

Homelessness Data 2020

New Bedford | MA



Office of Housing & Community Development
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director



Overview

- INTRODUCTION
- BASELINE INFORMATION
- METHODOLOGY
- STATISTICS
- HOUSING INVENTORY
- TAKE-AWAYS




Introduction

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Introduction

- This presentation focuses on the results of the City of New Bedford's 2020 Point In Time Count and its Housing Inventory.
- All material presented here focuses on data collected according to federal standards according to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

Introduction



While this powerpoint approaches some discussion as to patterns and trending, it is not intended to supplant a more detailed discussion about how well the city's homelessness structure is performing.

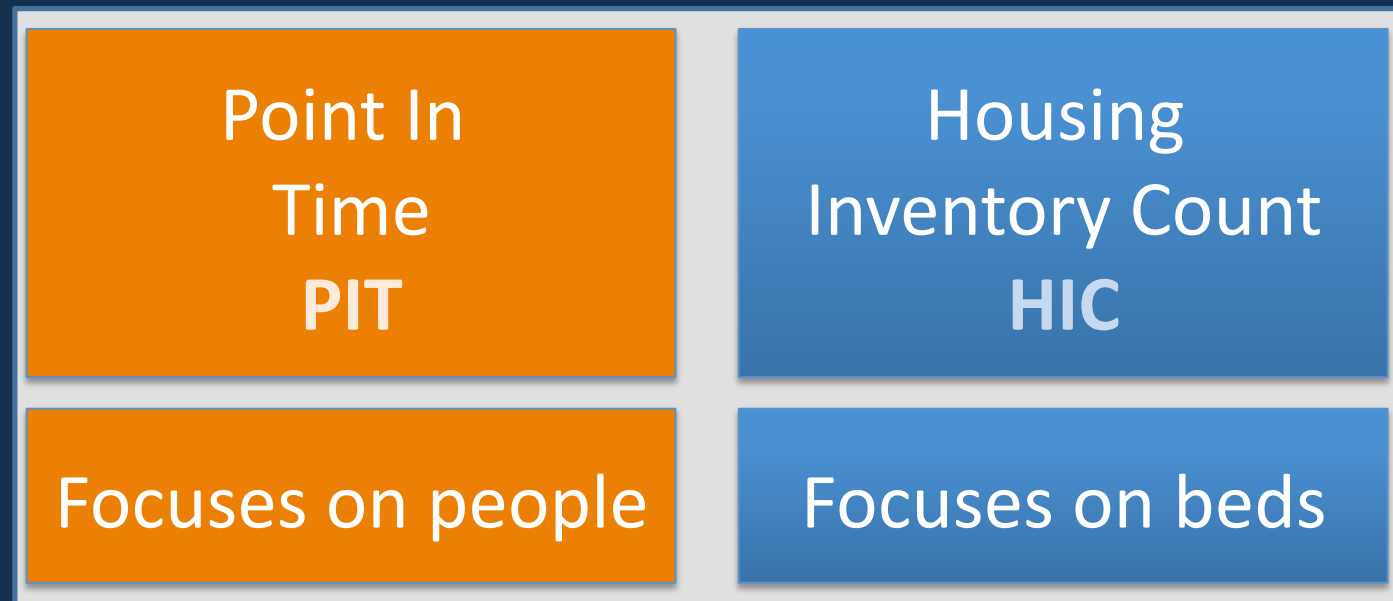


Baseline Information

Baseline Information

- Where is this data from?

This presentation relies on two data sources...



...and each provide different kinds of information.

Baseline Information

- Defining a Point In Time (PIT):
 - A PIT is required of each Continuum of Care (CoC --of which the City of New Bedford is one) by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.
 - It is a census of those who are sheltered in emergency shelters and transitional housing; it also includes those who are unsheltered and living on the streets.



Baseline Information

- Defining a Housing Inventory Count (HIC):
 - A HIC is also required of each CoC by HUD; it is a census of the emergency, transitional and permanent housing facilities within the CoC.
 - The HIC provides a comprehensive list of housing and the number of units and beds they provide in New Bedford on any given day.



Baseline Information

- Value of the PIT and HIC...
 - They capture important demographic and inventory data needed to help the CoC strategically address homelessness.
 - They provide data that reveals the extent to which resources are needed, who is served/un-served, who is the hardest to house, etc.

Baseline Information

- PIT and HIC Facts:
 - The annual PIT count lasts 24 hours and is conducted in hundreds of locations all across the country.
 - The 2020 PIT was conducted on January 29th-30th.
 - The PIT includes both sheltered and unsheltered persons.
 - Agencies with shelter and transitional housing worked with the City in December and January to develop the 2020 HIC.



Baseline Information

- PIT and HIC Facts:
 - Agencies provide annual information to the city identifying details about their facilities.
 - All collected information informs federal funding decisions and helps identify weaknesses, strengths and successes within the CoC.



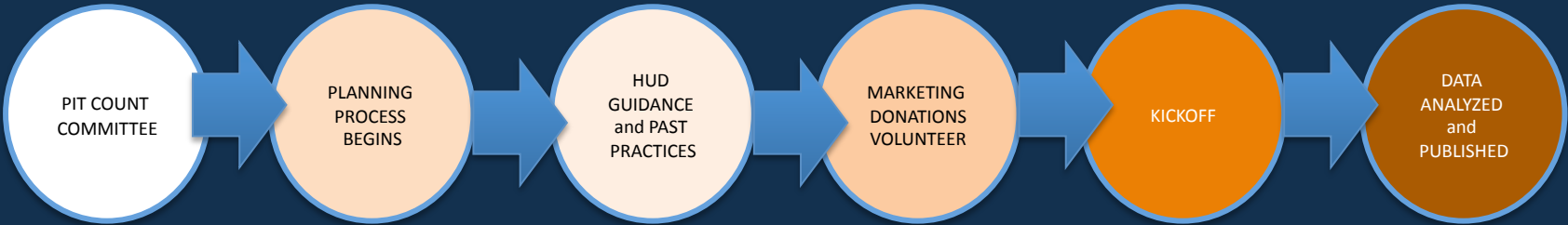
Methodology

Veterans

Methodology

- Logistics | Execution
 - HSPN's PIT Count Committee began meeting weekly from November 2019 to the end of January 2020.
 - Committee divisions focused on:
 - Volunteers
 - Donations
 - Outreach and Kick-Off
 - Resource Event
 - Logistics/Mapping/Training

Methodology





Statistics

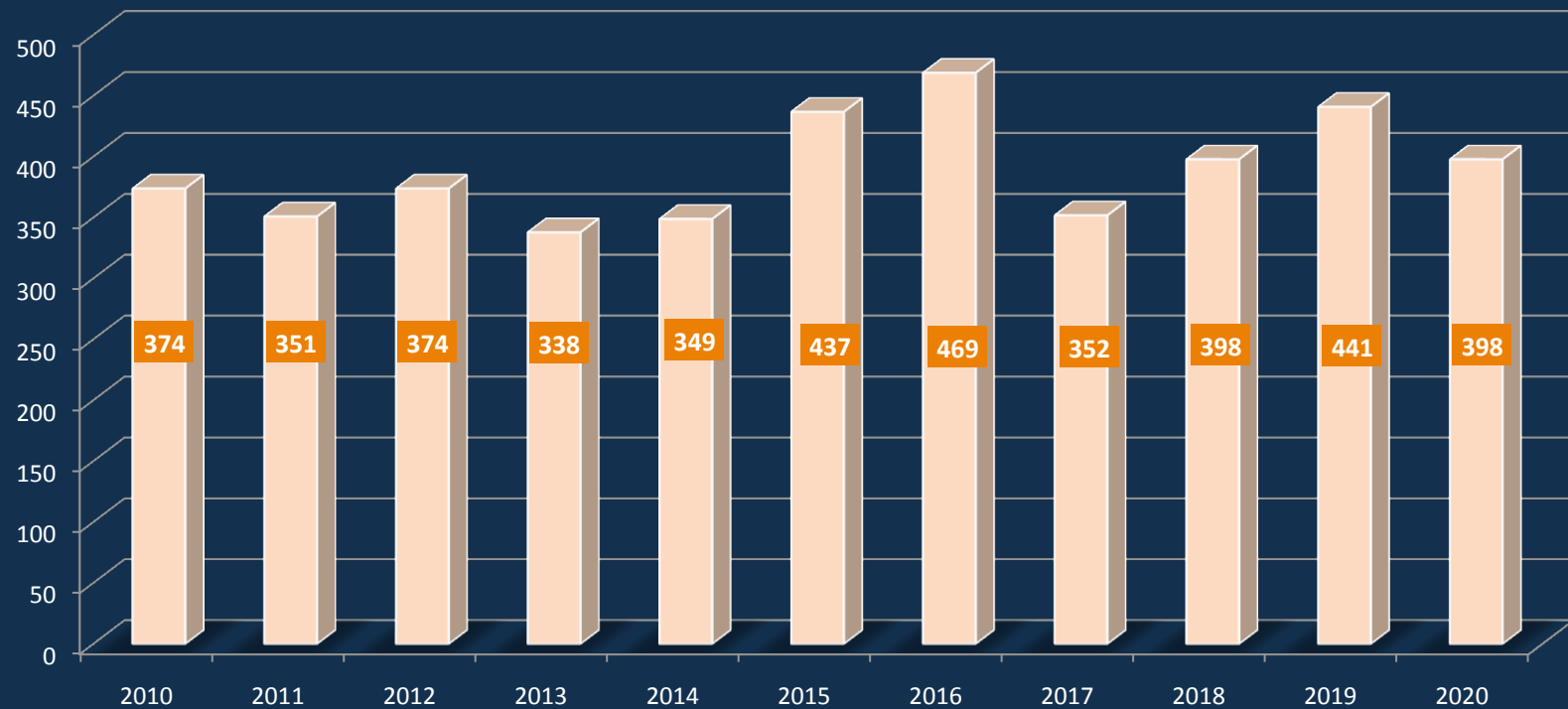
Statistics

PIT Count Total

The 2020 PIT Count identified 398 total adults and children in New Bedford experiencing homelessness (those in shelter and those unsheltered).

The 2020 PIT total count is roughly 10% lower than the 2019 PIT total.

Total PIT Count Over Time



Understanding the PIT Count Total

What were the numbers for this year and last year?

2020 PIT Total	2019 PIT Total
398	441

Why did the overall 2020 PIT Count Total decrease by 10%?

- The count of those in shelter in 2020 reflected a decrease of 38 people from the previous year's count. This decrease results from a combination of circumstances including:
 - The removal of one facility from the shelter count as it does not meet the HUD definition qualifying it as a shelter.
 - The reduction in transitional housing beds within the CoC.
 - The number and size of families in emergency shelter at the time of the count.
- The 2020 unsheltered count reflected a modest decrease of five people compared with the 2019 figure.

Statistics

Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

Breaking down the numbers...

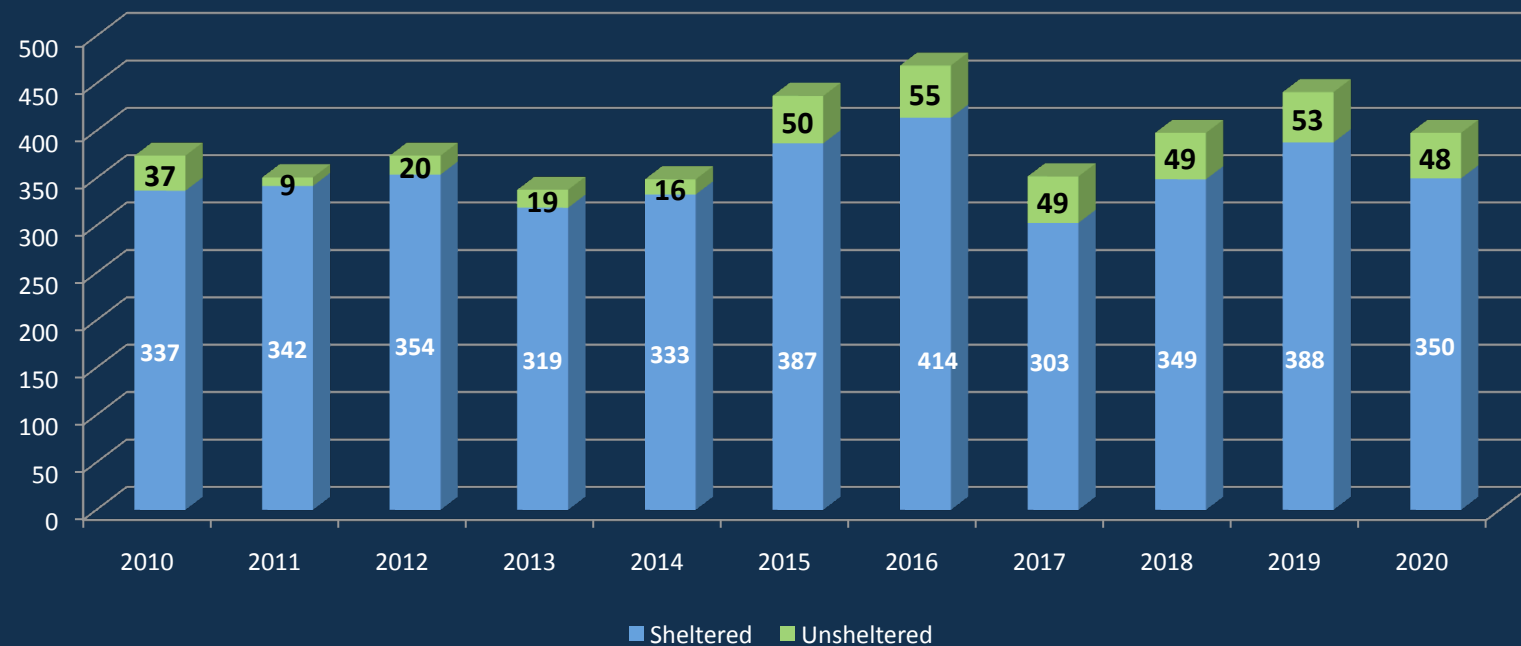
Of the total 398 people counted...

48 people were unsheltered and living on the streets

278 were in emergency shelters and

72 were in transitional housing programs

Sheltered and Unsheltered PIT Count

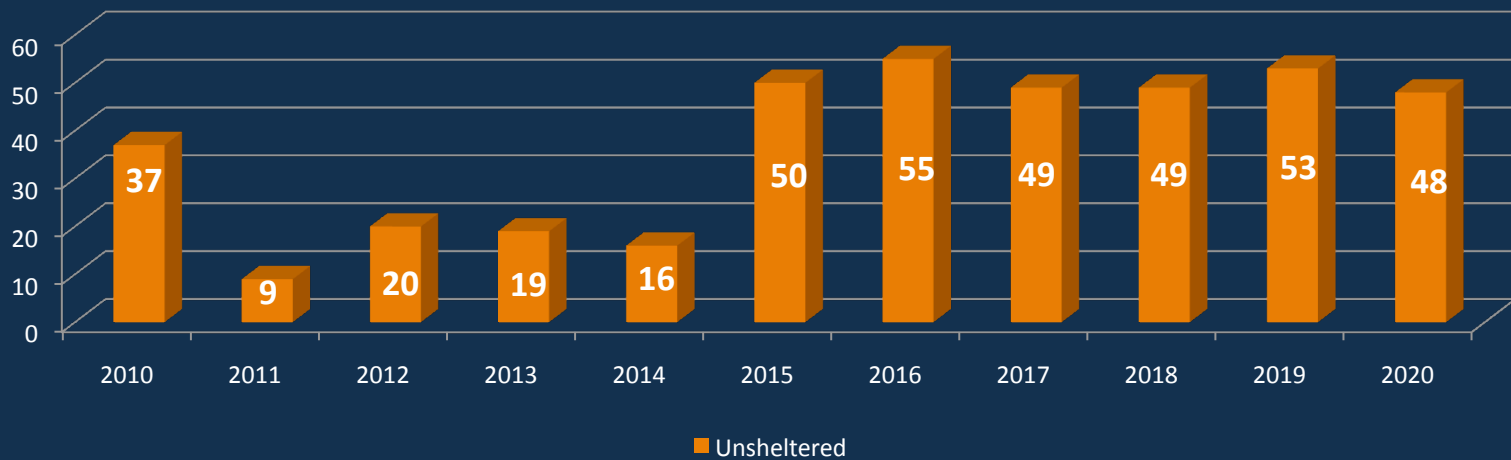


Statistics

Unsheltered Count

The 2020 total unsheltered count of 48 people living on the streets is slightly under the 2019 PIT count of 53 and fairly consistent with unsheltered counts conducted over the past 6 years.

Unsheltered PIT Count

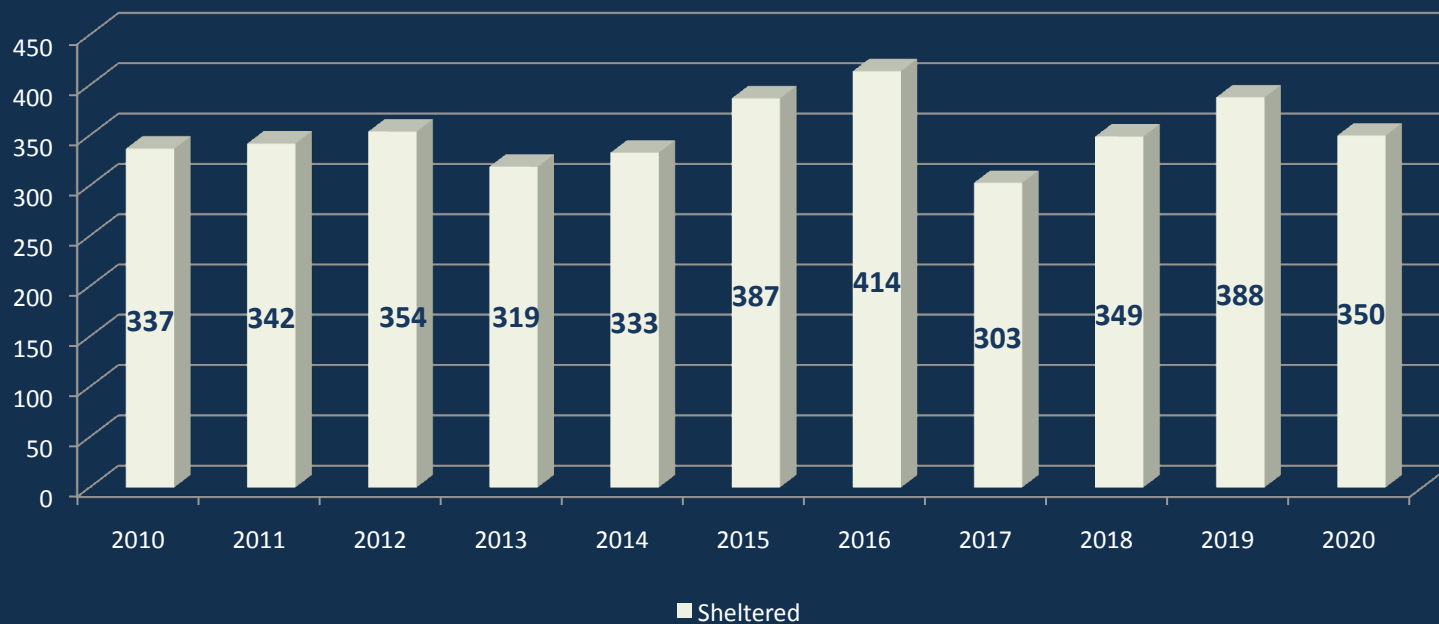


Statistics

Sheltered Count

The 2020 total sheltered count of 350 people living in shelter (emergency and transitional) represents a modest decrease from the 2019 shelter count but with the exception of 2016, remains fairly consistent with previous years.

Sheltered PIT Count



Statistics

Households

“Adult only households” (single households) and “Households with Children” (family households) are among the types of households that HUD defines as part of the PIT’s sheltered and unsheltered counts.

Adult-Only Households

Singles’ Households

Households with adults, only.

Includes households comprised of unaccompanied youth (ages 18-24).

Households with Children

Family Households

At least one minor child.

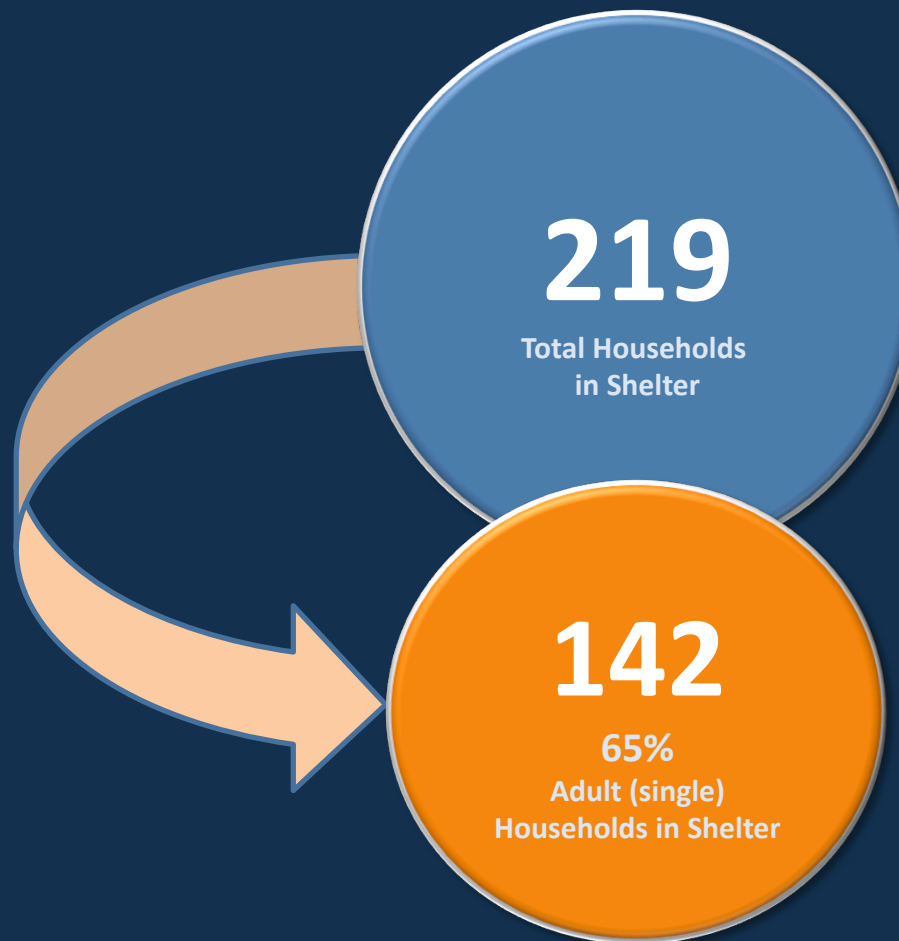
Households of only children, such as those households with unaccompanied youth and no adult

Adolescent parents and their child/children.

Statistics

Comparing Households

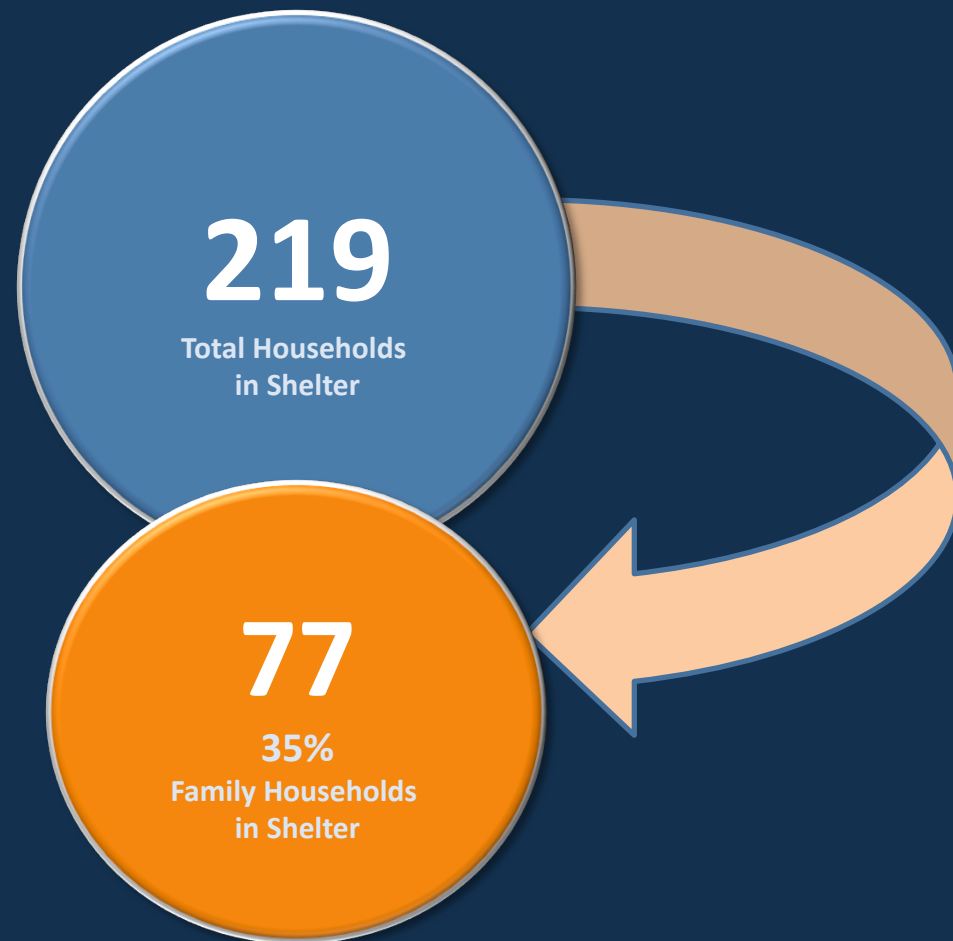
Comparing the total number of Households vs. Adult-Only Households in Shelter in 2020



Adult households (households with no children) constituted the majority of those experiencing homelessness living in shelter in New Bedford at a ratio of 2:1 in the 2020 count.

Comparing Households

Comparing the total number of Households vs. Family Households in Shelter in 2020



Both the number of adult-only households and family households living in shelter decreased in 2020 from 2019's numbers.

Statistics

Sheltered Individuals by Households Type

The 2020 PIT Count found a total of 350 people living in shelters, some of whom were in adult-only households and others who were in family (at least one adult/one child) households.

The number of people living in shelters differed by household type over the past few years.

Adults-Only Households

The 2020 number of individuals in adult-only households (142) decreased by roughly 24% from the 2019 count and 25% from the 2018 count.

(2020 compared with 188 in 2019 and 190 in 2018)

Family Households

The 2020 number of sheltered individuals in family households (208) increased by 4% over 2019's count and significantly increased about 31% over the 2018 count.

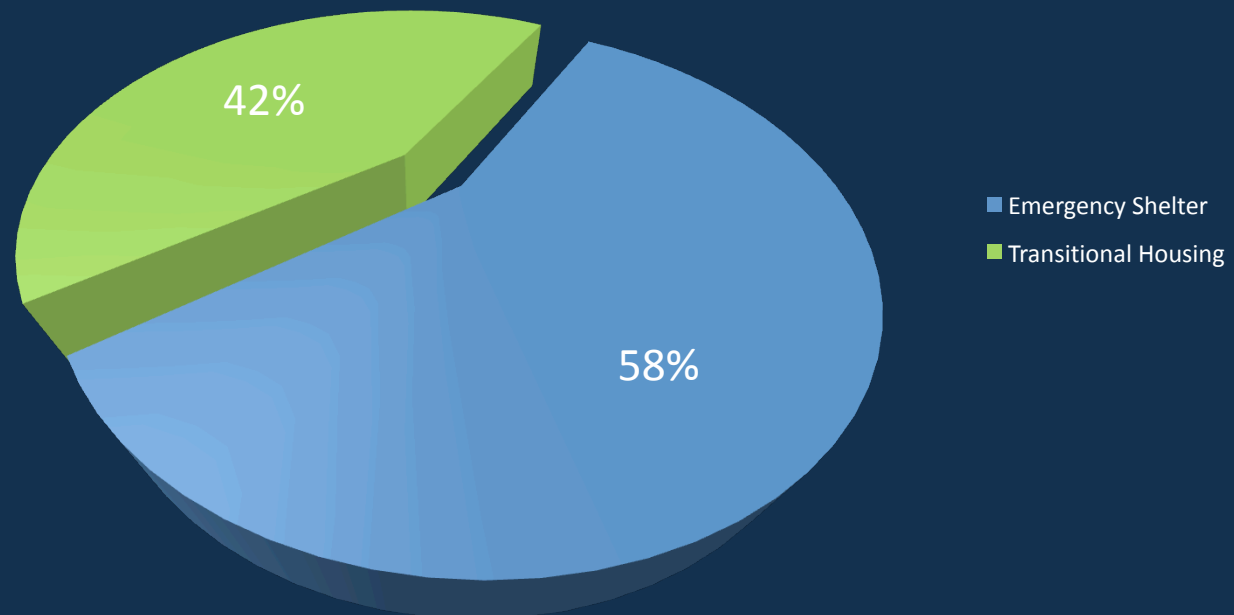
(2020 compared with 200 in 2019 and 159 in 2018)

Statistics

Individuals in Adult-Only Sheltered Households

Of the 142 individuals who constituted “adult-only” households that were living in shelters, 81 of those individuals (58%) were in Emergency Shelter programs and 61 individuals (42%) were in Transitional Housing.

Percentage of Sheltered Individuals in Adult-Only Households

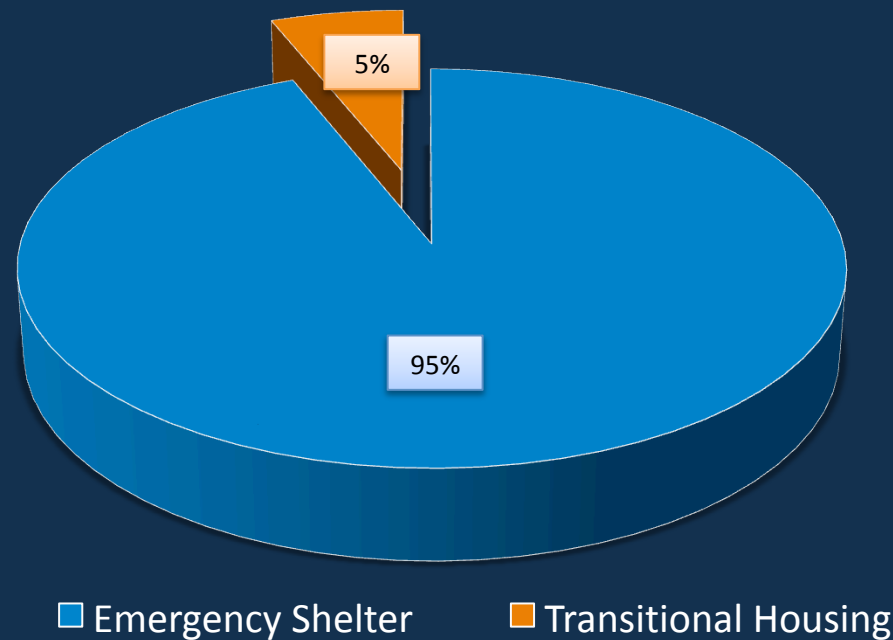


Statistics

Individuals in Family Sheltered Households

Of the 208 individuals who constituted households with children living in shelters, 197 of those individuals (95%) were in Emergency Shelter programs and 11 individuals (5%) were in Transitional Housing.

Percentage of Sheltered Individuals
in Family Households

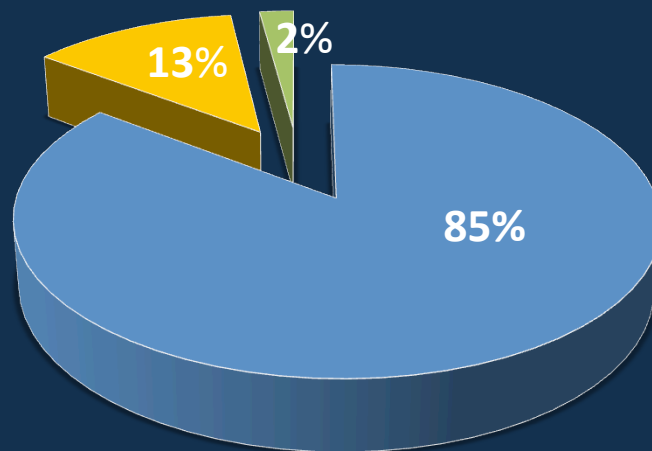


Statistics

Age

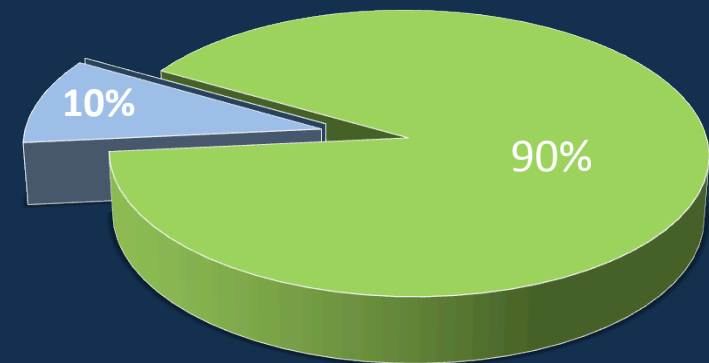
As part of the PIT, demographic information about subpopulations was included in the interviews and recorded. This information included a look at age by household group in both sheltered and unsheltered settings.

2020 Percentage of Unsheltered Adult-only Households by age.



- Total Adults 25+
- Total Adults 18-24
- Total Children Under 18

2020 Percentage Sheltered Adult-only Households by age.



- Total Adults 25+
- Total Adults 18-24
- Total Children Under 18

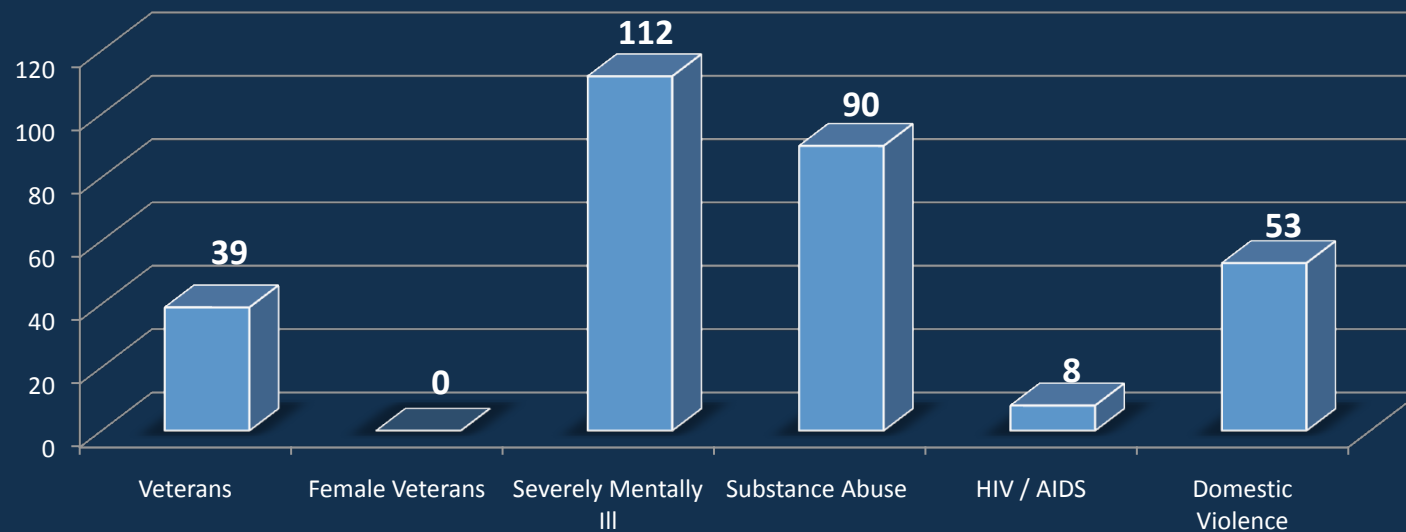
Statistics

Subpopulations *(Sheltered and Unsheltered)*

As part of the PIT, demographic information about self-reported subpopulations was included in the interviews and recorded. In the case of the data points below, having at least one member of an adult household self identifying with a particular characteristic resulted in the household being counted.

Households may self-report as being within more than one of the following populations.

2020 Sub-Populations in All Households *(Sheltered and Unsheltered)*



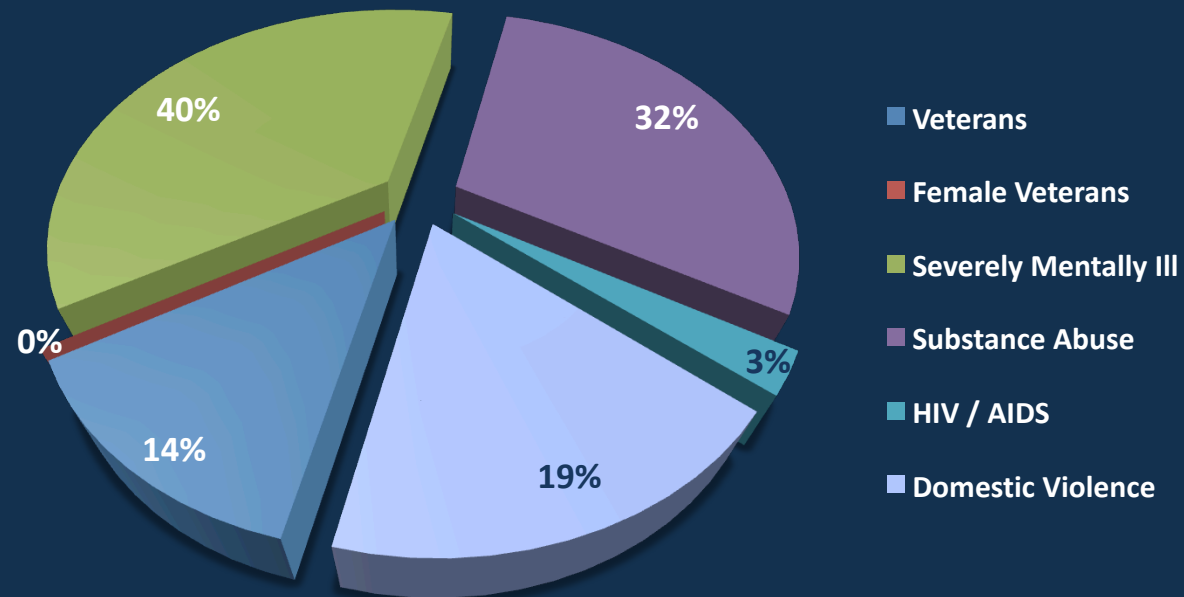
Statistics

Subpopulations *(Sheltered and Unsheltered)*

Based on the information collected, adults most frequently self-identified as being severely mentally ill (40%) and/or as suffering from substance use disorder (32%).

Notably, domestic violence accounts for 19% of what surveyed adults reported.

Percentage of total sheltered and unsheltered adults self-identifying as being part of the described subpopulation

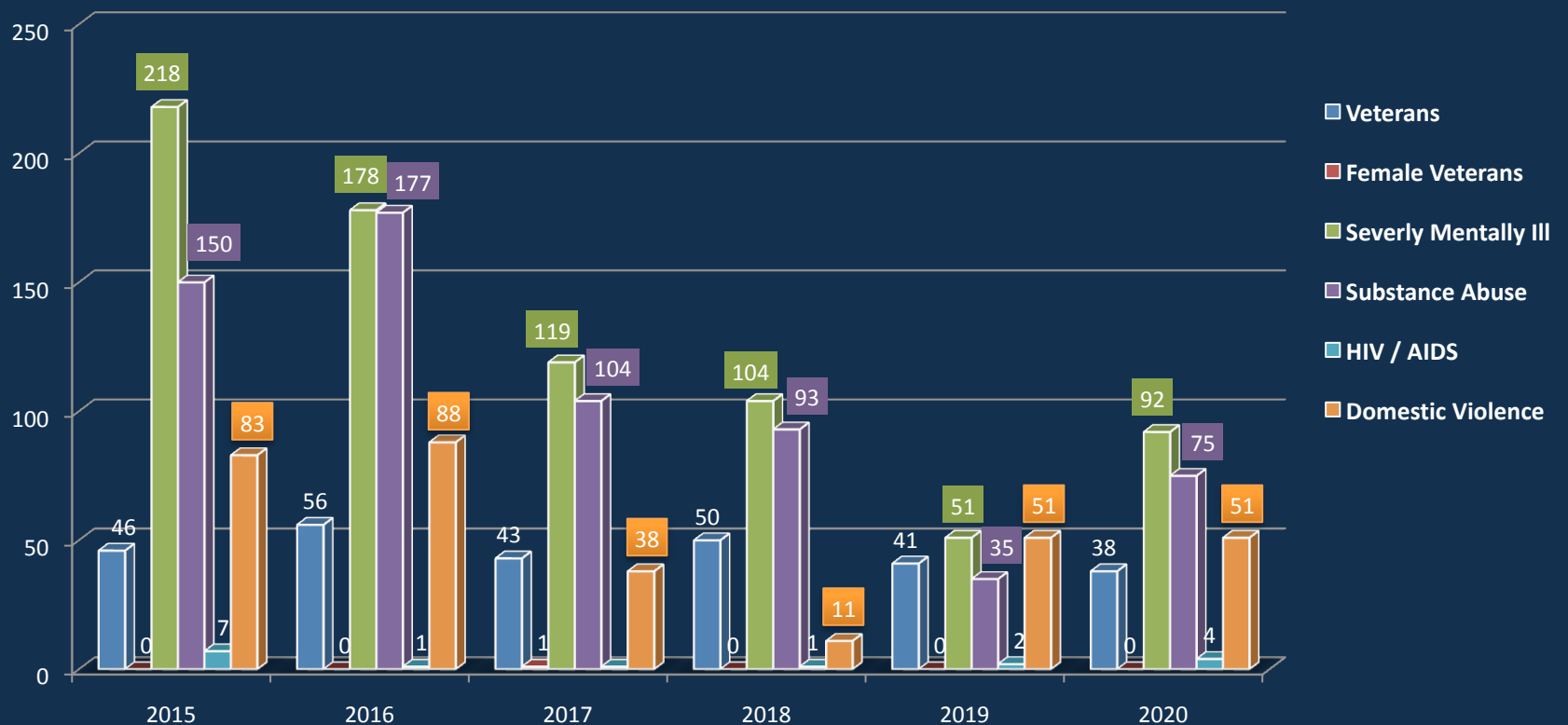


Statistics

Subpopulation Trends *(Sheltered)*

The year to year comparison by subpopulation for those in shelter shows an increase in those self-reporting substance abuse and severe mental illness since 2019; domestic violence has remained consistent with 2019 levels.

Sheltered Homeless Sub-Population



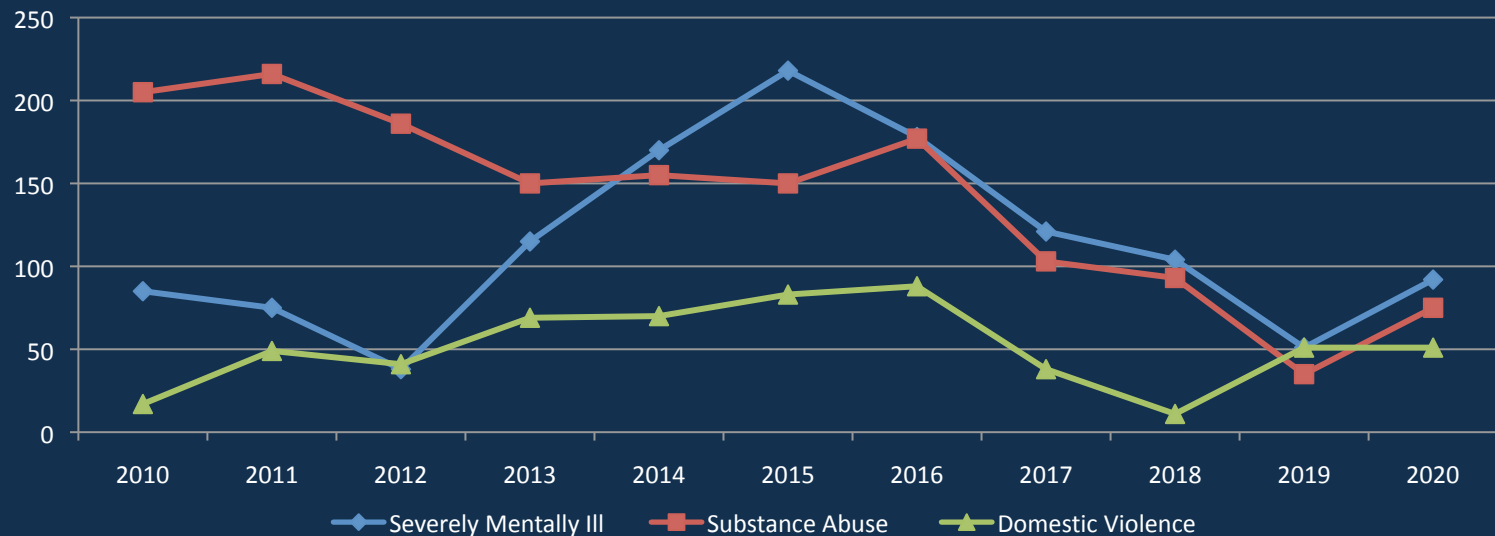
Statistics

Subpopulation Trends *(Sheltered)*

This year the number of those self-reporting substance abuse and severe mental illness returned to its pre-2019 levels, reversing the decline experienced last year.

The numbers of sheltered adults self-identifying as having been a victim of domestic violence remained steady at 51 between 2019 and 2020, contrasting sharply with the lower 2017 and 2018 figures.

Year to Year Comparison of Three Sheltered Subpopulations

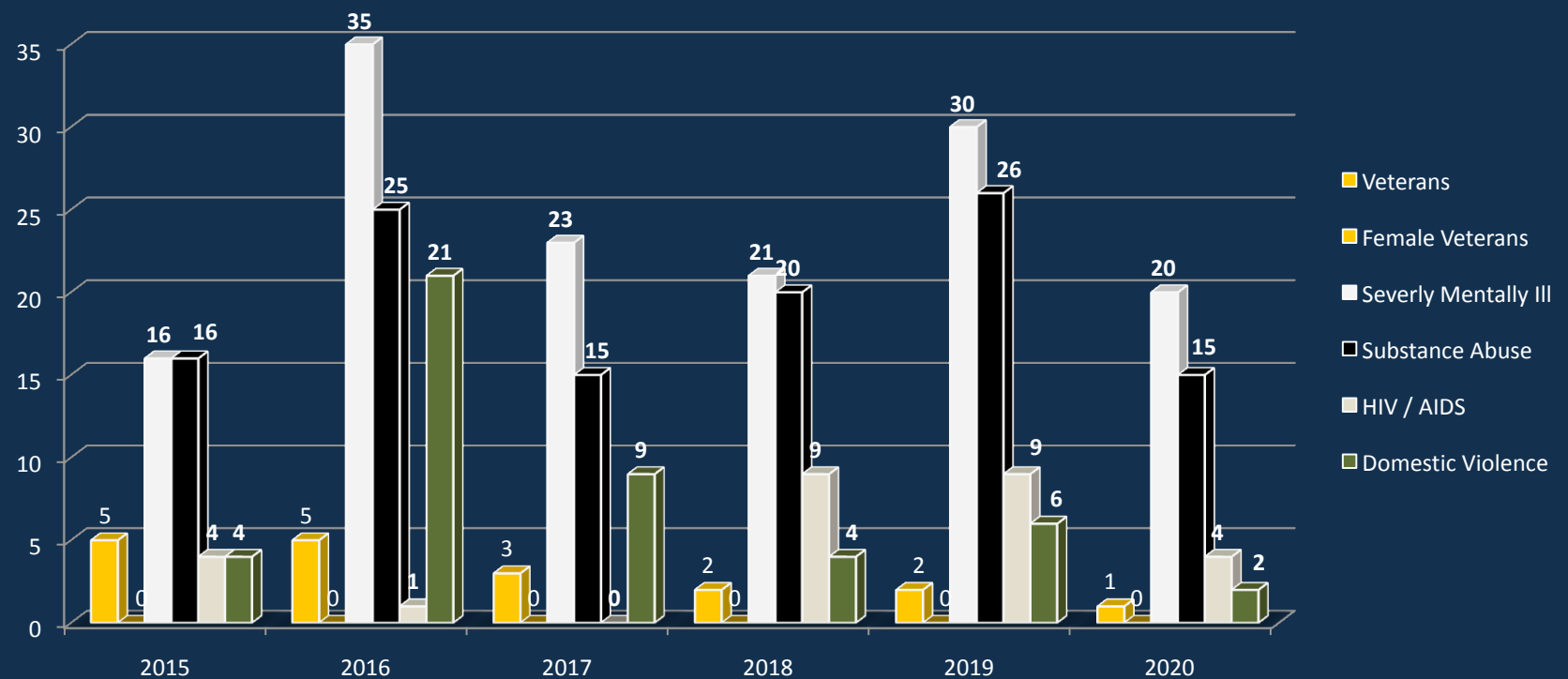


Statistics

Subpopulation Trends *(Unsheltered)*

The total unsheltered census number—along with the additional information collected during interviews with those living on the streets—helps to better understand this segment of the population, the breadth of needs within the unsheltered community and why many may not be accessing available residential housing and services.

Unsheltered Homeless Sub-Population

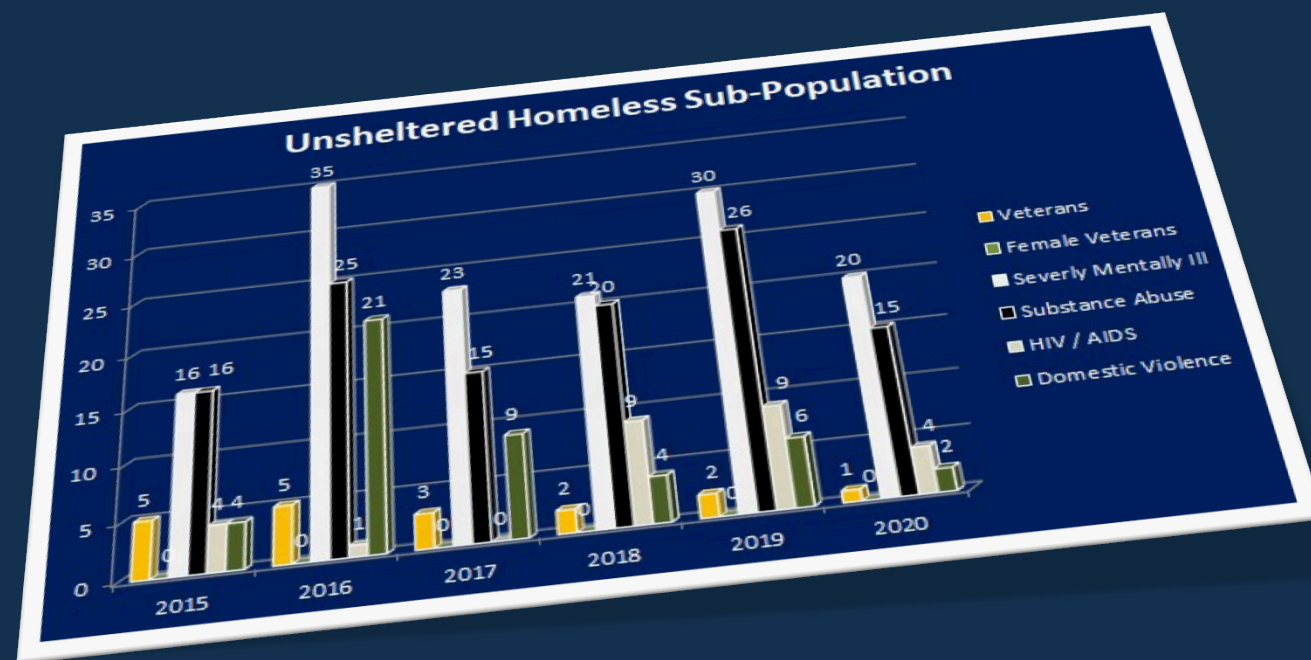


Statistics

Subpopulation Trends *(Unsheltered)*

The number of those living on the streets identifying as struggling with severe mental illness decreased between 2019 and 2020 as has the number of those identifying as having substance use disorders

The number of those identifying as veterans was down to just one person in 2020 and the number of those reporting victimization as a result of domestic violence and those with HIV/AIDS has all decreased since the previous year.



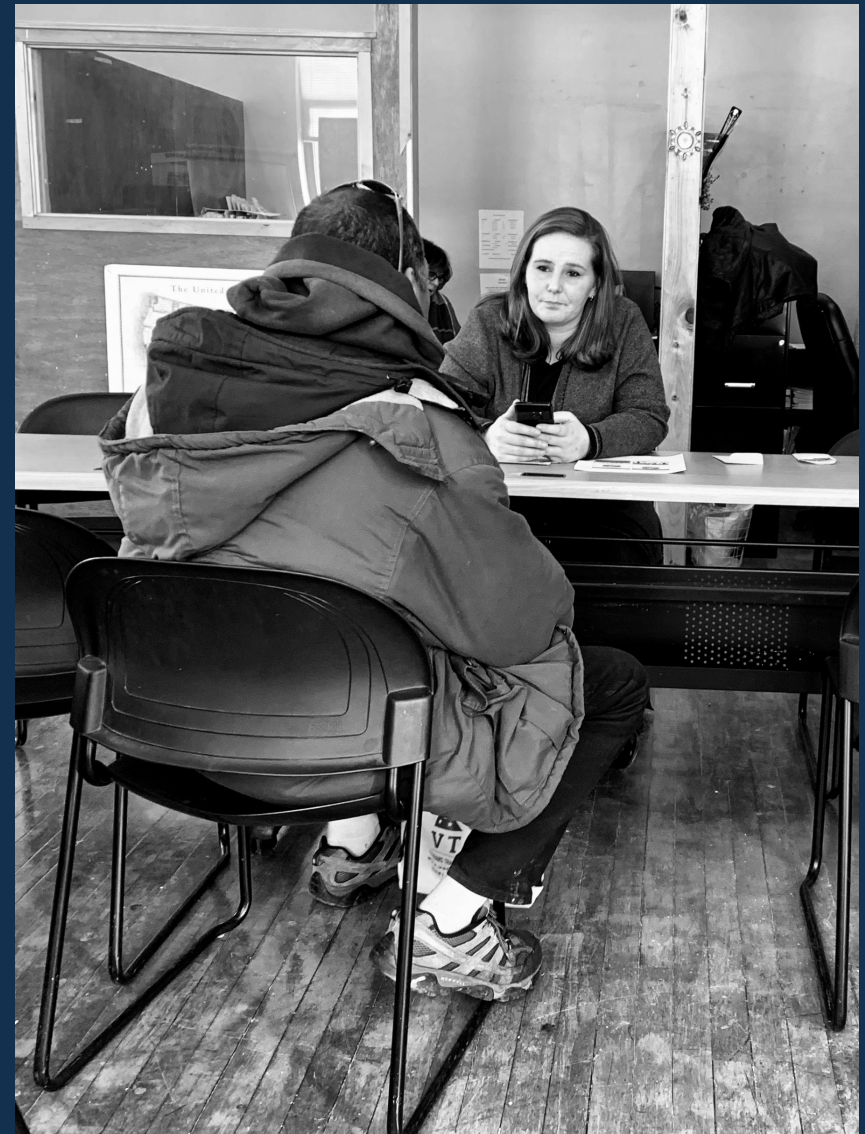
Statistics

Chronic Homelessness

Federal guidelines define not only “homelessness” but also “chronic homelessness.”

Chronic homelessness is defined as an individual with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member with a disabling condition who has been either continuously homeless (living on the streets/in a place not meant for human habitation) for a year or more OR one who has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness that total one year within a consecutive three year period.

Continuums of care across the country are tasked with reducing the number of people meeting the chronic homeless definition with an end goal of ending chronic homelessness.



Statistics

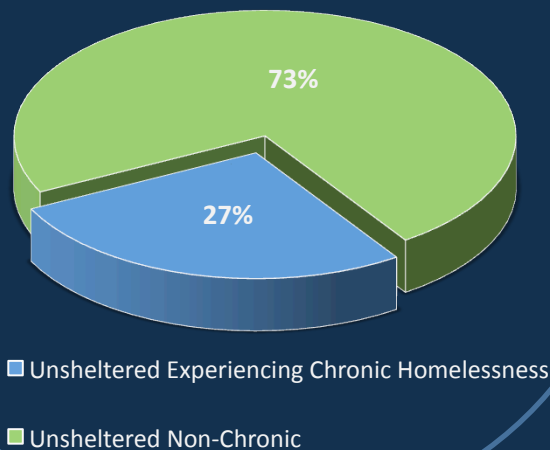
Chronic Homelessness

Those meeting the definition of chronic homelessness may be unsheltered at the time of the PIT count or may have already entered emergency shelter or transitional housing.

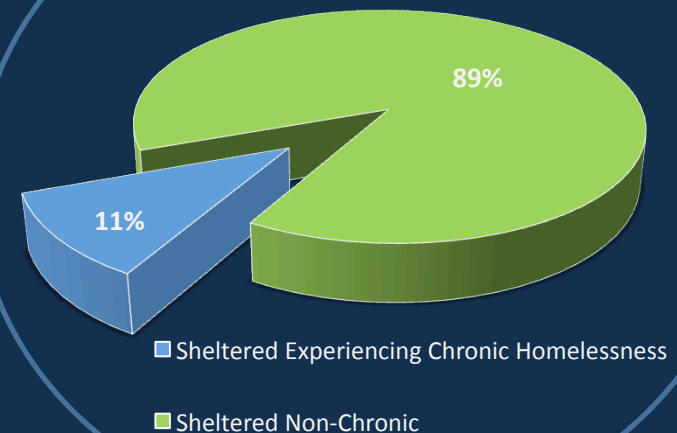
- For the 48 individuals who were unsheltered, 13 individuals (or 27% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless. This is a 20% decrease from 2019 levels.
- For those 350 individuals who were sheltered, 39 individuals (or 11% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless. This is a 5% increase over 2019 levels.

Consistent with federal expectations, these trends show less chronically homeless on the streets and an increase in shelter, ostensibly as they are prepared for moves into permanent housing.

Unsheltered Persons who were Chronically Homeless in 2020



Sheltered Persons who were Chronically Homeless in 2020



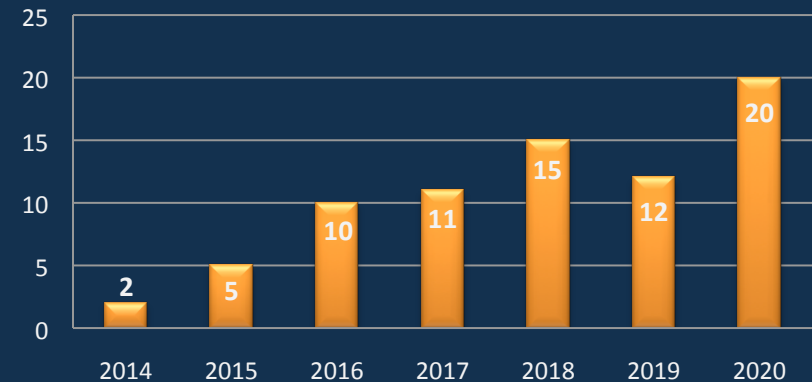
Statistics

Unaccompanied Youth

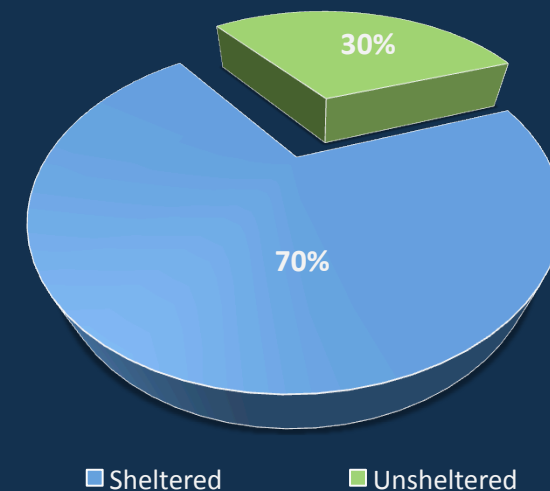
In addition to counting individuals and households with children, the PIT also looks at the number of “unaccompanied youth” which HUD defines as those between 18-24 years old who are experiencing homelessness and not presenting or sleeping in the same place as their parent/legal guardian.

The total number of unaccompanied youth has increased between 2019 and 2020 and is the highest number recorded since this data has been collected. In 2020, 14 of the 20 unaccompanied youth (70%) were living in shelters with the balance of unsheltered youth (6) living on the streets accounted for (30%).

Total Unaccompanied Youth Count



Sheltered vs. Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth in 2020



Statistics

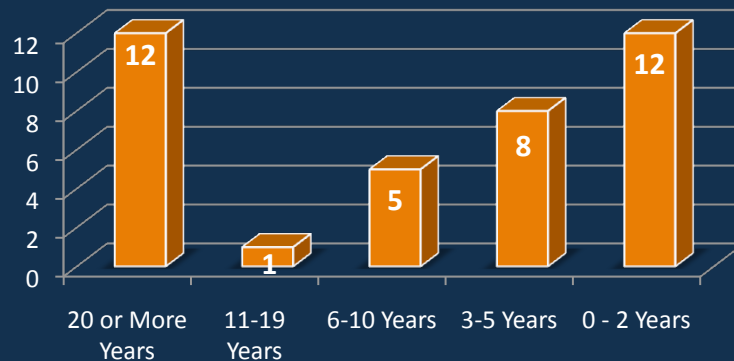
New Bedford Residency

In addition to the more traditional metrics, the City of New Bedford also asked how many years every unsheltered individual had been in the city.

Of those responding, 32% reported that they have lived in New Bedford for over 20 years and 69% reported that they have lived in New Bedford for at least 3 years or more.

Unsheltered Individuals Living in New Bedford by Number of Years

(Of those responding)





Housing Inventory

Housing Inventory

HIC

The Housing Inventory Count or “HIC” is a collection of information about all beds and units in the Continuum of Care homeless system by housing category.

Categories of Housing in the HIC

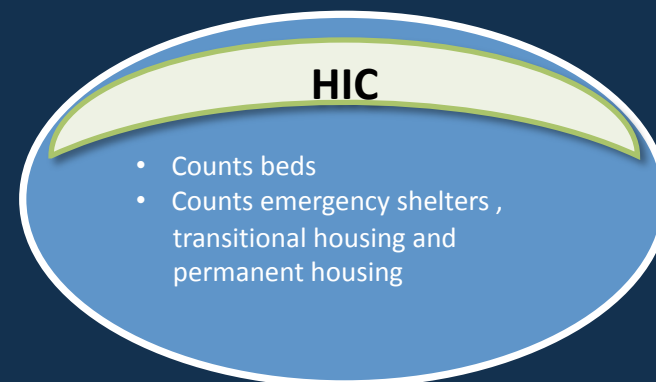
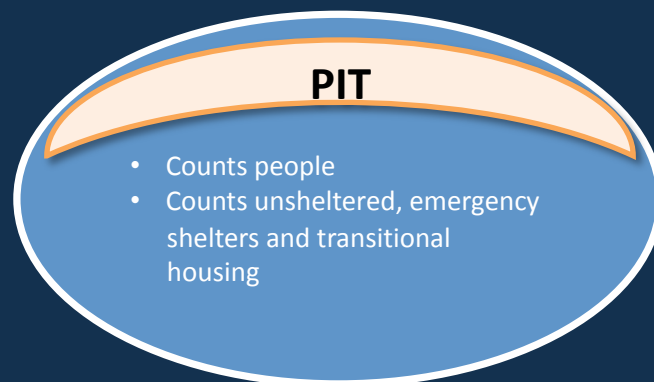
Emergency Shelter:

Total number of emergency shelter beds and units that are designated to serve people who are homeless and are recognized as part of the formal homeless system.

Transitional Housing:

Total number of transitional housing beds and units designated to serve people who are homeless and are recognized as part of the formal homeless system.

Perm. Supportive Housing: Total number of permanent supportive housing beds and units.



Housing Inventory

YEAR-ROUND BEDS

Agencies providing beds for those experiencing homelessness in the City of New Bedford are responsible for providing the number of year-round beds available to those experiencing homelessness at their facility. From year to year, the number of year-round beds typically stays the same unless a program increases or decreases their bed capacity. Cribs do *not* count as part of the inventory.

UTILIZATION RATE

In order to calculate the “utilization rate” the PIT Count number is divided by the year-round beds. The utilization rate presented in the 2020 HIC is based on the January 29, 2020 PIT Count and does not reflect a year-round count.

Housing Inventory

Emergency Shelter

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Sister Rose House	23	25	92%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Grace House	12	11	109%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	HOUSE Program	57	69	83%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Killian's House	7	8	88%
ES	Justice Resource Institute	Focus on the Family	73	87	84%
ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis I Shelter	10	14	71%
ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis II Shelter	6	14	43%
ES	SEMCOA	Harbour House	56	61	92%
ES	Missionary Sisters of Charity	Missionary Sisters of Charity	8	9	89%
ES	Southeast Family Services, Inc.	Sister Rose - Seasonal Overflow	26	30	87%
EMERGENCY SHELTER TOTAL			278	328	

Housing Inventory

Transitional Housing

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
TH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Sister Rose Transitional Program	8	7	114%
TH	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Home Port	12	14	86%
TH	Steppingstone Inc.	Graduate Program	7	9	78%
TH	Steppingstone Inc.*	NB Women's Therapeutic Community	9	23	39%
TH	Southeastern MA Veterans Housing Program Inc.	VA Per Diem Low Demand Transitional Housing	10	12	83%
TH	Southeastern MA Veterans Housing Program Inc.	VA Per Diem Service Intensive Transitional Housing	5	7	71%
TH	Southeastern MA Veterans Housing Program Inc.	Veterans Transition House	21	25	84%
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING TOTAL			72	97	

Housing Inventory

Permanent Housing

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	PRISM	8	12	67%
PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Portico	136	123	111%
PSH	PAACA Inc.	Step Up	41	35	117%
PSH	SEMCOA Inc.	Unity House	12	11	109%
PSH	Steppingstone Inc.	Welcome Home	10	15	67%
PSH	Southeast Family Services Inc.	Family Preservation Program	43	46	93%
PSH	Providence VA	HUD VASH	49	49	100%
PSH	VTH	VTH-PSH	9	11	82%
RRH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Transition to Stability	23	17	135%
PSH	Catholic Social Services Inc./Justice Resource Institute	CSS/JRI HomeBASE	140	182	77%
RRH	PACE Inc.	PACE Housing Services	6	0	NA
RRH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Emergency Solutions Dept.	9	0	NA
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TOTAL			486	501	



Take Aways

Take-Aways

- **Overall Count**

The total 2020 PIT Count was 10% less than the previous year's count and fairly consistent with the average count over the past decade.

- **Unsheltered**

The number of people unsheltered on the night of the 2020 PIT Count (48) was the lowest amount recorded since 2014.

- **Families versus Individual Households**

More people experiencing homelessness are living in family households with children as compared with those living in adult-only households.

- **Unaccompanied Youth**

Thirteen percent of those living unsheltered in the city were unaccompanied youth between the ages of 18-24 years old; the number of unaccompanied youth has almost doubled over the last year and is the highest figure recorded since records were developed in 2014.

- **Subpopulations**

Consistent with past years, those self-identifying as having a substance use disorder and/or serious mental illness represents the most prevalent subpopulation attributes.

Take-Aways

- **Domestic Violence**

The total 2020 PIT Count was 10% less than the previous year's count and fairly consistent with the average count over the past decade.

- **Utilization**

On the night of the 2020 PIT, emergency shelter utilization was 85%, (278 of 328 beds), transitional housing was 74% (72 of 97 beds) and permanent housing utilization was 97% (486 of 501 beds).

- **Chronic Homelessness**

As compared with 2019 statistics, less people meeting definition of chronic homelessness in 2020 were living on the streets and more were living in shelter. This means the most vulnerable are getting into housing now more so than was the case in 2019.

- **New Bedford Residency**

Almost three-quarters of those counted in the 2020 PIT have lived in New Bedford for three or more years.

- **Families**

The number of families living in homeless shelters and on the streets in New Bedford (78) has continued to tick upward over the past several years and is now at its highest level in 11 years.

Homelessness Data 2020

New Bedford | MA



Office of Housing & Community Development
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director

