



2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey Results





**Thank You To All of Our
Partners and Volunteers!**



Who we are

- Solving homelessness isn't easy. It takes many partners working together – and one agency to coordinate them. That's CFTH.
- We're a nonprofit organization and the backbone of Houston's solutions to homelessness.
- We act as a catalyst, uniting partners and maximizing resources to move people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing with supportive services.



How we work

- **We're rooted in data.** We focus on the system-level view, tracking trends and identifying needs in Houston and surrounding areas.
- **We're pragmatic problem solvers.** We champion housing with stability services as the solution to homelessness — because it works.
- **We're strategic.** We focus on building relationships, leveraging available resources, and optimizing funding for maximum impact.
- **We're collaborative.** We coordinate one of the nation's most effective homeless response systems, The Way Home, with over 100 partners.



The Way Home

- The Way Home is the homeless response system for Houston and Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties in Texas.
 - A public-private partnership — a network of dozens of homeless service providers and other government, philanthropic, and business partners.
- It's a collective force working together toward a shared vision of making homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring.
- CFTH, a nonprofit, is the designated coordinator of The Way Home.





2025 Point-in-Time Count

🔄 Where

- Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery County

🔄 When

- Official night of the sheltered count, designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, was Monday, January 27th.
- The unsheltered count took place the following days, January 28th – January 30th.

🔄 How

- Trained survey members were assigned map areas across our CoC.
- Survey members drove or walked through areas with likelihood of finding people experiencing homelessness.
- Trained to prioritize interviews and avoid assumptions, aiming for a 100% interview rate. Observation only occurred unavoidable circumstances.

Why Do We Count?

🕒 The Point-in-Time (“PIT”) Count & Survey is a federally mandated census of people experiencing homelessness — both sheltered and unsheltered — on a single night each January. This annual snapshot tracks trends over time, shows where and how people are experiencing homelessness, and informs strategies to strengthen our homeless response system.

🕒 **It’s important to note:** The PIT Count provides a valuable annual snapshot, but it is just one tool. Real-time data from HMIS and Street Outreach give a more frequent and actionable picture of homelessness, helping guide resources and decisions throughout the year.



Guest Speakers



Mike Nichols
Director, Housing and Community
Development Department
City of Houston



Thao Costis
Executive Director, Housing and
Community Development Department
Harris County



Summary of Findings

2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey

Introduction

Ben King, Ph.D. M.P.H.

- Clinical Assistant Professor,
- University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine





Geographic Area – 3,611 sq miles

MONTGOMERY

HARRIS

FORT BEND

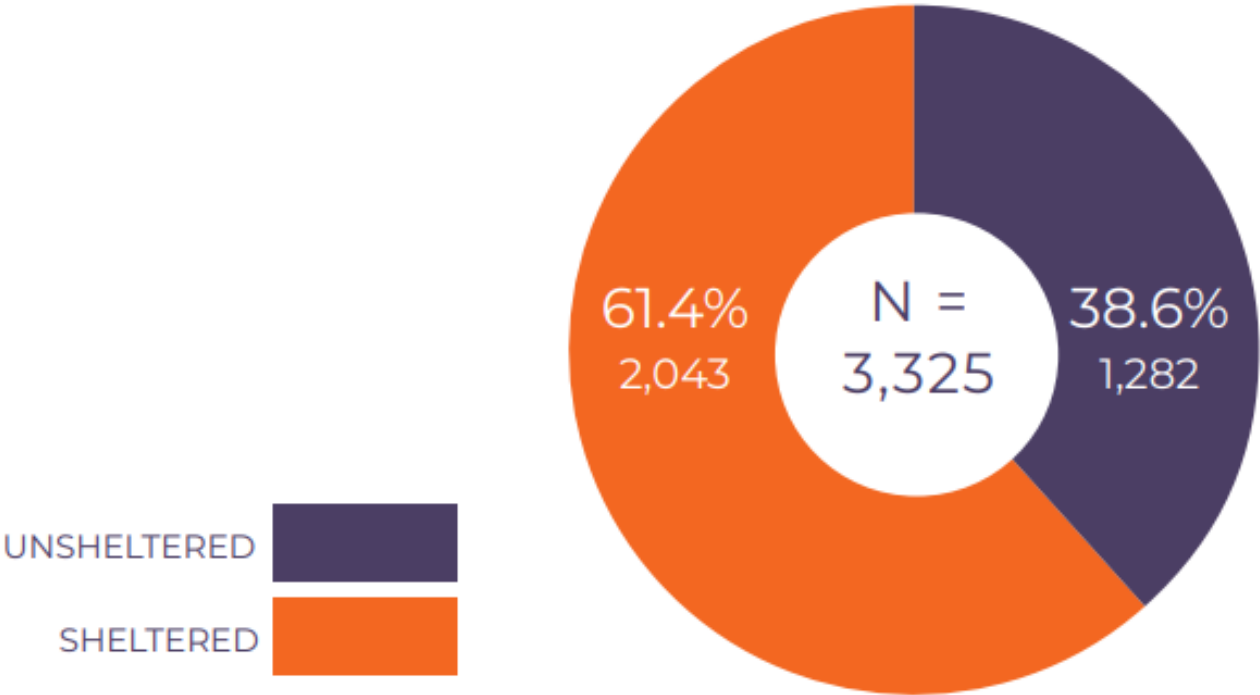


Methodology

- The 2025 Point in Time (PIT) Count for the Houston region—including Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties—was conducted on January 27th, 2025 and followed the same core methodology used in the 2024 count.
- The **sheltered count** was conducted using data from the **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**.
- The **unsheltered count took place over the following three days** and included individuals who were identified as experiencing homelessness and sleeping in locations not meant for human habitation.

Key Findings

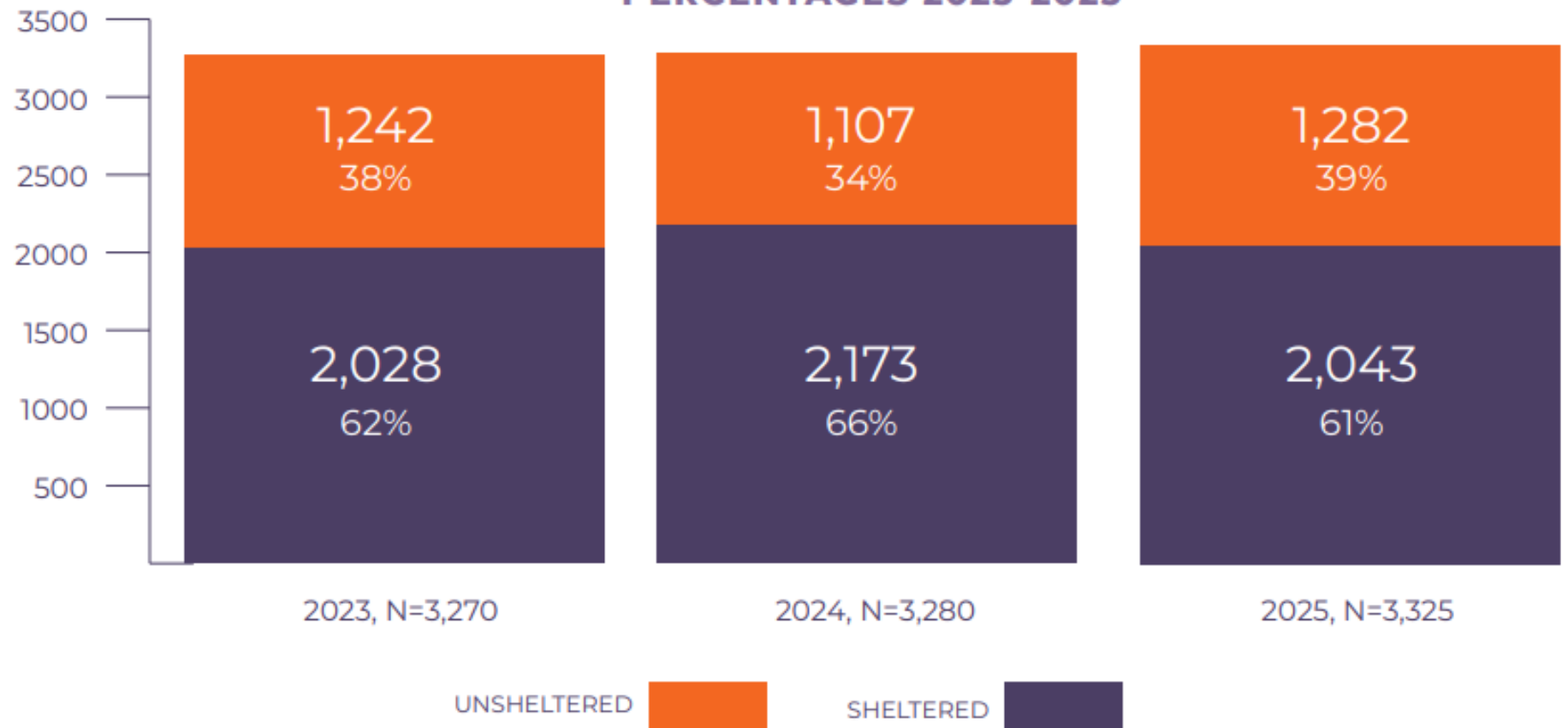
Trained survey teams conducted a combination of **780 direct surveys and 502 visual observations** across the tri-county area over several days centered around the official count date.



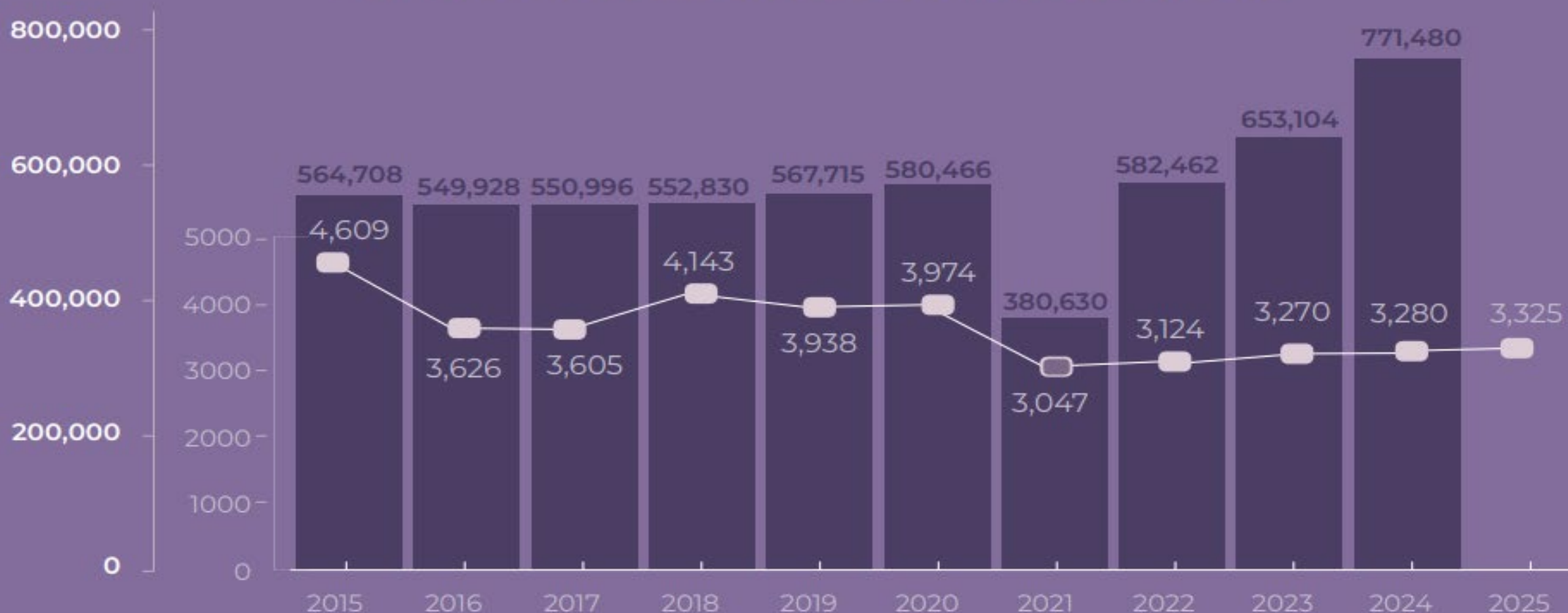
| | SHELTERED | | UNSHELTERED | |
|-------------------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|
| HARRIS COUNTY | 1,790 | 53.8% | 1,210 | 36.4% |
| FORT BEND COUNTY | 54 | 1.6% | 24 | 0.7% |
| MONTGOMERY COUNTY | 199 | 6.0% | 48 | 1.4% |

Over Recent Years

**COMPARISON OF PIT COUNT SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED
PERCENTAGES 2023-2025**



LOCAL AND NATIONAL PIT COUNT TRENDS, 2015-2025

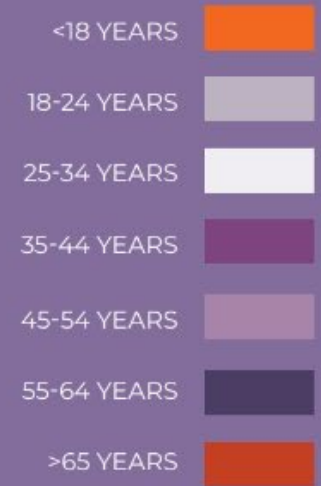
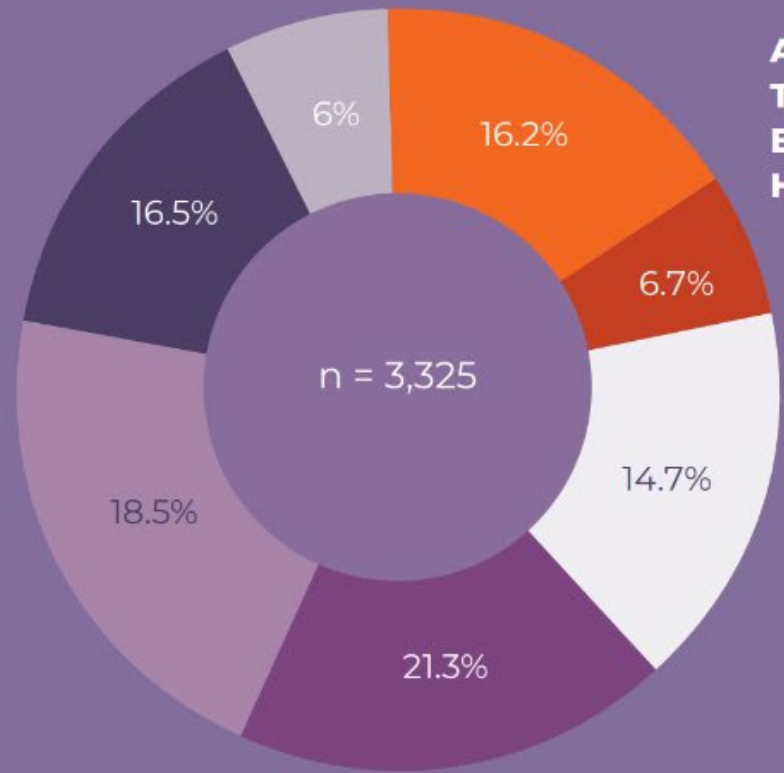


* Due to the pandemic, HUD only reported the number of those experiencing sheltered homelessness for 2021. Additionally, the methodology used by CFTH in 2021 differs from 2020 & subsequent years. National 2025 numbers will be released later this year.

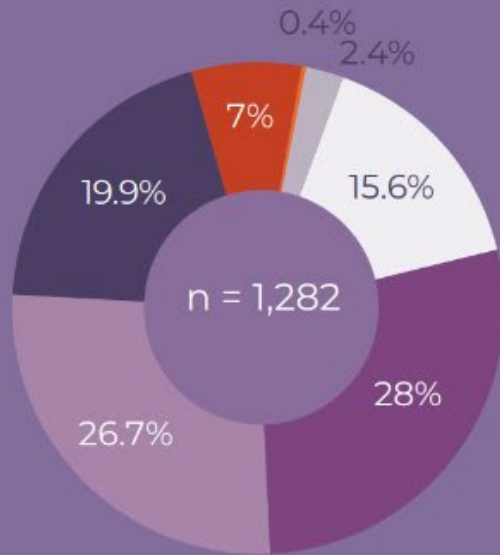
Demographics and Special Populations

2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey

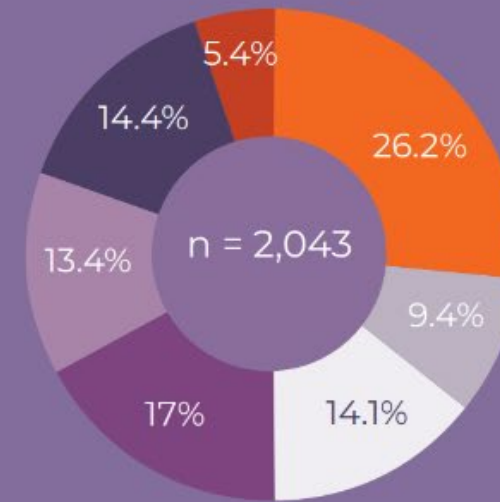
Age



Note: Distributions are extrapolated for all missing responses. Values reflect estimated proportions for the full samples of unsheltered (n = 1,282) and sheltered (n = 2,043) counts.



AGE DISTRIBUTION OF UNSHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

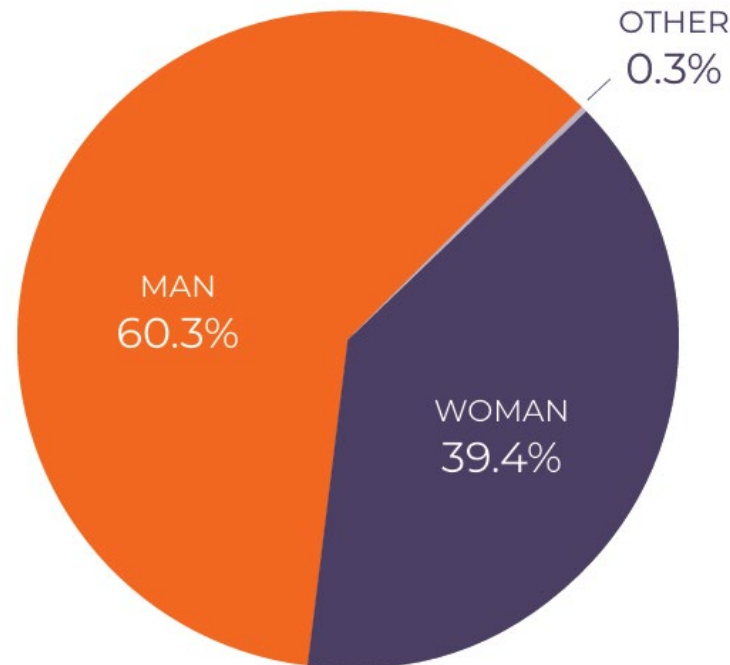


AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Gender

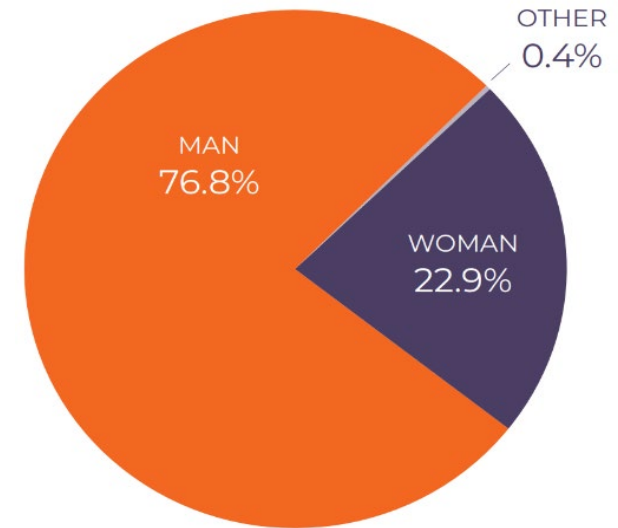
- Men make up 77% of the unsheltered population.
- Sheltered population is evenly split men/women.

**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
TOTAL POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**

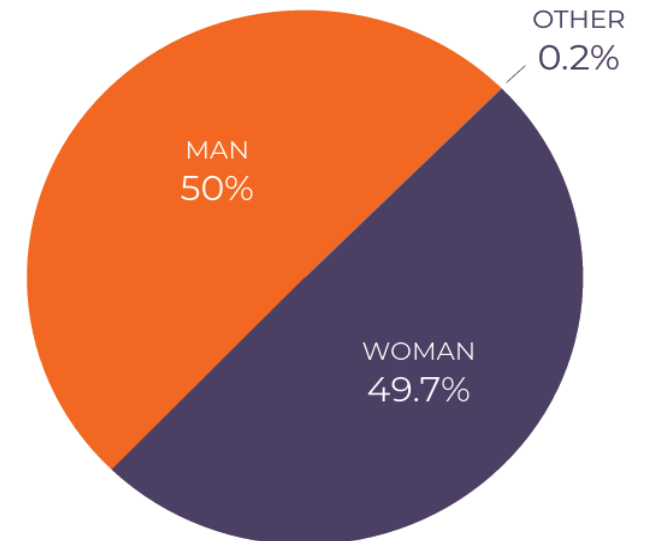


n = 3,325

**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
UNSHELTERED POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**



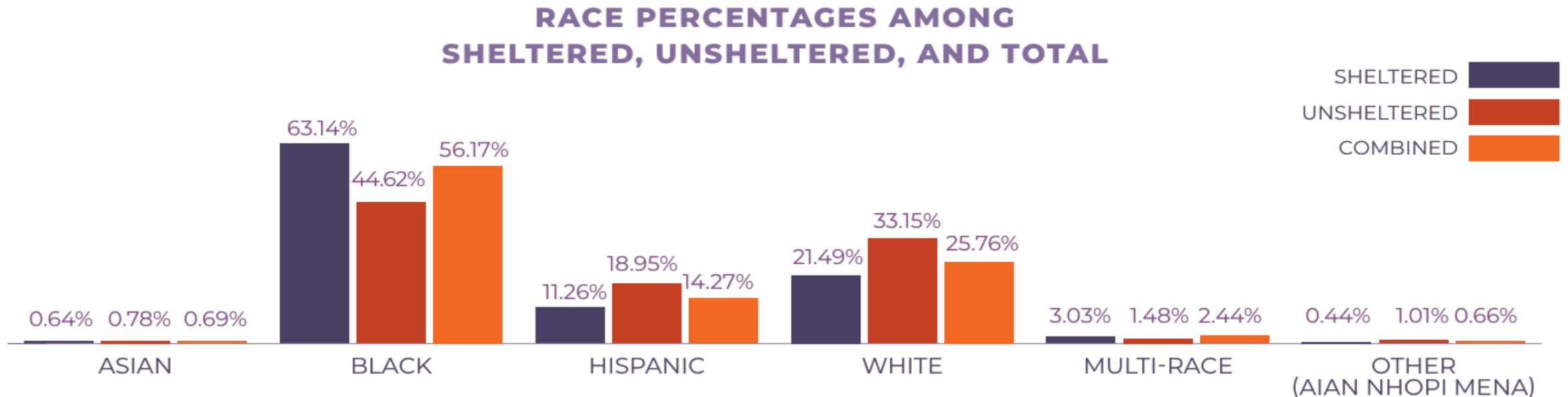
**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
SHELTERED POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**



n = 2,043

Race & Ethnicity

- Black residents make up ~58% of the total count, a stark overrepresentation compared to general population.
- White and Hispanic residents were more likely to be unsheltered.



Entry into Homelessness

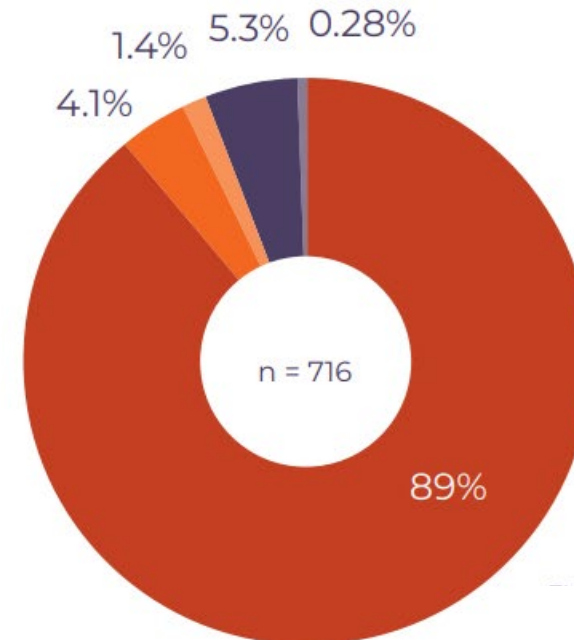
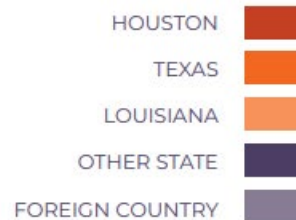
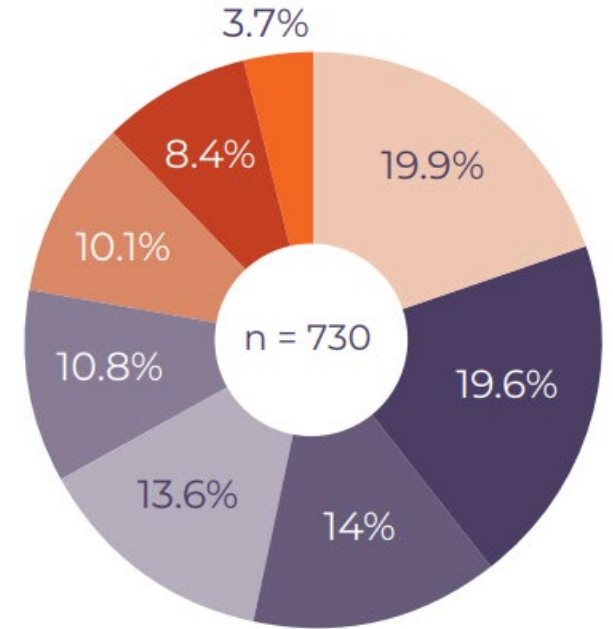
Primary Causes

- Family conflict, Lack of Income, and Job Loss are top drivers

Home-grown

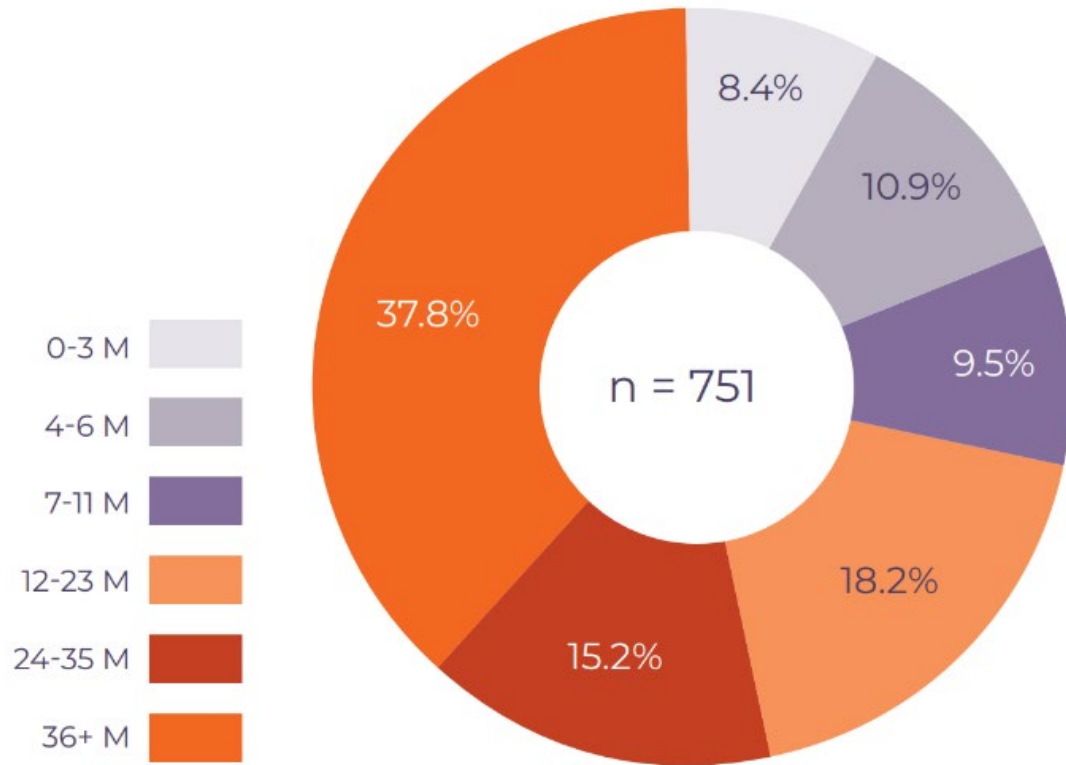
- 89% of first entries happen in Houston vs 5.5% in the rest of Texas or Louisiana combined

PRIMARY CAUSE OF UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS



LOCATION WHERE INDIVIDUALS FIRST EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS

LENGTH OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



Special Populations

Chronic Homelessness

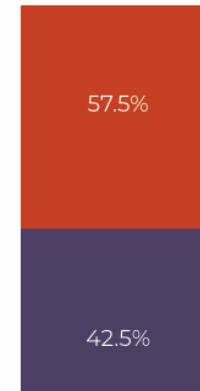
- Nearly half (44.2%) of unsheltered individuals meet chronic definition.

Veterans

- ~8% of unsheltered.

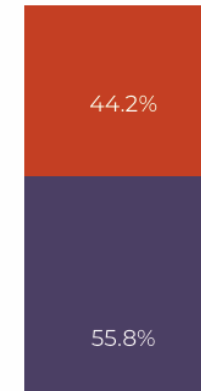
CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

n = 668



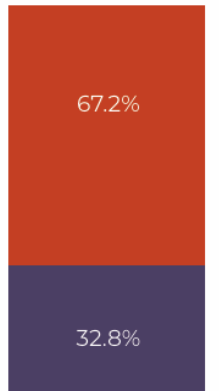
MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS

n = 658



PHYSICAL DISABILITY

n = 668

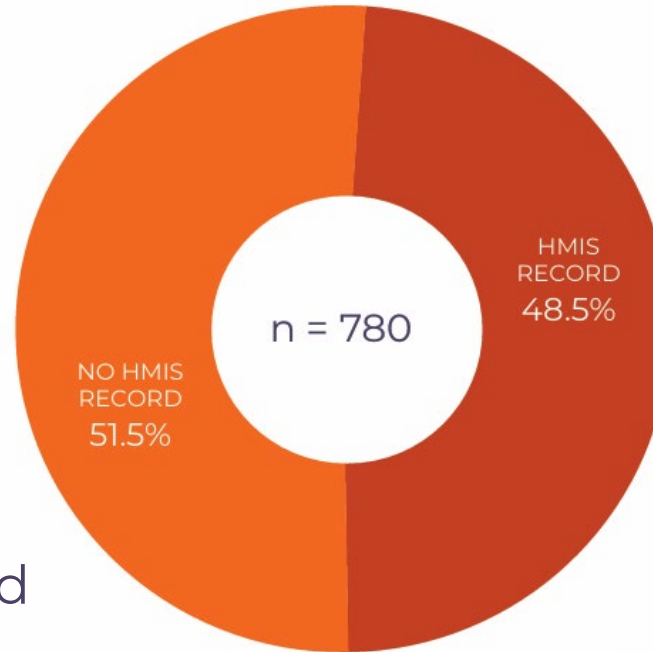


YES
NO

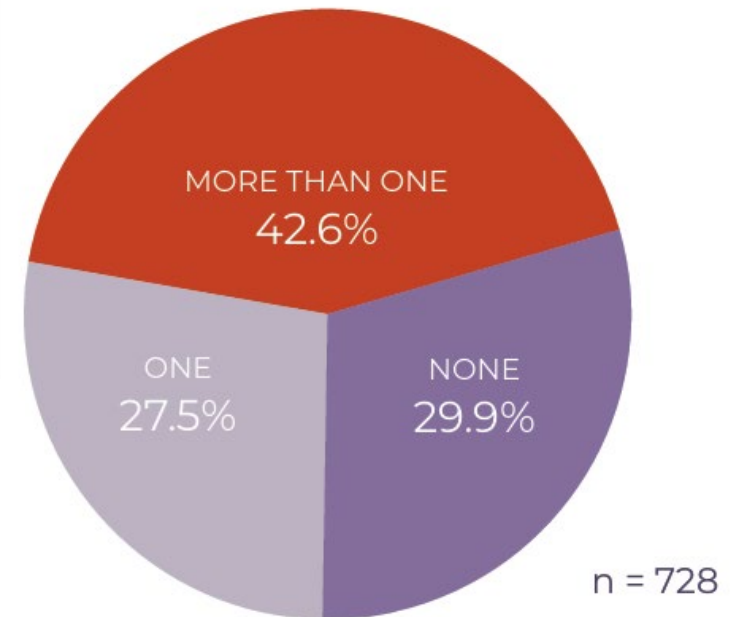
Health & Service Connection

- Over half of unsheltered individuals were disconnected from HMIS services.
- High prevalence of chronic conditions, mental illness, and substance use disorders.

HMIS RECORD



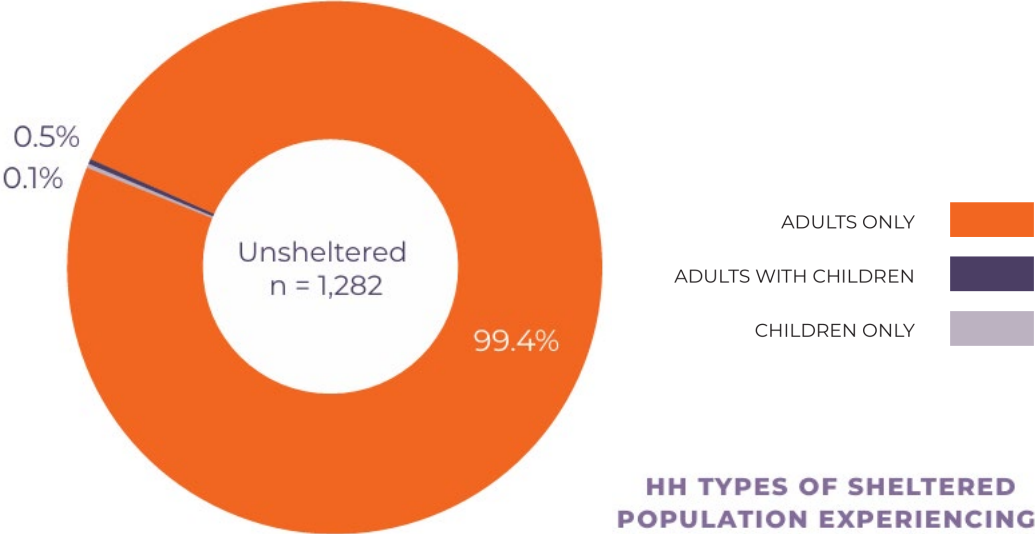
PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS AND DISABILITIES



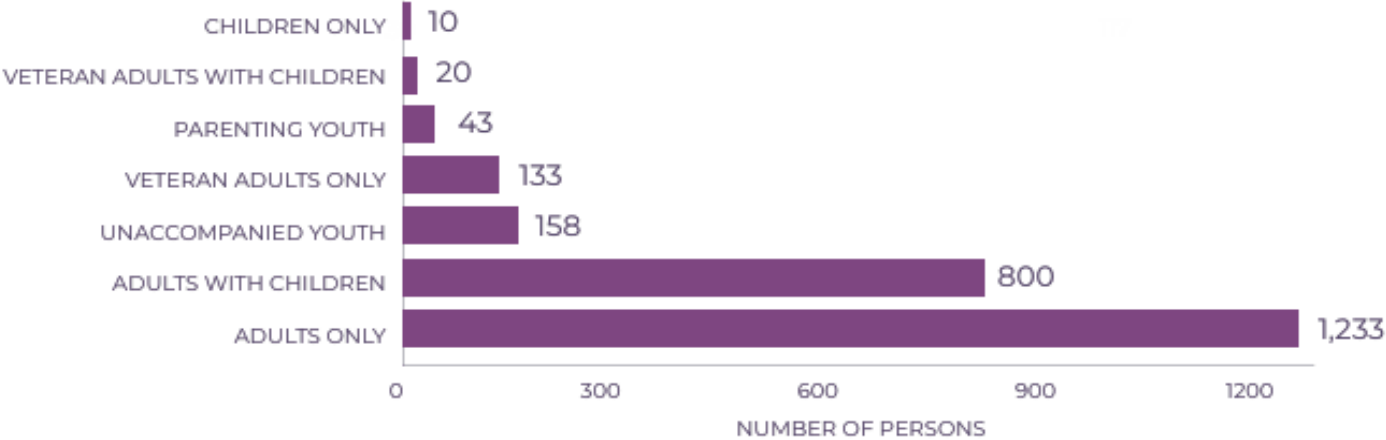
Household (HH) Types

Families and domestic violence survivors overrepresented in sheltered populations.

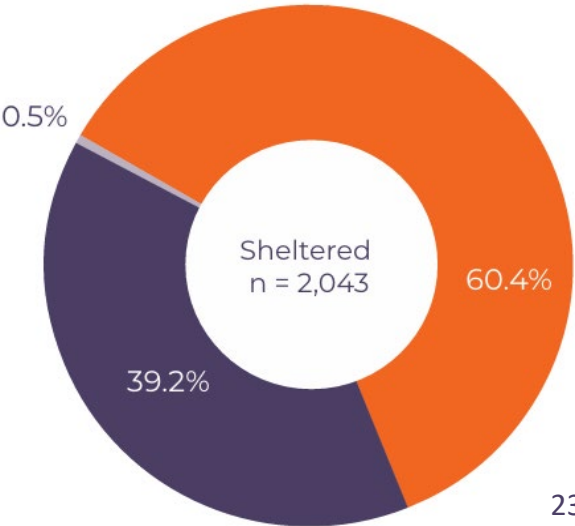
HH TYPES OF UNSHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



SHELTERED COUNTS BY CATEGORY



HH TYPES OF SHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



Each category is not mutually exclusive

Takeaways

2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey



Relative Stability is encouraging in context of national surges.



These findings underscore the need for continued investment in low-barrier housing solutions, outreach, and supportive behavioral and social services.



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