2019 Point-In-Time Count Results
Each January, Pierce County surveys people experiencing homelessness. This “point-in-time count” is a one-day snapshot that captures the characteristics and situations of people living here without a home.

1,486
Homeless persons counted

24%
Chronically homeless

25%
Members of families with children

38%
Female

7%
Adult survivors of domestic violence

9%
Veterans

46% People of color*

*However, people of color make up only 26% of the Pierce County population. (ACS estimate 2017)

Not all people experiencing homelessness sleep outside

47% Emergency shelter

28% Out of doors (street, tent, etc.)

11% Transitional housing

14% Vehicle, abandoned building, other

Most told us they lived in Pierce County before they became homeless

72% Pierce County

6%
8%
14%

Other WA counties

King County

Outside WA

The main causes of homelessness are economic and housing-related
Survey respondents shared many causes for becoming homeless. These are the top three:

1. Lack of affordable housing
2. Inadequate income or employment
3. Eviction

Many people experiencing homelessness have an income

44% of people who are homeless in Pierce County report at least one source of income.

Mental illness is the most commonly reported disability
Here is the breakdown of the most commonly reported disabilities. Some people reported having multiple disabilities.

Scales with percentages:
- Mental illness: 36%
- Physical disability: 30%
- Chronic health condition: 30%
- Substance use: 23%
- Developmental disability: 10%

For the full data set: