

# 2020 Point-in-Time Count

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONTINUUM OF CARE

# Presentation Overview

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- Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Review
  - Purpose
  - Methodology
- PIT Results
  - Population Totals
  - Changes Over Time
  - Demographics
  - Experiences and Characteristics
  - Sub Populations
- Count of Formerly Homeless Persons
  - Permanent Housing Inventory

# What is the PIT Count?

- The Point-in-Time Count or “PIT Count” **creates a snapshot of the scope and scale of homelessness in the District** at a single point in time.
- **Required of every community that receives federal homelessness assistance funds** from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- **The Community Partnership (TCP) has coordinated and conducted the count** on behalf of the District of Columbia Continuum of Care since 2001.
- **PIT Data is used locally** to plan programs, allocate funding, track progress toward goals outlined in *Homeward D.C.*, and better meet the needs of our homeless neighbors.
- **HUD provides a few guidelines** for conducting a PIT Count, but every community develops its own methodology for implementation.

**Creates a Snapshot of Homelessness in the District**

**Secures Funding**

**Aids Local Planning Efforts**

**Helps Us Track Progress**

**Makes Us More Efficient In Meeting Goals**

# Who is Counted?

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**HUD requirement:** A complete count of HUD-defined “literally homeless” families and individuals:

## Literally homeless

- **Unsheltered** (i.e. persons “on the street”);
- **Staying in Emergency Shelter** (severe weather, low barrier or temporary); or
- **Staying in Transitional Housing** facilities.

*Note: This does not include persons who are “doubled-up” or who are temporarily residing in institutional settings, i.e. hospitals, jails, treatment facilities, foster care, etc.*

## Household types

- **Family:**
  - A group of persons residing together with familial ties and a designated “Head of Household”
- **Single:**
  - Unaccompanied (single) Adults (18 and older)
  - Unaccompanied (single) Minors (17 and under)

# When are people counted?

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**HUD requirement:** Within a single 24-hour period, typically at night, within the last 10 days in January.

- These requirements are the same for Continuums nationwide, regardless of climate.
- Doing the count in the winter helps CoCs understand utilization of all of their Continuum's resources, including shelter space that is only available during the winter months.

# How are people counted?

**TCP's PIT Methodology is reported on extensively during the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding competition, the District's annual application for the renewal of HUD funds; HUD's scoring of our methodology can account for about a fifth of the application's score.**

**SHELTERED PERSONS** – in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.

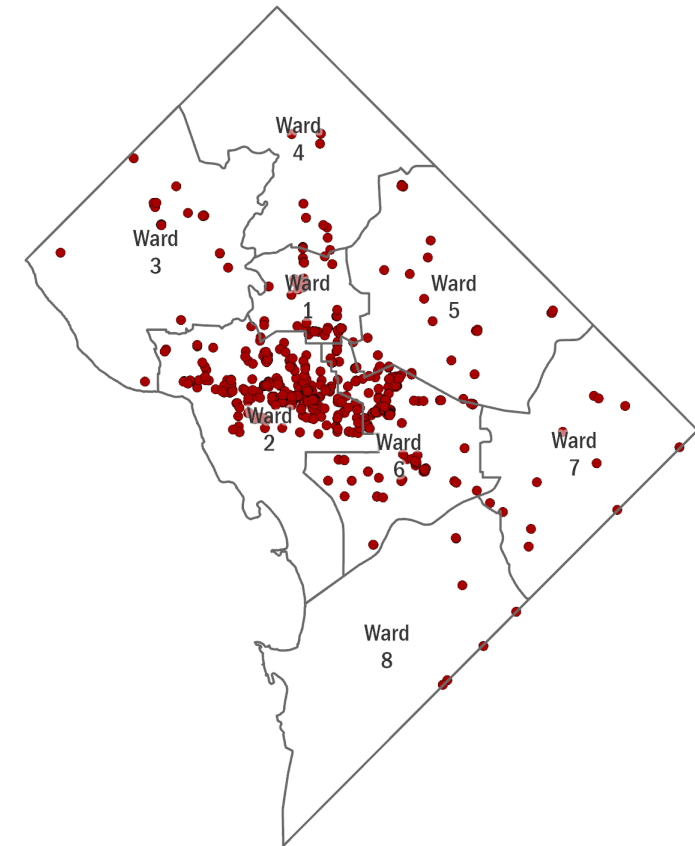
- TCP collects information from every program operating in the District, regardless of its funding source(s) through:
  - **HMIS data:** Some 90 percent of PIT information comes from programs that enter into the District's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
  - **Tallies and surveys:** Agencies that do not enter data into the HMIS use the PIT Count survey to collect data on each person or family in their programs, in some cases limited information is provided, but every program provides at least a tally of the total number of persons served.

**UNSHELTERED PERSONS** – staying “on the streets”

- The unsheltered component is conducted through a coordinated effort between TCP, District and Federal government agencies, professional outreach teams and volunteers:
  - **One-night street survey:** Volunteers and outreach teams canvass the District in a coordinated way and survey individuals sleeping on the streets that night.
  - **Meal Programs & Drop-in Centers:** The day after the street survey, meal programs and drop-in centers administer the survey to those engaged services during that time. This is an attempt to capture individuals missed the night before.

# New for 2020

- TCP used Survey123 for ArcGIS to complete the PIT Survey.
- Survey123 for ArcGIS is a phone application that allows volunteers to collect survey data and location data quickly and accurately.
- This smart survey uses skip logic, prompts volunteers with hints on how to best ask a question, and requires certain questions be answered so the data collected is accurate and high quality.
- A unique username and password was required to access the survey which ensured that the data was submitted securely.
- Surveys were automatically removed from the individual device upon successful upload.



Point in Time  
Counting

First Name/NIJ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (Address, cross streets and/or landmarks, be sure to include address - apt, rm, etc.):  
McDon + Hall

General Description of Person  
Black male - 5'10", 180 lbs, 30 years old, single, no kids

Gender: ☐ Female ☒ Male ☐ Transgender (Male to Female) ☐ Transgender (Female to Male)

Age/Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ OR Age Group: ☐ 18 or younger ☐ 19 to 24 ☐ 25 to 34 ☐ 35 to 44 ☐ 45 to 54 ☐ 55 to 64 ☐ 65 or older

Race: ☐ White ☒ Black/African American ☐ Asian ☐ American Indian ☐ Pacific Islander ☐ Other

Ethnicity: ☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Non-Hispanic/Latino ☐ Refused

Have you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces/Military? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused

Experienced domestic violence? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused

Are you homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused

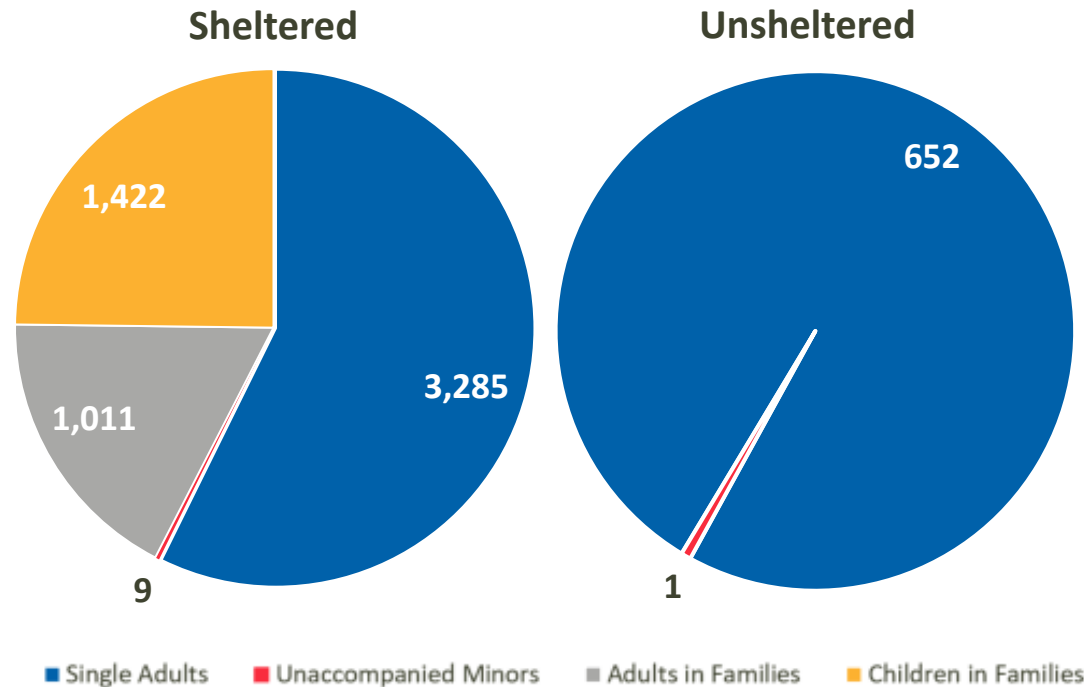
# Population Totals

## 2020 Point-in-Time Count Findings



# 2020 PIT Findings: *Population Totals*

- On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6,380 people were experiencing homelessness in the District.



## **UNSHeltered: 653 Persons**

- 652 Single Adults
- 1 Unaccompanied Minor
- No Families

## **EMERGENCY SHELTER: 4,548 Persons**

- 2,571 Single Adults
- 9 Unaccompanied Minors
- 803 Adults in Families
- 1,143 Children in Families

## **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: 1,202 Persons**

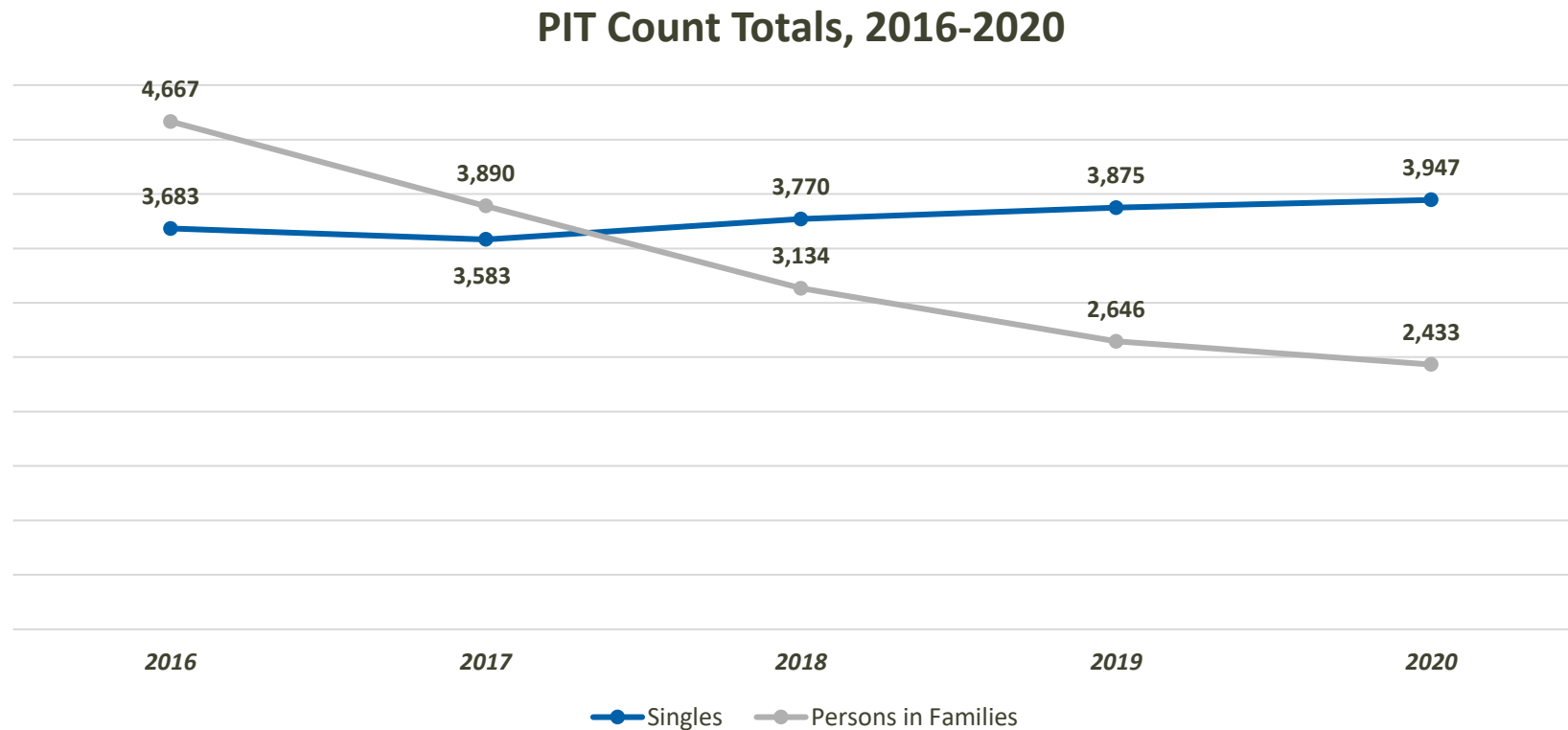
- 714 Single Adults
- No Unaccompanied Minors
- 208 Adults in Families
- 279 Children in Families

# 2020 PIT Findings: *Population Totals*

- Overall, there has been a **2.2% decrease** in people who are experiencing homelessness in the District from 2019 to 2020.
- The number of persons in families has **decreased by 8.0%**.
- However, there has been an **increase of 1.9%** in single person households.

Household Type	2019	2020	% Change
<b>Total Persons</b>	6,521	6,380	<b>-2.2%</b>
<b>Singles</b>	3,875	3,947	1.9%
<i>Single Adults</i>	3,862	3,937	1.9%
<i>Unaccompanied Minors</i>	13	10	<b>-23.1%</b>
<b>Family Members</b>	2,646	2,433	<b>-8.0%</b>
<i>Adults in Families</i>	1,053	1,011	<b>-4.0%</b>
<i>Children in Families</i>	1,593	1,422	<b>-10.7%</b>
<b>Family Units</b>	815	768	<b>-5.8%</b>

# 2020 PIT Findings: *Totals by Year*



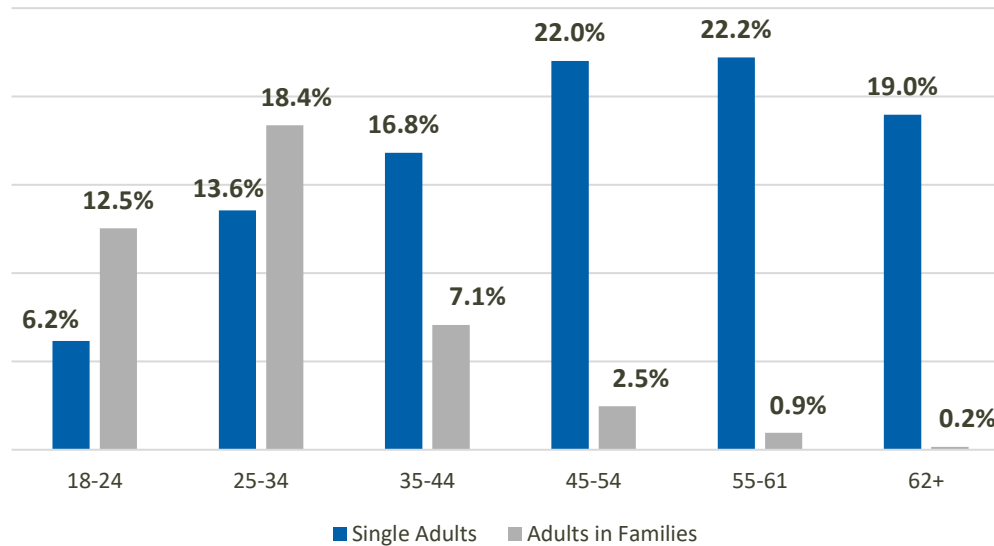


# Demographics

## *2020 Point-in-Time Count Findings*

# Ages

Age Ranges of Single Adults and Adults in Families



## Singles:

**Median Age:** 52 years old

**Oldest Adult:** 86 years old

**Unaccompanied Minors:** All between the ages 12 – 17

## Families:

**Median Age (Adults):** 28 years old

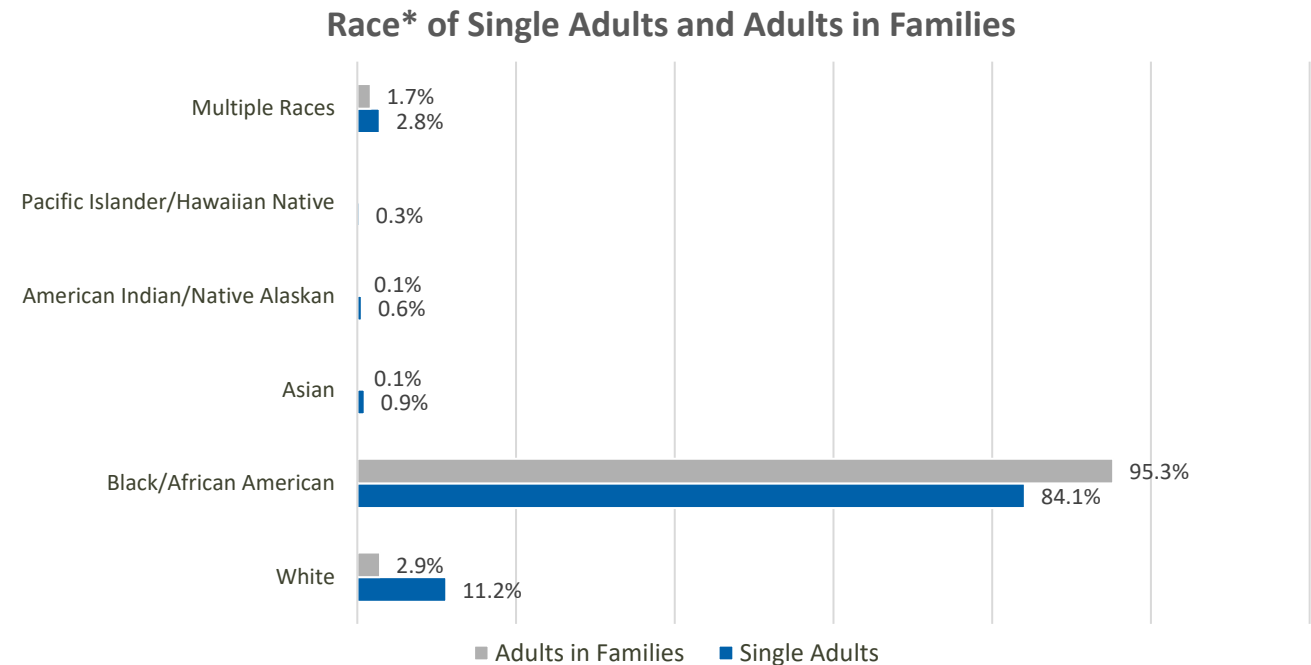
**Oldest Adult:** 93 years old

**Median Age of Children in Families:**  
5 years old

**Children make up 58.4% of persons in households**

# Race & Ethnicity

- **African Americans are disproportionately affected by the drivers of homelessness in the District.**
- 86.4% of adults who are experiencing homelessness are Black/African American, yet only 46.6%\*\* of District residents are Black/African American.
- Additionally, 6.6% of single adults and 3.6% of adults in families identify as Hispanic or Latinx.



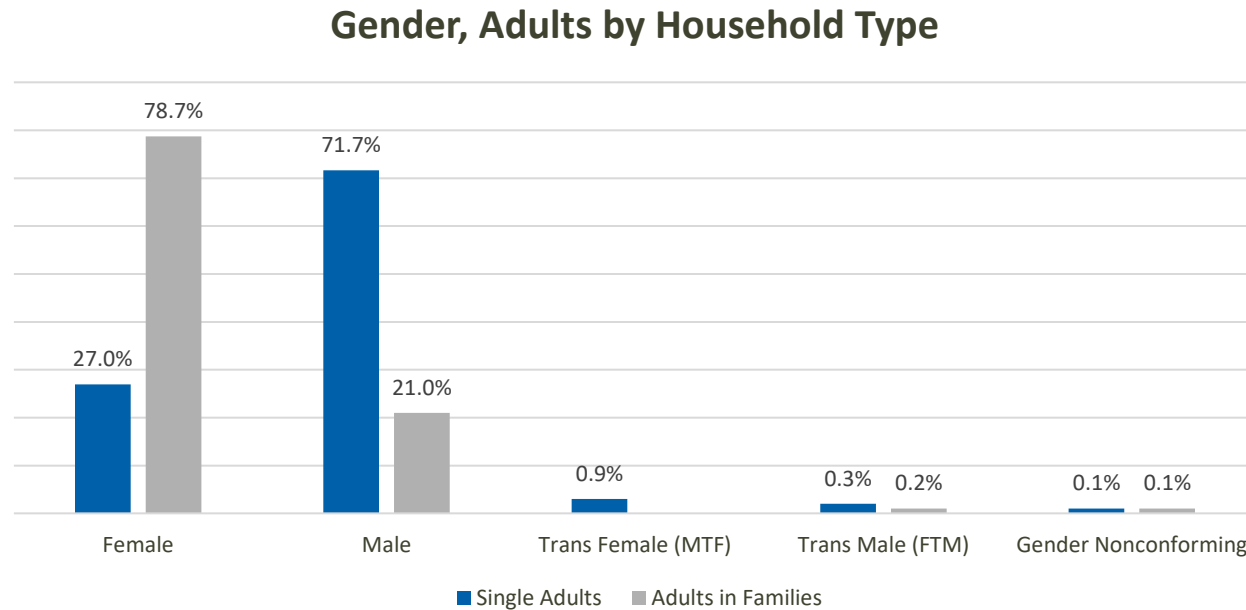
\*Race categories are single-race only, persons who selected multiple races are counted in the "Multiple Races" category.

\*\* U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2019

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/districtofcolumbiadistrictofcolumbia,US/PST045219>

# Gender

- **Men make up 71.7% and women make up 27.0% of all single adults.** Additionally, 0.3% are trans male (FTM)\*, 0.9% are trans female (MTF)\*, 0.2% are gender non-conforming.
- **Women make up the greatest share of all adults in family households, at 78.7%.**







# Experiencing & Characteristics

*2020 Point-in-Time Count Findings*



# Disabilities & Health Conditions *by Household Type*

Disabling Conditions	Single Adults	Adults in Families	Total Adults
<b>Substance Use &amp; Mental Health</b>	<b>45.1%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>38.7%</b>
<i>Substance Use Only</i>	<i>9.3%</i>	<i>0.6%</i>	<i>7.5%</i>
<i>Mental Health Only</i>	<i>22.5%</i>	<i>11.5%</i>	<i>20.3%</i>
<i>Dual Diagnosis</i>	<i>13.3%</i>	<i>1.4%</i>	<i>10.9%</i>
<b>Chronic Health Problem</b>	<b>22.4%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
<b>Developmental Disability</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
<b>Physical Disability</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>
<b>Living With HIV/AIDs</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>

# Disabilities & Health Conditions *by Gender (Single Adults)*

Disabling Conditions	Single Women	Single Men	Total Unaccompanied Adults
<b>Substance Use &amp; Mental Health</b>	<b>47.6%</b>	<b>44.1%</b>	<b>45.1%</b>
<i>Substance Use Only</i>	<i>4.6%</i>	<i>11.1%</i>	<i>9.3%</i>
<i>Mental Health Only</i>	<i>29.2%</i>	<i>19.9%</i>	<i>22.5%</i>
<i>Dual Diagnosis</i>	<i>13.9%</i>	<i>13.1%</i>	<i>13.3%</i>
<b>Chronic Health Problem</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>22.4%</b>
<b>Developmental Disability</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>Physical Disability</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>Living With HIV/AIDs</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

\* Single Men and Single Men include Trans Men (FTM) and Trans Female \*MTF)

\*\* Total Single Adults is all genders, including single adults who are Gender Nonconforming.

# Experiences *by Household Type*

Experiences	Single Adults	Adults in Families	Total Adults
<b>Domestic Violence (DV) History</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>
<i>Homeless Due to DV (subset of those with DV History)</i>	<i>35.5%</i>	<i>52.0%</i>	<i>40.1%</i>
<b>Formerly Resided in an Institutional Setting*</b>	<b>47.1%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>40.3%</b>
<i>Became homeless at discharge from Institutional Setting (subset of those who formerly resided in an Institutional Setting)</i>	<i>42.3%</i>	<i>12.7%</i>	<i>39.2%</i>
<b>Formerly in Foster Care</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>10.2%</b>
<b>US Military Veteran</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
<b>Limited or No English Proficiency</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
<b>Chronically-Homeless**</b>	<b>41.5%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>34.4%</b>

\* Institutional settings include: juvenile justice, and adult justice systems; residential detox/rehabilitation; residential mental health institutions; and long-term hospital stays.

\*\* Chronically homeless includes those persons who have been experiencing homelessness for a year or more in total, either continuous or 4 episodes in the past 3 years, AND have a disabling condition.

# Experiences *by Gender (Single Adults)*

Experiences	Single Women	Single Men	Total Unaccompanied Adults
<b>Domestic Violence (DV) History</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>19.8%</b>
<i>Homeless Due to DV (subset of those with DV History)</i>	40.3%	27.6%	35.5%
<b>Formerly Resided in an Institutional Setting*</b>	<b>34.5%</b>	<b>51.9%</b>	<b>47.1%</b>
<i>Became homeless at discharge from Institutional Setting (subset of those who formerly resided in an Institutional Setting)</i>	14.2%	49.5%	42.3%
<b>Formerly in Foster Care</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
<b>US Military Veteran</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>Limited or No English Proficiency</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>Chronically-Homeless**</b>	<b>41.2%</b>	<b>41.6%</b>	<b>41.5%</b>

\* Institutional settings include: juvenile justice, and adult justice systems; residential detox/rehabilitation; residential mental health institutions; and long-term hospital stays.

\*\* Chronically homeless includes those persons who have been experiencing homelessness for a year or more in total, either continuous or 4 episodes in the past 3 years, AND have a disabling condition.

# Income: *Benefits & Employment*

Income & Employment	Single Adults	Adults in Families	Total Adults
Receives Income	55.1%	75.9%	59.3%
Employed	16.7%	26.0%	18.6%
<b>Primary Source of Income*</b>			
Employment	30.5%	31.2%	30.7%
Social Security/Retirement	4.6%	0.3%	3.4%
SSI/SSDI/Disability	46.4%	13.8%	37.9%
TANF/Public Assistance	11.1%	51.0%	21.5%
Other	7.4%	3.8%	6.4%

\* Primary Source of Income is out of total number of people receiving some type of income.



# Sub-Populations

*2020 Point-in-Time Count Findings*

# Families

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- Count of families in ES and TH **down by 5.8 percent** from last year, and **down 48.5 percent from peak in 2016** (after year round access was implemented).
- Nearly **800 families exited the emergency shelter system** for permanent destinations between PIT 2019 and PIT 2020.
- At the beginning of 2020 there were 176 new units of Short-Term Family Housing (STFH) in operation with the remaining three STFH programs set to come online within the year. Additionally, the Economic Security Administration (ESA) is now on-site at the newly opened STFH programs to ensure that families can be rapidly connected to any benefit to which they are entitled.
- DHS's Homeless Prevention Program has been an essential resource in the District's work to end homelessness among families. Since its creation, HPP has assisted more than 7,000 families and has prevented nearly 6,500 episodes of family homelessness.



# Singles

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- Count of unaccompanied individuals (“singles”) is **up 1.9% from the previous year and up 7.4% from 2016.**
- The number of persons experiencing **chronic homelessness is down 2.7%** from 2019, a trend that has been continuing year-to-year even with increases in the population at large.
- New inflow into the system and returns to the CoC after long periods are contributing to the increased overall number, but the CoC’s work to move the most vulnerable individuals with chronic disabilities into permanent supportive housing (from which rates of return to the CoC are much lower) is contributing to lower incidents of chronic homelessness.



# Veterans

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- The District's count of veterans experiencing homelessness **has increased by 4.0% percent** between the 2019 and 2020 PIT counts to 309 veterans, or 294 individuals and 15 persons in family households
- The increase is due to the high level of inflow among single men and women generally and veterans specifically; **the District's CAHP efforts housed 348 veterans between Jan. 2019 and Jan. 2020.**
- Despite the relatively small increase between years, **the number of veterans counted is still down from 2016 by 11.7%.**
- Since the summer of 2019, the CoC has helped more than 70 veterans reconnect with CAHP systems in surrounding jurisdictions based on history of housing and homelessness as well as client preferences.
- Veteran service providers helped 61 veterans move into the new Walter Reed campus (opened summer 2019) to date and are currently working on connecting another 14 veterans with housing through this program.

# Youth

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- The counts of Transition Age Youth (TAYs, young people aged 18 to 24 years) remained relatively flat between the 2019 and 2020 PIT counts, with 548 TAYs counted in 2020, an increase of two from the previous year.
- Of those, 243 were unaccompanied, 202 were heads of their own household with children, and the remaining 103 were part of a family household headed by an older adult.
- Additionally, there were nine unaccompanied minors and one minor with a child in emergency shelter. One unaccompanied minor was counted in the nighttime unsheltered PIT count.
- In 2019, the District added new transitional housing beds and extended transitional housing (ETH) beds for youth with the highest needs.
- At the beginning of 2020, the District launched Zoe's Doors – a 24-hour drop-in center for youth ages 24 and under. Zoe's Doors provides a safe, welcoming space for young people in the District, offering meals, laundry facilities, shower facilities, healthcare services, life skills workshops, connection to education and employment resources, and social supports.



# Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless Persons

*2020 Point-in-Time Count Findings*

# Formerly Homeless Persons

- Another component of the PIT Count is a count of formerly homeless persons.
- Individuals must be residing in PSH, RRH, and other permanent housing to be counted; this is not a count of everyone that has exited the Continuum.

Housing Type	Unaccompanied Individuals Housed at PIT	Families Housed at PIT
Permanent Supportive Housing	3,724	1,588
Rapid Rehousing	230	1,836
Other Permanent Housing (e.g., TAH)	773	650

# THANK YOU!

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## ***Partners:***

Columbia Heights Education Campus

DC Department of Human Services (DHS)

DC Interagency Council on Homelessness  
(DCICH)

Executive Office of the Mayor, Muriel Bowser

First Congregational United Church of Christ

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LeSandra Jenkins

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Miles Lindsey

Marnie Loffman

Dana Long

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