

Homelessness in Chester County at One Point in Time

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT REPORT

June 26, 2025



CHESTER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT



On the evening of Wednesday, January 29 and early hours of Thursday, January 30, 2025, the Chester County Department of Community Development (DCD) facilitated the annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT). This is a national effort sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and data from the count is included in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), which is presented to Congress. The purpose of this initiative is to determine the number of people currently experiencing homelessness on a given night, to better understand homelessness in Chester County and across the nation, and to support the Chester County Partnership to End Homelessness' efforts to prevent and solve homelessness.

Total Number of People Experiencing Homelessness in Chester County on January 29, 2025

313

Total PIT Count

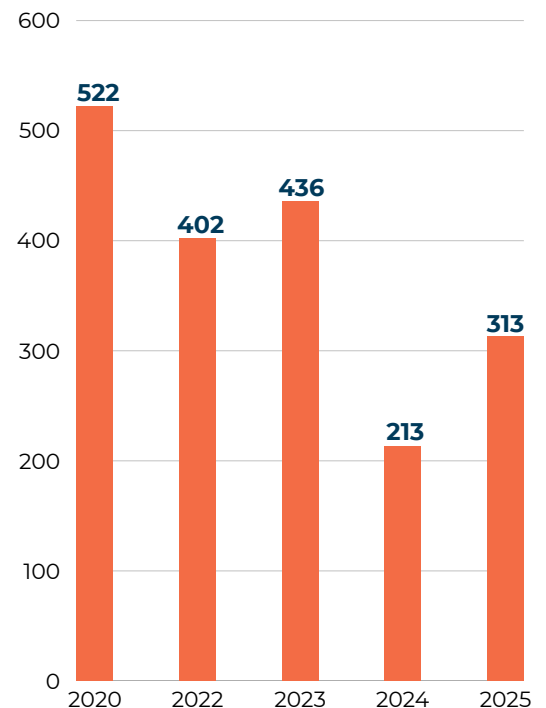
313 people were experiencing homelessness in Chester County on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. While this marks an increase from last year, this year's total is well below the 5- and 10- year averages of 376 and 470, respectively. The PIT is conducted with consistency, but results naturally vary due to external factors.

While the County's goal is to decrease the total count over time, the PIT only shows a small part of the much bigger reality of homelessness in our community and a snapshot of a single night.

Several factors may have contributed to the increase this year. Colder weather on the night of the PIT could have led more individuals to seek emergency and extreme weather shelter. Additionally, key programs had less availability in 2024 and early 2025. Notably, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, which helped more than 4,500 households, ended in February 2024.

Our work is ongoing, and despite evolving challenges like the lack of affordably priced housing, we remain focused on solutions that extend far beyond the snapshot the PIT provides. While the numbers depict a rising trend in homelessness, we continue to make long-term progress in ensuring every person in our community has a safe, stable place to call home.

Number of People Experiencing Homelessness the Night of the PIT Over the Last 5 Years



In 2021, Chester County did not conduct a comprehensive Point-in-Time Count due to COVID-19.

We know that PIT data relies on a manual count of homelessness and only shows a snapshot of homelessness in our community. Because each year the numbers vary, we utilize and present this data jointly with our **Continuum of Care System Performance Data** for a more holistic view of homelessness in Chester County. Together, both sets of data serve as an important tool for educating the public about homelessness, improving housing services, and advocating for the development of more affordable housing.

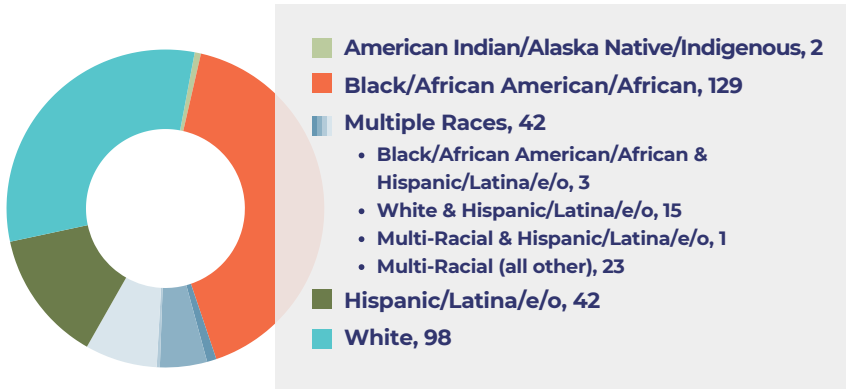
Demographic Breakdown

Race

Systemic racism has created disparities and inequities within our community that contribute to disproportionately higher numbers of Black people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. People who identify as Black or African American make up just 6% of Chester County's population, yet they make up 41% of people experiencing homelessness in our community. 61 people or 19% identified, at least in part, as Hispanic/Latina/e/o.

On any given night, people of color make up 69% of those experiencing homelessness in our community.

Race

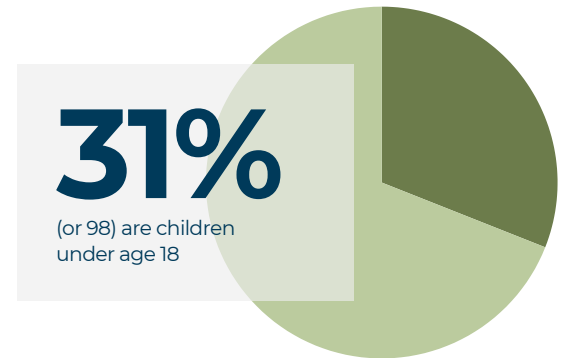


Households With Children

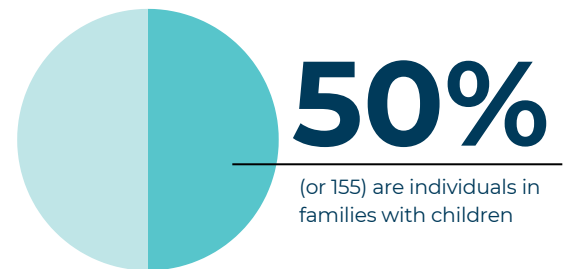
On any given night, 31% of people experiencing homelessness in Chester County are children. The 2025 PIT counted **98 children staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing.**

155 individuals or 50% of people experiencing homelessness are part of families with children.

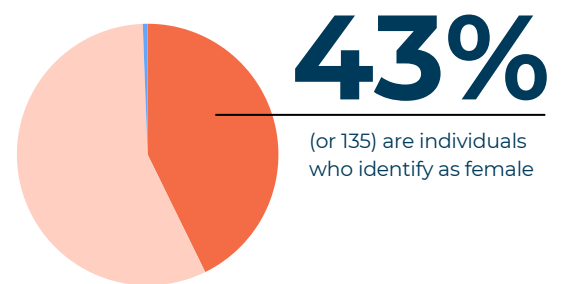
Children



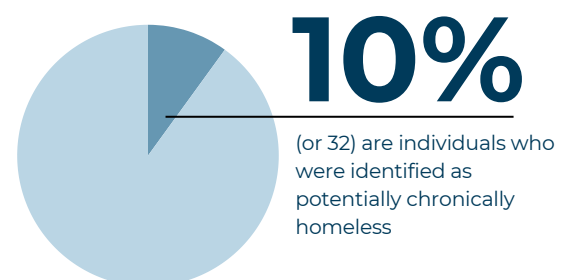
Families with Children



Identify as Female



Chronically Homeless



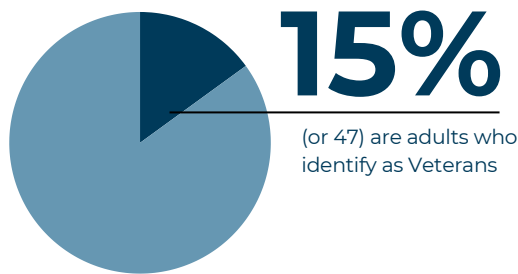
Women and Homelessness

Of the total 313 individuals counted, **135 or 43% identified as females**, including both adults and children.

Chronically Homeless

32 individuals or 10% of people experiencing homelessness have been identified as potentially chronically homeless, defined by HUD as someone who is currently homeless or has been residing in an institutional care facility for less than 90 days, has a disability, and has been homeless for 12 months or more, including families where the head of household—whether the head of household is an adult or a minor—has been homeless.

Identify as Veterans



Veterans

In the 2025 Point-in-Time Count, 47 Veterans were identified as experiencing homelessness in Chester County, representing 15% of the total count. Of those, 2 Veterans were unsheltered and 45 were adults in emergency shelters, representing 34% of all adults in emergency shelters.



Get involved

See how you can [partner with us](#) to end homelessness in Chester County. Connect with [@ChescoPartnership](#) on Facebook & [@EndHomelessnessChesco](#) on Instagram.

Sheltered Homelessness

287

people were living in a public or private temporary shelter, including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels

Sheltered Homelessness by Type and Household

	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing
Total	238	49
Individuals in Households with Children	104	49
Individuals in Households without Children	134	0

Unsheltered Homelessness

26

people were sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, or camping ground

Unsheltered Homelessness By Location

