2025 SNAPSHOT OF HOMELESSNESS IN CHICAGO



OVERVIEW

The Point-In-Time (PIT) Count is an annual estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters, transitional housing, Safe Havens, encampments, and other unsheltered locations not meant for human habitation. The PIT Count is one data point out of many that helps inform federal funding, services, and resource planning for homeless response in Chicago. The 2025 PIT Count occurred on Thursday, January 23, 2025, and included all those who were experiencing literal homelessness on the night of the count. This includes Newcomers who are defined this year as anyone born in another country who arrived to the United States within 1 year of the PIT Count date (1/23/2024-1/23/2025).

2025 TOPLINE RESULTS 7,452



Total residents counted as experiencing homelessness on January 23, 2025

6,136

Total individuals residing in sheltered locations

1,316

Total individuals residing in unsheltered locations

PIT COUNT: TOTAL ESTIMATE OF PEOPLE COUNTED, 2015–2025

| 2015 | 2,055 | 4,731 | 6,786 | | Unsheltered Non-New Arrivals |
|------|-------|--------------------------|-------------|--------|------------------------------|
| 2016 | 1,243 | 4,646 | 5,889 | | Unsheltered New Arrivals |
| 2017 | 1,561 | 4,096 | 5,657 | | Unsheltered Non-Newcomers |
| 2018 | 1,357 | 4,093 | 5,450 | | Unsheltered Newcomers |
| 2019 | 1,260 | 4,030 | 5,290 | | Sheltered Non-New Arrivals |
| | | 3,861 | 5,390 | | Sheltered New Arrivals |
| 2021 | | 3,023 4,4 | -77 | | Sheltered Non-Newcomers |
| | | 2,612 3,875 | | | |
| | 970 2 | ⁰ 2,973 2, | 6,139 | | Sheltered Newcomers |
| 2024 | | <mark>, 212</mark> 3,523 | | 13,679 | 18,836 |
| 2025 | - 1 | 4,863 | 1,273 7,452 | | |

*2025 PIT Updated definition of Newcomers - Newcomers were born in another country who arrived in the U.S. between 1/23/2024-1/23/2025. New Arrivals were those who left their home country to seek asylum and/or find better opportunities in the U.S., arriving in Chicago in need of assistance beginning in August 2022.

TRENDS

Change in Federal Policies and Trends with Newcomers

There was a 64% decrease in the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness from 2024 to 2025. The change in federal immigration policies at the U.S. Southwest border in 2024 and early 2025 curbed the inflow of Newcomers coming to Chicago ahead of the 2025 PIT. As a result, there was a decrease in shelter demand locally for this subpopulation leading to a change in the City's emergency shelter capacity as most Newcomer/New Arrival designated shelters were decompressed. On the night of the PIT Count, five shelters remained in operation as part of the local One System Initiative (OSI) that integrated shelter capacity to serve anyone experiencing homelessness in Chicago at the start of 2025.

New Resources Dedicated to Unsheltered Homelessness

Since the 2024 Count, there was a 19% decrease in the number of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This was the result of 158 new seasonal shelter beds coming online in winter of 2024/25, 200 new overflow beds for single adults opening at the Shelter Placement and Resource Center, and increased housing-focused outreach coordination across Continuum of Care (CoC) street outreach providers and new Unsheltered Homelessness Initiative (UHI) resources, which housed more people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Rapid Re-housing (RRH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units starting in mid-2024.

High Number of People Experiencing Homelessness for First Time

The post-pandemic housing and economic situations locally have strained low-income households and made it harder for people to remain or get housed. Looking at PIT and other homeless services data in Chicago, there are more people experiencing homelessness for the first time than housing resources can support. On an average day in 2024, for every 6 people housed through our CoC resources, 40 people were new to experiencing homelessness in the last 2 years. This level of need has increased since 2023, among the non-newcomer population.

2025 DEMOGRAPHICS

The number of those who identify as Hispanic/Latino/a/x made up a smaller share of the total population in this year's count, compared to 2023 and 2024. Similar to previous years, Black people continue to be disproportionately impacted by homelessness in Chicago. While under one-third of Chicago's population identifies as Black/African American, 53% of the total population experiencing homelessness in the 2025 PIT identified as Non-Latinx Black/African American. The total population of those experiencing homelessness is the combination of the sheltered and unsheltered population totals. When comparing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness, on average, those in unsheltered locations tend to be older and adult-only households.



PERCENT OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY AGE RANGE



The PIT Count is organized and led by the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services in collaboration with All Chicago and the Nathalie P. Voorhees Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The 2025 results will be found at: <u>www.cityofchicago.org/fss</u>. Previous years' findings about Chicago's homeless trends can be found at that same link. The PIT Count is an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness one night each year. It is not an estimate throughout the year, and it does not include those in unstable housing situations.