



The Way Home

Steering Committee

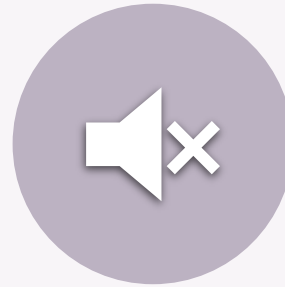
September 2025 Public Meeting



Housekeeping



Partners will not be called during attendance. Partner participation is being monitored through the Zoom webinar platform.



Participants will be muted throughout the meeting. Those wishing to provide a verbal comment may do so once the Chair has opened public comment.



Participants can ask their questions through the Q&A tab found in the menu toolbar.



Participants are encouraged to use Reactions (found in the menu toolbar) throughout the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Introduction:

- 🕒 Call to order
- 🕒 Roll call of Steering Committee members
- 🕒 Please note that partners of The Way Home will not be called during roll call. Registration, Attendance, and Participation are monitored through the virtual meeting platform.

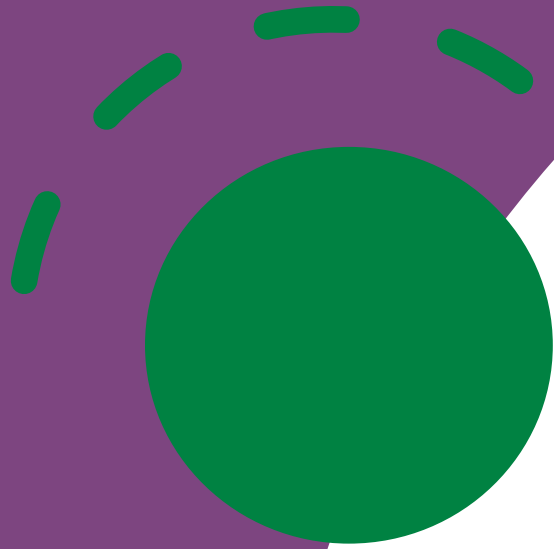
CoC Updates:

- 🕒 General System Updates
- 🕒 Point in Time Presentation- Dr. Ben King
- 🕒 Advocacy Update

Meeting Wrap-Up:

- 🕒 Public Comment
- 🕒 Meeting Adjourn





July Minutes

CFTH will send via email following the meeting for e-vote.



CoC Updates

General Updates for the CoC
Steering Committee and
Partners of The Way Home



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What We Know About the FY25 CoC NOFO Competition

- HUD is still expected to release the FY25 NOFO
- **Major Change: New PSH Builds** language and process
- Local competition will begin once the NOFO is released

Action Needed (HUD/CoC Alignment):

- Stay ready for local competition launch
- Ensure your **eSnaps account** is current (renewals and new applicants)
- **HUD FT Worth accounting office is closed** for year-end processing through mid-October
 - All FY2024 CoC grant agreements executed on or after Sept 25 will not be processed or available for drawdown until the accounting office reopens mid-October



2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey Results



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



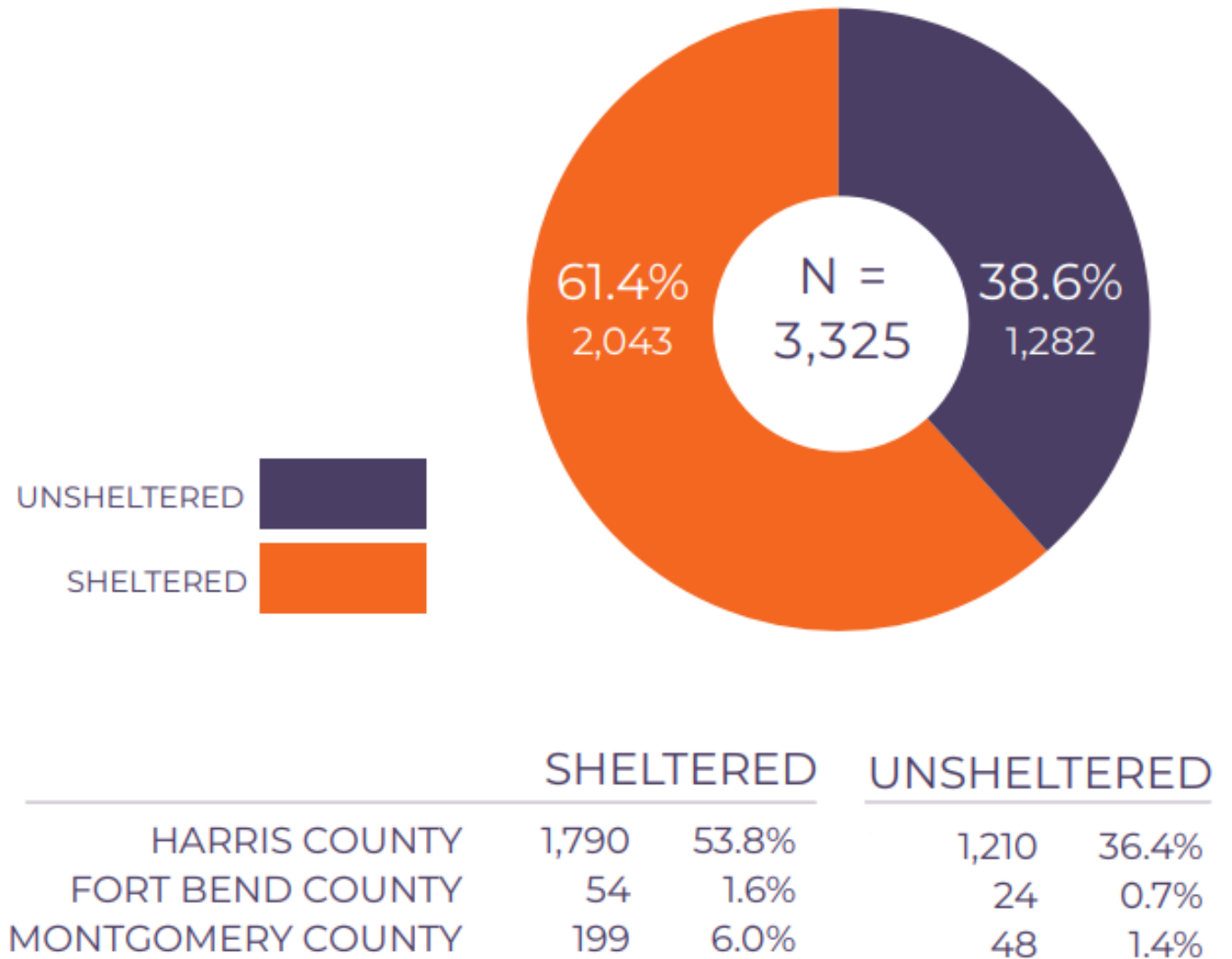


Methodology

- ❶ 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.
- ❷ The sheltered count was conducted using data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
- ❸ 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.

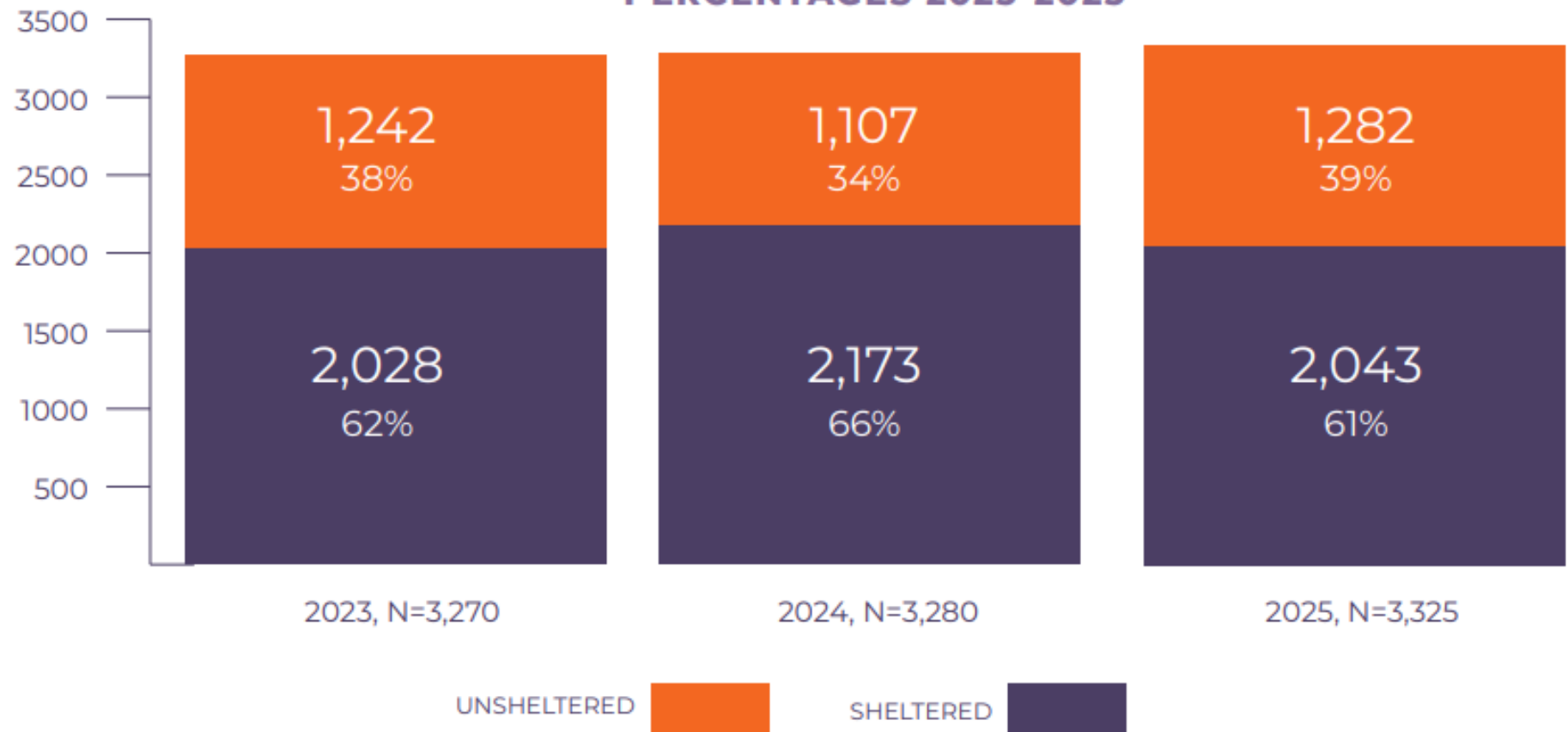
Key Findings

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.

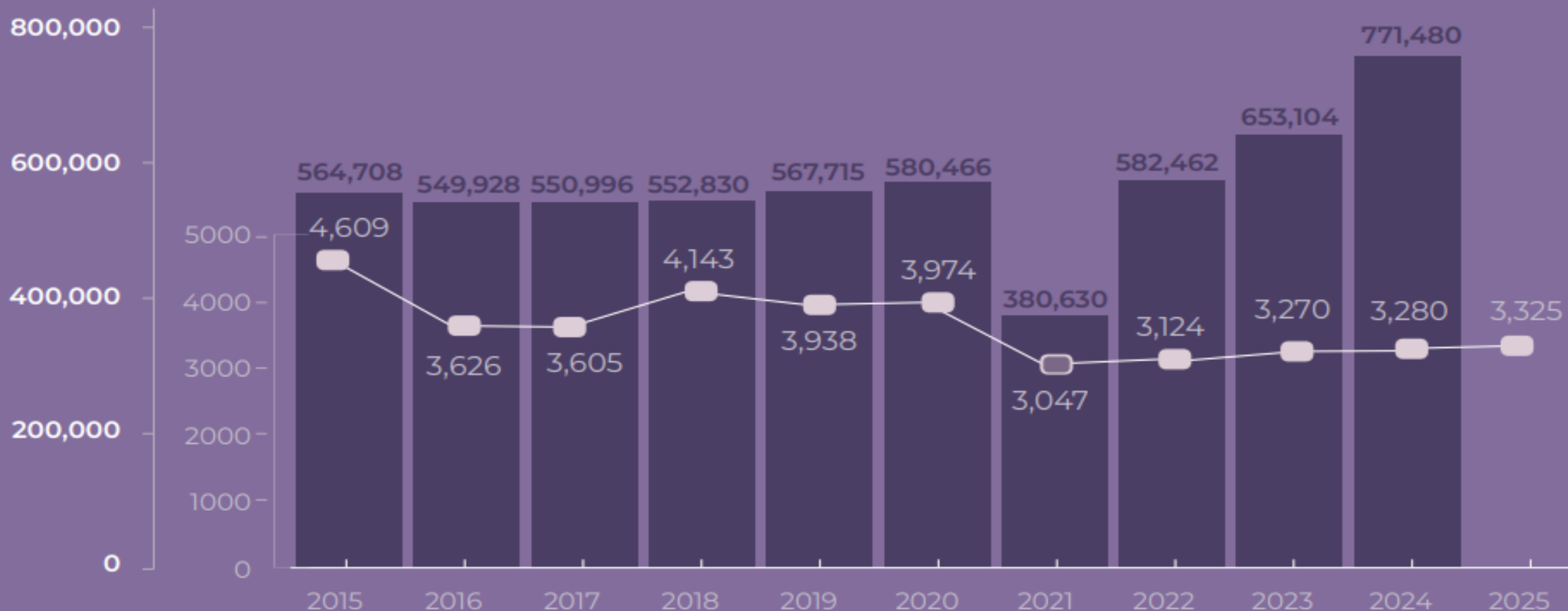


Over
Recent
Years

COMPARISON OF PIT COUNT SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PERCENTAGES 2023-2025



LOCAL AND NATIONAL PIT COUNT TRENDS, 2015-2025

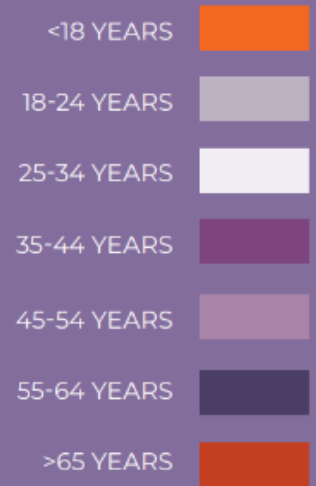
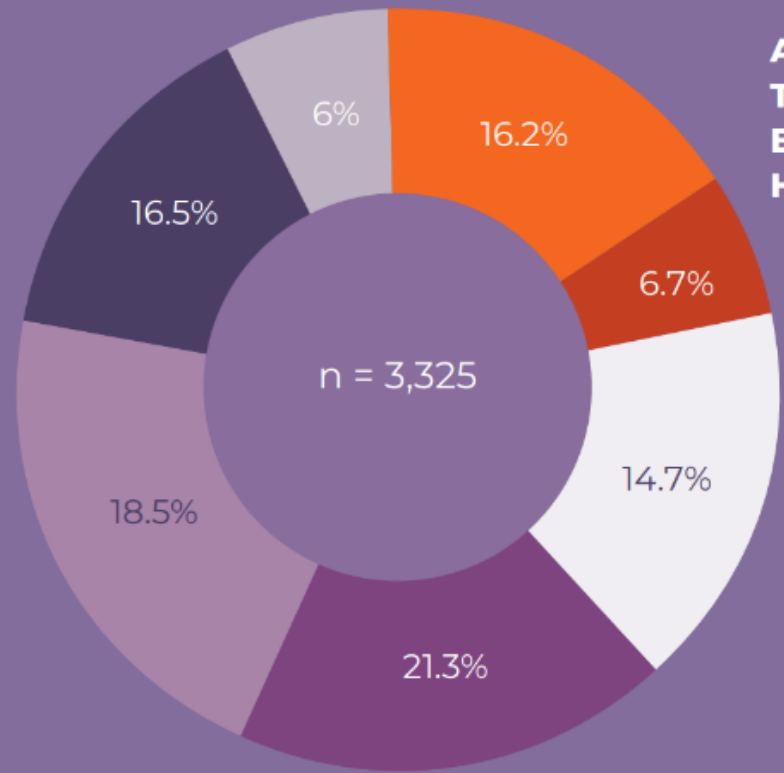


* Due to the pandemic, HUD only reported the number of those experiencing sheltered homelessness for 2021. Additionally, the methodology used by CFTH in 2021 differs from 2020 & subsequent years. National 2025 numbers will be released later this year.

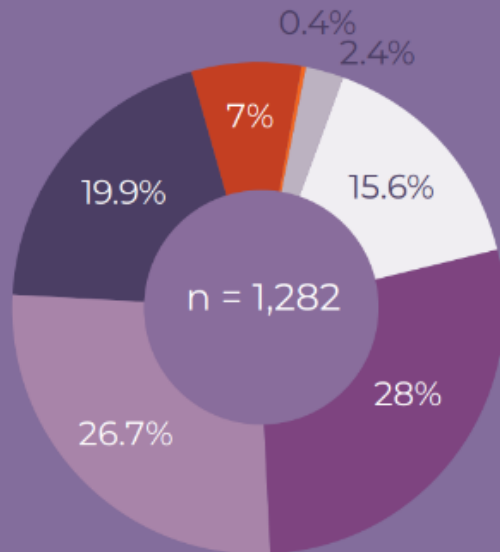
Demographics and Special Populations

2025 Point-in-Time Count & Survey

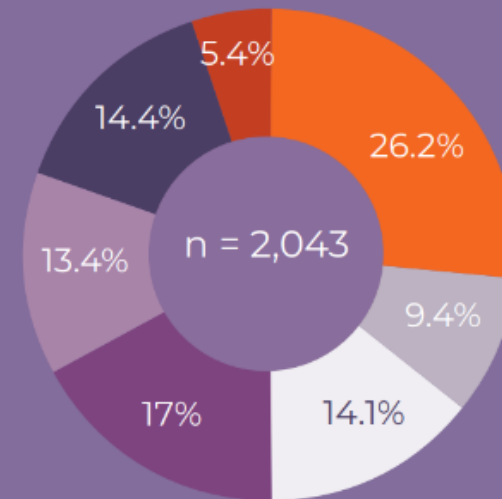
Age



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

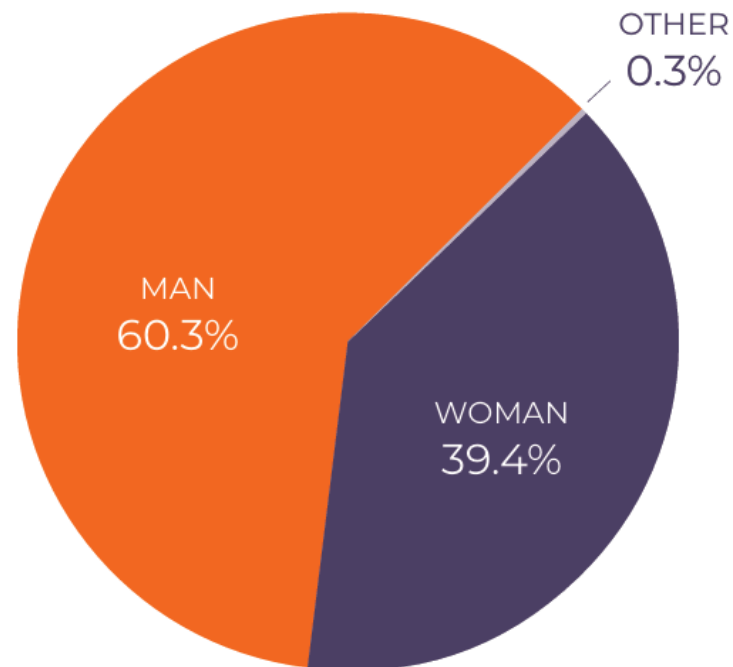


AGE DISTRIBUTION OF SHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Gender

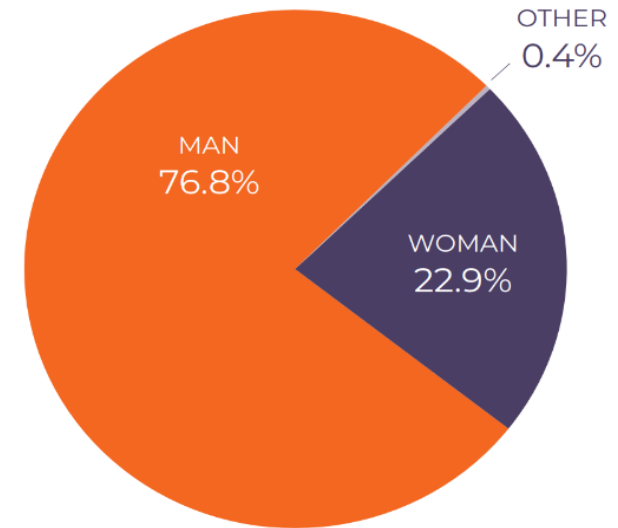
- Men make up 77% of the unsheltered population.
- Sheltered population is evenly split men/women.

**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
TOTAL POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**

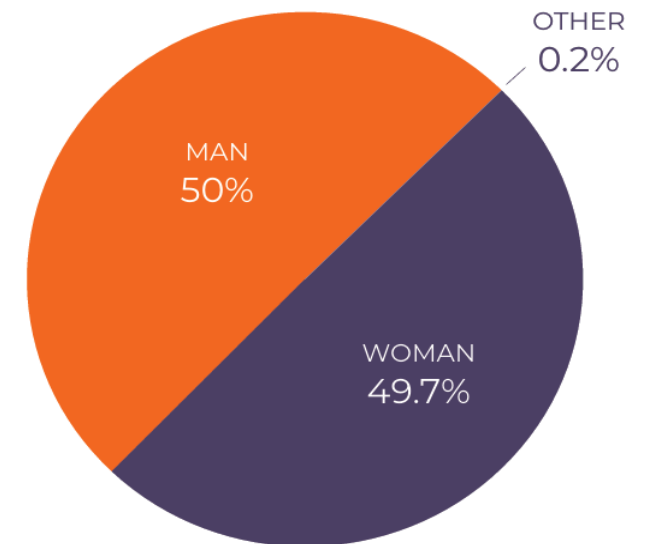


n = 3,325

**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
UNSHelterED POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**



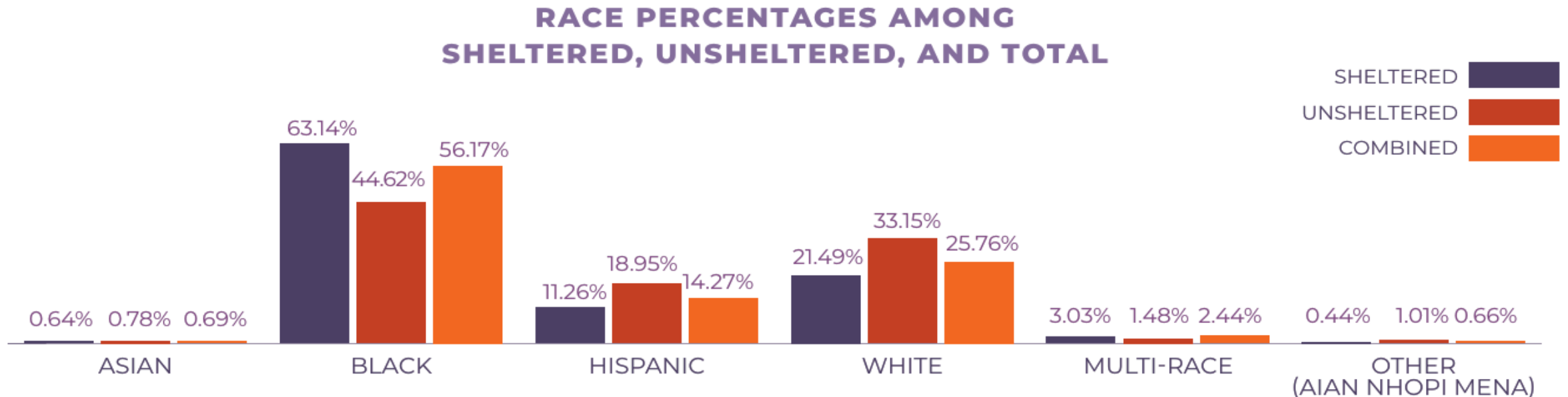
**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF
SHELTERED POPULATION
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**



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

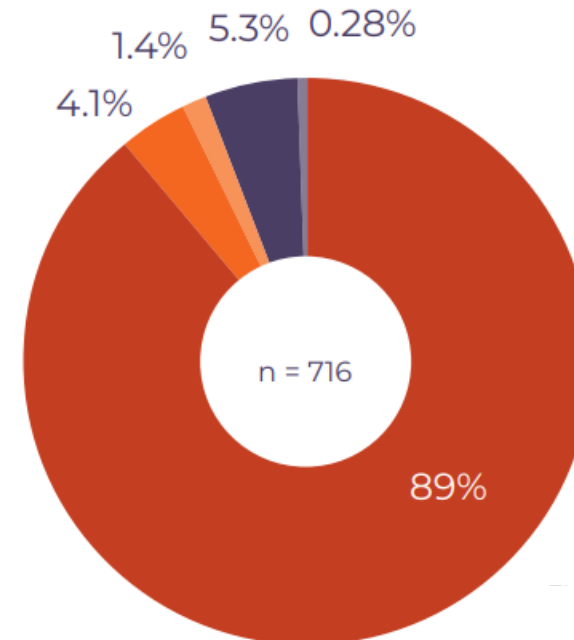
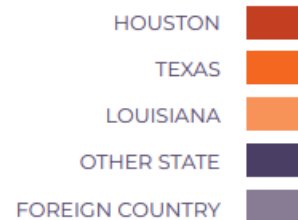
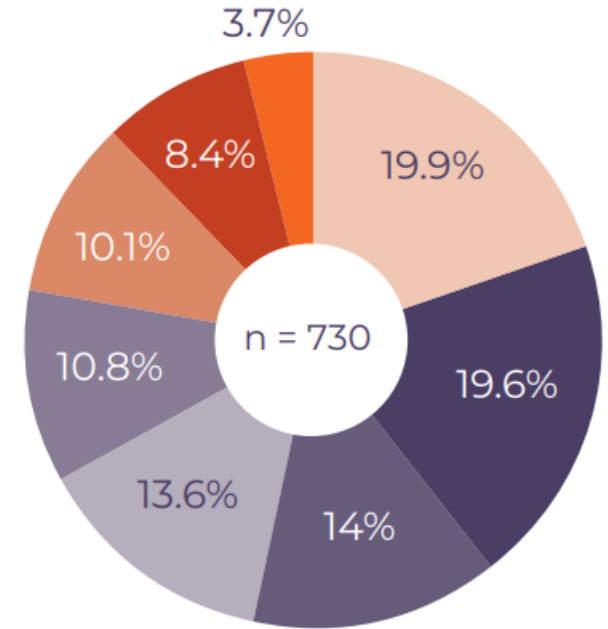
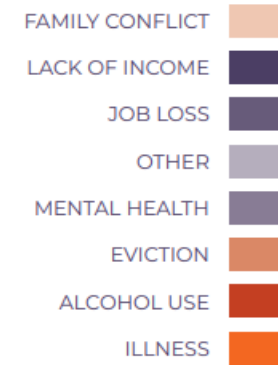
Primary Causes

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

Home-grown

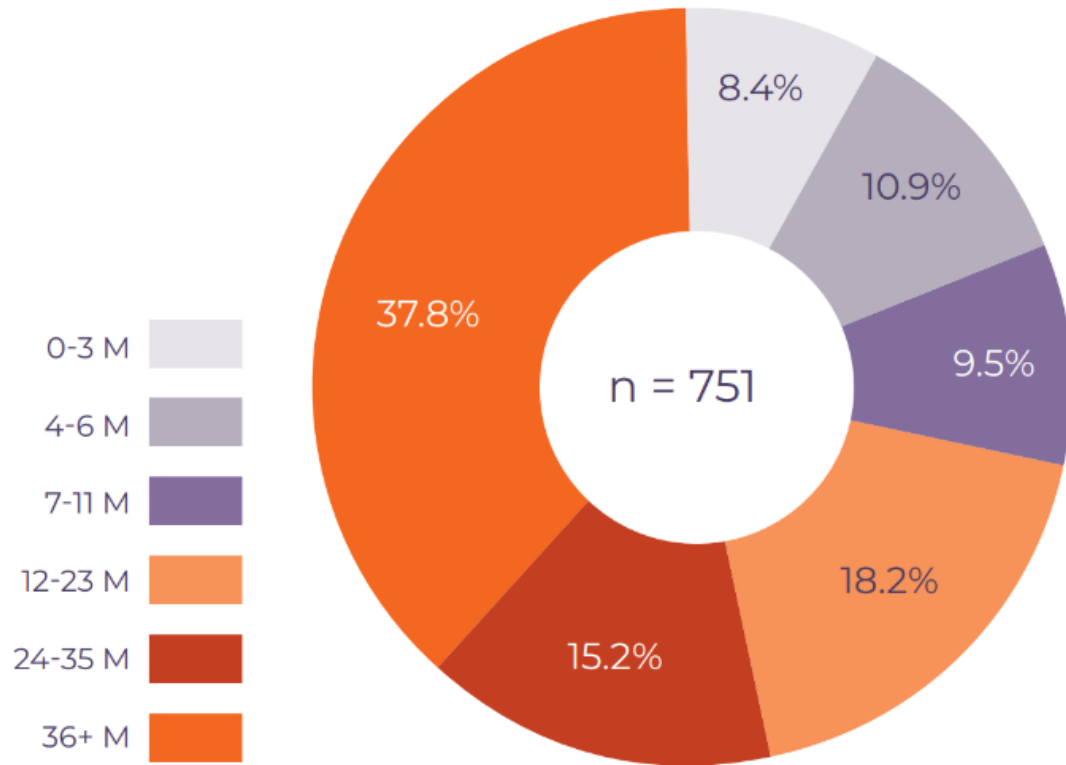
- 89% of first entries happen in Houston vs 5.5% in the rest of Texas or Louisiana combined

PRIMARY CAUSE OF UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS



LOCATION WHERE INDIVIDUALS FIRST EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS

LENGTH OF CURRENT EPISODE OF HOMELESSNESS



Special Populations

Chronic Homelessness

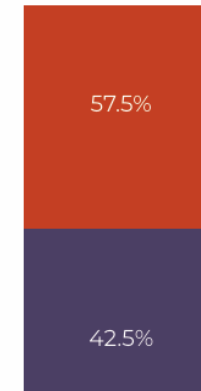
- Nearly half (44.2%) of unsheltered individuals meet chronic definition.

Veterans

- ~8% of unsheltered.

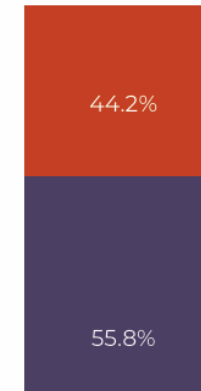
CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

n = 668



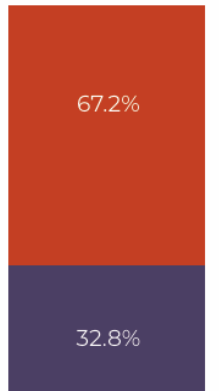
MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS

n = 658



PHYSICAL DISABILITY

n = 668

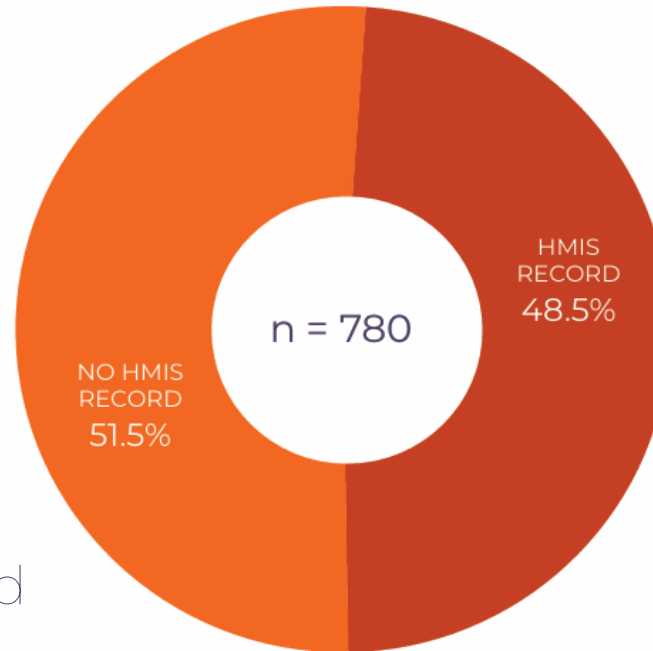


YES
NO

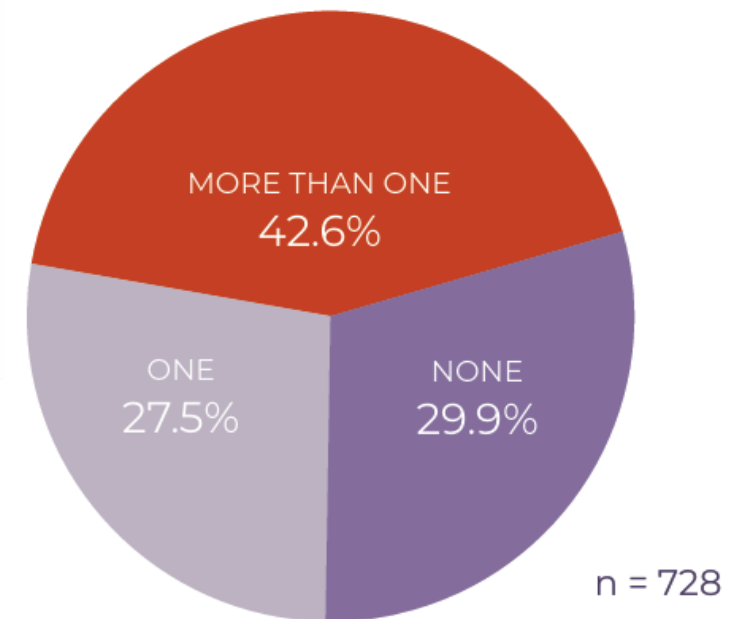
Health & Service Connection

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

HMIS RECORD



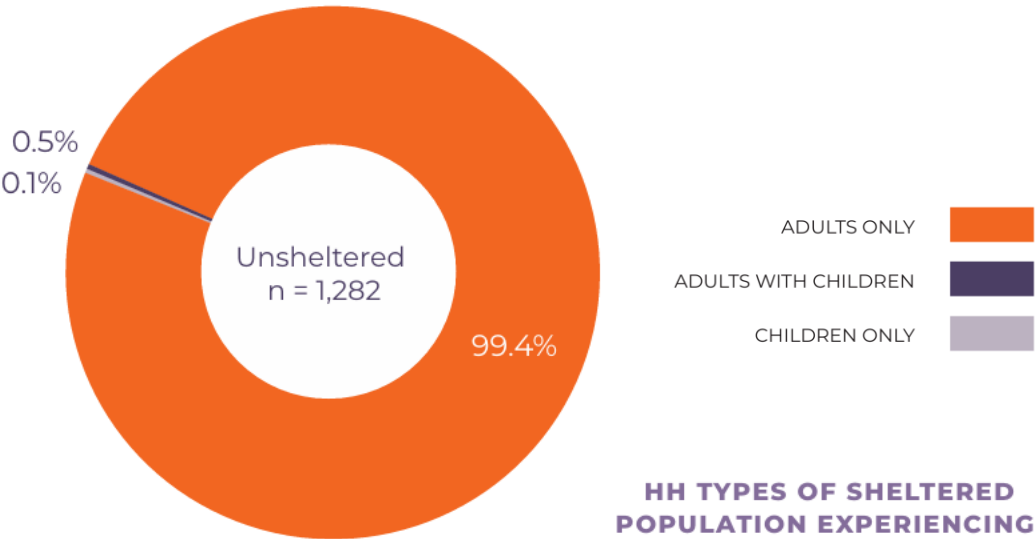
PREVALENCE OF CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS AND DISABILITIES



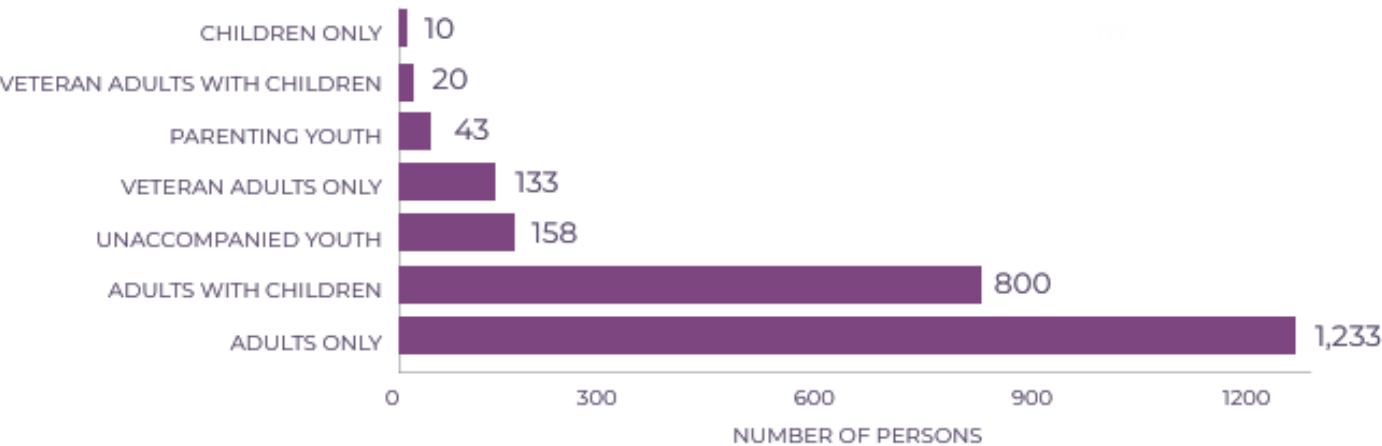
Household (HH) Types

Families and domestic violence survivors overrepresented in sheltered populations.

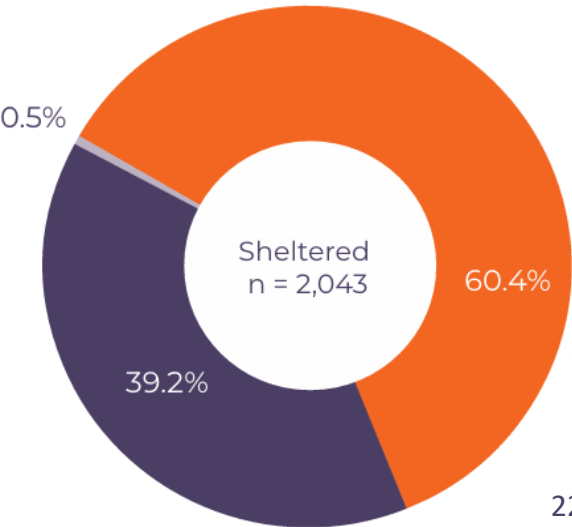
HH TYPES OF UNSHELTERED POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



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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Advocacy Update

Harris County

- Harris County Commissioners Court successfully reallocated \$16 million towards housing stability programs that will fund rental assistance, eviction prevention programs, and other homeless services
 - Out of that funding, CFTH was granted \$7.5 million for rapid re-housing and homeless services



Federal Update

Extent of the Threat

- 9/30 is the end of the federal FY
- Congress must pass either a full 12-bill budget or a **Continuing Resolution (CR)** to avoid a government shutdown.
- The House voted for a seven-week "clean" CR, which was subsequently voted down in the Senate.

CR Defined

A CR is a temporary spending bill that extends government funding at current levels. It:

- Contains no adjustments for inflation or program growth
- Cannot exceed one year in duration
- Is often used when Congress cannot agree on a full budget
- **The Trump Administration** supports a "clean" CR—one without policy changes or controversial amendments.

Federal Update, Contd.



D's want an extension of ACA tax credits that expire in Dec. and will not accept a CR that does not extend them.



When the previous CR was voted down in the Senate, D's offered their own funding bill.



However, R's are allegedly refusing to negotiate.



Both sides are preemptively blaming the other for a potential shutdown.

- At this point a CR must pass
- The Senate is out of town until the 29th
- The House canceled its scheduled return on September 29 in order to pressure Senate Democrats.
- Funding bills need at least 60 votes to pass in the Senate. That means at least seven Senate D votes are needed (assuming every R supports).

Federal Update

Likelihood and Duration of a Shutdown



The chance for a shutdown is HIGH



There is no "maximum length" for a shutdown.



It will likely be of short duration; the longest shutdown in U.S. history lasted **35 days** (2018–2019).



However, the duration depends entirely on congressional negotiations.

What happens to HUD?

- While housing is a critical need, most HUD funding is not classified as “essential” for immediate protection of life and property. As a result:
- Most HUD staff are furloughed ([put on leave](#))
- Rental assistance and grant programs are discretionary, not entitlements like Social Security or Medicare, [which means that Funds are only available until reserves run out](#)

Federal Update, contd.

What Happens to HUD?

Key Impacts on HUD Programs

-  **Funded programs continue initially**, but prolonged shutdowns pose serious risks
-  **CoC grants**, including Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), can operate temporarily using previously obligated funds
-  **Rental assistance contracts expiring during a shutdown may not be renewed**
-  **Housing Choice Vouchers** are at risk if Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) exhaust their reserves
-  **New funding for programs like CDBG and HOME will freeze**

How Long Will HUD Funds Last?

- There is **no definitive answer**. It depends on:
- Carryover funding from the previous fiscal year
- The length of the shutdown
- Program-specific reserves
- However, it is clear that **HUD reserves are not sufficient for an extended shutdown**.
-  **Additional Resources**
- For ongoing updates and detailed guidance, visit the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) 2025 Federal Shutdown Resources.

Public Comment



Speakers will be called upon in the order in which they signed up. Others will be offered an opportunity to speak following.

Please use the “Raise Hand” function and wait to be called upon if you did not sign up to speak prior to the meeting.

When called upon, please introduce yourself and your organization (if applicable).

Duration of comment: 1 minute. This time limit will be identified with a visible timer shared on the screen, followed by the speaker being muted when the time is complete.



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Thank you!

See you next month on
Thursday, October 9th!