

2020 Point in Time Count Report

Homelessness in Chester County, Pennsylvania

January 23, 2020

Page 1

Overview

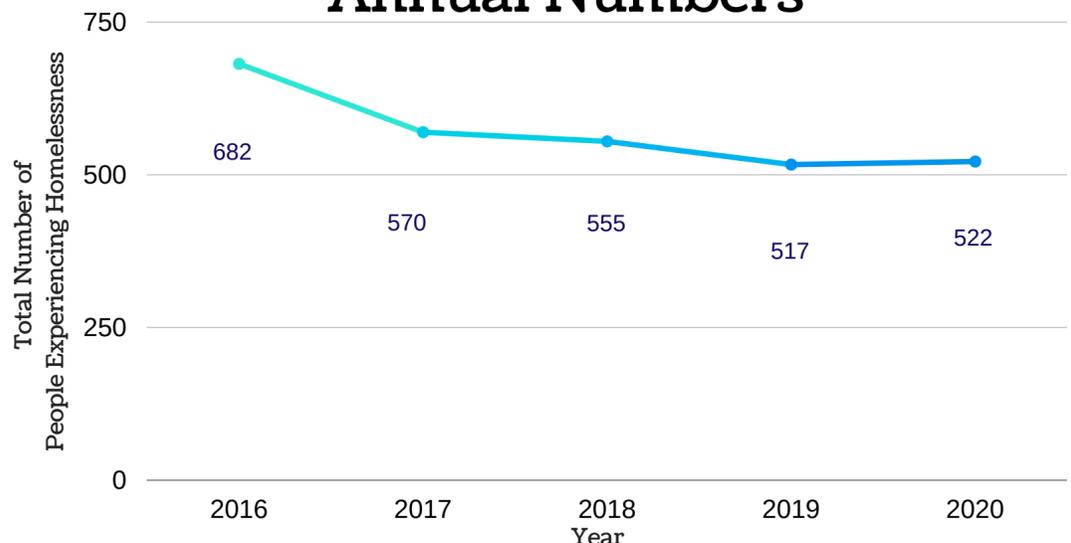
In the early morning hours of **January 23, 2020**, the Chester County Department of Community Development (DCD) facilitated the annual Point in Time Count, a national effort sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of this initiative is to determine the number of people currently experiencing homelessness on a given night, to better understand homelessness in Chester County and across the nation, and to support Decade to Doorways, our community's plan to prevent and end homelessness.

Data from the count is included in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), which is presented to Congress.

522

The total number of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness.

Annual Numbers



Household Composition



366
Single
Individuals

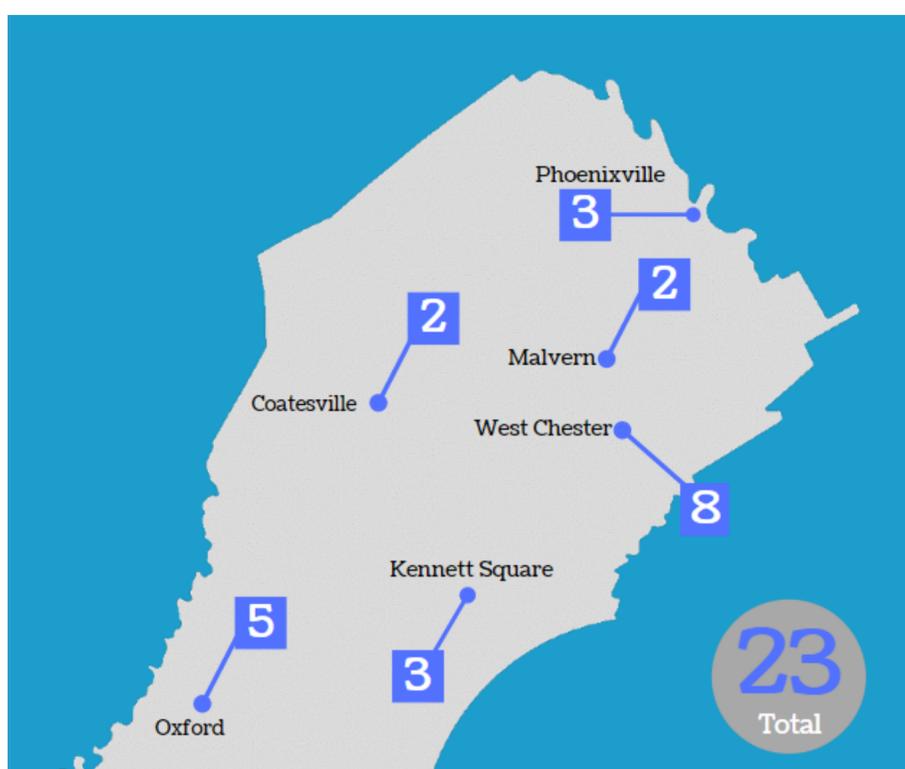


95 Parents
&
61 Children

Unsheltered Count

DCD verifies how the unsheltered homeless population is identified in the count, as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 of the Homeless Definition Final Rule:

“An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.” Youth under age 18 and ages 18 to 24 who meet this definition are categorized as homeless.



Unsheltered Count Data

Figure 1. Map displays the location of 20 unsheltered individuals and 1 household with children.

Unsheltered Count Methodology

Residents and partners including personnel from police departments, libraries, social services organizations, and food cupboards were asked to provide information regarding known sleeping locations for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Staff distributed a "One Night Survey Reporting Form" to be completed on the night of the count to organizations and businesses in Chester County, which include: Hospitals, convenience stores, supermarkets, mental health facilities, libraries, and police stations.

Maps were created that displayed predetermined locations to be canvassed by canvassing teams during the count. Canvassing teams consisted of individuals with a background in case management or who have previously worked with individuals experiencing homelessness. A total of 22 personnel were divided into 8 teams.

Canvassing teams were given an overview of the reason for the count and the methods being used and received training on how to observe and survey individuals experiencing homelessness.

The 8 canvassing teams of skilled, trained personnel searched priority locations throughout Chester County from 1:00 to 4:00 am on Thursday, January 23. The teams identified a total of 20 individuals and 1 household with dependent children as fitting the criteria of "unsheltered."

2020 Point in Time Count Report

Homelessness in Chester County, Pennsylvania

January 23, 2020
Page 2

Sheltered Count

DCD verifies how the sheltered homeless population is identified in the count, as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 of the Homeless Definition Final Rule:

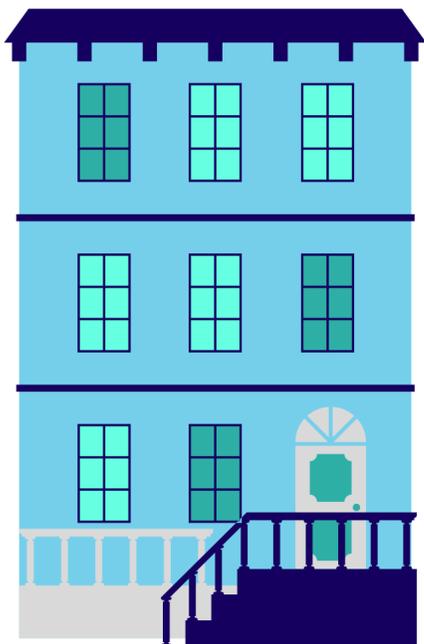
“An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals).” Youth under age 18 and ages 18 to 24 who meet this definition are categorized as homeless.

Sheltered Count Methodology

DCD staff generated a report using CCCIMS data.

For provider agencies that do not collect data using CCCIMS, a one night reporting spreadsheet is collected to determine the correct count of individuals sheltered at their programs.

DCD staff confirmed their numbers reported in the system with the emergency shelters and transitional housing providers.



Sheltered Count Data

Emergency Shelter (General Population) **133**

Emergency Shelter (Veterans) **8**

Emergency Shelter (Domestic Violence) **11**

Emergency Shelter (Motel Vouchers) **54**

Emergency Shelter (Code Blue) **12**

Transitional Housing (General Population) **28**

Transitional Housing (Veterans) **203**

Transitional Housing (Domestic Violence) **50**

TOTAL **499

**This total reflects both the 373 individuals recorded in the Chester County Client Information Management System (CCCIMS) as well as the 126 individuals whose information was supplied by non-CCCIMS providers.

For more information about the Point in Time Count, please visit the following website:

www.decadetodoorways.org

2020 Point in Time Count Report

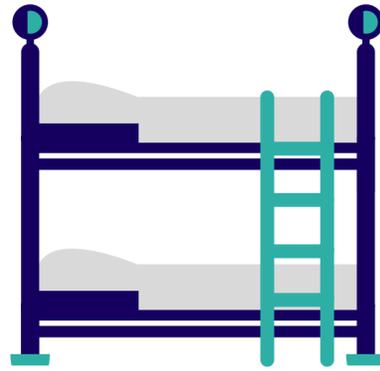
Homelessness in Chester County, Pennsylvania

January 23, 2020

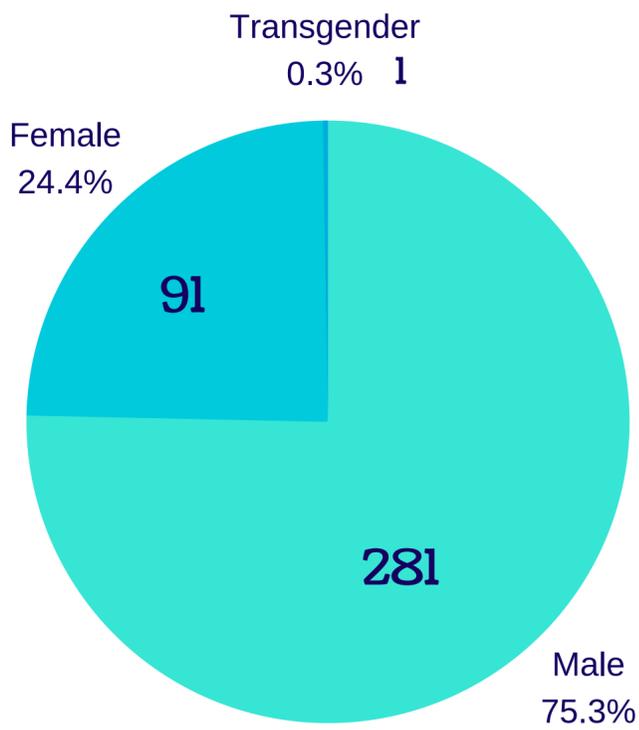
Page 3

Sheltered Count Demographics

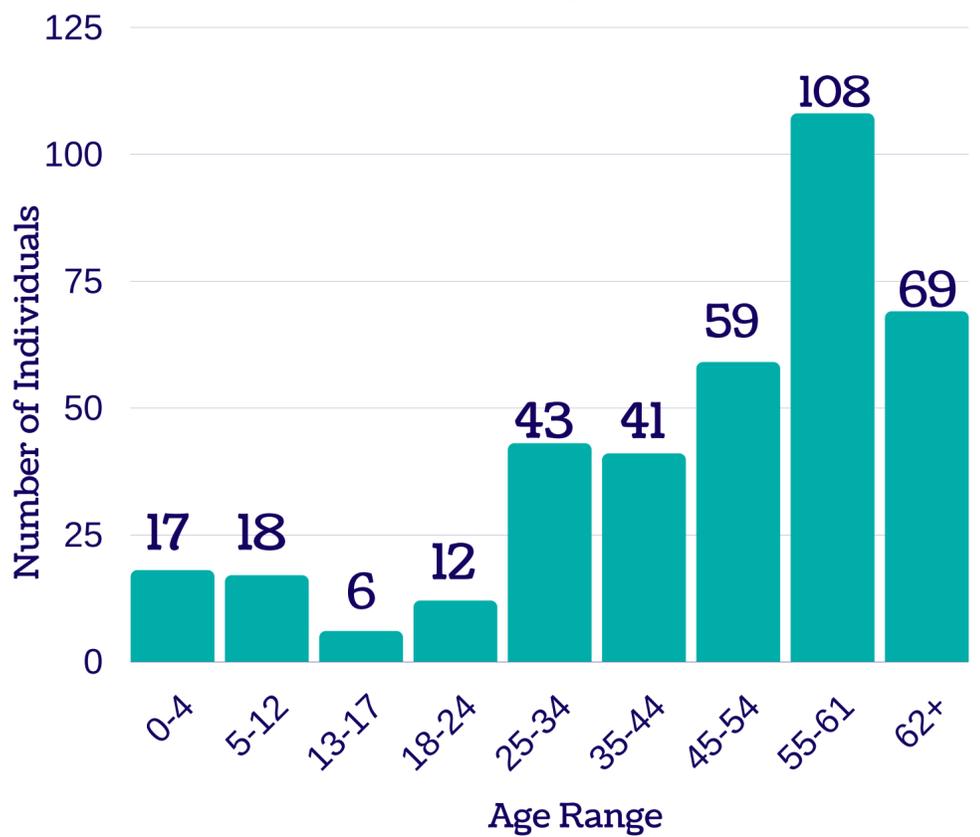
The graphs below reflect data from the 373 individuals supplied by CCCIMS providers. Non-CCCIMS providers did not supply data on age or gender of individuals within emergency shelter or transitional housing.



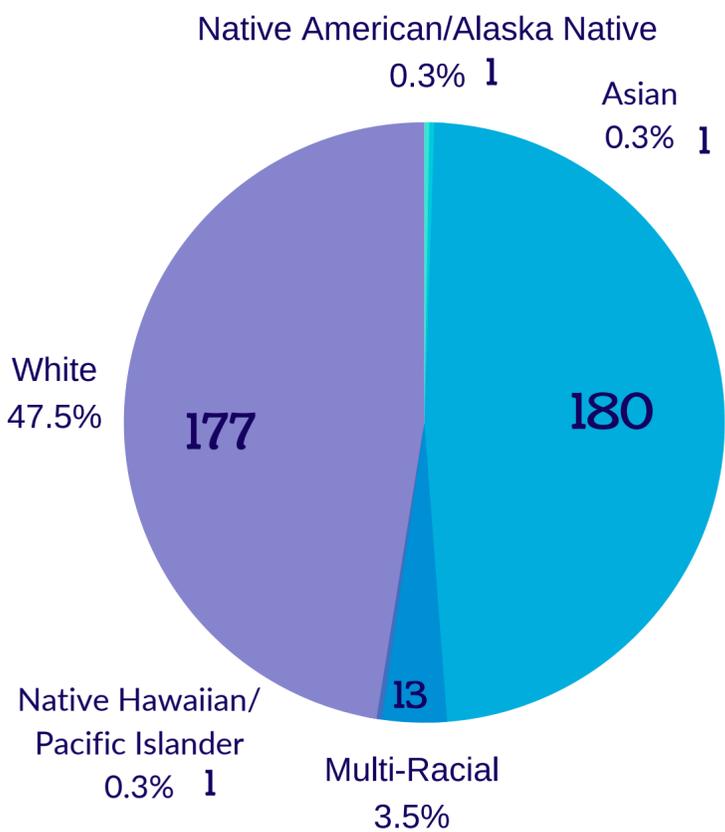
Gender



Age



Race



Ethnicity

