

## **2022 Homeless Point-in-Time Count Results**

Each January, Pierce County surveys people experiencing homelessness. This homeless “point-in-time count” is a one-day snapshot that captures the characteristics and situations of people living here without a home. We counted 1,851 people, but the official estimate for homelessness in Pierce County is much larger - 4,300 individuals. The lower Point-in-Time count number reflects the challenge of counting a large, geographically distributed unsheltered population over a 24-hour period.

### **1,851 People counted during the homeless Point-in-Time count**

- 23% Chronically homeless
- 38% Female
- 7% Households with children
- 7% Veterans
- 20% Adult survivors of domestic violence
- 11% Unaccompanied youth and young adults
- 52% People of color (However, people of color make up only 34% of the Pierce County population, according to a 2019 ACS estimate.)

### **Not all people experiencing homelessness sleep outside**

- 58% Emergency shelter
- 12% Out of doors
- 6% Transitional housing
- 6% Vehicle
- 18% Unknown

### **Most told us they lived in Pierce County before experiencing homelessness**

- 76% Pierce County
- 12% Outside Washington
- 7% King County
- 6% Other Washington County

### **Most told us they slept in Tacoma the night of the Point-in-Time Count**

- 74% Tacoma
- 10% Puyallup
- 7% Fife
- 6% Other
- 3% Lakewood

### **The main causes of homelessness are economic and housing-related**

There are often many causes for becoming homeless. These are the top three most common:

- Family crisis/breakup
- No affordable housing
- Loss of job

### **Many unhoused people have an income**

- 64% of unhoused people in the County report at least one source of income
- 36% of unhoused people in the County report having no income

### **A chronic health condition is the most commonly reported disability**

Here is the breakdown of the most commonly reported disabilities. Some reported having multiple disabilities.

- 20% Mental illness
- 27% Chronic health condition
- 26% Physical disability
- 25% Substance abuse
- 11% Development disability

### **Point-in-Time Count overview**

- 198 volunteers
- 343 individuals interviewed

For the full data set visit [www.piercecountywa.gov/pit](http://www.piercecountywa.gov/pit)