

2017 Homeless Individuals IN THE UNITED STATES

POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)

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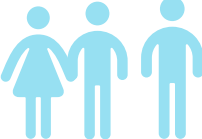


2017 Homeless Individuals

IN THE UNITED STATES

Did You Know?

PIT

On a single night in January 2017, **366,585** individuals were experiencing homelessness 


This is a **11.2% decline** since 2007

Individuals experiencing homelessness were **5.2 times more likely to be unsheltered** than people in families with children

Individuals experiencing unsheltered & sheltered homelessness

47.3%  **52.7%**

HMIS

In 2017, **950,497** individuals experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during the year 

This is a **14.8% decline** since 2007

50.8% of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability, **2.6 times the national rate** for individuals

Among individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness **in 2017...**



74.6%
CITIES



25.4%
SUBURBAN & RURAL AREAS

KEY TERM

An **individual** is a person in a household that does not have both an adult (age 18 or older) and a child. These households include people who experience homelessness alone, as adult roommates, as married or cohabiting couples without children, or in households comprised of multiple children. Unaccompanied youth, including parenting teens, are counted as individuals in this section. A separate section of the report focuses just on youth. In contrast to an "individual," a person in a "family with children" is in a household with at least one adult and one child.

2017 One-Night Estimates OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

PIT

This section presents the Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates of individuals who experienced homelessness in the U.S. For the purpose of this report, “individuals” refers to people in households without children under age 18 and people in households with only children under age 18. Although the AHAR refers to this population as “individuals,” people who are experiencing homelessness as individuals may include households with more than one person. Taken together, people experiencing homelessness as individuals and as families with children comprise the entire homeless population.

The PIT estimates are one-night counts of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last ten days in January. CoCs are required to conduct a PIT count in shelters (emergency shelter and transitional housing programs) and a street (or “unsheltered”) count at least every other year. The unsheltered PIT count was required in 2017.

On a Single Night in January 2017

- 366,585 people in households without children (individuals) were experiencing homelessness in the United States, 66.5 percent of all people in the one-night counts.
- More than half (52.7%) of all individuals experiencing homelessness were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens. Individuals were 5.2 times more likely to be unsheltered than people in families with children. Of people in unsheltered locations, 91.2 percent were individuals.

Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The total number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased by just over three percent (3.2%, or 11,373 more people). This was the first increase in the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness since 2010.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness decreased 2.5 percent (4,864 fewer people), continuing the trend from the previous two years.
- The number of unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness increased by 10.3 percent (16,237 more people), outpacing the decline in individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness. This was the third consecutive year that the number of unsheltered individuals went up and a much larger increase than the previous two years.

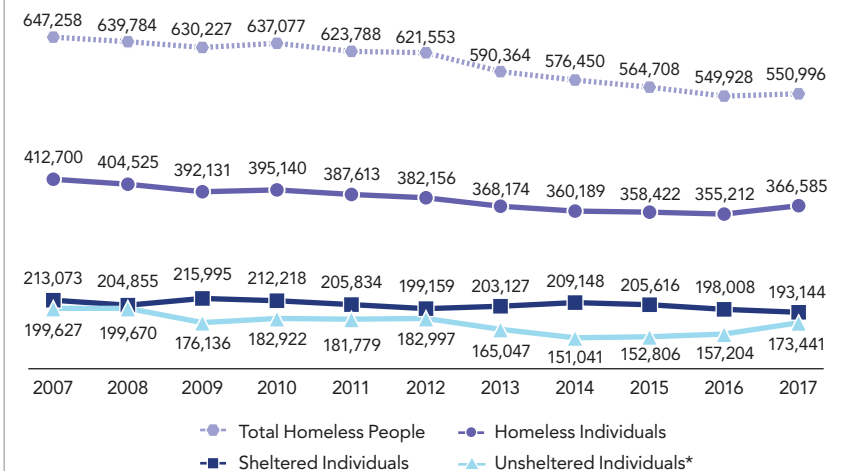
Between January 2007 and January 2017

- Despite the recent increase, the number of individuals who were experiencing homelessness declined by 11.2 percent (46,115 fewer people) over the longer period.
- The unsheltered population decreased 13.1 percent (26,186 fewer individuals), and the sheltered population decreased 9.4 percent (19,929 fewer individuals).

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories
See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD’s Resource Exchange at www.hudexchange.info.

In 2017, 16,237 more individuals were experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night than in 2016, a 10.3% increase.

EXHIBIT 2.1: One-Night Counts of Homeless Individuals
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017



Note: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The total unsheltered population was reduced by 2,746.

EXHIBIT 2.2: Change in Homeless Individuals
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017

Years	Total Homeless Individuals		Sheltered Individuals		Unsheltered Individuals	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	11,373	3.2	-4,864	-2.5	16,237	10.3
2015 to 2016	-3,210	-0.9	-7,608	-3.7	4,398	2.9
2014 to 2015	-1,767	-0.5	-3,532	-1.7	1,765	1.2
2013 to 2014	-7,985	-2.2	6,021	3.0	-14,006	-8.5
2012 to 2013	-13,982	-3.7	3,968	2.0	-17,950	-9.8
2011 to 2012	-5,457	-1.4	-6,675	-3.2	1,218	0.7
2010 to 2011	-7,527	-1.9	-6,384	-3.0	-1,143	-0.6
2009 to 2010	3,009	0.8	-3,777	-1.7	6,786	3.9
2008 to 2009	-12,394	-3.1	11,140	5.4	-23,534	-11.8
2007 to 2008	-8,175	-2.0	-8,218	-3.9	43	0.0
2007 to 2017	-46,115	-11.2	-19,929	-9.4	-26,186	-13.1

By State

On a Single Night in January 2017

- California accounted for more than 3 in 10 individuals experiencing homelessness (30.4%), representing a growth in its share of all individuals experiencing homelessness over the prior year (27.8%). Only two other states accounted for more than five percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the nation, New York (10.3%) and Florida (6.3%).
- Individuals made up more than four-fifths of all people experiencing homelessness in the one-night count in three states: Nevada (93.0%), California (83.8%), and Arkansas (83.8%). In all but two states and the District of Columbia, more than half of all people experiencing homelessness were individuals.

Between January 2016 and January 2017

- California had the largest increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness (12,600 more individuals or 12.9%). The next largest increase was in New York (2,075 more individuals or 5.9%).
- While nationally the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased, this population declined in 28 states and the District of Columbia.
- Georgia had the largest decrease in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness, with 1,843 fewer people (a 19.9% decline).

Between January 2007 and January 2017

- A majority of states (28 and the District of Columbia) experienced declines in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. Florida had the largest decline, 31.1 percent. Texas and Georgia also experienced large decreases over the period, a 36.5 percent decline in Texas and a 40.7 percent decline in Georgia.
- Twenty-two states had an increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. New York had the largest increase, with 9,334 additional people.

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017
Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories
See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state (www.hudexchange.info)

EXHIBIT 2.3: Homeless Individuals in the U.S.

Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017

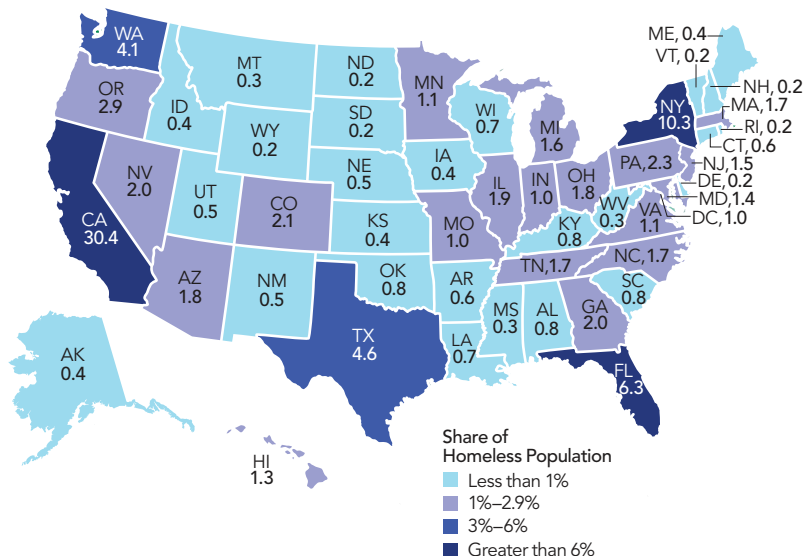


EXHIBIT 2.4: Total Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007–2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017					
California	12,600	12.9	Georgia	-1,843	-19.9
New York	2,075	5.9	Florida	-1,433	-5.9
Colorado	1,121	17.4	South Carolina	-862	-22.9
Oregon	1,055	11.2	Louisiana	-617	-19.4
Washington	881	6.3	Tennessee	-515	-7.7
2007 to 2017					
New York	9,334	33.3	Florida	-10,272	-31.1
Washington	1,492	11.2	Texas	-9,598	-36.5
Hawaii	1,200	36.0	Georgia	-5,099	-40.7
Nevada	804	12.4	New Jersey	-3,539	-39.4
Minnesota	630	19.3	Arizona	-3,532	-35.2

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

By State and Sheltered Status

On a Single Night in January 2017

- Nearly half (49.1%) of all unsheltered individuals in the U.S. were in California. Nearly four in five individuals experiencing homelessness in California (77.3%) were in unsheltered locations.
- In seven other states, more than half of all individuals experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations: Hawaii, Nevada, Mississippi, Oregon, Arkansas, Washington, and Florida.
- States that sheltered more than 90 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were Iowa, Nebraska, Maine, Delaware, and Rhode Island.

Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The largest increases in the number of individuals counted in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and safe havens were in California (1,302 more people, a 5.5% increase) and New York (1,097 more people, a 3.5% increase). The largest decline was in Florida, with 710 fewer individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness (a 6.1% decrease).
- Georgia experienced the largest decline in unsheltered individuals (1,160 fewer people, a 25.9% decrease). While California had the largest absolute increase in unsheltered individuals (11,298 more people), the District of Columbia had the largest percentage increase (182.1%).

Between January 2007 and January 2017

- New York had the largest increase in individuals counted in sheltered locations (9,983 more people), followed by Minnesota (711 more people) and Wisconsin (246 more people).
- California had the largest decline in sheltered individuals (5,475 fewer people) since 2007, while Florida had the largest decline in unsheltered individuals (8,431 fewer people) over the same period.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations declined in 31 states. The number of individuals experiencing homelessness in sheltered locations declined in 30 states and the District of Columbia during the same time period.

EXHIBIT 2.5: Sheltered Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017					
California	1,302	5.5	Florida	-710	-6.1
New York	1,097	3.5	Georgia	-683	-14.3
Oregon	635	17.4	District of Columbia	-679	-20.2
Colorado	367	8.4	South Carolina	-673	-28.8
Washington	344	5.4	Texas	-601	-6.5
2007 to 2017					
New York	9,983	43.6	California	-5,475	-18.0
Minnesota	711	32.6	Texas	-4,405	-33.6
Wisconsin	246	11.9	New Jersey	-2,996	-42.6
Idaho	244	39.8	Massachusetts	-1,891	-26.3
Montana	235	59.0	Florida	-1,841	-14.4

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

Exhibit 2.6: Unsheltered Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017					
California	11,298	15.3	Georgia	-1,160	-25.9
Texas	1,350	20.3	Florida	-723	-5.8
New York	978	27.8	Connecticut	-255	-38.2
Colorado	754	35.9	Tennessee	-196	-8.0
Nevada	644	16.4	Louisiana	-195	-17.6
2007 to 2017					
California	4,783	5.9	Florida	-8,431	-41.6
Washington	2,872	55.5	Texas	-5,193	-39.4
Nevada	1,722	60.7	Georgia	-3,458	-51.0
Hawaii	1,042	46.6	Arizona	-2,532	-45.2
District of Columbia	557	163.8	Tennessee	-1,485	-39.7

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS WAS:

A Man by Himself

70.6% MALE / 97.4% 1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD



Aged 31-50

40.7%

White, Non-Hispanic

44.1%

Not Disabled

50.8%

Living in a City

74.6%



Already Homeless

PRIOR TO USING A SHELTER* (49.6%)

Spending 22 Nights in Emergency Shelter



*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.



2017 One-Year Estimates OF SHELTERED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

HMIS

These estimates are based on data collected over the course of one year and account for all individuals who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the reporting year. Individual refers to a person who is not part of a family with children, meaning under the age of 18, during an episode of homelessness. Individuals may be homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data to HUD. The estimates adjust statistically for people experiencing sheltered homelessness in shelter programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete estimated enumeration of sheltered individuals in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. These HMIS-based estimates do not include: (a) sheltered individuals in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) individuals served by victim service providers; and (c) individuals in unsheltered locations who never used a shelter program during the 12-month period.¹

Estimate of Individuals Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness in 2017

- An estimated 950,497 individuals used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some time between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017.²

Changes Over Time

- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness stayed essentially the same, with an estimate of 340 fewer people between 2016 and 2017. While level over the one-year period, the one-night estimate of sheltered homelessness declined by 2.5 percent.
- 164,557 fewer people experienced sheltered homelessness over the course of a year in 2017 than in 2007, a decrease of 14.8 percent. This was a steeper drop than in the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness on a single night in January, which fell by 9.4 percent.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has decreased in seven of the ten years between 2007 and 2017, and for each of the last two years.

¹ People served in Safe Havens are included in the PIT estimates, but not in these HMIS-based estimates of sheltered homelessness over the course of one year.

² The 95 percent confidence interval for the estimate is 866,441 to 1,034,553 (950,497 +/- 84,056).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

950,497 people in households without children experienced sheltered homelessness at some time during the 2017 reporting year.

EXHIBIT 2.7a: Trend in One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals, 2007–2017

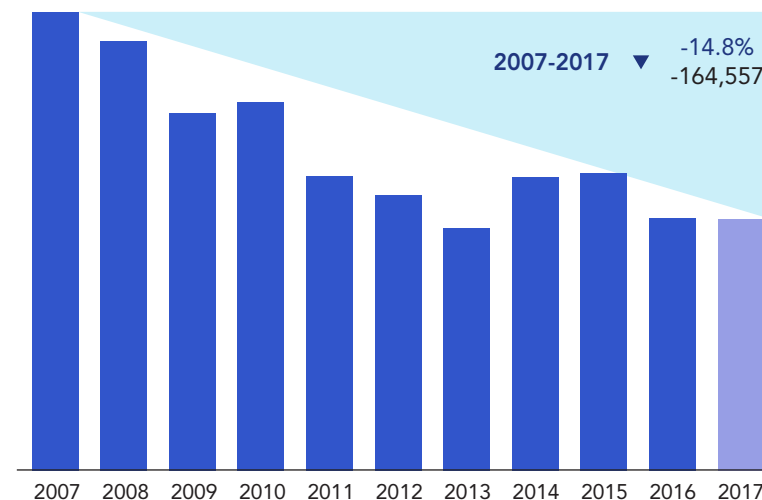


Exhibit 2.7b: One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals and Annual Change from the Prior Year, 2007–2017

Year	Estimate	# Change from previous year	% Change from previous year
2017	950,497	-340	0.0
2016	950,837	-36,403	-3.7
2015	987,239	3,112	0.3
2014	984,127	41,111	4.4
2013	943,017	-26,642	-2.7
2012	969,659	-14,810	-1.5
2011	984,469	-58,773	-5.6
2010	1,043,242	8,583	0.8
2009	1,034,659	-57,953	-5.3
2008	1,092,612	-22,442	-2.0
2007	1,115,054	--	--

Gender and Age

Starting in 2015, HUD collected age information for people between the ages of 18 and 24 who were experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of the one-year period. Information is collected separately for people between the ages of 25 and 30. For more detailed information on age categories, see the supporting HMIS data available for download (www.hudexchange.info).

In 2017

- While men were in the minority among U.S. individuals living in poverty (46.4%) and only a slight majority (50.2%) among all adult individuals, more than seven in ten adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were men (70.6%).
- Two in five individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were between the ages of 31 and 50. Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were about twice as likely to be between the ages of 31 and 50 as were individuals in the U.S. population.
- One in ten individuals experiencing homelessness was a young adult between the ages of 18 and 24 (10.7%), and just more than one in ten (11.6%) was between the ages of 25 and 30.
- Children (under age 18) comprised only 3.2 percent of all individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness.
- Individuals age 62 and older made up 27.7 percent of adult individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty and 34.1 percent of adult individuals overall, but just 8 percent of adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness.

The share of children experiencing sheltered homelessness without an adult increased 25.4% (6,183 more children) between 2016 and 2017.

Changes Over Time

- While the share of U.S. adult individuals who are women has stayed the same between 2007 and 2017 (49.8%), the share of women among individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has increased from 26.8 percent in 2007 to 29.4 percent in 2017.
- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of children (under age 18) experiencing sheltered homelessness without an adult increased by 25.4 percent (6,183 more children).
- Two in five individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017 were between the ages of 31 and 50. However, the share in that age group dropped by 11.2 percentage points between 2007 and 2017, from 51.9 percent in 2007 to 40.7 percent in 2017.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of sheltered elderly individuals age 62 or older increased by 68.5 percent (30,658 more people). The share of elderly individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has nearly doubled in this period, from 4.1 percent in 2007 to 8 percent in 2017.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017; ACS 2006, 2015, 2016

EXHIBIT 2.8: Gender

Sheltered Adults Individuals and U.S. Adult Individuals, 2007-2017

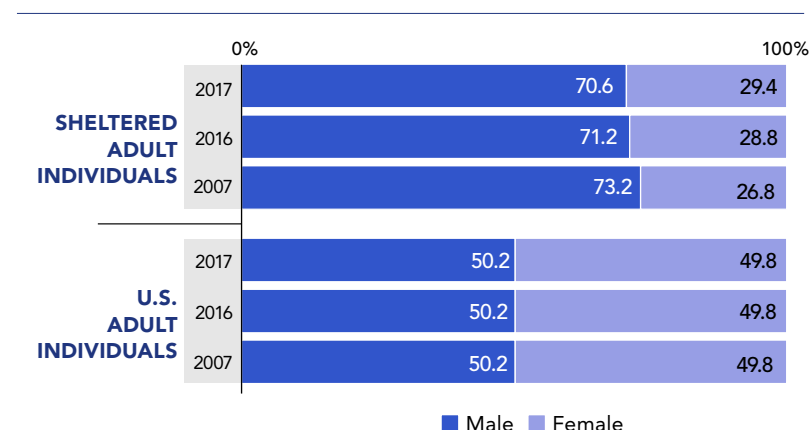


EXHIBIT 2.9: Age

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017 (in %)

Age	Sheltered Individuals			U.S. Individuals		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Under Age 18	4.8	2.6	3.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
18 - 30	20.3	22.9	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.3
18 - 24	--	10.8	10.7	--	12.4	12.2
25 - 30	--	12.2	11.6	--	9.9	10.1
31 - 50	51.9	41.4	40.7	25.4	21.0	20.6
51 - 61	18.9	26.1	25.8	22.7	23.2	22.9
62 and Older	4.1	7.0	8.0	29.7	33.4	34.1

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

Ethnicity and Race

In 2017

- A slightly higher share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness identified as Hispanic (13%) than individuals in the U.S. population (11.7%).
- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than twice as likely to identify as African American as were individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty (38.7% versus 18.6%), and more than three times as likely than all U.S. individuals (38.7% versus 12.0%).
- More than four in ten individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness identified as white and non-Hispanic (44.1%), nearly four in ten (38.7%) as Black or African American, and about one in ten (8.9%) as white and Hispanic.
- Other races identified included: American Indian or Alaska Native (2.6%), Asian (0.9%), and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.8%). These three races together were present among sheltered homeless individuals at less than half the rate as for all U.S. individuals (4.3% and 9.1%).

Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than three times as likely to identify as African American as were all U.S. individuals (38.7% versus 12.0%).

Changes Over Time

- The race and ethnicity of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness remained stable from 2016 to 2017. However, there were some notable shifts in racial characteristics over the longer, ten-year period. The percentage of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic dropped from 21.5 percent in 2007 to 13 percent in 2017. During the same time period, Hispanics in the total U.S. population increased from 9.1 percent to 11.7 percent.
- The share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as white and non-Hispanic increased between 2007 and 2017, from 42.6 percent of sheltered individuals to 44.1 percent in 2017. During the same time period, individuals identifying as white and non-Hispanic in the total U.S. population declined, from 74.4 percent to 69.1 percent.
- Over the ten-year period, the share of sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness identifying as black or African American increased from 33.2 percent to 38.7 percent, a sharper rise than the increase in individuals identifying as black or African American in the total U.S. population (10.8% in 2007 to 12% in 2017).

EXHIBIT 2.10: Ethnicity

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017

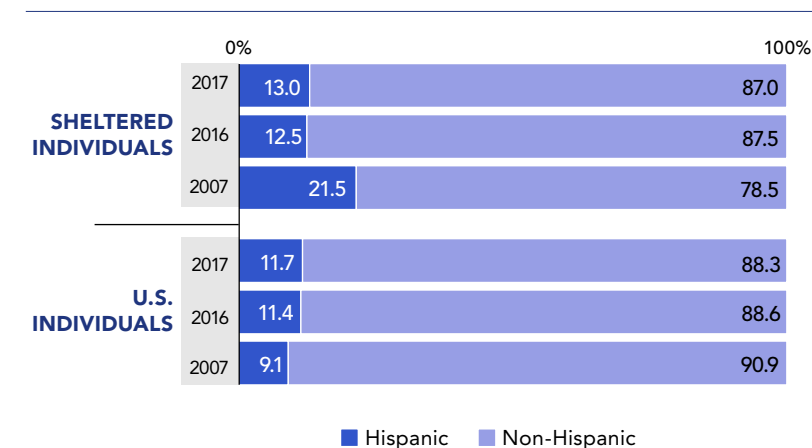
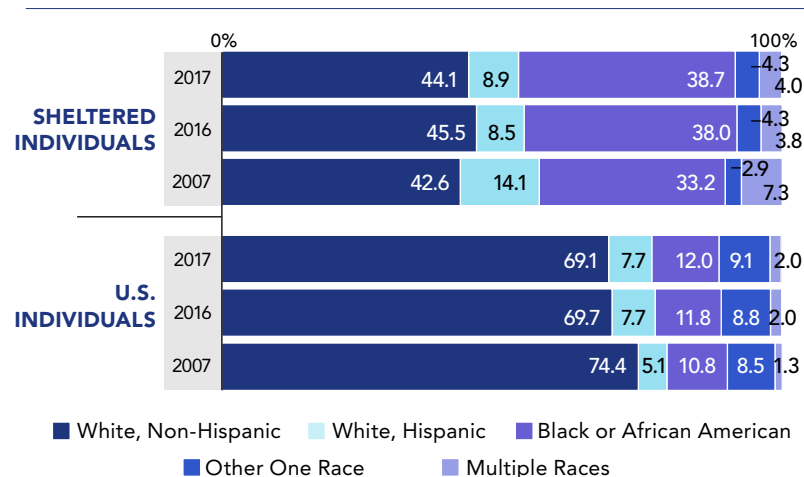


EXHIBIT 2.11: Race

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017





Household Size and Disability Status

An “individual” refers to a person who is not part of a family with children during an episode of homelessness. Individuals may be homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

In 2017

- Only 2.6 percent of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were in a household with another adult in 2017. This is considerably lower than share of U.S. individuals in households with other adults (74.9%).
- Half of adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability in 2017 (49.2%). This was 2.5 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population (19.8%), and 1.6 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty (31.6%).

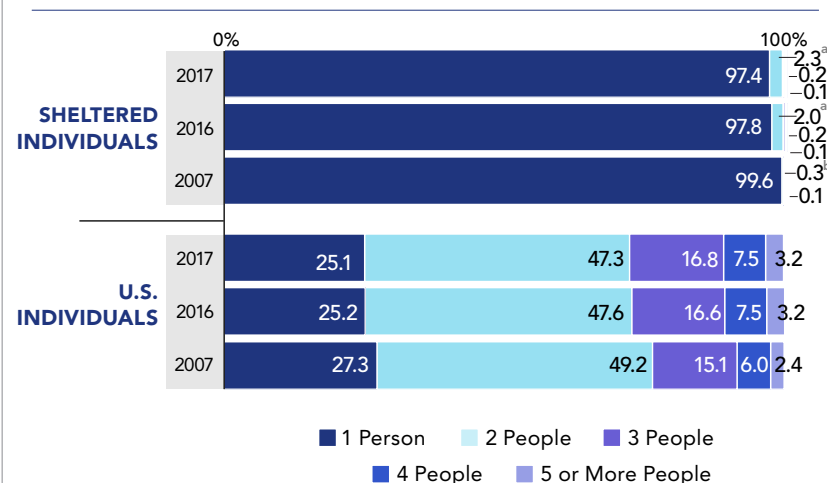
49.2% of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability, which was 2.5 times the national rate for individuals.

Changes Over Time

- While remaining low, the share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in households with other adults increased considerably, from 0.4 percent in 2007 to 2.6 percent in 2017.
- The proportion of sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness who have a disability increased from 40.4 percent to 49.2 percent between 2007 and 2017.

EXHIBIT 2.12: Household Size

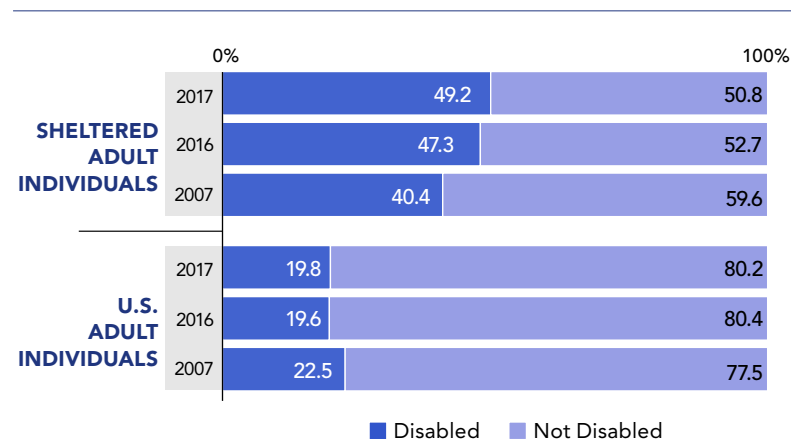
Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017



Note: a) 0.0% for 5 or more people; b) 0.0% for 3 people, 4 people

EXHIBIT 2.13: Disability Status

Sheltered Adult Individuals and U.S. Adult Individuals, 2007-2017



Geographic Location

In 2017

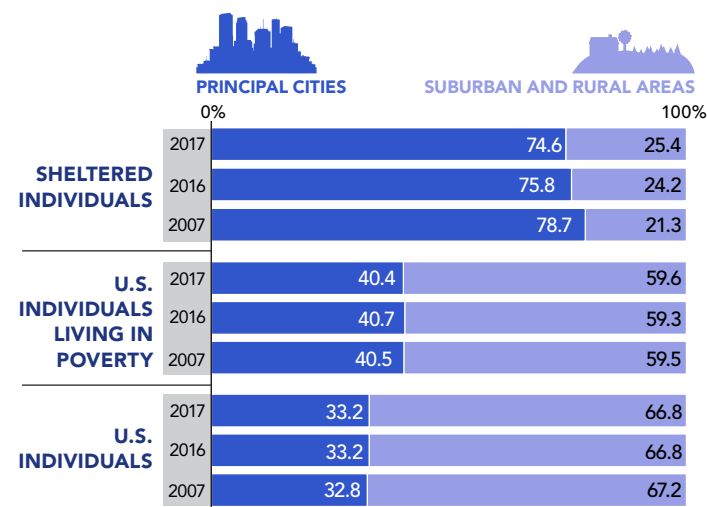
- Three of every four individuals who were experiencing sheltered homelessness (74.6%) were located in principal cities. The remaining 25.4 percent were in suburban and rural areas.
- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were 1.8 times more likely to be in cities than were individuals living in poverty (74.6% versus 40.4%) and 2.2 times more likely than individuals in the U.S. population (74.6% versus 33.2%).

Changes Over Time

- Over the last ten years, the location of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness over a one-year period has shifted -- declining in principal cities and increasing in suburban and rural areas. This trend did not reflect changes in where all U.S. individuals or individuals living in poverty were located, which increased at a similar rate in both types of locations.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness dropped 19.2 percent (168,517 fewer people) in principal cities, and increased by 1.7 percent (4,050 people) in suburban and rural areas. During the same time period, the number of individuals living in poverty in principal cities and in suburban and rural areas increased (25.7% and 26.6%), as did the number of all U.S. individuals in both locations (17.8% and 15.7%).
- Although the share of all U.S. individuals living in poverty in suburban and rural areas stayed roughly level (59.5% in 2007 and 59.6% in 2017), the share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in those areas increased by nearly 20 percent, from 21.3 percent in 2007 to 25.4 percent in 2017.

EXHIBIT 2.14: Geographic Distribution

Sheltered Individuals, U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty, and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.³

EXHIBIT 2.15: Percent Change by Geography

Sheltered Individuals, U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty, and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017

Population	2016-2017		2007-2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Individuals	-1.5	4.6	-19.2	1.7
U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty	-1.0	0.2	25.7	26.6
U.S. Individuals	1.4	1.3	17.8	15.7

Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.⁴

Characteristics by Geography

In 2017

- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas were more likely to identify as white and non-Hispanic than African-American (52.7% versus 31.4%), while the share was roughly equal in principal cities (41.1% versus 41.3%).
- Women made up a larger share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas than in cities (32.4% versus 28.4%).
- A slightly smaller share of individual adults experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability in cities than in suburban and rural areas (48.9% versus 50.1%).
- Elderly individuals (age 62 or older) made up approximately the same proportion of the sheltered population in both cities and suburban and rural areas (8.1% and 7.5%).

Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities were about equally likely to be white and non-Hispanic (41.1%) and African American (41.3%)

Changes Over Time

- The share of elderly individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who were 62 or older increased both in cities and in suburban and rural areas between 2007 and 2017-- from 4.4 percent to 8.1 percent in cities and from 3 percent to 7.5 percent in suburban and rural areas.
- The racial characteristics of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas remained about the same between 2007 and 2017. However, the percentage of sheltered individuals who identified as Hispanic in suburban or rural areas declined from 14.5 percent to 10.4 percent.
- In cities, the share of sheltered individuals who identified as black or African American increased from 33.6 percent in 2007 to 41.3 percent in 2017. The percentage of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic dropped from 23.4 percent to 13.9 percent over the same time period.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of sheltered adult individuals with a disability declined in suburban and rural areas by 9.2 percentage points (from 59.3% to 50.1%), but increased 14.8 percentage points in cities (from 34.1% to 48.9%).

EXHIBIT 2.16: Characteristics by Geography

Sheltered Individuals, 2007-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
# Homeless People	877,974	720,315	709,457	236,990	230,522	241,040
Gender of Adults						
Male	73.8	72.5	71.6	71.1	67.1	67.6
Female	26.2	27.5	28.4	29.0	32.9	32.4
Ethnicity						
Hispanic	23.4	13.1	13.9	14.5	10.7	10.4
Non-Hispanic	76.6	86.9	86.1	85.5	89.3	89.7
Race						
White, Non-Hispanic	39.7	42.6	41.1	52.8	54.2	52.7
White, Hispanic	16.0	8.8	9.3	7.5	7.7	7.6
Black or African American	33.6	40.5	41.3	31.6	30.4	31.4
Other One Race	2.8	4.5	4.6	3.0	3.5	3.5
Multiple Races	7.9	3.6	3.7	5.1	4.2	4.8
Age						
Under Age 18	5.3	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.9	3.8
18 - 30	19.4	22.7	22.3	23.8	23.6	22.7
18 - 24	--	10.6	10.8	--	11.2	10.6
25 - 30	--	12.1	11.5	--	12.4	12.1
31 - 50	51.6	41.6	40.6	53.0	40.9	40.8
51 - 61	19.4	26.0	26.0	17.0	26.3	25.2
62 and Older	4.4	7.2	8.1	3.0	6.4	7.5
Household Size						
1 Person	99.8	97.8	97.5	98.9	97.8	97.3
2 People	0.2	2.0	2.2	0.8	2.1	2.5
3 People	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
4 People	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
5 or More People	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Disability Status of Adults						
Disabled	34.1	46.4	48.9	59.3	50.1	50.1
Not Disabled	66.0	53.6	51.1	40.7	49.9	49.9

Note: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

Living Situation Before Entering Shelter*

Information on where individuals were staying before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs was asked of all individuals, including children experiencing homelessness without adults.

In 2017

- Before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs in 2017, about half (49.6%) of individuals were already homeless, while a third (32.1%) came from a housing arrangement of some kind. The remaining individuals came from institutional settings (13.3%) or other settings (4.9%).
- More individuals entered emergency shelter or transitional housing from places not meant for human habitation (55.3%) than from other shelters (44.7%).
- About two-fifths of the 126,726 individuals who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing from an institutional setting came from a substance abuse treatment center (22.3%) or a psychiatric facility (15.2%), while another two-fifths (41%) entered from a correctional facility.
- Among individuals who were not already homeless before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, less than two thirds (63.7%) came from housing. About one-quarter (26.5%) entered from institutional settings, and the rest (9.8%) entered from other settings such as motels.

Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of individuals entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from homeless situations increased by 13.8 percent overall (11.4% from sheltered locations and 15.8% from unsheltered locations).
- Over a longer time period, 2007 to 2017, the share of individuals who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from unsheltered locations increased from 13.7 percent to 27.4 percent, while those coming from other shelter programs declined from 31.2 percent to 22.2 percent.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of adult individuals who were staying in a hospital before entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program rose from 1.4 percent to 2.9 percent, while the share entering from a psychiatric facility rose only slightly, from 1.5 percent to 2.0 percent.
- The share of adult individuals entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from housing they rented declined between 2007 and 2017, from 9.6 percent to 6.8 percent.
- Of the individuals who were not already homeless before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, the share who entered from institutional settings increased from 20.8 percent in 2007 to 26.5 percent in 2017.

*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

EXHIBIT 2.17: Places Individuals Stayed

Before Entering Shelter* and Change Over Time, 2007-2017

Place Stayed	2017		2016-2017		2007-2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Already Homeless	471,682	49.6	57,077	13.8	7,642	1.6
Sheltered	210,870	44.7	21,577	11.4	-111,514	-34.6
Unsheltered	260,812	55.3	35,500	15.8	119,156	84.1
Housing	305,183	32.1	-30,387	-9.1	-53,436	-14.9
Staying with family	129,472	42.4	-14,530	-10.1	-20,641	-13.8
Staying with friends	101,644	33.3	-12,107	-10.6	14,517	16.7
Rented housing unit	64,318	21.1	-3,013	-4.5	-34,606	-35.0
Owned housing unit	6,884	2.3	-458	-6.2	-13,056	-65.5
Permanent supportive housing (PSH)	2,865	0.9	-279	-8.9	350	13.9
Institutional Settings	126,726	13.3	-1,611	-1.3	7,988	6.7
Substance abuse treatment center	28,257	22.3	-294	-1.0	-8,384	-22.9
Correctional facility	51,936	41.0	-1,161	-2.2	-471	-0.9
Hospital	27,249	21.5	105	0.4	12,957	90.7
Psychiatric facility	19,284	15.2	-261	-1.3	3,886	25.2
Other Settings	46,905	4.9	-13,126	-21.9	-45,258	-49.1
Hotel or motel	29,876	63.7	-2,928	-8.9	5,873	24.5
Foster care home	3,445	7.3	259	8.1	-2,345	-40.5
Other living arrangement	13,584	29.0	-10,457	-43.5	-48,786	-78.2


Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

EXHIBIT 2.18: Places Individuals Stayed

Who Were Not Already Homeless

Before Entering Shelter*, 2007-2017 (in %)

2007	2016	2017
63.0	64.0	63.7
20.8	24.5	26.5
16.2	11.5	9.8



Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. This change was applied beginning with the 2017 AHAR Report. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

Emergency shelter and transitional housing programs were designed differently. Emergency shelters were designed as high-volume, high-turnover programs; their primary purpose was to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In contrast, transitional housing programs were designed to offer people experiencing homelessness shelter as well as supportive services for up to 24 months, assuming people would stay longer than they do in emergency shelters.

In 2017

- There were 136,187 year-round beds for individuals in emergency shelters and 60,313 year-round beds for individuals in transitional housing programs. Of the 950,497 individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the reporting year, 85.9 percent stayed in emergency shelters only, 10.7 percent stayed in transitional housing programs only, and 3.4 percent used both emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.
- Over the course of the reporting year, the median length of stay for individuals in emergency shelter was 22 nights with 6.2 individuals served per bed.
- The median length of stay for individuals in transitional housing programs was 101 nights, or about three months, with 2.2 individuals served per bed throughout the year.
- On average, 88.6 percent of emergency shelter beds were occupied per night, while 82.5 percent of transitional housing beds were occupied per night.

Changes Over Time

- The length of stay for individuals in emergency shelter was slightly longer in 2017 than in 2016, while the length of stay in transitional housing was slightly shorter. The average number of nights an individual stayed in emergency shelter increased from 50 nights to 53 nights, while the average stay in transitional housing declined from 138 nights in 2016 to 136 nights in 2017.
- Between 2016 and 2017, the average occupancy rate for transitional housing decreased from 84.9 percent to 82.5 percent, while average occupancy increased for emergency shelter beds (85.5% to 88.6%). The bed turnover rate remained stable for both program types.
- Over the longer period, lengths of stay in both emergency shelter and transitional housing grew longer. The median number of nights in emergency shelter increased from 14 to 22 between 2007 and 2017, while the median number of nights in transitional shelter increased from 91 to 101.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the homeless services system nationwide saw the number of emergency shelter beds for individuals increase by 23,023 beds, while the number of transitional housing beds for individuals nationwide decreased by a larger amount, 39,524 beds.

EXHIBIT 2.19: Length of Stay

Individuals in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2017

Length of Stay	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing	
	#	%	#	%
7 days or less	290,440	34.4	7,375	5.5
8 to 30 days	215,755	25.6	18,738	14.0
31 to 180 days	274,716	32.5	68,054	50.8
181 to 360 days	48,250	5.7	26,365	19.7
361 to 366 days	14,866	1.8	13,498	10.1

Note: Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

EXHIBIT 2.20: Bed-Use Patterns

Individuals in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2007-2017

Bed-Use Patterns	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Median # nights	14	21	22	91	103	101
Average # nights	38	50	53	130	138	136
Average occupancy rate (in %)	90.2	85.5	88.6	80.7	84.9	82.5
Bed count	113,164	131,106	136,187	99,837	69,150	60,313
Turnover rate	8.9	6.3	6.2	2.1	2.2	2.2

Note1: The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.

Note2: The total bed count is based on the year-round beds determined at one point in time from the HIC.

Note3: The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the number of people served by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.

