

2026 ATLANTA POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) COUNT SUMMARY

KEY FINDINGS

The City of Atlanta's homelessness response system is becoming more coordinated and effective at moving people experiencing chronic homelessness into housing while the increased demand reflects growing housing instability.

Homelessness Stabilizing

The 2026 PIT Count, conducted on January 28 along with follow-up surveys at day service sites, showed a 6% increase in homelessness compared to 2025. While the number increased, the data suggests homelessness levels may be beginning to stabilize after several years of sharp growth.

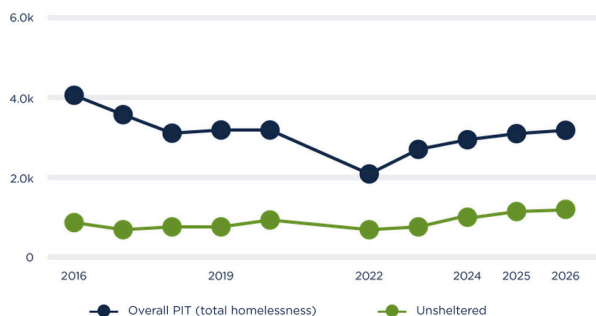
Positive Exits

Even as more people continue to enter the homelessness response system, many are still successfully moving into housing and other stable situations. Housing programs and support services continue helping people exit homelessness to positive destinations.

Ongoing Need

The continued number of people entering homelessness shows there is still significant need across Atlanta. Continued partnership and investment from businesses, civic leaders, nonprofits, and community members will be critical to keeping progress moving forward.

PIT COUNT HISTORY



WHAT'S DRIVING THE INCREASE?

A deeper look at inflow suggests:

- More Atlanta households are struggling to keep up with the cost of living.
- Nearly 50% of City of Atlanta neighborhoods are seeing increased eviction filings since February 2025, according to Eviction Lab data¹ (see source below)
- Investment in the Atlanta Rising initiative is producing measurable results.
- Through the Downtown Rising strategy, the average housing placement timeline shrunk to 48 days compared to 108 days system wide.

1. Source: [Eviction Lab: Atlanta Eviction Tracking System](#). Accessed May 15, 2026



+6%
increase in total
homelessness



4.7%
increase in annual inflow, or the
number of households experiencing
homelessness year-over-year



490
people housed through
Downtown Rising May 2025
through May 2026



48
days to housing in
Downtown Rising vs. 108 days
system-wide

PIT COUNT TRENDS: A YEAR-BY-YEAR LOOK

The chart below provides a historical view of past **Point-in-Time (PIT) data counts**.

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Sheltered	1,966	1,833	1,827	1,941	1,377	1,996
Unsheltered	1,094	1,061	1,040	738	640	N/A*
TOTAL	3,060	2,894	2,867	2,679	2,017	N/A*

*U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) waived the unsheltered count requirement in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2026 PIT COUNT: GOING DEEPER

The 2026 PIT Count highlights several important shifts within the data.



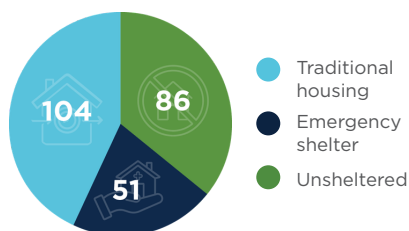
Unsheltered homelessness increased by 3%, reflecting continued demand for services and housing.



Sheltered homelessness increased by 7%, likely influenced in part by unusually cold temperatures increasing use of services like warming centers.

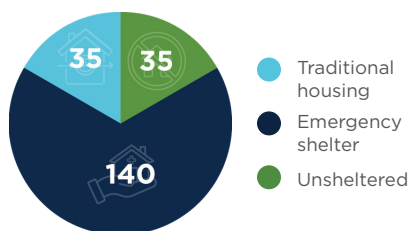
SUBPOPULATION TRENDS

VETERANS - 241



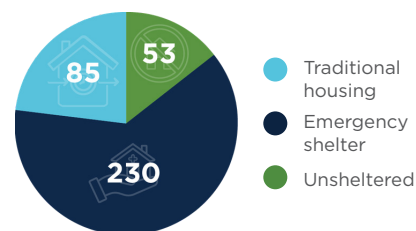
Decreased **13%** year-over-year

YOUTH (18-24) - 210



Increased **4%** year-over-year

FAMILIES - 268

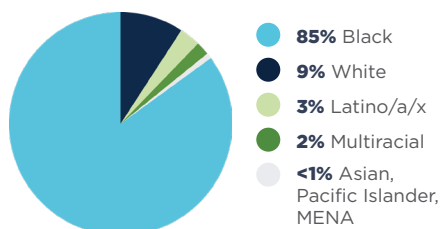


Decreased **8%** year-over-year

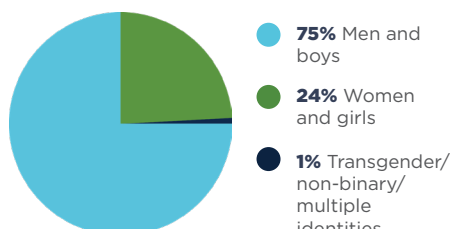
INSIGHT: Youth-specific interventions may be able to prevent long-term homelessness over time. This year, Partners for HOME augmented our ability to connect with youth experiencing homelessness – an often less-visible population. This increased ability may account for a portion of the year-over-year increase.

DEMOGRAPHIC INSIGHTS

RACE



GENDER



AGE DISTRIBUTION

ADULTS 55+: Accounted for 31%

LARGEST GROUP: Ages 55-64 (23%)

271 SENIORS (9%)
fastest-growing unsheltered age group nationally

METHODOLOGY INSIGHTS

- ✓ Conducted by Atlanta's Continuum of Care (CoC) with HUD policy
- ✓ Combined data from HMIS, non-HMIS shelters and in-person mobile-app surveys across 243 neighborhoods
- ✓ Participants received a \$10 Kroger gift card for completing surveys
- ✓ Added supplemental questions to explore systemic barriers, identity factors and service engagement

NOTE: The PIT count is a one-night census. It does not capture all movement in and out of the system over the course of a year. Partners for HOME leverages data from various sources, including HMIS, to guide and evaluate solutions and programs.

LOOKING AHEAD & CALL TO ACTION

Atlanta stands at a pivotal moment in its fight against homelessness.

Atlanta Rising — a landmark initiative uniting local government, nonprofits, healthcare leaders, and individuals with lived experience — is creating a stronger, more compassionate system of care.

Through coordinated action, historic investment, and a focus on getting people off the streets and into housing with wraparound support, Atlanta is rising to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.



Rise with us. Learn more about the Atlanta Rising initiative: <https://atlantarising.org/>

View more findings at pitcountpfh.com. Contact us at info@partnersforhome.org.