2020 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.

1,897
Homeless persons counted

22% Chronically homeless

7% Households with children

35% Female

16% Adult survivors of domestic violence

8% Veterans

46% People of color*

*However, people of color make up only 27% of the Pierce County population. (ACS estimate 2018)

Not all people experiencing homelessness sleep outside

43% Emergency shelter

17% Out of doors (street, tent, etc.)

9% Transitional housing

31% Vehicle, abandoned building, other

The main causes of homelessness are economic and housing-related

Survey respondents shared many causes for becoming homeless. These are the top three:

1. Family crisis
2. No affordable housing
3. Domestic violence

Many people experiencing homelessness have an income

43% of people experiencing homelessness 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.

- Mental illness: 28%
- Physical disability: 26%
- Chronic health condition: 27%
- Substance use: 20%
- Developmental disability: 9%

For the full data set:
Visit www.piercecountywa.gov/PIT