

2019 Homeless Point-In-Time Count

Clackamas County | August 2019



Every two years, Clackamas County conducts a Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count to obtain information about people and families experiencing homelessness. The count, which last took place in 2017, includes persons who are sheltered within homeless assistance programs, living outdoors, in vehicles or other places not meant for people to live as well as people without a permanent home.

The 2019 count took place on the night of January 22, 2019. The count data is a requirement for Clackamas County to receive federal funding, raises public awareness about homelessness, and improves our understanding of the specific service and resource needs for this population.

The 2019 PIT Count was a community effort which included volunteers (168), Clackamas County staff, and 43 of our community partners. People were surveyed at 62 sites, including food pantries, faith-based organizations, agency waiting rooms, shelters, schools, and outdoor areas.

Caution should be taken in relying solely on PIT data to identify trends in the number of people experiencing homelessness in our community. Many factors impact the results of a Point-in-Time Count, including count methodology, volunteer availability, agency staff involvement, and winter weather.

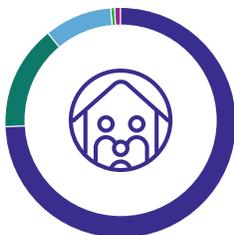
Data Summary

The number of people counted who are experiencing homelessness in Clackamas County remains at emergency levels. In total, 1,166 people experiencing homelessness were counted in 2019, a 9 percent increase from the 1,068 who were counted in 2017. There was a 54 percent increase in the number of people identified as Chronically Homeless. 869 of the people counted are single adults, a 48 percent increase in the number of single adults counted in 2017.

Total Homeless Count



Households

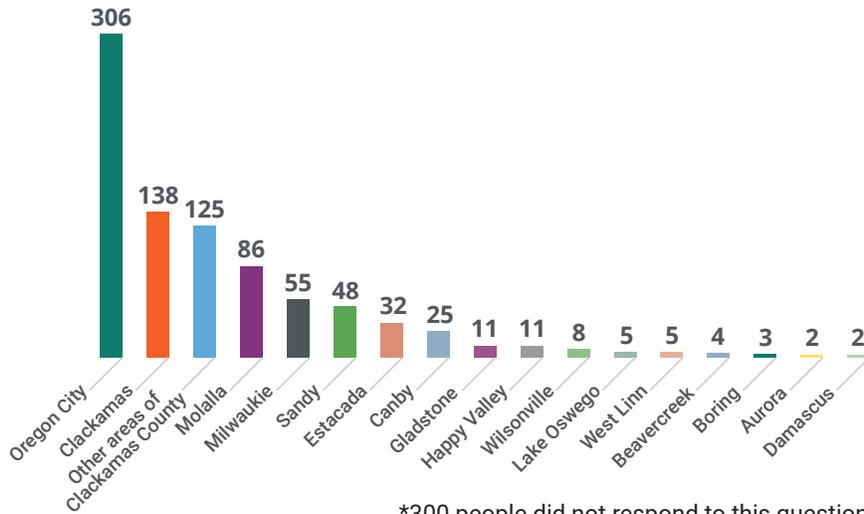


- **75%** Single Adults (869)
- **15%** Adult(s) with children (171)
- **10%** Adults, no children (113)
- **<1%** No household data available (8)
- **<1%** Unaccompanied children (5)

Chronically Homeless



City or Area of the County*

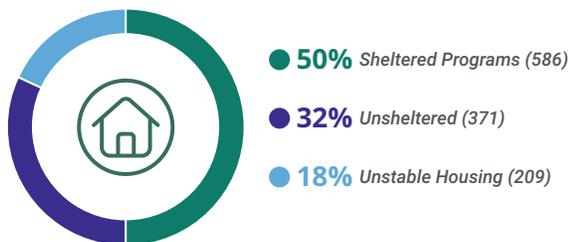


*300 people did not respond to this question.

Despite historic investments by the State and County in housing and homeless services, along with continued federal investments, there has been a steady increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness since 2013.

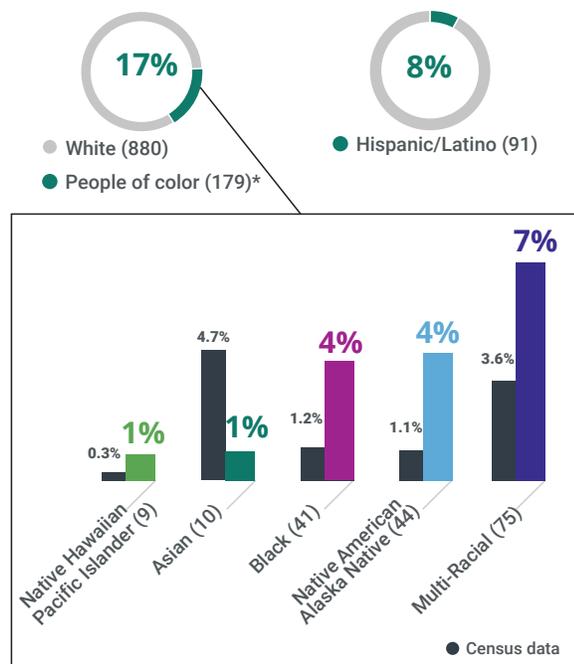
The majority of those surveyed have lived in Clackamas County for two or more years and primarily live in Oregon City, Clackamas, Molalla, Milwaukie, Sandy, Estacada, or Canby.

Shelter Status



Of those surveyed, almost one-third were unsheltered. This is a significant decrease from 2017, likely because Clackamas County operated significantly more winter shelter beds during 2018-19. A large number of those who were surveyed identified as either Chronically Homeless (454) or disabled (622). Of those who responded about their employment status (610), 104 were employed and 239 were actively looking for work.

Race and Ethnicity



People of color disproportionately experience homelessness in Clackamas County. Four percent of respondents identified as Native American/Alaska Native, despite representing only 0.7 percent of the total population. Since 2017, there was a near doubling of the number of Black or African American people surveyed, from 23 to 41. People identifying as Black or African American now make up 4 percent of those counted, while representing only 1.2 percent of the county's total population.

1,166 homeless people were counted, including:

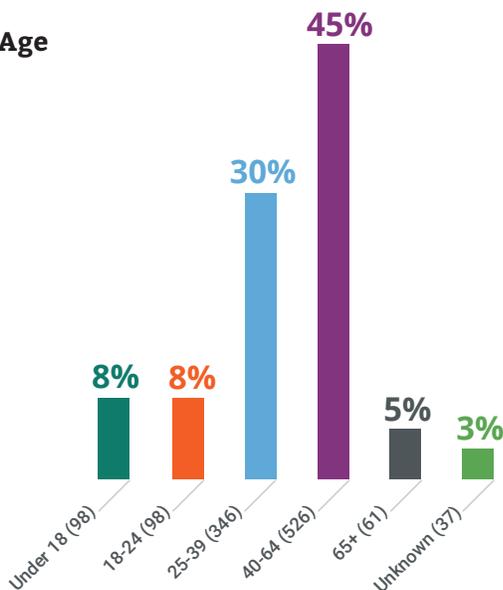
- 586 people were in emergency shelters, warming centers and transitional housing programs
- 371 people were unsheltered
- 209 people were living in doubled-up or unstable housing due to economic hardship
- 454 of the 1,166 counted were Chronically Homeless or in chronically homeless families

Household Configurations

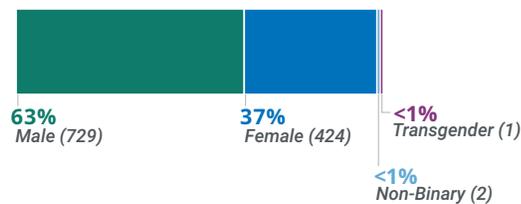
Households of all configurations were represented within the count:

- 171 people in households made up of adults with children
- 98 children under the age of 18
- 5 children with no adult in their household
- 158 unaccompanied youth (people up to the age of 24 with no other adults in their household)
- 869 single adult households (Includes seniors and Domestic Violence survivors)

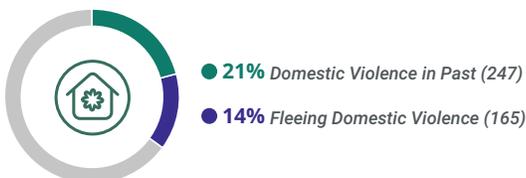
Age



Gender

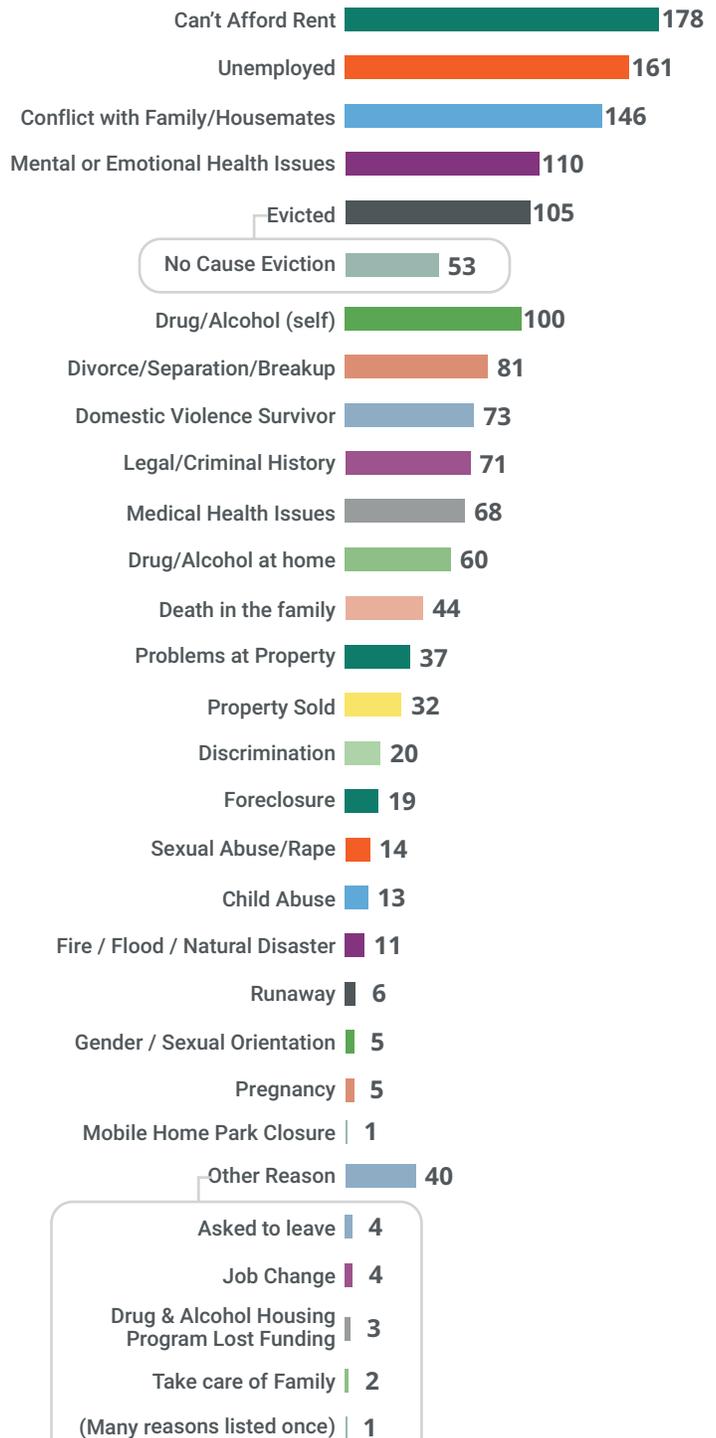


Domestic Violence



Causes of Homelessness

People were asked to review a list of possible factors which may have contributed to their becoming homeless. People could answer yes to as many reasons as they felt applied to them.



Chronically Homeless

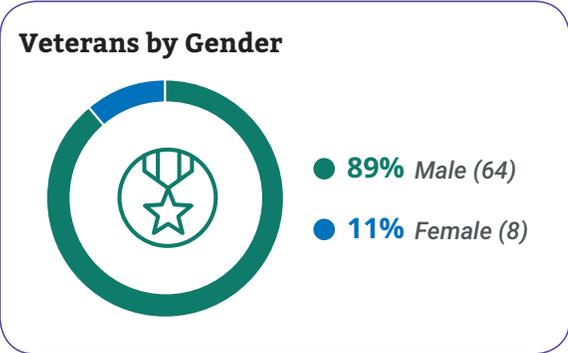
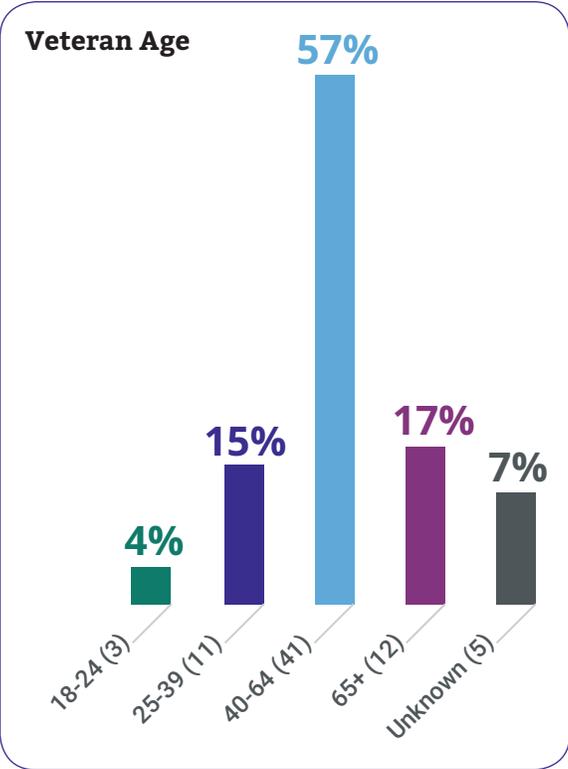
HUD defines Chronically Homeless as a homeless person with a disabling condition, who has been homeless continually for a year or longer, or has had four or more episodes of homelessness in the past three years totaling at least 12 months.

A family with at least one household member meeting the above criteria is considered Chronically Homeless. Self-reported Chronically Homeless households were comprised of 454 people of which 67 percent identified as male and 33 percent as female.

Homeless Veterans

The number of veterans in the PIT Count experiencing homelessness decreased 15 percent in 2019.

During the 2019 count, 72 individuals reported that they had served in the US Armed Forces. Ten of these veterans live in households with children, 48 veterans were unsheltered and 30 veterans self-reported as Chronically Homeless.



Learn more

Clackamas County is committed to reducing the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. A larger study of the state of homelessness in the county drawing on a variety of additional sources of information, including School Liaison data, Coordinated Housing Access data, and the Housing Authority wait-list information is underway.

To learn more about the county's efforts to expand access to affordable housing and homeless services, see www.clackamas.us/homelessness.

If you are experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness, call Coordinated Housing Access at 503-655-8575.

