



Homelessness in Oregon

2015 Point in Time Count

Each year, during the last week of January, there is a nationwide effort to count every homeless people across the country.¹ This Point-in-Time count attempts to capture both sheltered and unsheltered homeless people to provide a snapshot of homelessness in the United States. In 2015, volunteers across Oregon conducted a street count people considered to be unsheltered, meaning they are living outside, and data was collected on the homeless population living in emergency shelters and transitional housing throughout the state. In addition to the total number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people, information was gathered on a wide range of characteristics of the homeless population including age, gender, race, ethnicity, veteran status, and disability status. Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) obtained data from every Continuum of Care (CoC) in the state and provides these estimates at the county and state level.

On a single night in January 2015:

- 13,176 people were homeless in Oregon; 44% or 5,819 were sheltered and 56% or 7,357 were unsheltered.
- Seventy-two percent, or 9,441 people, were individuals, and of those 43% were sheltered and 57% were unsheltered (Figure 1).
- The other 28%, or 3,735 people, were members of families, and were more likely than individuals to be sheltered, with 47% in shelters and 53% living in an unsheltered location (Figure 1).
- The number of homeless people counted fell from 13,822 in 2013 to 13,176 in 2015, a decline of 5%. Most of the decrease was driven by the fall in the sheltered population, which went from 6,432 to 5,819 (Figure 2).²

See Charts and graphs on next page -

¹ A Point-in-Time count is conducted every year, but HUD only requires counts of the unsheltered population every other year.

² Comparisons are done to 2013 because while HUD requires sheltered counts every year, they only require unsheltered counts every other year, and thus the count in 2014 is not comparable to the count in 2015.



Figure 1: Percent of Homeless People by Household Type, By Sheltered Status, 2015

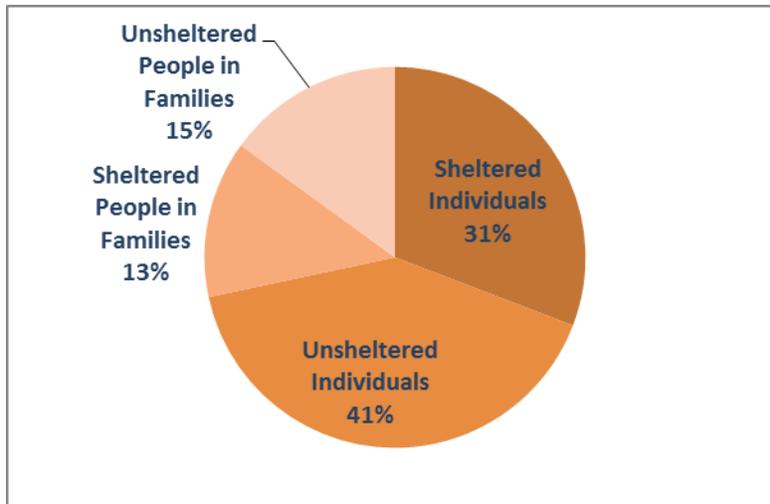
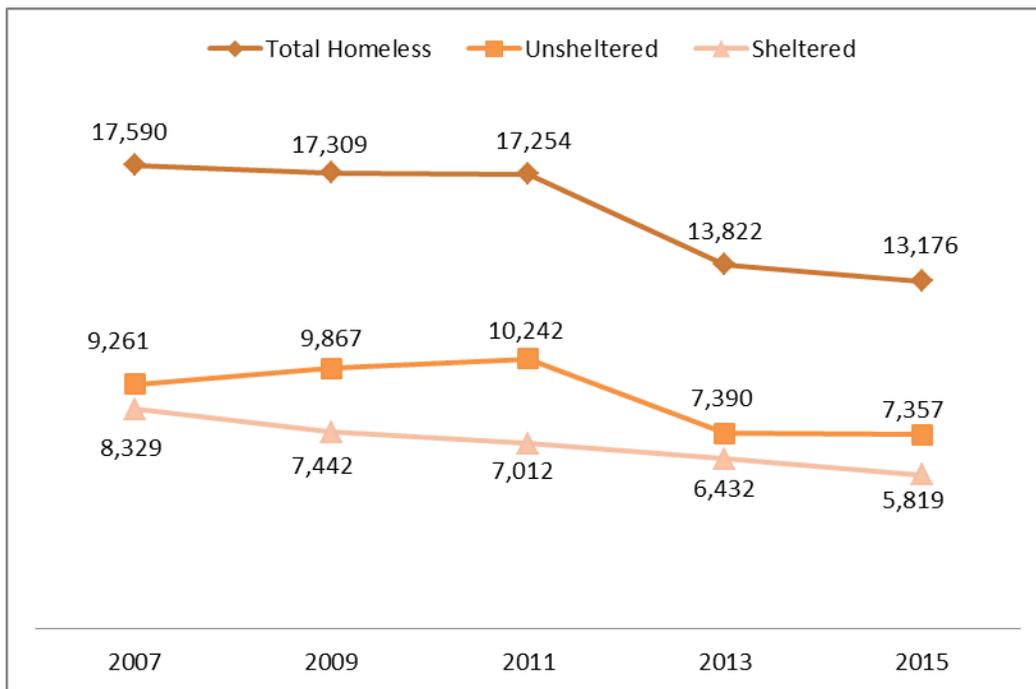


Figure 2: Estimates of Homeless People, by Sheltered Status, 2007-2015



Selected Demographics of the Homeless Population:

- The majority of homeless people (71%) were over the age of 24, while 19% were under 18 and 9% were 18-24.³
- Men made up 60% of the homeless population, women represented 38% of all homeless people, and transgender people made up 0.4% of the homeless population. The remaining 1.6% had missing gender information.
- 1,317 homeless people (10%) identified as Hispanic or Latino, 5% did not report an ethnicity, and the remaining 85% were Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino.
- The breakdown of the homeless population by race shows that 79% were white, 6% were African American, 5% were two or more races, 4% were Native American, 1% were Asian, 1% were Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and the remaining 4% had missing data on race.
- All homeless people of color, except Native Americans, were more likely than white homeless people to be sheltered than unsheltered. For example, 56% of African American homeless people were sheltered compared to 44% of white homeless people.
- All people of color, except Asians, are overrepresented in the homeless population. For example, African Americans make up just 1.8% of the population in Oregon, but make up 6% of the homeless population in Oregon and Native Americans make up 1.2% of the total population and 4.3% of the homeless population (Table 1).

Table 1: Homeless and Total Population by Race

Race	% of Homeless Population	% of Total Population
White	79.0%	85.2%
African American	6.1%	1.8%
Asian	0.7%	3.8%
Native American	4.3%	1.2%
Native Hawaiian	1.0%	0.4%
Multiple Races	4.9%	3.8%
Missing Race/Other Race*	3.9%	3.7%

* ACS data includes an "Other Race" category not included in the Point-in-Time count and the Point-in-Time count has some missing data on race, while the ACS does not have missing data, so this is not an exact comparison.

Source: 2015 Point-in-Time Count and American Community Survey 2009-2013

³ The remaining 1% had missing dates of birth, so their age could not be determined.

Homelessness among Subpopulations

- There were 3,991 chronically homeless people, making up 30% of the total homeless population.⁴ Three-fourths of this population was unsheltered and 88% were individuals, not in families.
- Fourteen percent of all homeless people in Oregon have a serious mental illness and 11% have substance abuse disorder. Fifty-one percent of those with a substance abuse disorder were sheltered, compared to 42% of those with serious mental illness.
- Forty-nine people reported that they have HIV/AIDS. Twenty of these were sheltered and 29 were unsheltered.
- 2,484 homeless people (19%) reported being victims of domestic violence and 58% were unsheltered.

Table 2: Homelessness among Subpopulations, by Sheltered Status

Subpopulation	Total	% Sheltered	% Unsheltered
Chronically Homeless	3,991	25%	75%
Victims of Domestic Violence	2,484	42%	58%
Adults with Serious Mental Illness	1,891	42%	58%
Adults with Substance Abuse Disorders	1,508	51%	49%
Veterans	1,467	53%	47%
Unaccompanied Youth (Under 18)	396	18%	82%
Adults with HIV/AIDS	49	41%	59%

Homeless Veterans

- There were 1,467 homeless veterans in Oregon on a single night in January. This is 11% of the entire homeless population. Fifty-three percent of these homeless veterans were sheltered and 47% were living in unsheltered locations.
- The vast majority (89% or 1,302) of homeless veterans were men, but 156 were women and 5 were transgender.
- Forty percent of homeless veterans were chronically homeless, and chronically homeless veterans make up 62% of the unsheltered homeless veteran population

Unaccompanied Youth and Parenting Youth

- There were 1,572 unaccompanied youth and parenting youth experiencing homelessness.
- Unaccompanied youth make up 80% of this population (1,280 people) and most of these unaccompanied youth (69%) are adults aged 18-24, while the remaining 31% are children under 18.
- A significant majority (82%) of unaccompanied youth under 18 are unsheltered, compared to 58% of unaccompanied youth aged 18-24.

⁴ Chronically homeless is defined by HUD as those with a disability who have either been continuously homeless for a year or more or who have experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.

- All 135 of the parents in parenting youth households are adults aged 18-24 and they are parents to 157 children under 18.
- Parenting Youth are more likely than unaccompanied youth to be sheltered, with 65% living in shelters.

Homelessness by County

- Multnomah County had 3,801 homeless people on a single night in January, representing 29% of the state's homeless population. The counties with the largest homeless populations after Multnomah were Lane (1,473), Josephine (883), Marion (682) and Clatsop (682).
- The five counties with highest percentage of Hispanic homeless people were Malheur (44%), Yamhill (16%), Hood River (16%), Grant (14%), and Washington (14%).
- Three counties have a higher percentage of African American homeless people than the state average of 6%: Multnomah (15%), Union (11%), and Washington (7%).
- Jefferson and Klamath counties have the highest percentage of Native American homeless at 44% and 17% respectively, Umatilla has the highest percentage of Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander homeless (12%), and Yamhill has the high percentage of Asian homeless at 3%.
- There are four counties where chronically homeless people make up at least half of the homeless population: Curry (64%), Polk (62%), Hood River (54%) and Benton (50%).
- Homeless veterans make up 35% of the homeless population in Lincoln County and 30% of the homeless population in Jackson County. In Lincoln County, all 19 of these homeless veterans are unsheltered.
- The counties with the largest percentage of unaccompanied youth and parenting youth are Coos (42%), Hood River (38%), and Malheur (28%).

See Point-in-Time Count Tables on pages 6-8.

Table 3: Point-in-Time Count of Homeless People, January 2015

County	Total Homeless People 2015	Total Sheltered People 2015	Total Unsheltered People 2015
Oregon	13,176	5,819	7,357
Baker	14	13	1
Benton	127	74	53
Clackamas	494	186	308
Clatsop	682	393	289
Columbia	317	43	274
Coos	612	33	579
Crook	36	9	27
Curry	86	0	86
Deschutes	503	176	327
Douglas	404	206	198
Gilliam	0	0	0
Grant	7	7	0
Harney	6	4	2
Hood River	69	4	65
Jackson	679	349	330
Jefferson	55	4	51
Josephine	883	124	759
Klamath	252	76	176
Lake	6	0	6
Lane	1,473	757	716
Lincoln	54	27	27
Linn	222	154	68
Malheur	104	50	54
Marion	732	573	159
Morrow	0	0	0
Multnomah	3,801	1,914	1,887
Polk	42	9	33
Sherman	0	0	0
Tillamook	106	6	100
Umatilla	52	24	28
Union	75	29	46
Wallowa	23	11	12
Wasco	47	14	33
Washington	591	196	395
Wheeler	0	0	0
Yamhill	495	246	249
No County	127	108	19

Table 4: Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Individuals, January 2015

County	Total Individuals 2015	Total Individuals Sheltered 2015	Total Individuals Unsheltered 2015
Oregon	9,441	4,060	5,381
Baker	3	2	1
Benton	115	65	50
Clackamas	357	76	281
Clatsop	421	251	170
Columbia	190	28	162
Coos	418	19	399
Crook	17	7	10
Curry	43	0	43
Deschutes	324	139	185
Douglas	205	117	88
Gilliam	0	0	0
Grant	1	1	0
Harney	2	0	2
Hood River	66	4	62
Jackson	583	297	286
Jefferson	42	4	38
Josephine	349	85	264
Klamath	176	61	115
Lake	2	0	2
Lane	1,250	606	644
Lincoln	29	6	23
Linn	187	140	47
Malheur	53	15	38
Marion	600	444	156
Morrow	0	0	0
Multnomah	3,132	1,403	1,729
Polk	38	9	29
Sherman	0	0	0
Tillamook	42	1	41
Umatilla	37	14	23
Union	31	9	22
Wallowa	4	0	4
Wasco	37	8	29
Washington	399	97	302
Wheeler	0	0	0
Yamhill	228	105	123
No County	60	47	13

Table 5: Point-in-Time Count of Homeless People in Families, January 2015

County	Total People in Families 2015	Total People in Families Sheltered 2015	Total People in Families Unsheltered 2015
Oregon	3,735	1,759	1,976
Baker	11	11	0
Benton	12	9	3
Clackamas	137	110	27
Clatsop	261	142	119
Columbia	127	15	112
Coos	194	14	180
Crook	19	2	17
Curry	43	0	43
Deschutes	179	37	142
Douglas	199	89	110
Gilliam	0	0	0
Grant	6	6	0
Harney	4	4	0
Hood River	3	0	3
Jackson	96	52	44
Jefferson	13	0	13
Josephine	534	39	495
Klamath	76	15	61
Lake	4	0	4
Lane	223	151	72
Lincoln	25	21	4
Linn	35	14	21
Malheur	51	35	16
Marion	132	129	3
Morrow	0	0	0
Multnomah	669	511	158
Polk	4	0	4
Sherman	0	0	0
Tillamook	64	5	59
Umatilla	15	10	5
Union	44	20	24
Wallowa	19	11	8
Wasco	10	6	4
Washington	192	99	93
Wheeler	0	0	0
Yamhill	267	141	126
No County	67	61	6