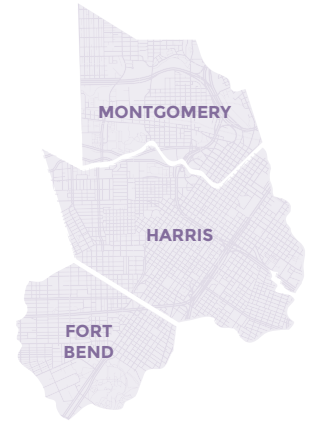


2026

STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN HOUSTON

MEASURING HOMELESSNESS ACROSS HARRIS, FORT BEND, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES



7,110
People entering
homelessness for
the first time

↓ **3%** from FFY24

35,988 Unique
clients served

↓ **9%** from 2024

3,321 People
experiencing homelessness

2,051 sheltered +
1,270 unsheltered

↓ Less than **1%** from 2025

PIT COUNT
POINT-IN-TIME
COUNT
FEBRUARY 2026

PIT COUNT OVER TIME

2026: **3,321**

2025: **3,325**

2024: **3,280**

2023: **3,270**

2022: **3,124**

2,133
Households
housed

↑ **26%** from 2024

85%
People who exited
homelessness remained
stably housed

↑ **6%** from FFY24

WHY MULTIPLE INDICATORS?

No single number can tell the full story of homelessness. Together, these indicators help communities understand trends, measure system performance, and guide effective solutions.

MAKING OUR HOMELESS RESPONSE
SYSTEM WORK — **BETTER.**





KELLY YOUNG
President & CEO

Coalition for the
Homeless of Houston/
Harris County

Kelly Young



For many people, homelessness is understood through a single number: the annual Point-in-Time Count, commonly known as the PIT Count.

That number matters. Each year, the PIT Count helps communities better understand the scale of homelessness and the needs facing individuals and families in our region.

But homelessness cannot be fully understood through a single snapshot alone.

A photo can be accurate and still not show everything outside the frame.

Across Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery counties, homelessness is shaped by rising housing costs, economic instability, barriers to care, gaps in affordable housing, and challenges that make it difficult for households to remain stable.

At the same time, our community's homeless response system has grown to meet changing needs. Organizations across The Way Home work together every day through outreach, shelter, supportive services, healthcare partnerships, and housing interventions to help people move toward safety, stability, and independence.

This year's State of Homelessness in Houston reflects an important step forward in how we understand and communicate homelessness in our region. By pairing PIT Count results with additional system indicators, we can better understand both the challenges facing our community and the coordinated work underway to address them.

The data also highlights a growing challenge. While systems serving people experiencing literal homelessness have become more coordinated over time, communities across the country continue to face rising housing costs and increasing demand for homelessness prevention and housing stability assistance. More households are struggling to remain stably housed before they ever enter the homeless response system.

Meeting those challenges will require continued collaboration, transparency, innovation, and long-term investment across sectors.

Homelessness is not solved by one organization, one program, or one annual count. It is addressed through communities working together to create pathways to safety, stability, and opportunity for everyone.

We hope this report strengthens public understanding, supports informed conversations, and encourages continued investment in solutions that help individuals and families build lasting stability.