

2023 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

City of Atlanta

KEY FINDINGS

- ◆ There is a 25% decrease in homelessness since the adoption of the Atlanta CoC's ClearPath strategic plan in 2017.
- ◆ Since 2022, there has been a decline in housing placements (down by 532) that correlates with an increase in homelessness (up 33%).
- ◆ 34% of the unhoused population are 55 years of age and older.
- ◆ Veteran homelessness has remained stable since 2022.

INTRODUCTION

Since 2015, Partners for HOME has served as the Atlanta Continuum of Care's Collaborative Applicant and partner in developing and implementing strategies to end homelessness in the City of Atlanta. Partners for HOME conducts the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count annually in the City of Atlanta. The PIT Count is a census of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness who are residing in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens during the last 10 days of January, as well as

a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness during odd numbered years. Each count is planned, coordinated and carried out locally.

The Atlanta Continuum of Care adopted a five-year strategic plan in 2017 that guided the coalition on key priorities that would end homelessness across chronic, family, veteran and youth subpopulations. Since its adoption, the Atlanta CoC has worked with partner agencies to introduce several key initiatives that have aided in efforts to end homelessness for many unhoused neighbors. This includes:

- ◆ **PSH Pipeline:** supported by the \$50M HomeFirst public-partnership launched by the United Way of Greater Atlanta's Regional Commission on Homelessness (RCOH) and Invest Atlanta (acting for the City of Atlanta) to create 550 new units of permanent supportive housing units for people experiencing homelessness. To date, 563 units have been funded as part of the pipeline, with approximately 100 units online and occupied by formally unhoused neighbors.
- ◆ **LIFT 1.0:** a COVID-19 homeless response plan launched in 2020. Over \$19M of federal stimulus funds were leveraged with \$5.1M of private philanthropic dollars raised by Partners for HOME to stably house 2,000 households during the early



Volunteers prepare to conduct PIT counts.

months of the pandemic. This housing goal included rapidly rehousing 800 households and diverting 1,200 households from the homeless response system. To date, Partners for HOME has rapidly rehoused 832 households and diverted an additional 1,077 households.

- ◆ **LIFT 2.0:** a homeless response plan to house 1,500 households by December 31, 2024. LIFT 2.0 expands on the LIFT 1.0 model and utilizes investments from City, State and private funding partners to scale interventions for unsheltered and chronic populations in the City of Atlanta. Since its launch in the fall of 2022, 213 households have been housed.

While these efforts have produced early successes, dynamic market conditions have played a critical role in changes in the 2023 PIT Count. Overall, the report reflects an increase in homelessness across multiple subpopulations that correlates with a decline in housing placements. While there have been nominal declines in Black men experiencing

homelessness, the overrepresentation of this population in the data highlights a need for more exploration in homeless response systems that can deepen knowledge on how individuals navigate the system and what key factors are contributing to higher rates based on race and gender.

New this year is expanded data collection and reporting requirements related to age. Distinguishing by age allows communities to understand the impact of homelessness on older adults, whose information in the past has been hidden under aggregated data.

The PIT Count is only an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness. The numbers do not account for the thousands of people experiencing housing instability and who reside in places like motels or doubling up with family and friends. However, the numbers do provide communities with a starting point for conversations and tactics surrounding interventions and services needed to end homelessness for our unhoused neighbors.



Volunteers prepare for the 2023 PIT Count.

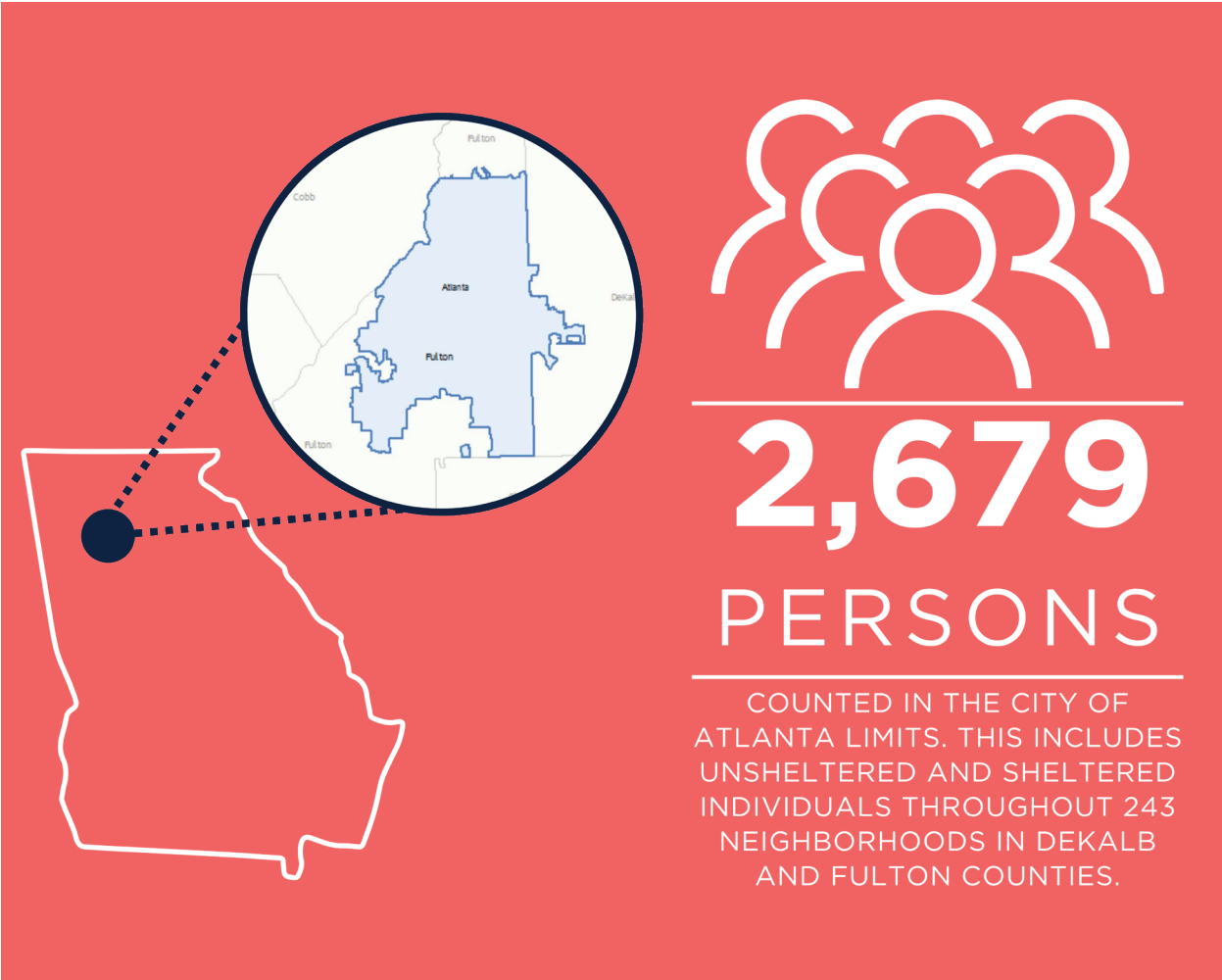
METHODOLOGY

The data collected in this report provides the best estimate of the City of Atlanta’s number of sheltered and unsheltered people who are experiencing homelessness. Data collected informs decision-making by local, state and national stakeholders to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring.

Partners for HOME worked with over 250 volunteers to survey and collect data for the 2023 PIT Count. The Atlanta Continuum of Care covers the entire geography within the City of Atlanta limits. This includes 243 neighborhoods located in DeKalb and Fulton Counties.

Partners for HOME uses HUD’s definition of homelessness when including individuals and families in the annual PIT Count. Those surveyed were individuals and families staying in shelters or places not meant for habitation, as well as individuals and families fleeing domestic violence on the night of January 23, 2023. From January 24 through January 30, additional surveys were conducted at partner sites to account for individuals who may have been missed on the night of January 23.

Finally, data was captured from ClientTrack, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) used to document people living in transitional housing and emergency shelters. All survey and HMIS information were then compiled to develop a census of the number of people experiencing homelessness in the City of Atlanta.



OVERALL TRENDS

Since the adoption of the Atlanta CoC’s ClearPath strategic plan in 2017, Partners for HOME has implemented housing interventions that have resulted in a 25% reduction in the total population of people experiencing homelessness. The total number of people experiencing homelessness is down 893 individuals since 2017 and down 561 people since 2020 (onset of the COVID-19 pandemic).

TOTAL: People Experiencing Homelessness by Year

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Sheltered	2,891	2,336	2,498	2,301	1,996	1,377	1,941
Unsheltered	681	740	719	939	N/A*	640	738
TOTAL	3,572	3,076	3,217	3,240	N/A*	2,017	2,679

**HUD waived the unsheltered count requirement in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*



OTHER CHARACTERISTIC TRENDS

Data presented below reflects the 2023 “other characteristics” for sheltered and unsheltered populations residing in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of January 23, 2023. This includes individuals identifying as having a serious mental illness; substance use disorder; HIV/AIDS; or a survivor of domestic violence. For clarity, some of the people represented in the numbers below, could be included in one or more of the categories listed.

TOTAL: People Identifying with Other Characteristics

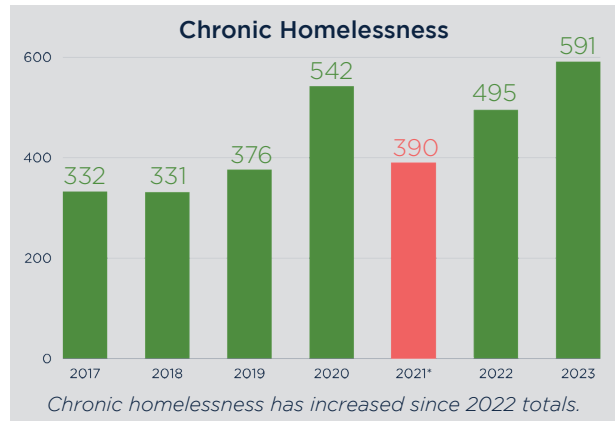
Characteristic	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	Total Change 2022/2023
Serious Mental Illness	496	222	308	1,026	+286
Substance Use Disorder	307	158	263	728	+89
HIV/AIDS	74	15	26	115	-10
Domestic Violence Survivors	35	4	104	143	+89

SUBPOPULATION TRENDS

The Atlanta Continuum of Care’s ClearPath strategic plan has established priorities of ending homelessness for chronic, family, youth and veteran subpopulations. The following graphs present trends in these respective subpopulations since the adoption of the strategic plan in 2017.

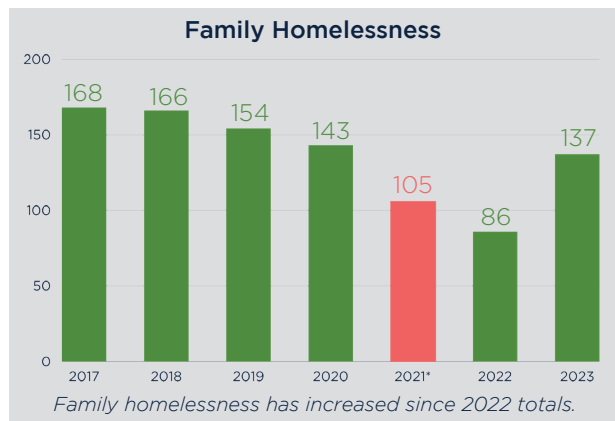
Chronic Homelessness

HUD defines someone as chronically homeless when they have at least one disabling condition (e.g. a substance use disorder, mental illness, chronic health condition, disability) **AND** have been consecutively homeless for at least one year **OR** have been homeless at least four times in the past three years, with a cumulative time of at least one year.



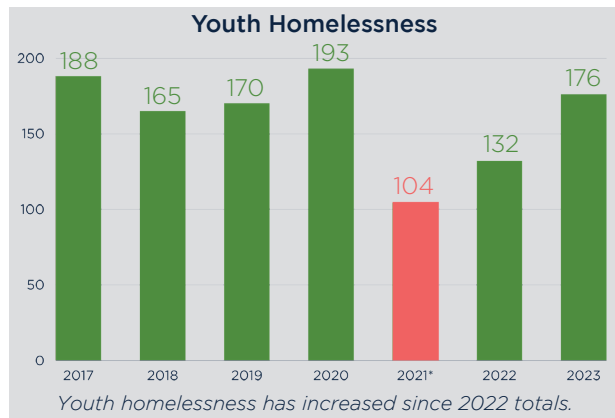
Family Homelessness

A household consisting of a parent/guardian(s) with at least one minor child under the age of 18.



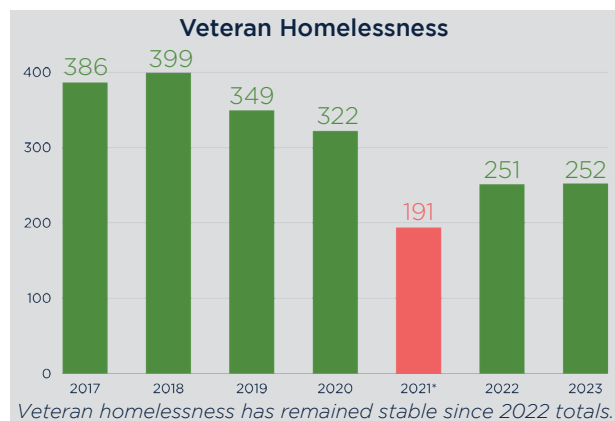
Youth Homelessness

Youth include young adults between the ages of 18-24 who are either unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent/legal guardian) or parenting (youth parent/legal guardian of a minor child under the age of 18).



Veteran Homelessness

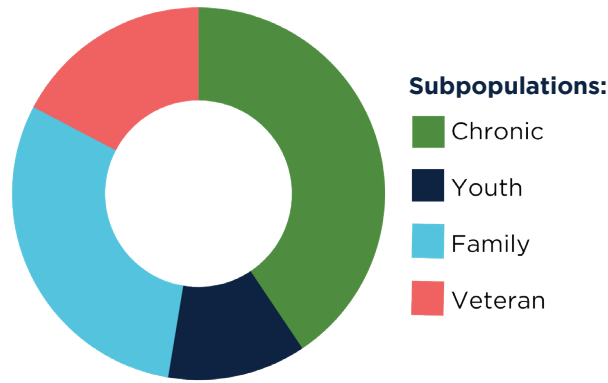
An adult who has indicated they have served in the United States Armed Forces.



**2021 data does not include unsheltered count.*

TOTALS

Up 662 individuals since 2022.

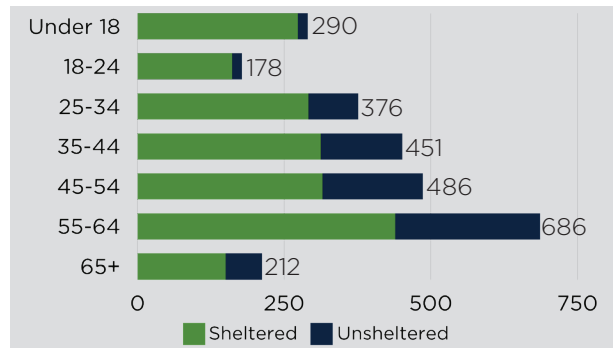
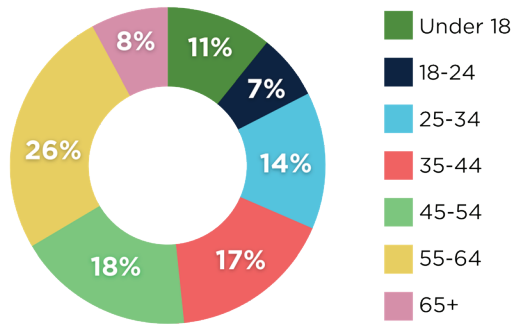


		Unit	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
TOTALS*:			1,333	608	738	2,679	
Subpopulations							
Chronic	Individual	205	0	386	591	22.1%	
Youth	Individual	101	57	17	175	6.5%	
Family	Individual	281	134	23	438	16.3%	
	Household	88	43	6	137		
Veteran	Individual	65	104	83	252	9.4%	
Age							
Under 18	Individual	185	88	17	290	10.8%	
18-24	Individual	103	58	17	178	6.6%	
25-34	Individual	190	101	85	376	14.0%	
35-44	Individual	215	97	139	451	16.8%	
45-54	Individual	228	87	171	486	18.1%	
55-64	Individual	299	140	247	686	25.6%	
65+	Individual	113	37	62	212	7.9%	
Gender							
Female	Individual	437	183	139	759	28.3%	
Male	Individual	878	423	586	1,887	70.4%	
Transgender	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Gender Non-Conforming	Individual	4	1	2	7	0.3%	
Questioning	Individual	14	1	11	26	1.0%	
Ethnicity							
Non-Hispanic	Individual	1,287	590	694	2,571	96.0%	
Hispanic	Individual	46	18	44	108	4.0%	
Race							
White	Individual	193	73	76	342	12.8%	
African American	Individual	1,105	507	602	2,214	82.6%	
Asian	Individual	6	4	2	12	0.4%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	Individual	7	4	4	15	0.6%	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Individual	4	1	3	8	0.3%	
Multiple Races	Individual	18	19	51	88	3.3%	

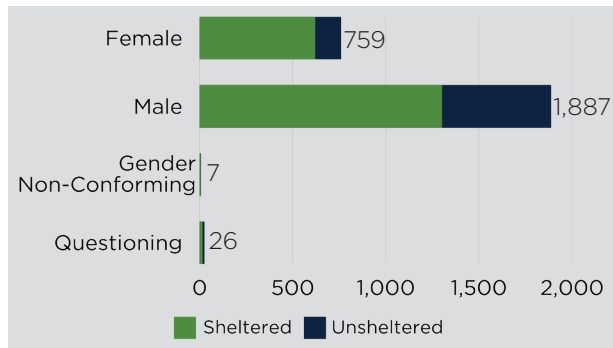
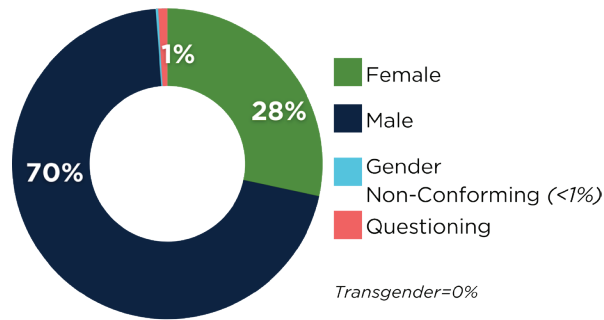
*Totals reflect number of people surveyed and not totals by subpopulation.

TOTALS

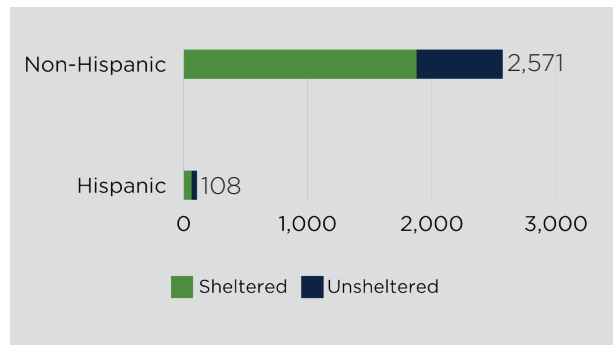
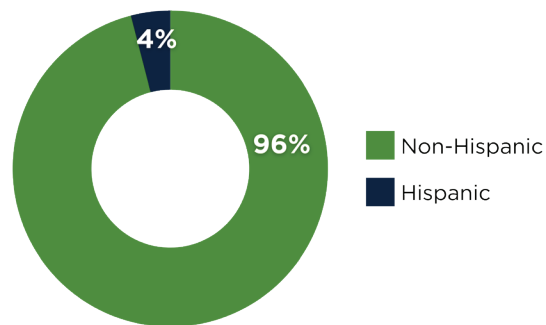
Age



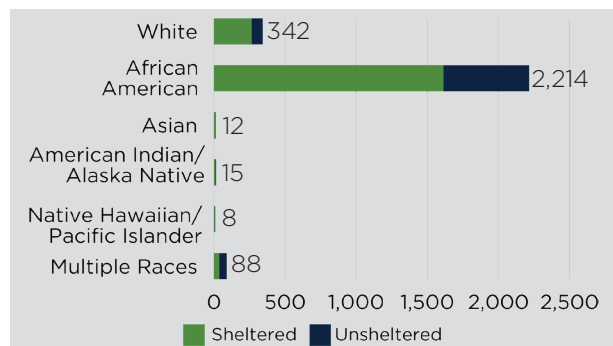
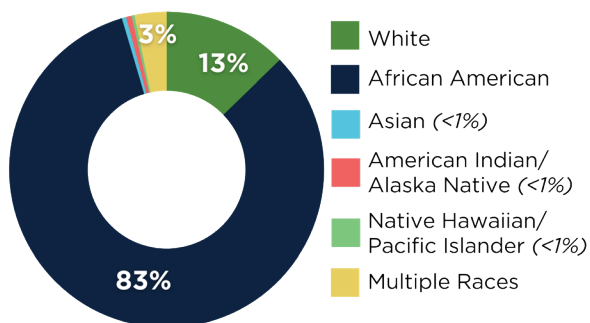
Gender



Ethnicity

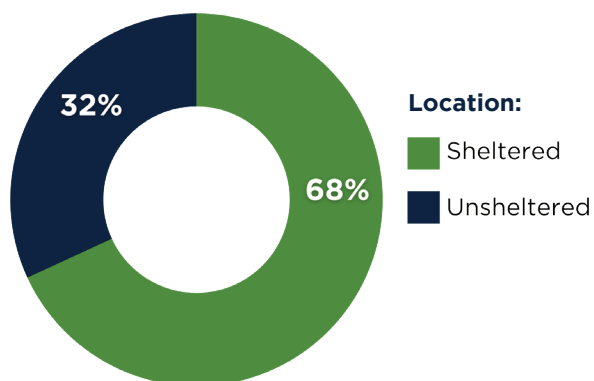


Race



ADULTS

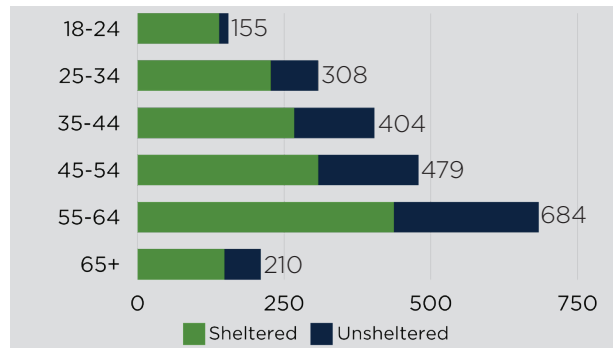
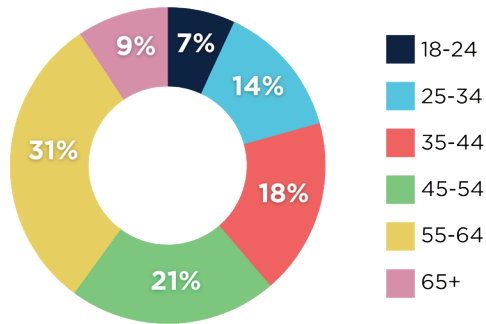
Up 476 individuals since 2022.



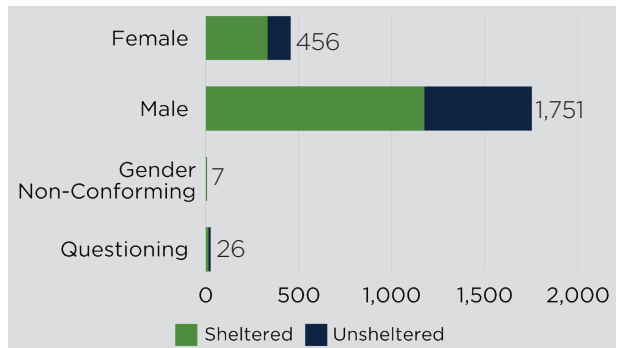
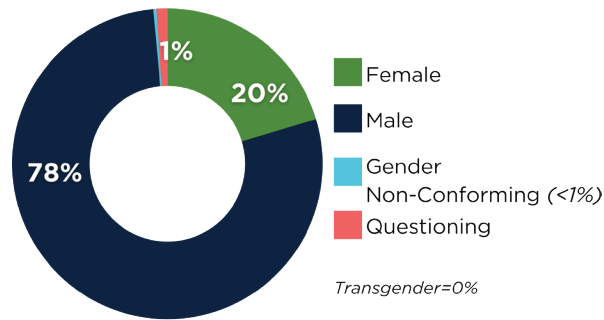
	Unit	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
TOTALS:		1,052	474	714	2,240	
Age						
18-24	Individual	91	48	16	155	6.9%
25-34	Individual	143	84	81	308	13.8%
35-44	Individual	183	84	137	404	18.0%
45-54	Individual	225	83	171	479	21.4%
55-64	Individual	298	139	247	684	30.5%
65+	Individual	112	36	62	210	9.4%
Gender						
Female	Individual	242	90	124	456	20.4%
Male	Individual	792	382	577	1,751	78.2%
Transgender	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Gender Non-Conforming	Individual	4	1	2	7	0.3%
Questioning	Individual	14	1	11	26	1.2%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	Individual	1,011	460	674	2,145	95.8%
Hispanic	Individual	41	14	40	95	4.2%
Race						
White	Individual	172	72	75	319	14.2%
African American	Individual	847	378	581	1,806	80.6%
Asian	Individual	6	4	2	12	0.5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	Individual	7	3	4	14	0.6%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Individual	4	1	3	8	0.4%
Multiple Races	Individual	16	16	49	81	3.6%

ADULTS

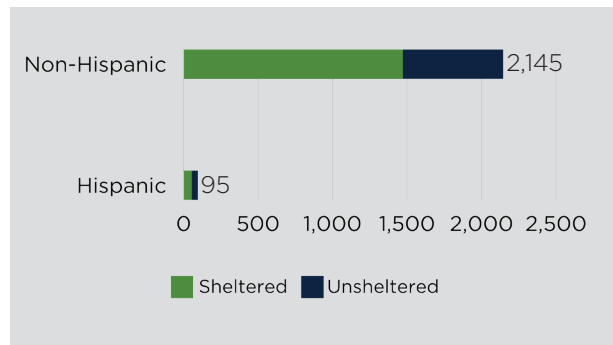
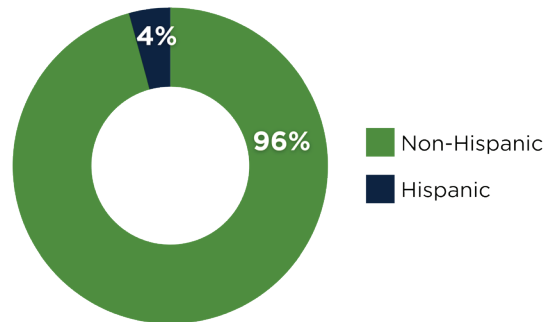
Age



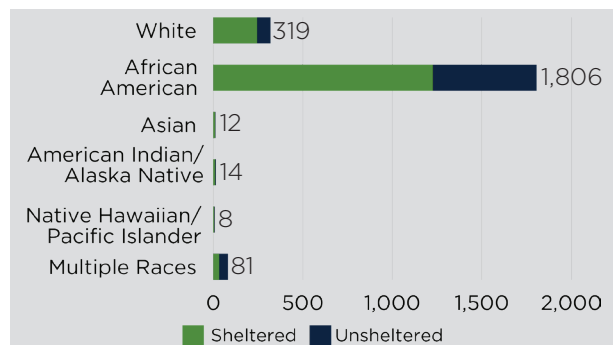
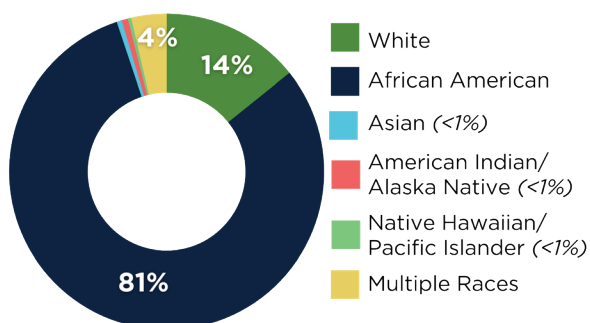
Gender



Ethnicity

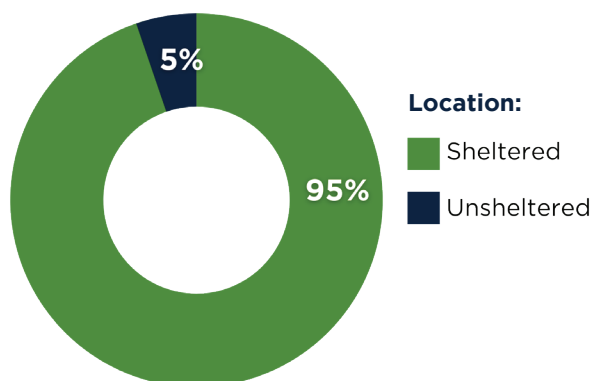


Race



FAMILIES

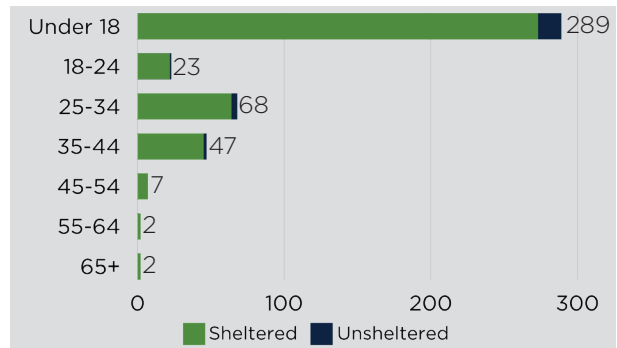
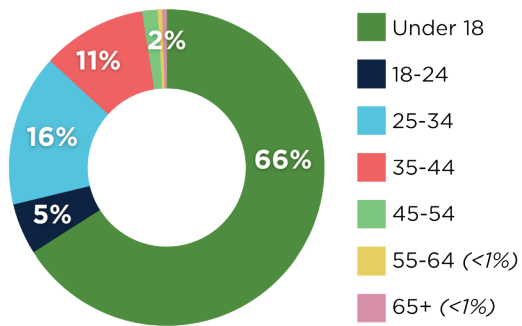
Up 186 individuals since 2022.



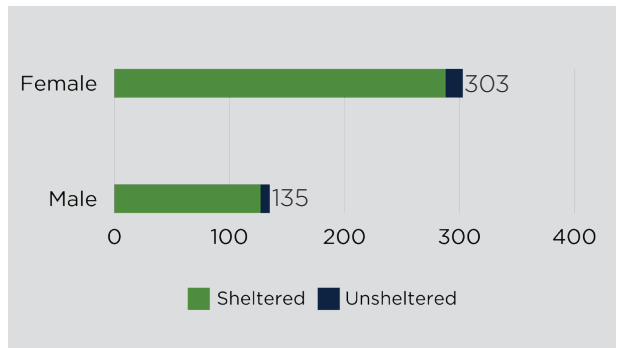
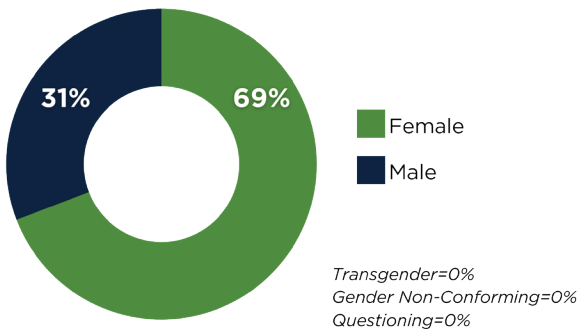
Unit		Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
TOTAL Household:		88	43	6	137	
TOTAL Individual:		281	134	23	438	
Age						
Under 18	Individual	185	88	16	289	66.0%
18-24	Individual	12	10	1	23	5.3%
25-34	Individual	47	17	4	68	15.5%
35-44	Individual	32	13	2	47	10.7%
45-54	Individual	3	4	0	7	1.6%
55-64	Individual	1	1	0	2	0.5%
65+	Individual	1	1	0	2	0.5%
Gender						
Female	Individual	195	93	15	303	69.2%
Male	Individual	86	41	8	135	30.8%
Transgender	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Gender Non-Conforming	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Questioning	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	Individual	276	130	19	425	97.0%
Hispanic	Individual	5	4	4	13	3.0%
Race						
White	Individual	21	1	1	23	5.3%
African American	Individual	258	129	20	407	92.9%
Asian	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	Individual	0	1	0	1	0.2%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Multiple Races	Individual	2	3	2	7	1.6%

FAMILIES *(by number of individuals in families)*

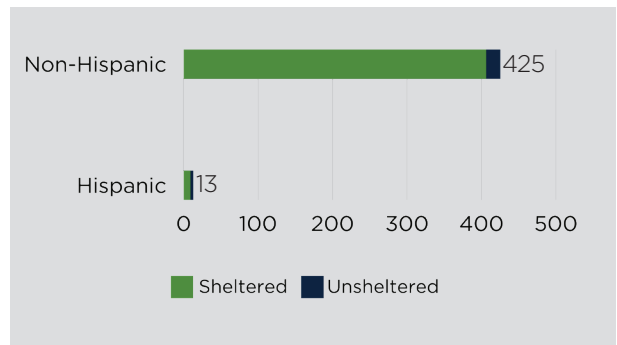
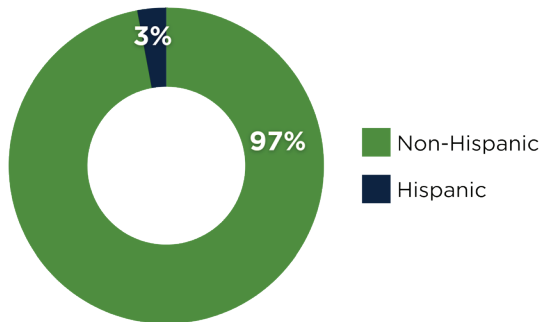
Age



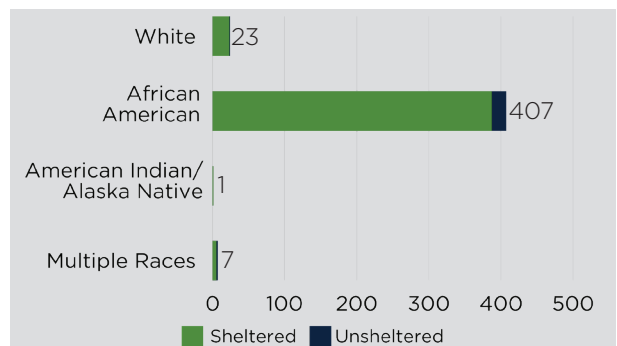
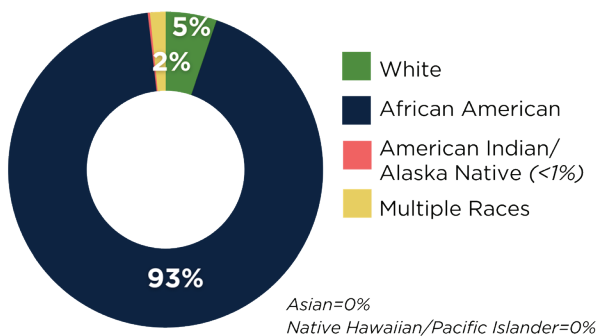
Gender



Ethnicity

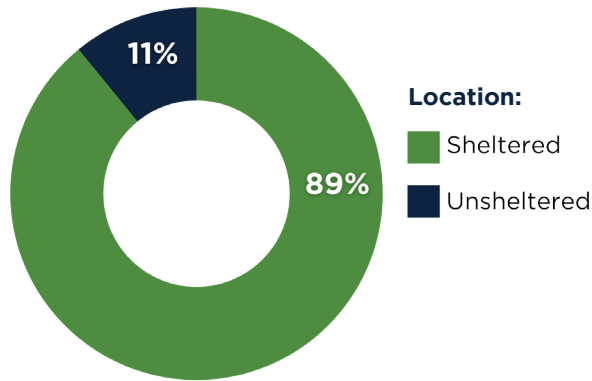


Race



YOUTH

Up 76 individuals since 2022.

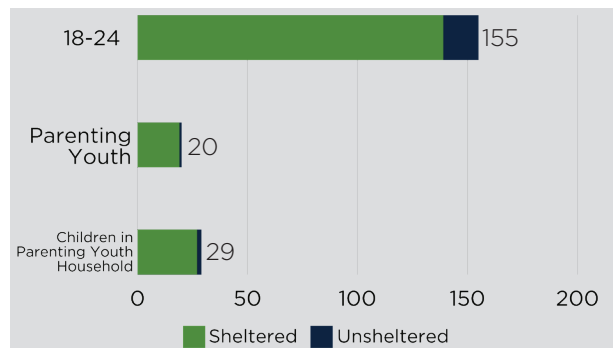


	Unit	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
TOTALS:		91	48	17	156	
Age						
Under 18	Individual	0	0	1	1	0.6%
18-24	Individual	91	48	16	155	99.4%
Parenting Youth*	Individual	10	9	1	20	12.8%
Children in Parenting Youth Household	Individual	13	14	2	29	18.6%
Gender						
Female	Individual	37	13	6	56	35.9%
Male	Individual	47	33	11	91	58.3%
Transgender	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Gender Non-Conforming	Individual	2	1	0	3	1.9%
Questioning	Individual	5	1	0	6	3.8%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	Individual	85	44	15	144	92.3%
Hispanic	Individual	6	4	2	12	7.7%
Race						
White	Individual	12	3	1	16	10.3%
African American	Individual	69	40	13	122	78.2%
Asian	Individual	1	1	0	2	1.3%
American Indian/Alaska Native	Individual	3	0	0	3	1.9%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Individual	0	0	1	1	0.6%
Multiple Races	Individual	6	4	2	12	7.7%

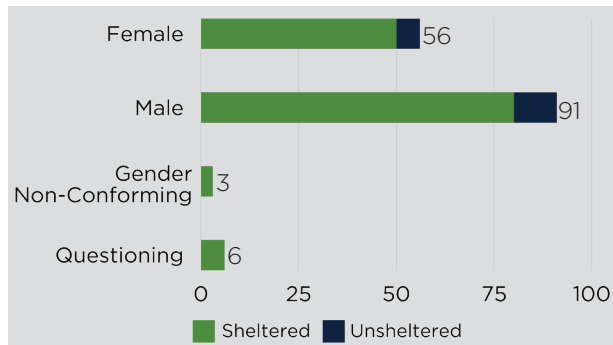
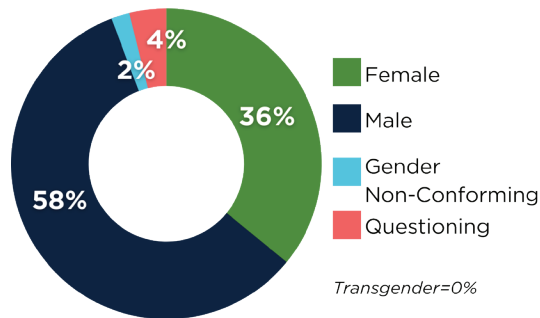
*Parenting Youth included in Family totals and not Youth totals.

YOUTH

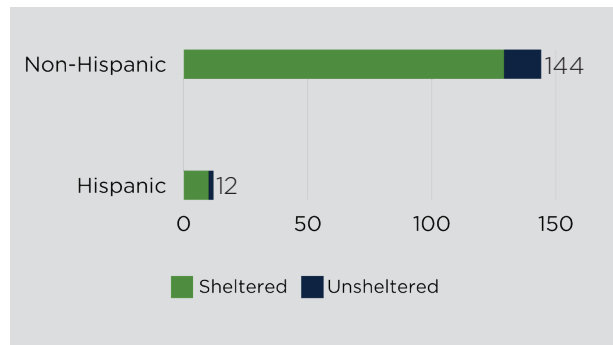
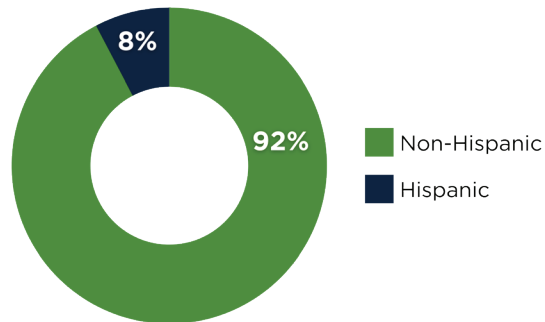
Age



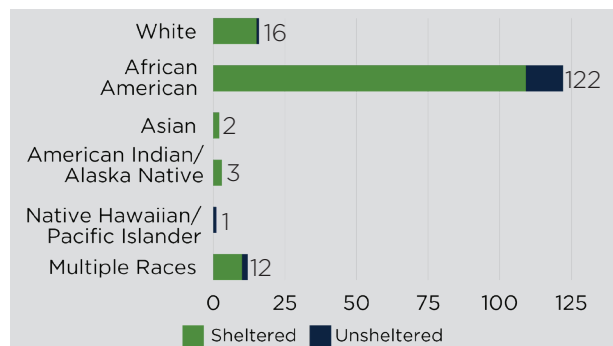
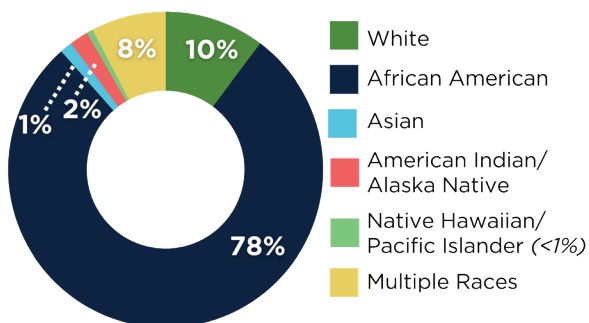
Gender



Ethnicity

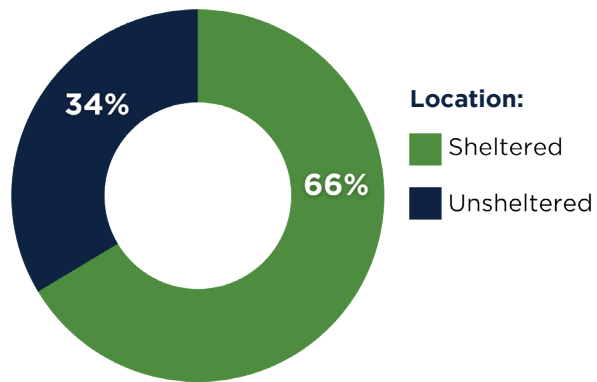


Race



VETERANS

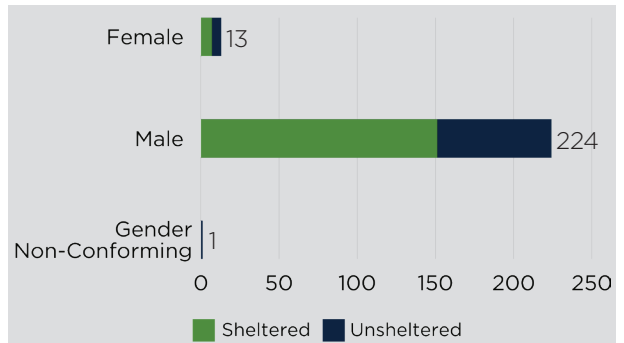
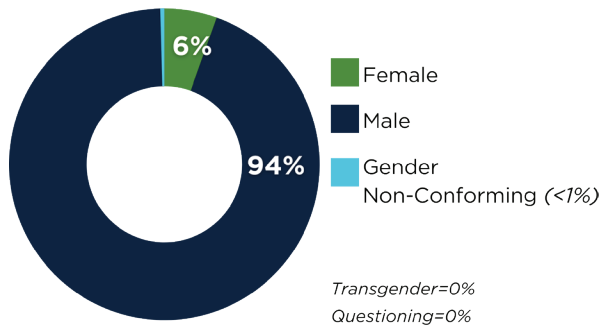
Up 1 individual sine 2022.



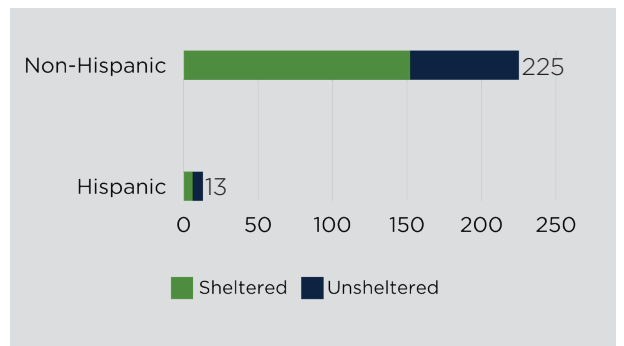
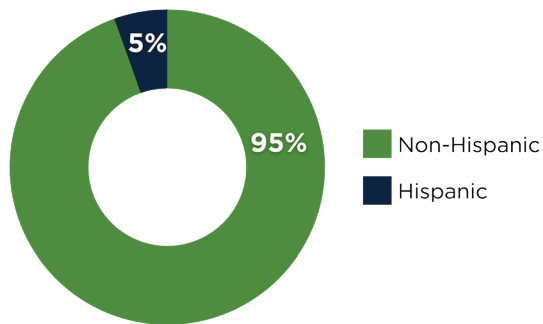
	Unit	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
TOTALS:		54	104	80	238	
Gender						
Female	Individual	4	3	6	13	5.5%
Male	Individual	50	101	73	224	94.1%
Transgender	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Gender Non-Conforming	Individual	0	0	1	1	0.4%
Questioning	Individual	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	Individual	52	100	73	225	94.5%
Hispanic	Individual	2	4	7	13	5.5%
Race						
White	Individual	6	15	9	30	12.6%
African American	Individual	47	81	59	187	78.6%
Asian	Individual	0	1	0	1	0.4%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	Individual	0	1	2	3	1.3%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Individual	0	0	1	1	0.4%
Multiple Races	Individual	1	6	9	16	6.7%

VETERANS

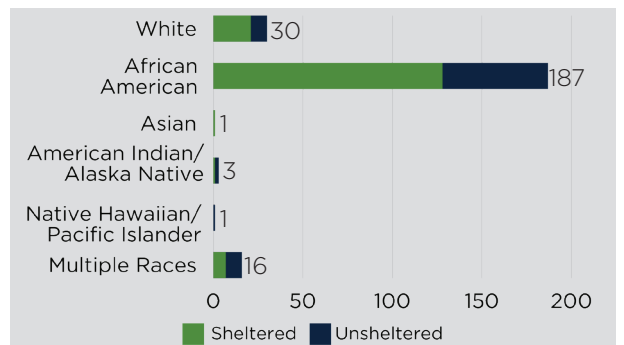
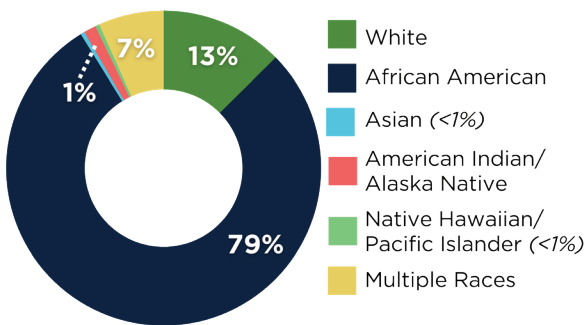
Age



Ethnicity



Race



VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

In 2023, over 250 volunteers took part in the PIT Count. This census of the number of people experiencing homelessness in the City of Atlanta includes volunteers from direct service providers, government, business and community organizations. The count is not possible without their ongoing support.



HOUSING

In addition to an assessment of people experiencing homelessness, housing is tracked to inform the community on the number of beds available and used during the Housing Inventory Count; national occupancy rate trends; and housing placement by housing intervention type. These data points help share a more complete picture of the local homeless ecosystem and resources used by clients.

Housing Inventory Count

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is a point-in-time inventory of programs within a Continuum of Care that provide beds and units dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness (and, for permanent housing projects, were homeless at entry per the HUD homeless definition). It is categorized by four program types in the City of Atlanta, including Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing + Other Permanent Housing, and Rapid Rehousing.

TOTAL: Beds and Utilization Rate Chart

Housing Inventory Type	Beds Used	Total Beds	% Utilization
Emergency Shelter	1,306	1,869	70%
Transitional Housing	608	920	66%
Permanent Supportive Housing + Other PH	898	1,124	80%
Rapid Rehousing	539	559	96%
TOTAL:	3,351	4,472	75%

TOTAL: Housing by Housing Intervention*

Housing Inventory Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Permanent Supportive Housing	1,763	1,786	1,404	1,472	1,879	1,775	1,581
Other Permanent Housing	0	0	162	182	53	135	266
Rapid Rehousing	177	652	683	710	956	1,024	559

**Data reflects number of people housed at time of data collection and not total program enrollment.*



IMPLICATIONS

Housing Market

During the pandemic, housing inventory, coupled with landlord incentives to hold units, made it possible to accelerate housing placements for people experiencing homelessness. Over 800 housing placements were made. As we transition to a post-COVID landscape, the City of Atlanta has been impacted by a market where housing affordability plays a key role in the supply of units available for its residents. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, there is a deficit of 22,000 affordable and available units of housing to meet the needs of people impacted by low-income and homelessness. With the cost of rental units increasing, demand now exceeds supply as we enter into a competitive rental market.

Housing Placements

COVID-19 market conditions provided an opportunity to move individuals into housing at a significantly faster pace than the past several months. In 2021, nearly 1,000 housing placements were made during the pandemic. As the years progressed, this number has declined to approximately 700 in 2022, and even less in the early part of 2023. When the pace and scale of housing placements decline, homelessness increases.

NEXT STEPS

Partners for HOME has secured over \$31 million in government and private funds to house 1,500 households by December 31, 2024. The LIFT 2.0 rehousing strategy builds on successes during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and uses motels as non-congregate shelter to target people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Expanded outreach and navigation, unit acquisition, diversion and intensive case management efforts are currently underway with over 200 households being placed into available units across the metro Atlanta area.

To address the urgent needs of quick, low-cost options for people experiencing homelessness, the Atlanta CoC is partnering with the City of Atlanta to create temporary, semi-permanent and permanent units that can serve as shelter or permanent housing for unhoused neighbors. These developments will engage local neighborhoods in community design, while allowing for a new way to provide low barrier shelter and affordable housing across the City of Atlanta. These units can take the form of pallet shelters, tiny homes or shipping container homes and offer the City a way to place more unhoused neighbors into homes.

Finally, the Atlanta Continuum of Care is embarking on its next five-year strategic plan to end homelessness. Strategic planning efforts began in 2022 and have resulted in several community meetings with various stakeholders to build on scalable solutions and identify new ways to end to homelessness for our unhoused neighbors.

The Atlanta Continuum of Care is a coalition of over 150 stakeholders in the City of Atlanta united through one goal – ending homelessness.

PARTNERS FOR
HOME

Partners for HOME serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the Atlanta Continuum of Care (CoC) — a HUD program that promotes community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness and provides funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and state and local governments to quickly rehouse people impacted by homelessness.

We bring together government, nonprofit, business and community stakeholders to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring.

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