



ANALYSIS OF PINELLAS COUNTY  
POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) DATA FROM  
2018 THROUGH 2022



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Each year, the number of individuals in Emergency, Transitional, and Safe Haven Shelters in Pinellas County, as well as a count of Unsheltered homeless individuals, is provided to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These data, along with supplemental data collected through the Unsheltered Point-in-Time Homeless Survey, Pinellas County Schools, and the Pinellas County Jail are reported to provide a broader understanding of the Pinellas County homeless population. This year, we present data collected from 2018 through 2022 to examine trends across time to gain insights concerning the nature of the homeless population.

Due to the effects of COVID-19, an Unsheltered Homeless Count was not conducted in 2021. Jail data were not available for 2021. Homeschooling at the end of 2019-2020 and throughout the 2020-2021 school year affected reporting through the Pinellas County Schools. These conditions largely made data reported in 2021 not comparable to data collected in prior years. However, in most cases, trends begun prior to the effects of COVID-19 were resumed in data collected in 2022. 2021 data was excluded from the current report to help clarify these trends.

The total number of homeless individuals in the Point-in-Time (PIT) Survey Count has declined to 1,985 persons in 2022 (Table 1). This continues a downtrend from 2018 onward. The decline has been driven by lower Emergency Shelter (Table 6) and Unsheltered (Table 9) homeless individuals. The decline in Pinellas Safe Harbor (Table 6) from 379 individuals in 2018 to 172 individuals in 2022 is associated most strongly with the decline in individuals in Emergency Shelters. The Unsheltered homeless count has declined from 965 in 2018 to 644 in 2022.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Jail Count (Table 16) had increased from 621 in 2018 to 714 in 2020. This trend reversed in 2022 with 626 individuals reported. Declines were found in both Clearwater and St. Petersburg from 2020 to 2022. The decline of 81 individuals in Clearwater was larger than the decline of 21 individuals in St. Petersburg.

The School Count population (Tables 17 and 18) had increased yearly through 2019 when 4,372 students were reported. This number decreased to 4,244 in 2020 with the onset of COVID-19. With return to onsite schooling in 2022, the upward trend seen through year 2019 resumed. 4,645 students were reported in 2022. These data indicate that there is a substantial population of individuals living with others or "couch surfing" that are not included in the PIT Count yet are nevertheless facing challenges associated with housing. Data indicate that a higher percentage of the School homeless population are African American (41.3% in 2022) relative to the non-homeless population (18.3% in 2022).

The number of Unaccompanied Youth in the HUD data (Table 20) have declined from 143 in 2018 to 40 in 2022. The School data (Table 22) suggest that the number of Unaccompanied Youth may be larger if the couch surfing population is considered. While larger than the HUD data, School Unaccompanied Youth have also declined in size from 518 in 2018 to 370 in 2022.

Pinellas County continues to have the highest rate of homeless Veterans in the PIT Count in the state of Florida<sup>1</sup>. The count shows no clear trend upward or downward from 2018 to 2022. The total number of homeless Veterans in 2018 was 281 while the count in 2022 was 310. Rates fluctuated in the interim years.

Data from 2019 through 2022 (Table 25) have consistently indicated that a large percentage of Unsheltered homeless individuals have either been lifetime Pinellas County residents (21.3% in 2022) or have been in

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<sup>1</sup>Florida's Council on Homelessness: 2022 Annual Report, p.36.

Pinellas one year or longer prior to becoming homeless (47.5% in 2022). A smaller percentage (12.8% in 2022) have been present in Pinellas County one week or less before becoming homeless.

Unsheltered Homeless Survey data indicate that a majority of the Unsheltered homeless population reside in St. Petersburg and Clearwater (Table 27). The population in St. Petersburg has declined yearly from 517 in 2018 to 291 in 2022. Despite a spike to 206 individuals in 2020, the Clearwater population has declined from 199 in 2018 to 131 in 2022. Remaining areas with populations above 10 individuals in 2022 include Largo (75), Lealman (37), Pinellas Park (39), and Tarpon Springs (26).

Subpopulation data (Table 28) consistently indicate that a significant percentage of the overall adult homeless population is affected by challenges associated with a Serious Mental Illness (23% in 2022) and/or Substance Use Disorder (18.3% in 2022). The rate of Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence spiked to 14.5% (245 individuals) among adults in 2022 from 7.1% (76 individuals) in 2021. The number of individuals reporting HIV/AIDS in 2022 (40) was the highest total in the 2018 to 2022 period. The total number of Unsheltered individuals who were ever in Foster Care (Table 29) declined to 97 (15.1%) in 2022 from 128 (15.8%) in 2020. This was consistent with declines seen overall in the Unsheltered population. There remains a significant number of Chronically Homeless individuals (451) and Veteran individuals (77) in 2022, while the number of Chronically Homeless families (9) and Veteran families (0) is much smaller.

Unsheltered homeless individuals consistently report Financial Problems as the most proximal cause of homelessness across years (Table 31). Family Break-Up /Family Problems/Family Issues, Medical Concern/Disability, Incarceration/Jail/Criminal History, and Alcohol or Drug Problems are the next four most likely responses. While Eviction is reported as the cause of homelessness by 5.7% of the population in 2022, separate questions suggest that lifetime eviction rates may be between 20% and 30%, with 10% of individuals evicted two or more times.

Survey responses suggest that Unsheltered homeless individuals in Pinellas County have lower levels of access to health services or a medical clinic than the general U.S. population<sup>2</sup>. 71% of Unsheltered homeless individuals in Pinellas County report having access to services while 88.6% of the U.S. general population report having a usual place to go for medical care.

Homeless individuals in Pinellas County (Table 35) report sexual orientation consistent with estimates in the general U.S. population. 91% of Unsheltered homeless individuals report themselves to be heterosexual; 2% report being gay or lesbian, and 3% report being bisexual.

Approximately 41% of Unsheltered homeless individuals surveyed indicate having attained less than a GED (Table 36), which is a much higher rate than in the general U.S. population<sup>3</sup>.

Point-in-Time results are discussed in relation to the housing crisis that currently exists across Florida and in Pinellas County<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> CDC.gov, FastStats: Access to Health Care. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/access-to-health-care.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Digest of Education Statistics, Rates of high school completion and bachelor's degree attainment among persons age 25 and over, by race/ethnicity and sex: Selected years, 1910 through 2018. Available at [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18\\_104.10.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18_104.10.asp)

<sup>4</sup> 2022 Annual Report, Florida's Council on Homelessness

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## INTRODUCTION

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Each year, each Continuum of Care (COC) is required to report the number of homeless persons within its community to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The count takes place on a single night within the last ten days of January and includes both sheltered and unsheltered persons. Sheltered persons are those residing in Emergency Shelters (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), or Safe Havens (SH). Unsheltered persons (UN) are those residing in places not meant for human habitation. The two primary sources for the data are the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for sheltered persons and the Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Survey for unsheltered persons.

In addition to data provided to HUD, data are obtained each year from the Pinellas County Jail and the Pinellas County School District. These data do not meet inclusion criteria for HUD yet are valuable toward efforts to estimate the size of the homeless population not classified as literally homeless.

This report examines data across each of these sources for years 2018 through 2022. Data for year 2021 are excluded as data collection issues related to COVID-19 made these data not comparable to prior years or to 2022.

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## METHOD

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### DATA

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#### POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS SURVEY DATA

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The Point-in-Time (PIT) Survey count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Safe Havens on a single night. Demographic and survey questions are asked in accord with HUD reporting requirements. Supplemental questions are included to provide useful information beyond the HUD requirements.

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#### HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) DATA

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HMIS is used to report data for individuals residing in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Safe Havens on the night of the PIT Count. HMIS contains data required by HUD.

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#### NON-HMIS SHELTERED DATA

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For the shelters not participating in HMIS - including shelters who serve victims of domestic violence - a separate survey is administered to obtain the aggregate data necessary for the HUD count and supplemental questions.

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## JAIL DATA

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The Jail Count is comprised of individuals residing in the Pinellas County Jail on the night of the PIT Count who were arrested while living on the street or a place which falls under the definition of not being meant for human habitation prior to entering the facility or reported an address of “transient” at booking. These individuals are not considered literally homeless according to HUD. As such, these data are provided separately.

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## PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS DATA

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The School Count identifies students who are Living in Hotels or Motels, Living in Emergency Shelters or Transitional Housing, Unsheltered, or Sharing Housing with Others. Students are identified through an initial survey at the start of the school year and are then added throughout the year as they come to the attention of district staff.

The Department of Education uses a broader definition of homelessness to include youth who “lack a fixed, regular, and nighttime residence”. The School Count is a cumulative count of all students who were identified as homeless throughout the school year. Each year the School Count concludes during the final week in July. The School Count only includes the student and does not include individuals with whom the student resides. Due to these differences, the School Count and the Point-in-Time Count are not analogous. However, the School Count does provide a perspective on the impact of housing pressures beyond the effects captured in the Point-in-Time Count.

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## ANALYSIS

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To fulfill the requirement that the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts must match exactly, Point-in-Time Homeless Survey respondents who reported living in shelters are cross-checked with the sheltered dataset. If they are not found in that dataset, they are designated as living in a place not meant for habitation. Additionally, Point-in-Time Homeless Survey respondents indicating that they are unsheltered are designated as being sheltered if they are found in the sheltered dataset.

Reporting data consistent with HUD requirements involves combining data concerning demographics, chronicity, disability status, Veteran status, Foster Care status, and domestic violence across homeless survey data, HMIS data, and non-HMIS shelter data. Homeless survey data are included in HUD counts if the individual reported residing in a place not meant for habitation. Non-HUD data for those reporting Couch Surfing are reported separately.

# RESULTS

## OVERALL HOMELESS DATA

Results presented in Table 1 include the total number of homeless households and persons for 2018-2022. Overall data for HUD, non-HUD survey (i.e., Couch Surfing), Jail, and School are presented first. These totals are then combined in a stepwise fashion to display combined results.

**Table 1**

Overall Homeless Data				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
<b>HUD</b>				
Households	2,346	2,152	1,979	1,658
Persons	2,612	2,415	2,226	1,985
<b>Non-HUD Survey (i.e., Couch Surfing)</b>				
Households	198	204	160	64
Persons	217	238	178	64
<b>Jail</b>				
Households	621	635	714	626
Persons	621	635	714	626
<b>School</b>				
Households	4,238	4,372	4,244	4,649
Persons	4,238	4,372	4,244	4,649
<b>TOTAL HUD and non-HUD</b>				
Households	2,544	2,356	2,139	1,722
Persons	2,829	2,653	2,404	2,049
<b>TOTAL HUD, non-HUD, and Jail</b>				
Households	3,165	2,991	2,853	2,348
Persons	3,450	3,288	3,118	2,675
<b>TOTAL HUD, non-HUD, Jail, and School Data</b>				
Households	7,403	7,363	7,097	6,997
Persons	7,688	7,660	7,362	7,324

Jail totals are consistent across years with the 2022-year total of 626 being almost identical to the 2018-year total of 621. School data have trended upward from years 2018 to 2022.

## HOMELESS DATA BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE

Results presented in Tables 2 through 5 separate the total number of households and persons across household types.

The school data only includes students and not others with whom students may be living. Adult and Child student totals are included below as having households of unknown composition.

**Table 2**

Pinellas County Schools: Overall Homeless Data for Households of Unknown Composition				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Adult				
Households	315	300	283	261
Persons	315	300	283	261
Child				
Households	3,923	4,072	3,961	4,384
Persons	3,923	4,072	3,961	4,384
Total				
Households	4,238	4,372	4,244	4,649
Persons	4,238	4,372	4,244	4,649

Each year the school data underrepresents the total number of individuals at risk for homelessness because the student is the one reported in the total. The student's family is not included in these totals, which would increase the overall number of individuals at risk for homelessness in Pinellas County. These numbers have trended upward from year 2018 to 2022, with the 2022-year total of 4,645 being the highest total recorded.

**Table 3**

Overall Homeless Data for Households with No Children				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
HUD				
Households	2,198	1,994	1,844	1,506
Persons	2,214	2,003	1,854	1,520
Non-HUD Survey (i.e., Couch Surfing)				
Households	189	194	154	64
Persons	191	195	157	64
Jail				
Households	621	635	714	626
Persons	621	635	714	626
TOTAL HUD and non-HUD				
Households	2,387	2,188	1,998	1,570
Persons	2,405	2,198	2,011	1,584
TOTAL HUD, non-HUD, and Jail				
Households	3,008	2,823	2,712	2,196
Persons	3,026	2,833	2,725	2,210

Households with No Children are the most prevalent household type. The downtrend in HUD totals for Households with No Children mirror the downtrend seen overall in HUD data from years 2018 to 2022. All jail data include Households with No Children and have remained relatively consistent from years 2018 to 2022 with the exception of the higher total of 714 persons in year 2020.

**Table 4**

Overall Homeless Data for Adult/Child Households				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
HUD				
Households	110	127	118	139
Persons	359	381	350	449
Non-HUD Survey (i.e., Couch Surfing)				
Households	7	10	6	0
Persons	24	43	21	0
Jail				
Households	0	0	0	0
Persons	0	0	0	0
TOTAL HUD and non-HUD				
Households	117	137	124	139
Persons	383	426	371	449
TOTAL HUD, non-HUD, and Jail				
Households	117	137	124	139
Persons	383	426	371	449

The number of persons in Adult/Child households in Table 4 reached the highest level in 2022 with 449 persons despite the survey not capturing any families in the couch surfing data.

**Table 5**

Overall Homeless Data for Households with Children Only				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
HUD				
Households	38	31	17	13
Persons	39	31	22	16
Non-HUD Survey (i.e., Couch Surfing)				
Households	2	0	0	0
Persons	2	0	0	0
Jail				
Households	0	0	0	0
Persons	0	0	0	0
TOTAL HUD and non-HUD				
Households	40	31	17	13
Persons	41	31	22	16
TOTAL HUD, non-HUD, and Jail				
Households	40	31	17	13
Persons	41	31	22	16

Households with Children Only are pregnant and/or parenting teenagers being reported at shelters without an adult present. These are low base rate data that have been trending downward from year 2018 to 2022. These data suggest that teenagers access housing outside of shelter supports.

## HOMELESS DATA BY SHELTER TYPE

Data below list occupancy counts for each shelter in the HUD survey from year 2018 to 2022. This is done separately for Emergency, Transitional, and Safe Haven shelters.

**Table 6**

HUD Homeless Count by Shelter- EMERGENCY SHELTERS				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Catholic Charities, Pinellas Hope	189	176	187	185
Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA)	112	100	97	82
Directions for Living ESG-CV St. Petersburg Hotel/Motel Vouchers	-	-	-	35
Family Promise of Pinellas County	13	8	1	-
Family Resources, SafePlace2B, Clearwater	5	2	4	2
Family Resources, SafePlace2B, St. Petersburg	7	6	0	1
HLA (Formerly HLB) Disaster Related Services	27	-	-	-
Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Emergency Shelter	82	90	76	37
Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Homeless Outreach	25	23	26	15
Hope Villages of America Grace House	76	55	50	70
Hope Villages of America The Haven Emergency Shelter	27	35	33	18
People That Love Church and Mission, Men's Shelter	2	-	-	-
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Pinellas Safe Harbor	379	315	260	172
Pinellas Hope, Medical Respite Services	3	5	4	1
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg BCBH Respite Program	-	-	-	2
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg Residential Center, Families	16	19	18	18
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg Residential Center, Individuals	81	75	76	50
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg Respite Care Program	-	-	-	5
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg VA Medical Respite	1	3	3	3
St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Family Housing Program	41	50	25	-
St. Vincent de Paul ESG-CV St. Petersburg Hotel/Motel Vouchers	-	-	-	11
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg Bridging Families HLA Collaborative SEHA	-	-	-	16
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg Bridging Families HLA Collaborative Master Lease	-	-	-	26
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg Family Shelter Program	68	63	61	36
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg JWB Family Shelter Congregate Shelter	-	-	-	74
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg Nighttime Shelter	68	69	69	58
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg Supportive Services for Veteran Families Priority 2 Non-Congregate Shelter	-	-	-	68
St. Vincent de Paul St. Petersburg VA 20 Emergency Shelter	18	19	7	16
WestCare Gulfcoast Florida Inc. Turning Point	59	66	52	33
<b>TOTAL FOR EMERGENCY SHELTERS</b>	<b>1,299</b>	<b>1,179</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>1,034</b>

The Emergency Shelter total has trended downward from year 2018 to 2022. This downward trend is driven largely by declines in Pinellas Safe Harbor occupancy rates during this period. Declines in Pinellas Safe Harbor from 2020 to 2022 were also likely impacted by the effects of COVID-19.

**Table 7**

HUD Homeless Count by Shelter- SAFE HAVENS				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Boley Centers, Mid-County Safe Haven, Morningside	17	17	18	12
Boley Centers, Safe Haven Apartments	23	22	22	11
St. Vincent de Paul South, VA Low Demand	-	19	15	26
St. Vincent de Paul South, VA Low Demand 5	-	4	4	-
WestCare, Mustard Seed GPD	-	14	8	-
TOTAL ACROSS SAFE HAVENS	40	76	67	49

Occupancy rates for both Boley Centers shelters have declined from year 2018 to 2022. St. Vincent de Paul South, VA Low Demand 5 and WestCare, Mustard Seed GDP projects ended. Inclusion of these had increased the Safe Haven total in 2019 and 2020.

**Table 8**

HUD Homeless Count by Shelter- TRANSITIONAL HOUSING				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
ALPHA House Florida Transitional Housing	27	21	21	17
Boley Centers, Jerry Howe GPD Bridge Housing	2	4	1	4
Boley Centers, Jerry Howe Transitional Apartments	8	9	9	8
Brookwood Florida, Central Transitional Housing	6	14	12	2
Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA) Transitional Housing	-	-	-	22
Family Resources, SafePlace2BToo	2	-	-	-
Family Resources, SafePlace2BToo, Demo	3	-	-	-
Florida Resurrection House	-	27	15	33
Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) GPD Transitional Housing	32	32	39	17
Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Transitional Housing	31	30	29	18
Kimberly Home, Transitional Housing, Single Females	18	22	18	
Salvation Army, Clearwater Hope Crest Transitional Housing	9	31	42	32
Salvation Army, St. Petersburg Re-Entry Program	3	-	-	-
St Vincent de Paul South, VA Bridge Housing	20	22	6	18
St Vincent de Paul South, VA Hospital to Home	6	7	6	1
St Vincent de Paul South, VA Low Demand	22	-	-	-
St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Men's Residence	19	24	23	12
St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Women's Residence	46	50	41	23
St. Vincent de Paul South, SRO Transitional Housing	3	-	-	-
WestCare, Mustard Seed Inn GPD Transitional Housing	15	-	-	-
WestCare, The Mustard Seed Inn	36	33	40	51
<b>TOTAL ACROSS ALL TRANSITIONAL HOUSING</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>258</b>

Changes in Transitional Housing totals from year 2018 to 2022 were largely dependent on which projects were included in the count. The count increases when facilities are added, such as inclusion of Florida Resurrection House in year 2019 and declines when facilities are excluded, such as Kimberly Home in year 2021. Declines from 2020 to 2022 at facilities such as the St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Women's and Men's Residences were related to the impact of COVID-19.

**Table 9**

TOTALS BY SHELTER TYPE				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Emergency Shelters	1,299	1,179	1,049	1,034
Safe Havens	40	76	67	49
Transitional Housing	308	326	302	258
Unsheltered	965	834	808	644
<b>FINAL HUD TOTALS</b>	<b>2,612</b>	<b>2,415</b>	<b>2,226</b>	<b>1,985</b>

The final HUD total has been in a downtrend from year 2018 to 2022. The downtrend is associated with the lower number of persons reported by Pinellas Safe Harbor, the reclassification of Transitional Housing to non-HUD housing, and a downward trend in the number of Unsheltered persons included in the Homeless Survey Count. CARES and ARPA funding have been associated with declines from 2020 to 2022. The CoC has added family and Veteran shelter space through Non-Congregate shelters. The CoC has also been able to increase its investment in Homeless Prevention and Diversion services.

## DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

**Table 10**

Demographic Data for Total HUD Sample								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of Households	2,346		2,152		1,979		1,658	
Total number of Persons	2,612		2,415		2,226		1,985	
Number of Children (under age 18)	264	10.1%	271	11.2%	230	10.3%	299	15.1%
Number of Persons (age 18 to 24)	129	4.9%	89	3.7%	119	5.3%	58	2.9%
Number of Persons (over age 24)	2,219	85.0%	2,055	85.1%	1,877	84.3%	1,628	82.0%
Female	826	31.6%	760	31.5%	695	31.2%	677	34.1%
Male	1,781	68.2%	1,650	68.3%	1,528	68.6%	1,300	65.5%
Transgender	5	0.2%	4	0.2%	3	0.1%	4	0.2%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.2%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	2,382	91.2%	2,253	93.3%	2,055	92.3%	1,846	93.0%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	230	8.8%	162	6.7%	171	7.7%	139	7.0%
White	1,623	62.1%	1,527	63.2%	1,379	61.9%	1,138	57.3%
Black, African American, or African	858	32.8%	764	31.6%	718	32.3%	723	36.4%
Asian or Asian American	7	0.3%	8	0.3%	8	0.4%	14	0.7%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	23	0.9%	17	0.7%	25	1.1%	29	1.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	9	0.3%	3	0.1%	10	0.4%	12	0.6%
Multiple Races	92	3.5%	96	4.0%	86	3.9%	77	3.9%

The relative percentage of children and females increased in 2022 after remaining consistent from years 2018 through 2020 due to increases in families in shelter data. Similarly, the relative percentage of Black or African Americans increased in 2022 after remaining consistent from years 2018 to 2020. These increases were not large yet are valid given the strong consistency in prior years.

**Table 11**

Demographic Data for Emergency Shelters								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of Households	1,053		980		877		77	
Total number of Persons	1,299		1,179		1,049		1,034	
Number of Children (under age 18)	222	17.1%	194	16.5%	158	15.1%	229	22.1%
Number of Persons (age 18 to 24)	65	5.0%	48	4.1%	68	6.5%	39	3.8%
Number of Persons (over age 24)	1,012	77.9%	937	79.5%	823	78.5%	766	74.1%
Female	479	36.9%	417	35.4%	367	35.0%	420	40.6%
Male	817	62.9%	760	64.5%	682	65.0%	612	59.2%
Transgender	3	0.2%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.1%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	1,163	89.5%	1,089	92.4%	963	91.8%	959	92.7%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	136	10.5%	90	7.6%	86	8.2%	75	7.3%
White	777	59.8%	701	59.5%	600	57.2%	549	53.1%
Black, African American, or African	461	35.5%	421	35.7%	400	38.1%	423	40.9%
Asian or Asian American	5	0.4%	4	0.3%	6	0.6%	6	0.6%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	7	0.5%	2	0.2%	5	0.5%	2	0.2%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	2	0.2%	3	0.3%	2	0.2%	9	0.9%
Multiple Races	47	3.6%	48	4.1%	36	3.4%	45	4.4%

The relative percentage of children, females, and Black or African Americans in the Emergency Shelter data reached their highest levels in 2022. These are incorporated into the overall demographic data reviewed in Table 10.

**Table 12**

Demographic Data for Transitional Housing								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of Households	289		277		244		197	
Total number of Persons	308		326		302		258	
Number of Children (under age 18)	38	12.3%	71	21.8%	67	22.2%	70	27.1%
Number of Persons (age 18 to 24)	22	7.1%	19	5.8%	23	7.6%	5	1.9%
Number of Persons (over age 24)	248	80.5%	236	72.4%	212	70.2%	183	70.9%
Female	115	37.3%	150	46.0%	139	46.0%	114	44.2%
Male	193	62.7%	176	54.0%	163	54.0%	143	55.4%
Transgender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	288	93.5%	298	91.4%	275	91.1%	232	89.9%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	20	6.5%	28	8.6%	27	8.9%	26	10.1%
White	210	68.2%	198	60.7%	195	64.6%	131	50.8%
Black, African American, or African	88	28.6%	99	30.4%	91	30.1%	108	41.9%
Asian or Asian American	1	0.3%	2	0.6%	1	0.3%	4	1.6%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Multiple Races	9	2.9%	25	7.7%	14	4.6%	14	5.4%

The relative percentage of children and Black or African Americans in the Transitional Housing data increased in 2022, This trend is incorporated into the overall demographic data.

**Table 13**

Demographic Data for Safe Havens								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of Households	40		76		67		49	
Total number of Persons	40		76		67		49	
Number of Children (under age 18)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Number of Persons (age 18 to 24)	0	0.0%	1	1.3%	5	7.5%	0	0.0%
Number of Persons (over age 24)	40	100.0%	75	98.7%	62	92.5%	49	100.0%
Female	4	10.0%	7	9.2%	4	6.0%	4	8.2%
Male	36	90.0%	69	90.8%	63	94.0%	45	91.8%
Transgender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	36	90.0%	72	94.7%	60	89.6%	47	95.9%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	4	10.0%	4	5.3%	7	10.4%	2	4.1%
White	30	75.0%	56	73.7%	44	65.7%	30	61.2%
Black, African American, or African	7	17.5%	19	25.0%	20	29.9%	16	32.7%
Asian or Asian American	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Multiple Races	3	7.5%	1	1.3%	3	4.5%	3	6.1%

Safe Haven data are largely comprised of adult males. The sample size is too small to interpret small changes in demographics from year to year.

**Table 14**

Demographic Data for Unsheltered Persons								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of Households	964		819		791		635	
Total number of Persons	965		834		808		644	
Number of Children (under age 18)	4	0.4%	6	0.7%	5	0.6%	0	0.0%
Number of Persons (age 18 to 24)	42	4.4%	21	2.5%	23	2.8%	14	2.2%
Number of Persons (over age 24)	919	95.2%	807	96.8%	780	96.5%	630	97.8%
Female	228	23.6%	186	22.3%	185	22.9%	139	21.6%
Male	735	76.2%	645	77.3%	620	76.7%	500	77.6%
Transgender	2	0.2%	2	0.2%	3	0.4%	2	0.3%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	3	0.5%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	895	92.7%	794	95.2%	757	93.7%	608	94.4%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	70	7.3%	40	4.8%	51	6.3%	36	5.6%
White	606	62.8%	572	68.6%	540	66.8%	420	65.2%
Black, African American, or African	302	31.3%	225	27.0%	207	25.6%	176	27.3%
Asian or Asian American	1	0.1%	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	4	0.6%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	16	1.7%	13	1.6%	19	2.4%	27	4.2%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	7	0.7%	0	0.0%	8	1.0%	2	0.3%
Multiple Races	33	3.4%	22	2.6%	33	4.1%	15	2.3%

The demographic profile of Unsheltered individuals is highly consistent across years and comprised mostly of adult, non-Hispanic males of White or Black or African American race.

### NON-HUD RESPONSES TO THE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS SURVEY

**Table 15**

Non-HUD Responses to the Point-in-Time Homeless Survey				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Couch Surfing	217	238	178	64

Non-HUD responses to the Point-in-Time Homeless Survey include those persons whose reported status is not classified as being literally homeless by HUD definitions. These persons are reported as couch surfing. There is a large decline from 178 individuals in 2020 to 64 in 2022. These data contradict the increase in couch surfing individuals in the school data. The school data is more reliable with respect to these data.

## JAIL HOMELESS POPULATION

**Table 16**

Jail Data Across Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Race</b>								
Asian	2	0.3	1	0.2	5	0.7	1	0.2
Black	164	26.4	158	24.9	192	26.9	178	28.4
Hispanic	73	11.8	71	11.2	91	12.7	37	5.9
White	382	61.5	405	63.8	426	59.7	410	65.5
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	78	12.6	98	15.4	109	15.3	92	14.7
Male	543	87.4	537	84.6	605	84.7	534	85.3
<b>Location</b>								
Clearwater	307	49.4	286	45.0	343	48.0	262	41.9
Largo	52	8.4	45	7.1	57	8.0	48	7.7
Pinellas Park	20	3.2	32	5.0	24	3.4	24	3.8
St. Petersburg	183	29.5	193	30.4	238	33.3	217	34.7
Other	59	9.5	79	12.4	52	7.3	75	12.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>621</b>		<b>635</b>		<b>714</b>		<b>626</b>	

The jail data increased sharply in 2020 after showing small increases in prior years. The reversion to 626 individuals in year 2022 suggests that this trend has been reversed. Future year data is necessary to confirm this reversal as a trend.

**PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS STUDENT HOMELESS DATA**

**Table 17**

Pinellas County Schools: Homeless Data for Students Aged 17 and Younger				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
	N	N	N	N
Living in Hotels or Motels	545	446	455	757
Living in Emergency or Transitional Housing	578	524	513	451
Unsheltered	92	195	171	112
Sharing Housing	2,708	2,907	2,822	3,054
<b>HOMELESS TOTAL</b>	<b>3,923</b>	<b>4,072</b>	<b>3,961</b>	<b>4,374</b>
Not Homeless	99,689	96,849	95,080	91,235
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103,612</b>	<b>100,921</b>	<b>99,041</b>	<b>95,609</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE REPORTED AS HOMELESS</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>

Year 2022 school data confirm a clear increasing trend from 2018 to 2022. Economic effects are evident in the increases in reports of children living in hotels or motels.

**Table 18**

Pinellas County Schools: Homeless Data for Students Aged 18 and Older				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
	N	N	N	N
Living in Hotels or Motels	15	21	21	37
Living in Emergency or Transitional Housing	39	34	32	29
Unsheltered	6	16	10	5
Sharing Housing	255	229	220	204
<b>HOMELESS TOTAL</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>275</b>
Not Homeless	7,825	9,045	8,372	8,190
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,140</b>	<b>9,345</b>	<b>8,655</b>	<b>8,465</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE REPORTED AS HOMELESS</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>

The adult population in the schools has remained consistent in year 2022 relative to 2019 in terms of the Percentage Reported as Homeless. The child population is more representative of actual trends.

**Table 19**

Pinellas County Schools: Racial Composition of the Homeless Population								
HOMELESS POPULATION								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Asian	65	1.5%	72	1.6%	78	1.8%	100	2.2%
Black	1,738	41.0%	1,787	40.9%	1,689	39.8%	1,920	41.3%
Hispanic	726	17.1%	761	17.4%	727	17.1%	802	17.3%
Ind/Alaskan	10	0.2%	6	0.1%	5	0.1%	7	0.2%
Multi-Racial	239	5.6%	205	4.7%	256	6.0%	306	6.6%
White	1,460	34.5%	1,541	35.2%	1,489	35.1%	1,514	32.6%
Not Provided	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL	4,238		4,372		4,244		4,649	
NON-HOMELESS POPULATION								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Asian	4,878	4.5%	4,810	4.5%	4,635	4.5%	4,321	4.3%
Black	19,880	18.5%	19,563	18.5%	19,012	18.4%	18,206	18.3%
Hispanic	18,733	17.4%	18,888	17.8%	18,940	18.3%	19,293	19.4%
Ind/Alaskan	210	0.2%	201	0.2%	168	0.2%	164	0.2%
Multi-Racial	4,739	4.4%	4,830	4.6%	4,868	4.7%	5,169	5.2%
White	59,070	54.9%	57,602	54.4%	55,829	54.0%	52,272	52.6%
Not Provided	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL	107,514		105,894		103,452		99,425	

School data indicate consistent differences across years in the racial composition of the homeless population relative to the non-homeless population. The homeless population is more likely to include Black or African American individuals relative to the non-homeless population. In 2022, 41.3% of the homeless population was Black or African American with 32.6% White. Whereas in the non-homeless population, 18.3% of students were Black or African American and 52.5% were White.

## UNACCOMPANIED AND PARENTING YOUTH

Unaccompanied Youth and Parenting Youth in the HUD data are reported in Tables 20 and 21. Unaccompanied Youth in the school data are presented separately in Table 22. These results are not combined with the HUD data as they are collected throughout the school year and students are not removed from the dataset if they obtain housing.

**Table 20**

Total Unaccompanied Youth Across Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Number of unaccompanied youth households	140		94		90		40	
Total number of unaccompanied youth	143		94		91		40	
Number of unaccompanied children	37	25.9%	31	33.0%	14	15.4%	10	25.0%
Unaccompanied young adults (age 18 to 24)	106	74.1%	63	67.0%	77	84.6%	30	75.0%
Gender (unaccompanied youth only)								
Female	58	40.6%	49	52.1%	37	40.7%	15	37.5%
Male	85	59.4%	45	47.9%	53	58.2%	24	60.0%
Transgender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.10%	1	2.5%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Ethnicity (unaccompanied youth only)								
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	125	87.4%	82	87.2%	78	85.7%	38	95.0%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	18	12.6%	12	12.8%	13	14.3%	2	5.0%
Race (unaccompanied youth only)								
White	80	55.9%	55	58.5%	54	59.3%	19	47.5%
Black, African American, or African	49	34.3%	28	29.8%	32	35.2%	11	27.5%
Asian or Asian American	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3	2.1%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	1	2.5%
Multiple Races	11	7.7%	10	10.6%	4	4.4%	8	20.0%

The total number of Unaccompanied Youth in the HUD data has trended downward from year 2018 to 2022.

**Table 21**

Total Parenting Youth Across Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Number of parenting youth households	16		21		29		17	
Persons In parenting youth households	47		58		73		42	
Parenting youth (youth parents only)	17		22		32		19	
Number of parenting youth (under age 18)	1	5.9%	0	0.0%	4	12.5%	3	15.8%
Number of parenting youth (age 18 to 24)	16	94.1%	22	100%	28	87.5%	16	84.2%
Number of children with parenting youth	30		36		41		23	
Gender (parenting youth only)								
Female	15	88.2%	20	90.9%	29	90.6%	17	89.5%
Male	2	11.8%	2	9.1%	3	9.4%	2	10.5%
Transgender	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Ethnicity (parenting youth only)								
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	14	82.4%	18	81.8%	31	96.9%	15	78.9%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	3	17.6%	4	18.2%	1	3.1%	4	21.1%
Race (parenting youth only)								
White	9	52.9%	5	22.7%	13	40.6%	4	21.1%
Black, African American, or African	8	47.1%	17	77.3%	19	59.4%	13	68.4%
Asian or Asian American	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Multiple Races	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5%

The total number of Parenting Youth and Parenting Youth households do not show a clear trend across years. Numbers are similar in year 2022 (19 Parenting Youth and 42 individuals) to year 2018 (17 Parenting Youth and 47 individuals).

The school dataset also specifies whether each student is Accompanied or Unaccompanied.

**Table 22**

Pinellas County Schools: Unaccompanied Youth				
Year	2018	2019	2020	2022
Age 17 and Younger	376	355	327	266
Age 18 to 24	142	114	125	107
Total Unaccompanied	518	469	452	373
Total Homeless	4,238	4,372	4,244	4,649
Percentage Unaccompanied	12.2%	10.7%	10.7%	8.0%

The total number of Unaccompanied Youth in the school data has declined from year 2018 to 2022 while the overall number of homeless students has increased.

## VETERAN HOUSEHOLDS

**Table 23**

Veteran Household Totals Across Years				
	Total HUD			
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Total number of households	281	316	265	310
Total number of persons	281	327	271	322
Total number of Veterans	281	316	265	310
	Emergency Shelter Totals			
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Total number of households	108	118	107	135
Total number of persons	108	126	110	147
Total number of Veterans	108	118	107	135
	Transitional Housing Totals			
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Total number of households	108	77	62	56
Total number of persons	108	79	62	56
Total number of Veterans	108	77	62	56
	Safe Haven Totals			
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Total number of households	17	53	46	38
Total number of persons	17	53	46	38
Total number of Veterans	17	53	46	38
	Unsheltered Totals			
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Total number of households	48	68	50	81
Total number of persons	48	69	53	81
Total number of Veterans	48	68	50	81

The total number of homeless Veterans in Pinellas County is higher in year 2022 than in 2018 yet there is variability across years. The number of Veterans in the Unsheltered count was highest in year 2022 despite the overall decline in the Unsheltered count.

**Table 24**

Veteran Household Demographic Data Across Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Total number of households	281		316		265		310	
Total number of persons	281		327		271		322	
Total number of Veterans	281		316		265		310	
Gender (Veterans only)								
Female	15	5.3%	21	6.6%	14	5%	19	6.1%
Male	266	94.7%	295	93.4%	251	95%	289	93.2%
Transgender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0%	2	0.6%
Gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Questioning	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
Ethnicity (Veterans only)								
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	267	95.0%	302	95.6%	253	95%	297	95.8%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	14	5.0%	14	4.4%	12	5%	13	4.2%
Race (Veterans only)								
White	201	71.5%	232	73.4%	182	69%	202	65.2%
Black, African American, or African	71	25.3%	75	23.7%	75	28%	87	28.1%
Asian or Asian American	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.3%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1	0.4%	2	0.6%	1	0.4%	5	1.6%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
Multiple Races	8	2.8%	7	2.2%	5	2%	15	4.8%

The demographic profile of Veterans in the HUD data has remained similar across years. In 2022, 93.2% of Veterans were male, 4.2% were Hispanic/Latino, and 28.1% were African American.

## TIMING OF HOMELESSNESS

**Table 25**

How long were in you in Pinellas County before you became homeless?								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1 week or less	141	15.2%	82	10.1%	96	12.3%	79	12.8%
More than 1 week, less than 1 month	46	5.0%	27	3.3%	18	2.3%	22	3.6%
1 to 3 months	68	7.4%	40	4.9%	47	6.0%	31	5.0%
More than 3 months, less than 12 months	71	7.7%	82	10.1%	77	9.9%	61	9.9%
1 Year or longer	599	64.8%	430	53.0%	404	51.7%	294	47.5%
Lifetime resident	-	-	151	18.6%	139	17.8%	132	21.3%
Total	925		812		781		619	
Don't know	8		6		7		7	
Refused	0		1		3		3	
Missing	32		15		17		15	

Approximately 70% of the Unsheltered homeless population reports having been in Pinellas for one year or longer before becoming homeless. 12.8% report being in Pinellas County for one week or less before becoming homeless in year 2022.

**Table 26**

Number of Times Homeless in the Last Three Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1 time	394	43.3%	154	21.4%	232	34.3%	188	33.0%
2 times	158	17.4%	84	11.7%	78	11.5%	66	11.6%
3 times	103	11.3%	78	10.8%	60	8.9%	61	10.7%
4 or more times	255	28.0%	403	56.1%	307	45.3%	255	44.7%
Total	910		719		677		570	
Missing	55		115		131		74	

The number of times Unsheltered individuals report being homeless in the last three years was similar in 2020 and 2022. In 2022, approximately one-third are homeless for the first time while 44.7% report being homeless four or more times.

## UNSHELTERED HOMELESS LOCATION DATA

**Table 27**

What Area Do You Mainly Stay In?								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
Clearwater	199	21.5%	163	20.1%	206	25.5%	131	20.9%
Dunedin	5	0.5%	8	1.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.8%
Gulfport	4	0.4%	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	5	0.8%
Kenneth City	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	3	0.4%	6	1.0%
Largo	39	4.2%	42	5.2%	80	9.9%	75	11.9%
Lealman	40	4.3%	44	5.4%	54	6.7%	37	5.9%
Other	4	0.4%	16	2.0%	16	2.0%	5	0.8%
Pasco County	3	0.3%	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.5%
Pinellas Park	52	5.6%	37	4.6%	58	7.2%	39	6.2%
St. Petersburg	517	55.9%	433	53.5%	335	41.5%	291	46.3%
St. Pete Beach	15	1.6%	13	1.6%	11	1.4%	3	0.5%
Tampa	2	0.2%	6	0.7%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Tarpon Springs	44	4.8%	42	5.2%	22	2.7%	26	4.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>925</b>		<b>809</b>		<b>786</b>		<b>628</b>	
Missing	39		24		19		12	
Doesn't know	1		1		2		4	
Refused	0		0		1		0	

Across years, St. Petersburg and Clearwater have been reported as the most common location for Unsheltered individuals. The number of individuals surveyed in Clearwater and St. Petersburg has declined from year 2018 to 2022. The decline in Clearwater from 2020 to 2022 was larger than the decline in St. Petersburg. This results in St. Petersburg containing a larger percentage of the overall population in 2022 relative to 2020.

## HUD SUBPOPULATION DATA

**Table 28**

HUD Subpopulation Data Across Years								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
Total Adults Aged 18+	2,347		2,144		1,996		1,686	
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	483	20.6%	676	31.5%	426	21.3%	388	23.0%
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	465	19.8%	613	28.6%	314	15.7%	308	18.3%
Adults with HIV/AIDS	37	1.6%	26	1.2%	33	1.7%	40	2.4%
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	184	7.8%	191	8.9%	164	8.2%	245	14.5%

Rates of adults with a Serious Mental Illness and adults with a Substance Use Disorder vary yearly due to rates of disclosure and efforts to reliably assess the existence of these conditions. In year 2022, 388 adults reported a Serious Mental Illness and 308 reported a Substance Use Disorder.

2022 had the highest number of adults reporting HIV/AIDS (40 adults and 2.4% of the adult sample).

While the rate of Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence remained consistent from year 2018 to 2020, this rate spiked to 14.5% with 245 individuals in year 2022. This is consistent with the higher number of families reported in the year 2022 dataset.

**Table 29**

Were you ever in Foster Care?								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes	117	12.1%	124	14.9%	128	15.8%	97	15.1%
No	838	86.8%	710	85.1%	680	84.2%	547	84.9%
Total	965		834		808		644	

The total number of Unsheltered homeless individuals who report having ever been in Foster Care declined in year 2022 to 97. This is consistent with the decline seen in the overall sample. The relative percentage of Unsheltered individuals who were previously in Foster Care has remained consistent near 15% of the sample from 2019 to 2022.

**Table 30**

Chronic Homeless Data Across Years				
	2018	2019	2020	2022
Chronically Homeless Individuals	417	718	557	451
Chronically Homeless Families	7	1	14	9
Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	17	4	33	32
Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals	37	100	57	77
Chronically Homeless Veteran Families	0	0	1	0
Persons in Chronically Homeless Veteran Families	0	0	3	0

The number of Chronically Homeless individuals and Veterans was highest in year 2019. There remains a significant number of Chronically Homeless individuals (451) and Veteran individuals (77) in year 2022. Chronic Homelessness among families in the HUD sample has remained at a low base rate.

### REPORTED REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS

**Table 31**

Reported Reason for Current Homeless Episode								
	2018		2019		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Financial Problems	383	41.9%	314	39.5%	310	41.1%	223	37.2%
Family Break-Up/Family Problems/ Family Issues	172	18.8%	143	18.0%	136	18.0%	111	18.5%
Medical Concern/Disability	118	12.9%	97	12.2%	105	13.9%	73	12.2%
Alcohol or Drug Problems	96	10.5%	88	11.1%	66	8.8%	44	7.3%
Eviction	45	4.9%	41	5.2%	43	5.7%	34	5.7%
Mental Health Problems	27	3.0%	25	3.1%	22	2.9%	28	4.7%
Foreclosure	22	2.4%	4	0.5%	5	0.7%	13	2.2%
Natural/Other Disaster	22	2.4%	12	1.5%	5	0.7%	16	2.7%
Incarceration/Jail/Criminal History	16	1.8%	45	5.7%	44	5.8%	46	7.7%
Domestic Violence	9	1.0%	24	3.0%	18	2.4%	9	1.5%
Recent Immigration	3	0.3%	1	0.1%	0		2	0.3%
Total	913		794		754		599	

When asked the reason for the current homeless episode, individuals are most likely to report Financial Problems as the most proximal reason for homelessness. Family Break-Up /Family Problems/Family Issues, Medical Concern/Disability, Incarceration/Jail/Criminal History, and Alcohol or Drug Problems are the next four most likely responses. Each year, eviction is reported as the fifth or sixth most likely reason for the current homeless episode, yet new questions asked in 2020 suggest a higher lifetime prevalence for eviction among the homeless population in Pinellas County (Tables 32 and 33).

## EVICTION DATA

**Table 32**

Have you been evicted in Pinellas County?								
	Couch Surfing				Unsheltered			
	2020		2022		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes	41	23%	18	28%	167	21%	147	23%
No/No Answer	137	77%	46	72%	641	79%	497	77%
Total	178		64		808		644	

The reported lifetime eviction rate among the Unsheltered homeless population was similar in years 2020 (21%) and 2022 (23%). The higher rate in year 2022 among the couch surfing population (28%) may be a product of small sample size.

**Table 33**

How many prior evictions?								
	Couch Surfing				Unsheltered			
	2020		2022		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	123	69%	43	67%	570	71%	440	68%
1	37	21%	12	19%	158	20%	142	22%
2 or more	18	10%	9	14%	80	10%	62	10%
Total	178		64		808		644	

When asked how many prior evictions overall - regardless of whether in Pinellas or elsewhere - the rates in the Unsheltered population were consistent in years 2020 (30%) and 2022 (32%).

## ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

**Table 34**

Do you have access to health services or a medical clinic?								
	Couch Surfing				Unsheltered			
	2020		2022		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes	118	74%	46	73%	593	76%	411	71%
No	42	26%	17	27%	184	24%	171	29%
Total	160		63		777		582	

Approximately one-quarter of Unsheltered individuals report having access to health services or a medical clinic. Rates are similar in years 2020 (24%) and 2022 (29%). This compares to 87.6% of individuals in the U.S. population who report having a usual place to go for medical care<sup>5</sup>.

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION

**Table 35**

Do you consider yourself to be...								
	Couch Surfing				Unsheltered			
	2020		2022		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Straight or heterosexual	142	88%	53	83%	717	92%	567	91%
Gay or lesbian	4	2%	3	5%	22	3%	15	2%
Bisexual	10	6%	8	13%	24	3%	18	3%
Unsure or questioning	3	2%	0	0%	4	1%	1	0%
Other/not listed	1	1%	0	0%	6	1%	6	1%
Client Refused	1	1%	0	0%	9	1%	14	2%
Total	161		64		782		621	
No Answer	17		0		26		23	

91% of Unsheltered individuals report being straight or heterosexual. Overall, these rates do not differ widely from rates surveyed in the general population, where up to 2% report being gay and up to 6% report being bisexual<sup>6</sup>. Gay, lesbian, and bisexual respondents were distributed similarly to the overall population with the majority located in Clearwater or St. Petersburg.

<sup>5</sup> CDC.gov, FastStats: Access to Health Care. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/access-to-health-care.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Sexual Behavior, Sexual Attraction, and Sexual Orientation Among Adults Aged 18–44 in the United States: Data From the 2011–2013 National Survey of Family Growth. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr088.pdf>

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**Table 36**

What was the last grade you completed in school?								
	Couch Surfing				Unsheltered			
	2020		2022		2020		2022	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than 5	1	1%	0	0%	5	1%	2	0%
Grade 5-6	1	1%	1	2%	9	1%	8	1%
Grade 7-8	2	1%	1	2%	33	4%	17	3%
Grade 9-11	48	30%	21	33%	181	23%	161	26%
GED	16	10%	5	8%	77	10%	68	11%
High School Diploma	60	37%	16	25%	273	35%	211	33%
Some College	18	11%	10	16%	126	16%	96	15%
Vocational Certification	0	0%	1	2%	12	2%	9	1%
Associate Degree	9	6%	6	9%	37	5%	24	4%
Bachelor's degree	6	4%	2	3%	29	4%	24	4%
Graduate Degree	1	1%	1	2%	8	1%	11	2%
Total	162		64		790		631	
Refused	0		0		1		0	
Missing	16		0		17		13	

Approximately 30% of Unsheltered individuals surveyed indicated having attained less than a GED. This compares to estimates of 10.2% in the general population<sup>7</sup>. Rates were consistent between years 2020 and 2022.

<sup>7</sup> Digest of Education Statistics, Rates of high school completion and bachelor's degree attainment among persons aged 25 and over, by race/ethnicity and sex: Selected years, 1910 through 2018. Available at [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18\\_104.10.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18_104.10.asp)

## DISCUSSION

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The 2022 Florida Council on Homelessness Annual Report states that “Florida is facing a housing crisis that will result in an increase in homelessness if resources are not prioritized toward affordable rental housing for the most vulnerable households”. In Pinellas County, prior to 2020, the School data showed that housing instability was increasing at a steady rate with families finding solutions through being “doubled up” as a means to secure housing. In contrast, the Unsheltered count showed, and continues to show, that the number of individuals Living in Places Not Meant for Habitation have declined steadily. As the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, it was apparent that the trends seen in the School data would continue and could potentially lead to a housing crisis. What was not evident at that time was the extraordinary rate at which housing costs would rise between 2020 and 2022.

The 2022 Florida Council report states that “between April 2021 and April 2022, Florida’s single-family home costs have increased 28.8%.” Florida is at the epicenter of the nationwide housing crisis. The Council report states in its letter to Governor DeSantis that “34.6% of the homes sold between April 2021 and April 2022 were purchased for cash. This makes purchasing a home unobtainable for many families.” A recent report commissioned by the City of St. Petersburg in 2022 states that “investor market share is growing exponentially.”<sup>8</sup> This growth has been occurring since 2011 and has accelerated since 2020.

This has resulted in what is likely a qualitative shift from housing instability among the lowest wage earners to housing instability among median wage earners. In 2022, a median wage earner can be housing cost burdened in Pinellas County. Median wage earners include teachers, nurses, healthcare professionals, civil service workers, etc. A portion of these individuals may move away from Pinellas County because they cannot afford to live here.

While median wage earners are now increasingly likely to be housing cost burdened, lower wage earners are also clearly feeling increased housing cost pressures. The Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas has recently documented increases in requests and heightened wait times for those requesting support<sup>9</sup>.

It is unclear whether the current housing and rental market represents a long-term increase in pressure or will be followed by a crash similar to 2008. Pinellas County must plan for each of these contingencies. Given that Pinellas County is densely populated and increasingly affected by investor housing purchases, it is likely that the School data trend will continue. Low wage earners are likely to continue to feel increased housing pressures. Pinellas County must be prepared to respond to the likelihood that professionals who work in Pinellas County may be unable to afford to live here. Pinellas County must also be prepared for a scenario in which increased housing costs ultimately result in increases in the Unsheltered Homeless population.

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<sup>8</sup> Emerging Strategies in Affordable Housing by the Harvard Kennedy School Transition Team

<sup>9</sup> FMR Waiver request to the Office on Homelessness by the Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas, Inc.

## CONCLUSIONS

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### MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING COST BURDEN

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Reports reviewed in accord with this report often cite housing cost burden statistics that were current as of 2020. These numbers are not relevant to housing costs in 2022. Individuals with lower incomes in Pinellas County have historically responded to housing cost pressures by pooling resources or “doubling up” to secure housing. These efforts are not tracked or emphasized by Florida Council data or any organization that is looking at “literal homelessness.” Pressures on these individuals have increased each year for several years according to School data, though School data may be underestimating the size of the increase.

The recognition of the existence of a housing crisis and increased supports provided to individuals have likely helped ease this burden in the short-term. When median income workers are housing cost burdened, some will employ similar strategies to secure housing. However, others may move away from Pinellas County. Shortages of professionals such as teachers or nurses may become a long-term consequence of exponential increases in investor purchases of housing in Pinellas County. This is a potential consequence that may not have been clear two years ago.

### LITERAL HOMELESSNESS

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Increased wait times and requests for support have been evident. The Sheltered housing count has always had a limited ceiling because we cannot have more individuals in shelters than there is shelter space available. Over time, best practices have provided supports that fall outside the Point-in-Time Count including Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing. The Pinellas Continuum of Care (CoC) will need to continue effective Housing First practices in addition to multiple long-term solutions that ease the pressure that increased wait times and requests for assistance have placed on the current system of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing.

### UNSHELTERED POPULATION

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Continued declines in the Unsheltered population may be a result of the CoC’s efforts to address homelessness through Homeless Prevention and Diversion services made available through CARES Act and ARPA funding. The 2022 PIT shows there are 644 Unsheltered homeless individuals. Of these 644 individuals, there are 81 Veterans and 97 individuals who were previously in Foster Care. A recent report suggests several valid reasons why individuals may choose to be Unsheltered rather than receive supports through shelters<sup>10</sup>: individuals may view the shelters as dangerous places, may not want to part with pets, may feel too restricted by shelter rules, or may have formed a community with others that are Unsheltered that they do not want to leave. Current PIT questions do not provide insights into this perspective. The CoC may want to ask what might be preventing Unsheltered homeless individuals from entering shelter or accessing Diversion services. Perhaps innovative solutions may be found to provide stronger insights into ways to reduce Unsheltered homelessness.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://caufsociety.com/why-the-homeless-refuse-help/>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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- 1) Do not rely solely on the Point-in-Time Count to fully understand the effects of housing pressures in Pinellas County. While declines are present in the Point-in-Time Count, supplemental data from the Pinellas County Schools and examination of housing support wait lists suggest that a burden exists that is not entirely captured in the PIT Count. Some individuals and families may respond to housing pressures by moving away from Pinellas County. This outcome is also not captured in the literal homeless count.
- 2) The Point-in-Time Count may not reflect housing pressures on professionals such as teachers who may not be able to afford rent in an environment in which housing costs have increased substantially. This may become a more permanent housing challenge in Pinellas County if housing costs remain elevated. Consequently, Pinellas County should have a long-term plan in place to assure that professionals providing services to the Pinellas County population can afford to live in Pinellas County. This may include subsidized housing dedicated specifically for professionals such as teachers, police, etc.
- 3) While supports have been sufficient to produce declines in the Unsheltered count, understand that this trend can reverse. There may be a substantially increased need in the next year to use Diversion and Housing First policies to address or avoid a substantial increase in Unsheltered homeless individuals. The CoC is encouraged to continue to access supports to address increased wait times and requests for supports. The 2022 Florida Council on Homeless Annual Report contains many specific avenues for doing so. There are also evolving efforts at the federal level<sup>11</sup> to address increased housing pressures felt across the nation.
- 4) Consider amending the PIT survey to gain a better understanding of what may be preventing Unsheltered homeless individuals from entering shelters or accessing Diversion services.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/01/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-immediate-steps-to-increase-affordable-housing-supply/>