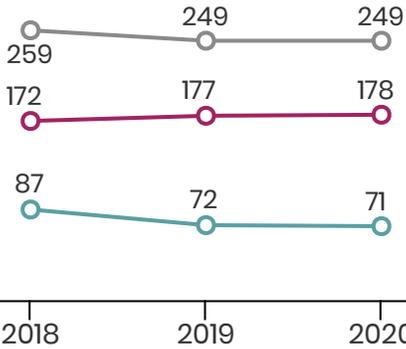
The unsheltered count has decreased each year since 2016, with a total **unsheltered count decrease of 13%**. The sheltered count has decreased each year since 2016 except 2020, for a total of a **15% sheltered count decrease**.



Target Populations

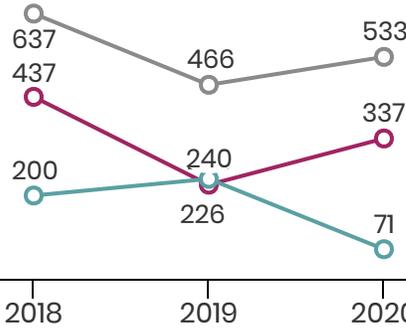
Target populations are high-priority sub-populations identified by HUD. Our community engages in multiple targeted interventions for each sub-population. People may be part of **more than one** target population (e.g., a Veteran experiencing chronic homelessness). The unsheltered numbers in each target population are based on **extrapolation from surveys** conducted on the night of the PIT Count. Volunteers surveyed **58%** of the unsheltered population. The charts below show **total count**, **sheltered count**, and **unsheltered count**.

Target Population 1: Veterans



There was **no increase** in Veterans identified from 2019 to 2020.

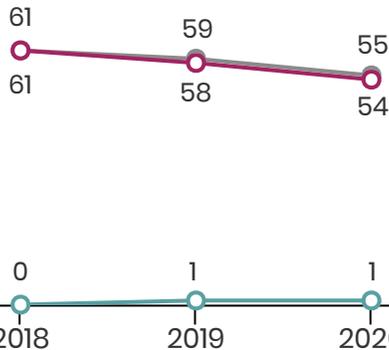
Target Population 2: Chronic Homelessness



There was a **14% increase** in people experiencing chronic homelessness identified from 2019 to 2020.

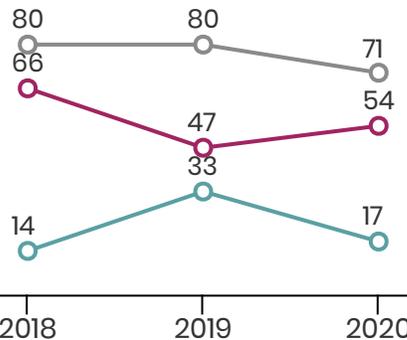
Chronic Homelessness is a specific category of homelessness defined by HUD. In addition to experiencing prolonged or repeated episodes of homelessness, people experiencing chronic homelessness have a disabling condition (e.g., chronic health condition, mental illness, etc.) that makes it harder for them to live independently.

Target Population 3: Families



There was a **7% decrease** in families with minor children identified from 2019 to 2020.

Target Population 4: Unaccompanied Youth



There was an **11% decrease** in unaccompanied youth ages 18-24 identified from 2019 to 2020.

40% of unsheltered individuals surveyed

reported that they **had stayed in an emergency shelter** in Nashville before such as Room in the Inn or the Nashville Rescue Mission.

To learn more about the unsheltered population in Nashville, volunteers surveyed unsheltered individuals on the night of the count about whether they had ever stayed in Nashville's emergency shelters—and if not, why not. Most commonly, individuals cited **safety, cleanliness, and shelter rules** as why they chose not to stay in a shelter.

41% of unsheltered individuals and **31%** of sheltered individuals

reported problems with substance use.

38% of unsheltered individuals and **25%** of sheltered individuals

reported mental health problems.

82% of unsheltered individuals

said that **lack of income** was their primary barrier to finding their own housing. Other reasons included health problems, past evictions, and legal issues.

22% **14%**

of unsheltered individuals and of sheltered individuals reported being survivors of domestic violence.



*Note: there was rain in Nashville on the night of the Count, which may have affected the number of individuals counted and surveyed.

