

# Homelessness Data 2022

New Bedford | MA



# Overview

- Introduction
- Baseline Information
- Methodology and COVID-19
- Statistics
- Housing Inventory
- Take Aways

The image features a spiral-bound notebook on the left side, with its pages blank. The notebook has a white cover and a silver spiral binding. On the right side, there is a blurred background image of a person sitting at a table, possibly in a meeting or classroom setting. The person is wearing a dark jacket and has their hands clasped in front of them. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a soft, out-of-focus background.

# Introduction

# Introduction

- This presentation focuses on the results of the City of New Bedford's 2022 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

Though this powerpoint approaches some discussion as to patterns and trending revealed by this year's data, it is not intended to supplant a more detailed discussion about performance and response to homelessness.

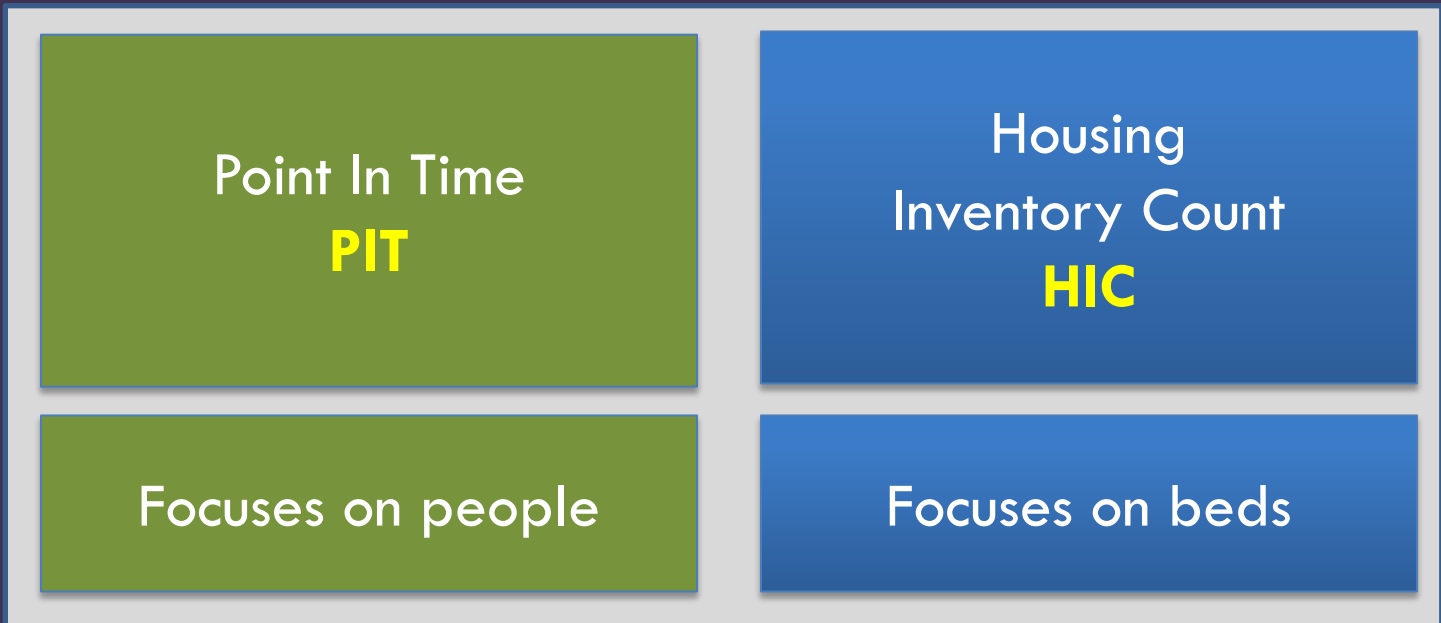


# Baseline Information

# Baseline Information

- Where is this data from?

This presentation relies on two data sources, each providing 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.
- The PIT is a sampling of what homelessness might look like in New Bedford on any given day.





# Baseline Information

## Defining a Housing Inventory Count (HIC):

- A HIC is also required of each CoC by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.
- It is a census of the emergency and transitional housing facilities within the CoC.
- The HIC provides a comprehensive list of shelters and the number of units and beds they provide in New Bedford on any given day.



# Baseline Information

## Value of the PIT and HIC...

- The PIT and HIC 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.

## Because of COVID's persistence and January surge...

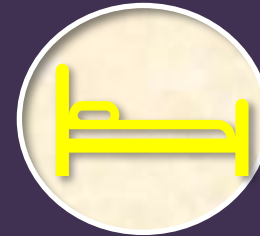
- With HUD's encouragement, the HSPN Exec Committee unanimously voted to amend its methodology in 2022 and postpone the count by a month in order to ensure the safety of counters and those being counted.
- This delay to February 23, 2022 was consistent with all other CoCs within the Commonwealth of MA.

# Baseline Information

## PIT and HIC Facts:



- The annual PIT count typically lasts 24 hours and is conducted in hundreds of locations across the country typically on the last Wednesday of January in any given year.
- The 2022 Count was conducted on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 by the Steppingstone Street Outreach Team.



- Agencies with shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing provided information to the City's Office of Housing & Community Development in February 2022 in order to develop the 2022 HIC and reflect bed inventories on the night of the PIT Count.

# 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 challenges, strengths and successes within the CoC.

A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook on the left side of the page, with a white cover and a metal spiral binding. The notebook is partially open, showing a blank page. The right edge of the notebook is decorated with several concentric curved lines in shades of purple, grey, and white.

# Methodology

A black and white photograph of students in a classroom or workshop. They are gathered around a table, looking at papers and materials. The students are engaged in a hands-on activity, possibly a project or experiment. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the students in the foreground.

## PIT Logistics | Execution

- Typically, the HSPN PIT Count Committee begins meeting several months prior to the actual PIT Count date and focuses on volunteers, donations, outreach and kick-off, the convening of a resource event and overall logistical planning including training and city-wide sectors being counted.
- However, as was done in 2021, the 2022 PIT Count Methodology was adapted in order to safely execute such an effort in the midst of the continued pandemic. Given the surge in January 2022 the count was conducted at the end of February 2022.

# Methodology

## Adapting the PIT during COVID-19

- Given the public health crisis and challenges it would create for communities trying to conduct the count in a safe manner, HUD provided significant leeway to CoCs to ensure local decisions could drive methodology.
- In New Bedford, the HSPN voted at its January 2022 meeting to adopt an amendment to its existing PIT Count Methodology again modifying the way in which it would execute the annual PIT count including the one month delay.



# Methodology

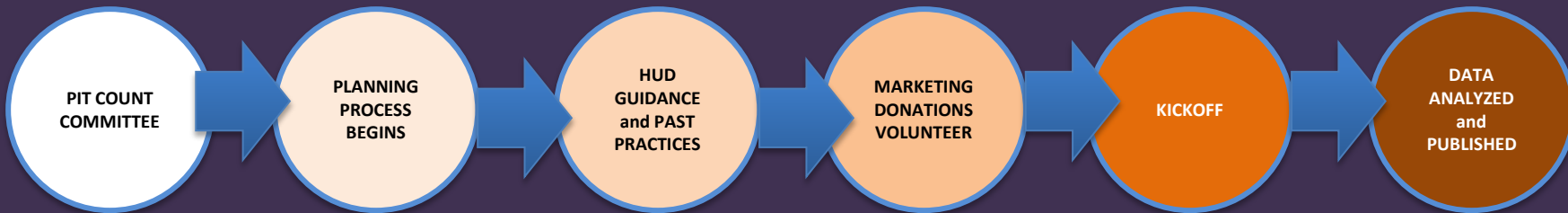
## Snapshot of the way the 2022 PIT was conducted...

- New Bedford's modifications to its conduct of its PIT during the COVID surge included:
  - Use of the CoC's professional Street Outreach Team (Steppingstone's staff), leveraged to eliminate the CoC's reliance on volunteers.
  - Elimination of training since professional staff was utilized.
  - Provision of PPE to all Street Outreach Team members.



# Methodology

## Traditional Methodology



## 2022's COVID-Driven Methodology





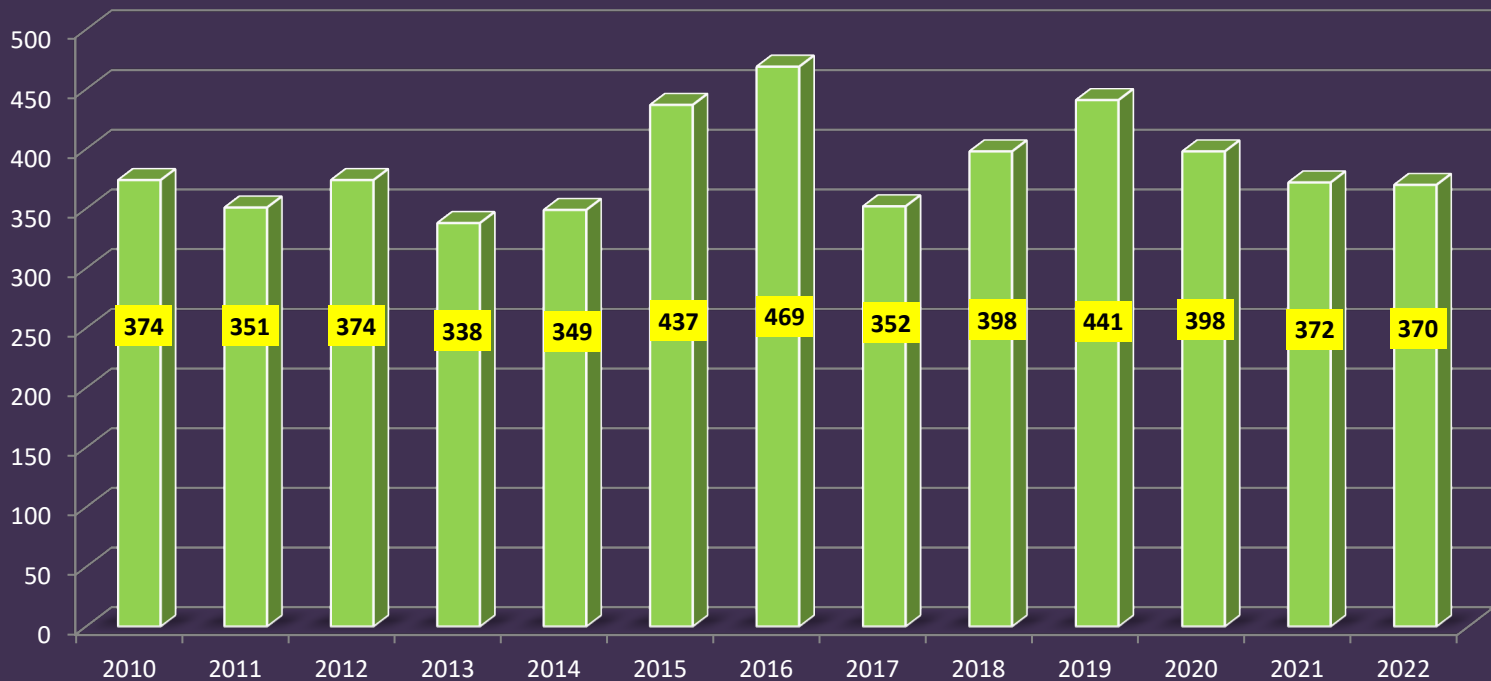
# Statistics

## PIT Count Total

The 2022 PIT Count identified 370 total adults and children in New Bedford experiencing homelessness.

The 2022 PIT total count was .5% lower than the 2021 PIT total.

Total PIT Count Over Time



## Understanding the PIT Count Total

What were the numbers for this year and last year?

2022 PIT Total	2021 PIT Total
370	372

Why did the overall 2022 PIT Count Total remain fairly consistent compared with 2021?

- The count of those in shelter (ES and TH) in 2022 reflected a decrease of 20 people from the previous year's count going from 329 to 309. This decrease results from a combination of circumstances including:
  - The fact that the cold weather overflow shelter was not open the night the PIT/HIC was conducted as compared with being open during previous PIT Counts
  - Lower utilization rates the night of the PIT Count in ES and TH facilities
  - The continued closure of the Missionary Sisters of Charity facility and its 9 beds due to COVID.
  - The number and size of families in emergency shelter at the time of the count.
- The 2022 unsheltered count reflected an increase of 18 people compared with the 2021 figure and is largely attributable to the closed overflow shelter when the PIT/HIC was conducted.

## Sheltered vs. Unsheltered

Breaking down the numbers...

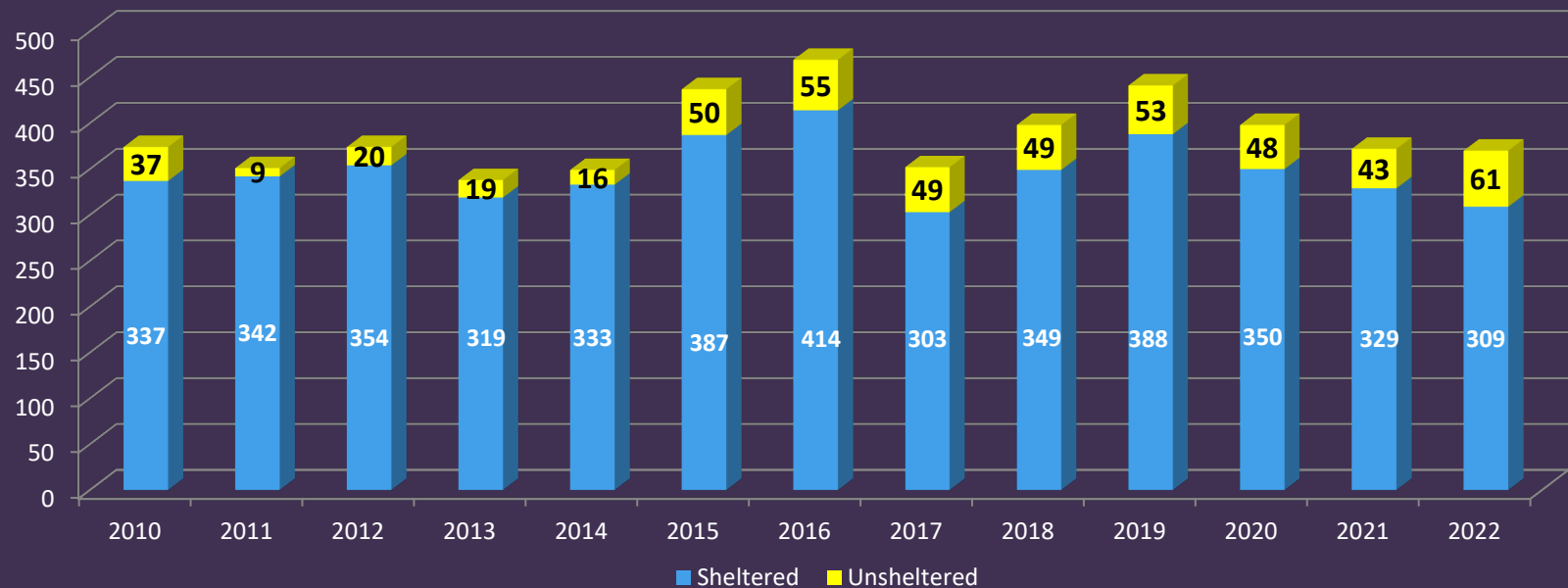
Of the total 370 people counted...

61 people were unsheltered and living on the streets

219 were in emergency shelters and

90 were in transitional housing programs

### Sheltered and Unsheltered PIT Count

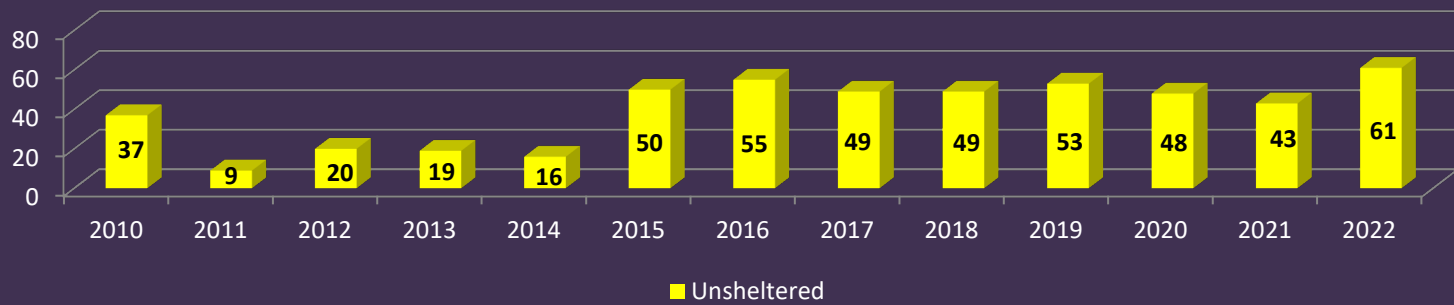


## Unsheltered Count

The 2022 total unsheltered count of **61** people living on the streets is higher than the 2021 PIT count of 43 and is the highest number counted in over a decade.

However, this increase is directly attributable to the fact that there was no cold weather overflow shelter open the evening of the count given mild weather conditions unlike in past years when counts were lower. This likely resulted in a significantly higher number of those living on the streets to remain outside rather than seeking out shelter or alternate housing.

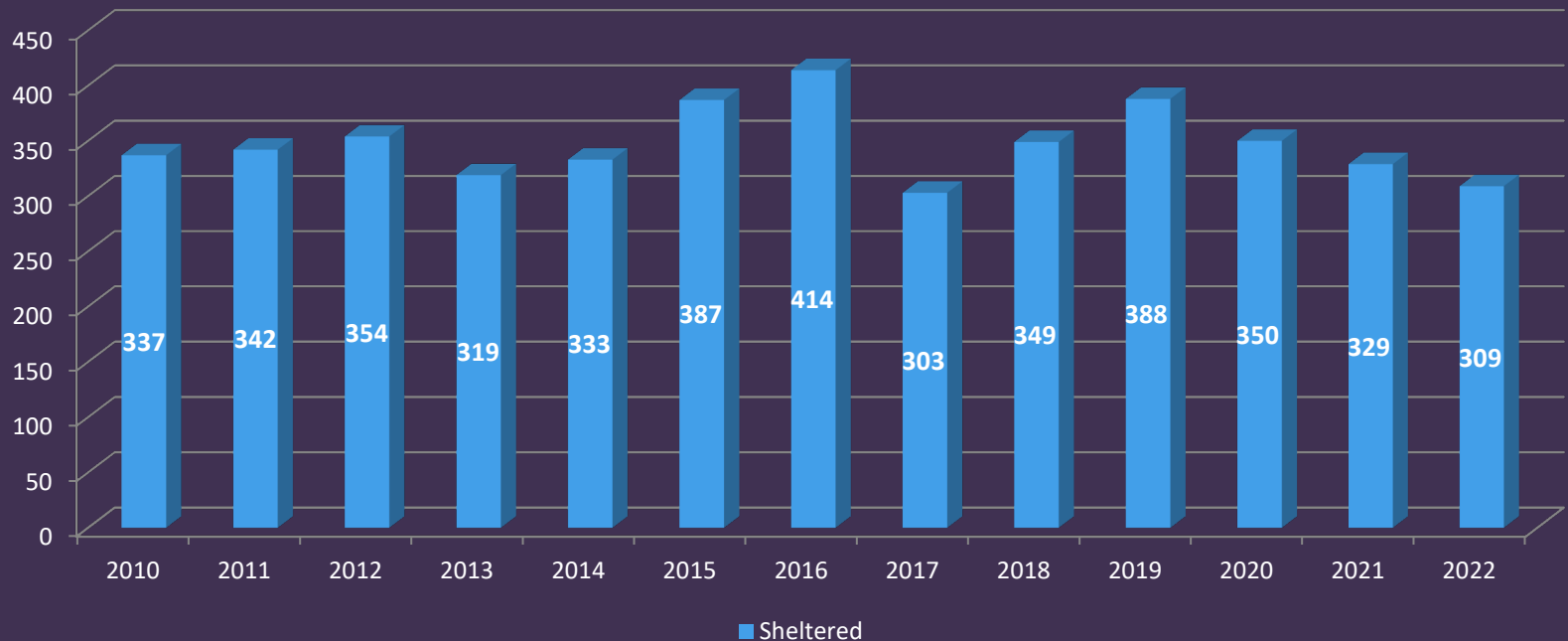
### Unsheltered PIT Count



## Sheltered Count

The 2022 total sheltered count of **309** people living in shelter (emergency and transitional) represents a continued, though modest, decrease from the 2021 shelter count of 329. With the exception of 2017, represents the lowest number of people in shelter since 2013.

## Sheltered PIT Count



## 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

#### *Single Households*

Households with adults, only.

Includes households of unaccompanied youth (ages 18-24) and unaccompanied minors under age 18 (living on their own without an adult).

### Households with Children

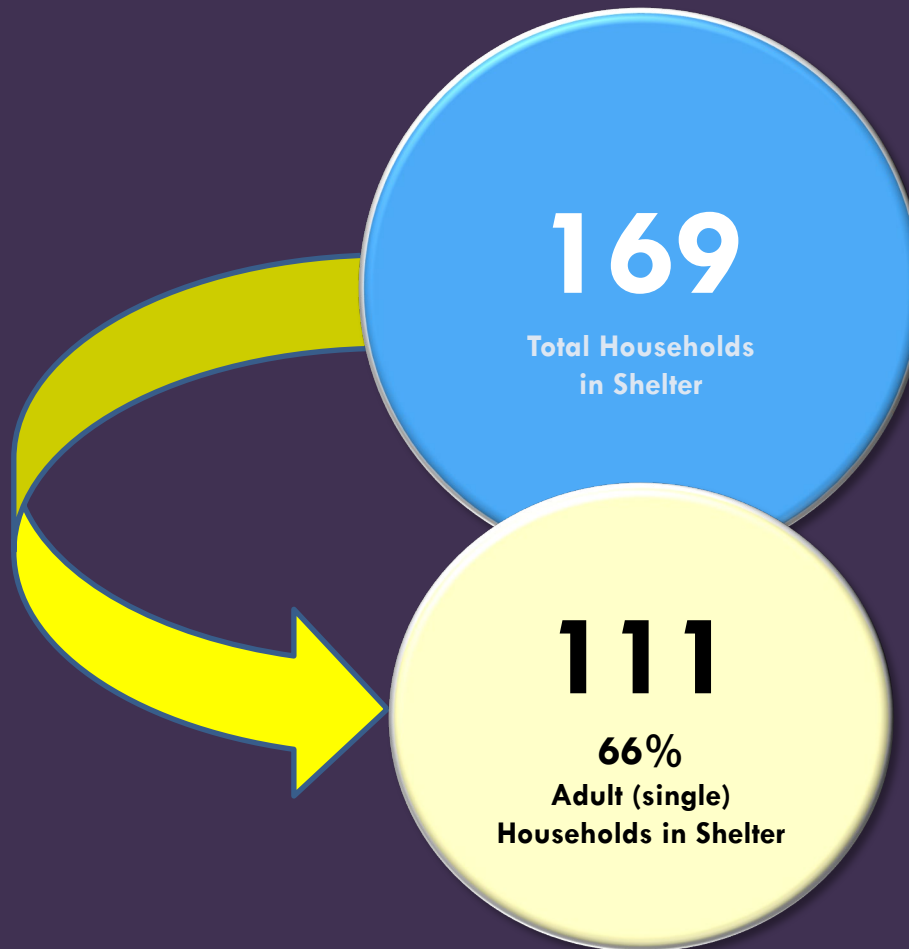
#### *Family Households*

Households with at least one minor child.



## Comparing Households

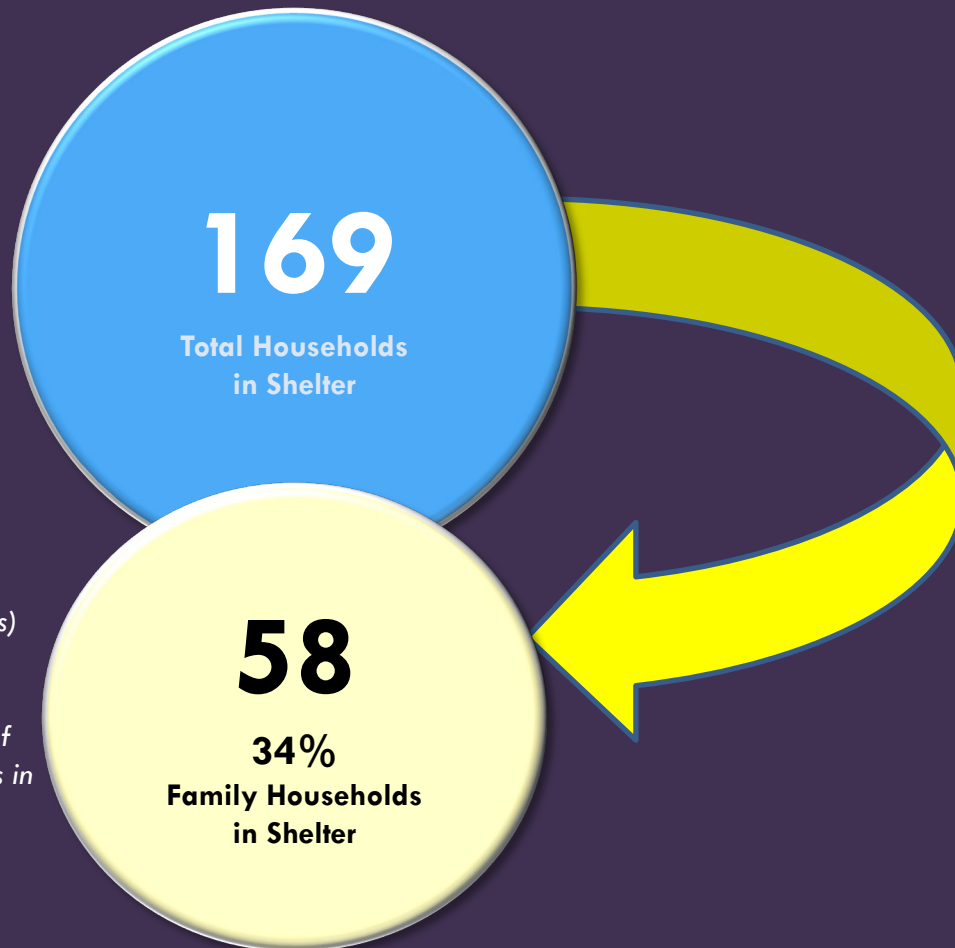
Comparing the total number of Households vs. Adult-Only Households in Shelter in 2022:



*The number of individual adult only households in shelter during the PIT Count decreased from 159 in 2021 to just 111 during the 2022 PIT Count representing a decrease of 30%.*

## Comparing Households

Comparing the total number of Households vs. Family Households in Shelter in 2022:



*Adult households (single households) constituted the majority of those experiencing homelessness living in shelter in New Bedford at a ratio of roughly 2:1 over family households in the 2022 count.*

## Sheltered Individuals by Households Type

The 2022 PIT Count found a total of 309 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.

### People in Adult-Only Households

**111**

The 2022 number of individuals in shelter living in adult-only (single) households (111) decreased by roughly 30% from the 2021 count of 159 and has continued to reflect a persistent decrease since the 2016 count.

### People in Family Households

**198**

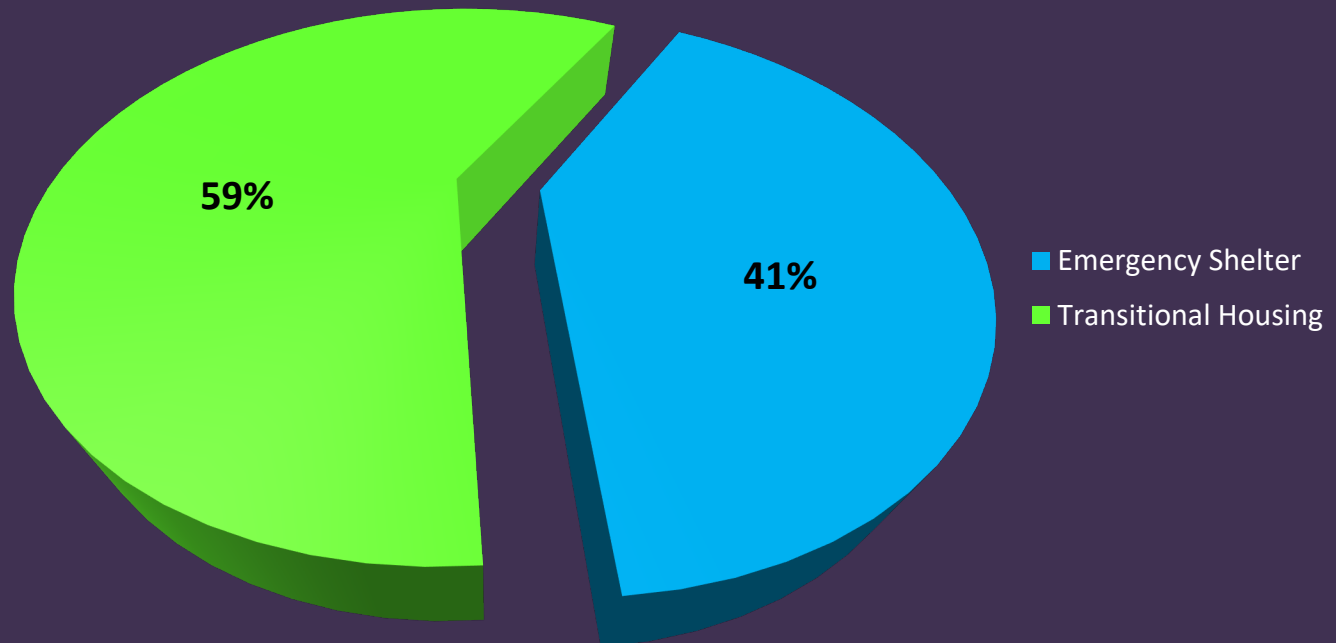
The 2022 number of individuals living in family households (198) increased by roughly 20% from the 2021 count (170) and was 8% higher than the 2020 count.

# Statistics

## Individuals in Adult-Only Sheltered Households

Of the 111 individuals who constituted “adult-only” households that were living in shelters, 45 of those individuals (41%) were in Emergency Shelter programs and 66 individuals (59%) were in Transitional Housing.

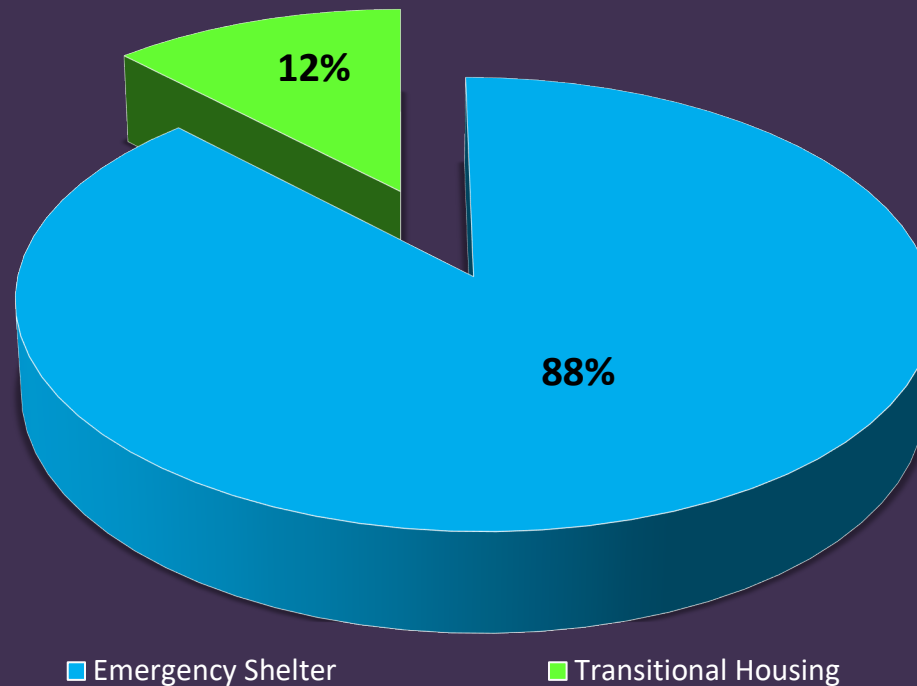
Percentage of Sheltered Individuals in Adult-Only Households



## Individuals in Family Sheltered Households

Of the 198 individuals who constituted households with children living in shelters, 174 of those individuals (88%) were in Emergency Shelter programs and 24 individuals (12%) were in Transitional Housing.

Percentage of Sheltered Individuals in Family Households

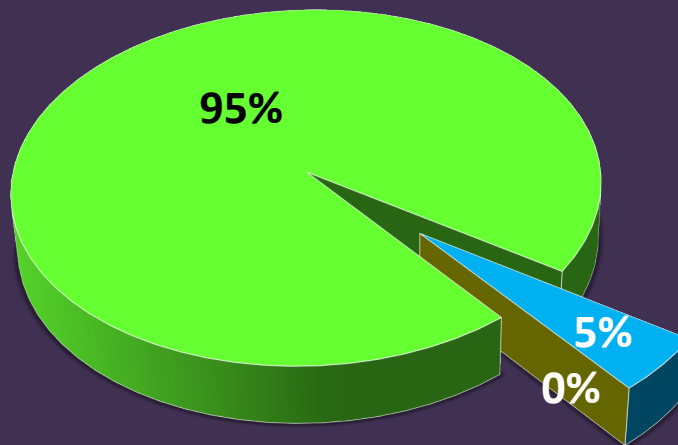


# Statistics

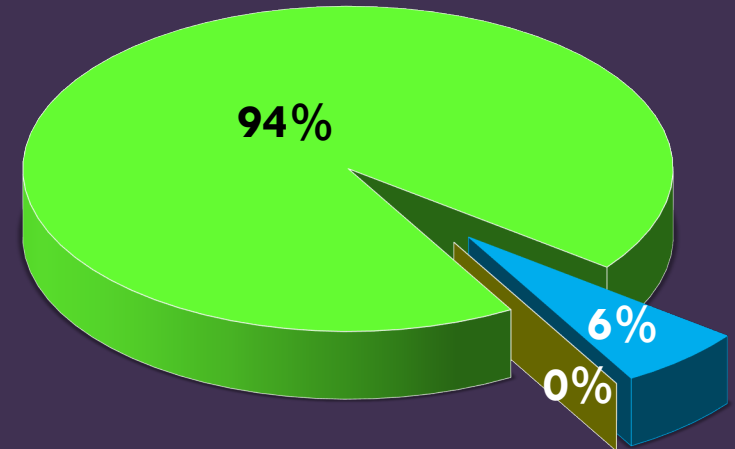
## Age




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.

### 2022 Percentage Unsheltered Adult-only Households by Age



### 2022 Percentage Sheltered Adult-only Households by Age



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

## 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.

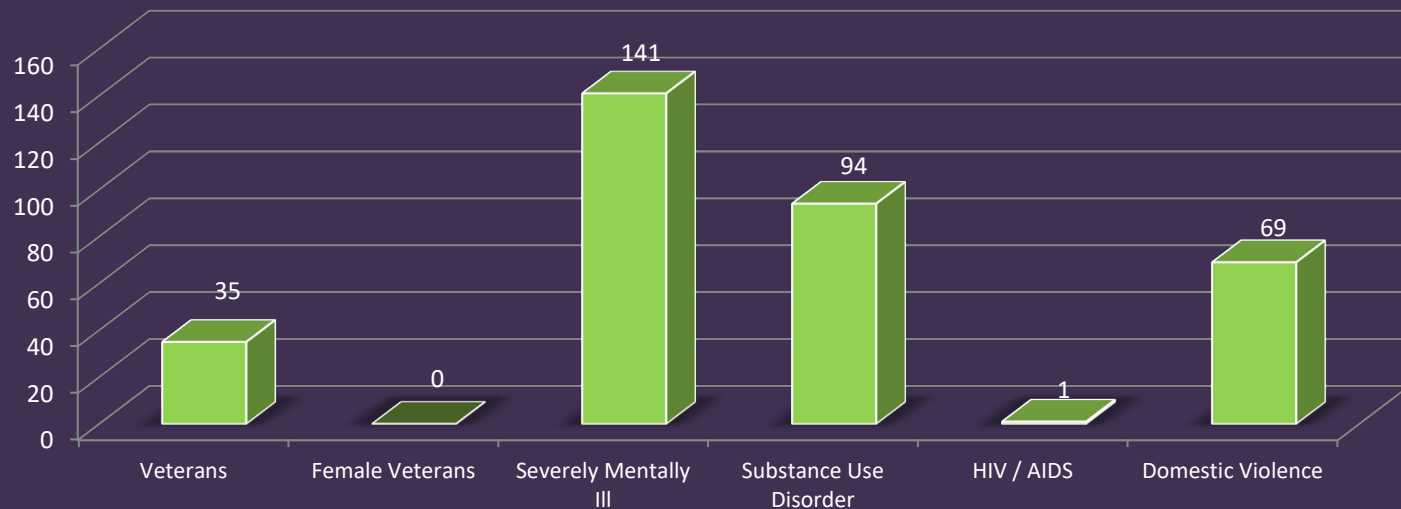
Households may self-report as being within more than one of the sub-populations.

## Subpopulations *(Sheltered and Unsheltered)*

Based on the information collected, adults most frequently self-identified as being severely mentally ill (**61%**) and/or as suffering from substance use disorder (**41%**).

Notably, domestic violence accounts for **30%** of what surveyed adults reported.

**2022 Sub-Populations in All Households**  
*(Sheltered and Unsheltered)*

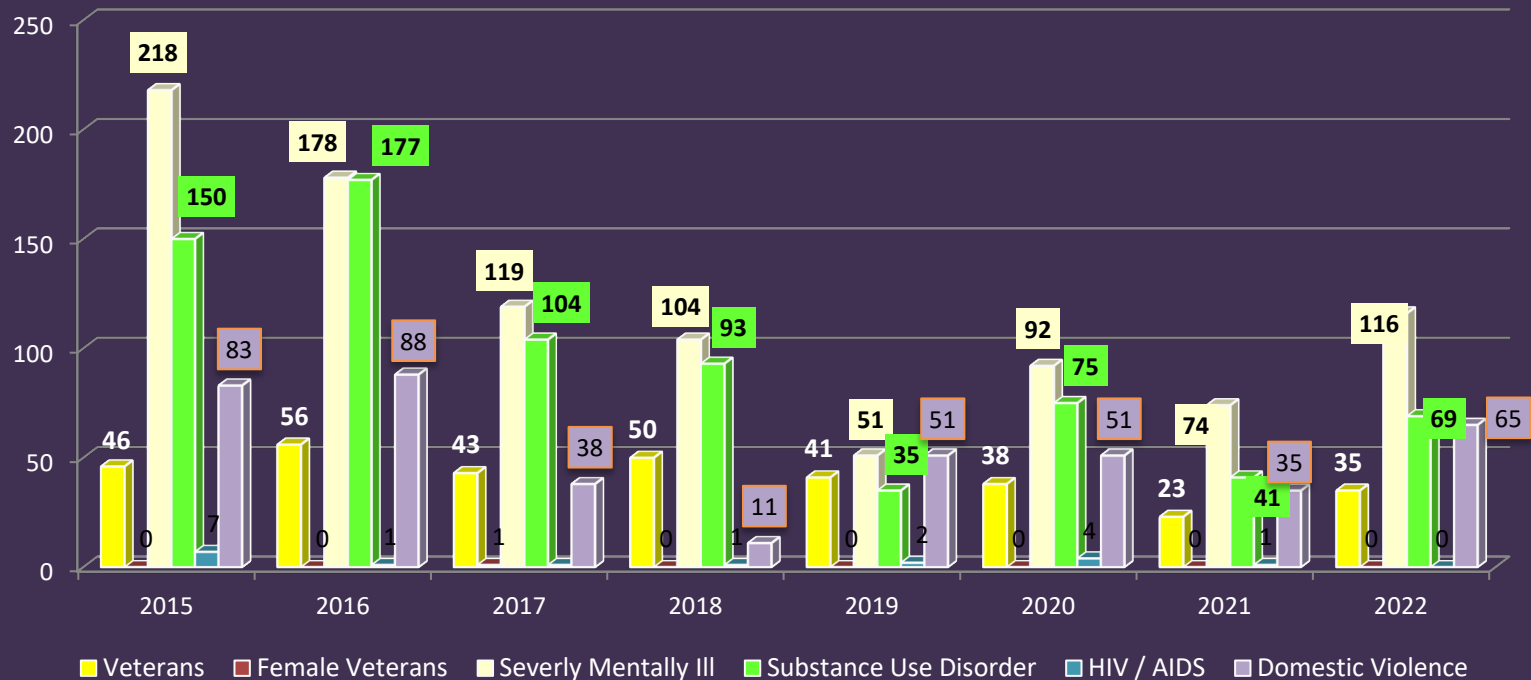




## Subpopulation Trends *(Sheltered)*

The year-to-year comparison by subpopulation for those in shelter shows a significant increase in those self-reporting substance abuse and severe mental illness since 2021; domestic violence has similarly seen a sharp increase from 2021 levels.

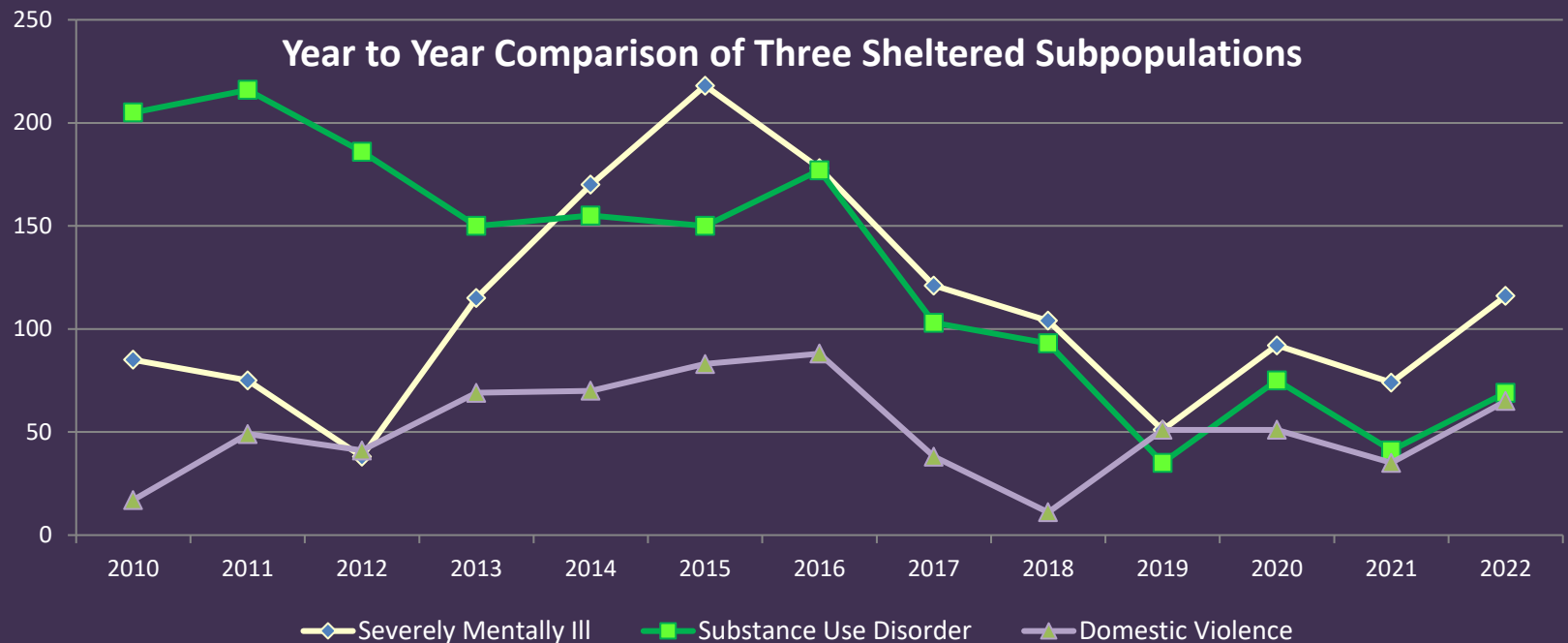
### Sheltered Homeless Sub-Population



## Subpopulation Trends *(Sheltered)*

Despite some increases in the number of those self-reporting substance use disorders and severe mental illness between 2020 and 2021, both 2022 figures significantly increased in 2022 marking the highest figures since 2017.

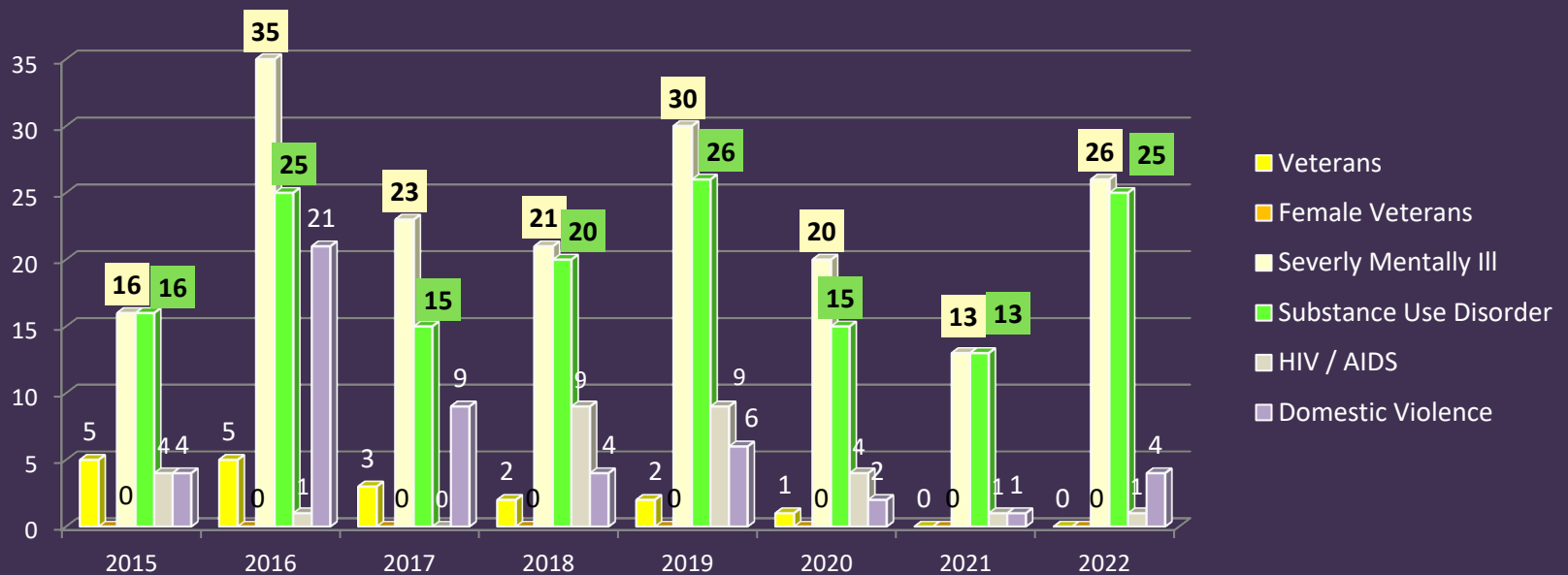
The numbers of sheltered adults self-identifying as having been a victim of domestic violence has similarly seen an increase in 2022 from 2021 rates despite previously recorded decreases, reflecting the highest measure since 2016.



## Subpopulation Trends *(Unsheltered)*

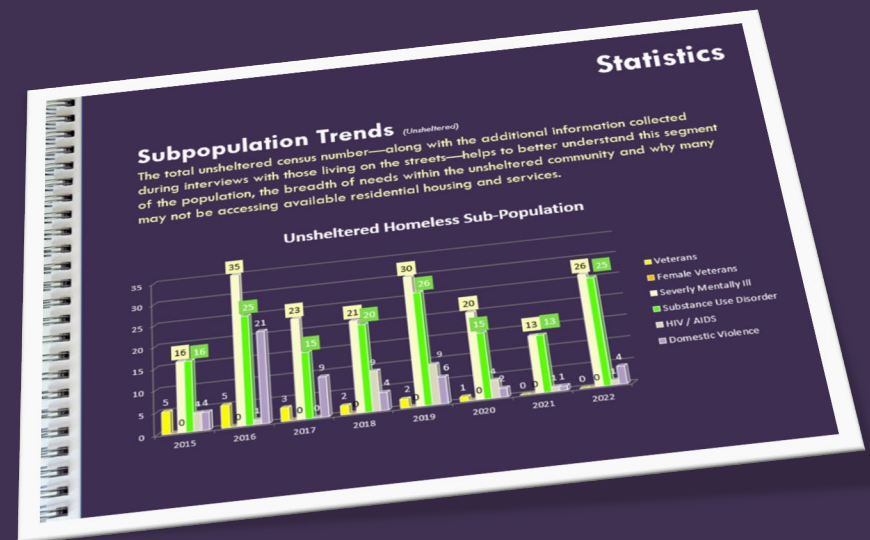
The total unsheltered census number—along with the additional information collected during interviews with those living on the streets—helps to better understand this segment of the population, the breadth of needs within the unsheltered community and why many may not be accessing available residential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

### Unsheltered Homeless Sub-Population



## Subpopulation Trends (Unsheltered)

- The number of those living on the streets identifying as struggling with severe mental illness increased in 2022 reflecting a roughly 50% increase over 2021 reported figures similar to the increased number of those identifying as having substance use disorders in 2022 as compared with 2021.
- **No one living on the streets identified as a veteran, the second consecutive year this has happened.**
- While the number of those reporting victimization as a result of domestic violence in 2022 only increased by 3 from the 2021 number, it does reflect a 75% spike over last year.
- The number of those with HIV/AIDS living on the streets has all decreased since the previous three years.



## 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.

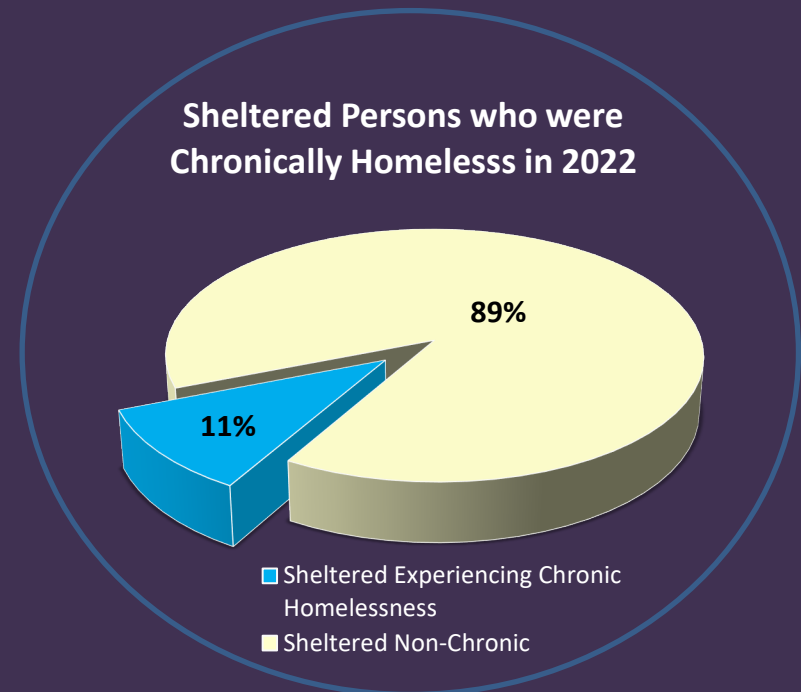
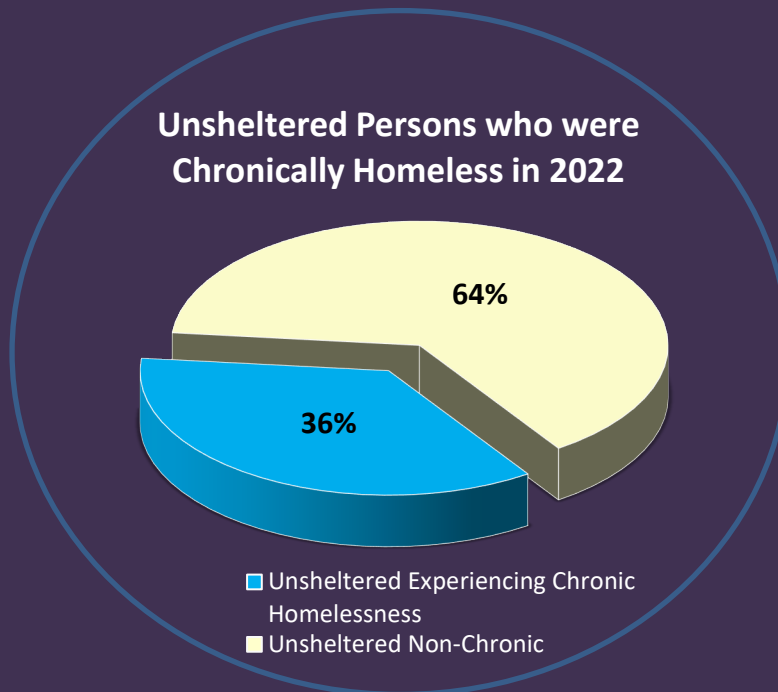
Continuums of care across the country are tasked with reducing the number of people meeting the chronic homeless definition with an end goal of ending chronic homelessness.



## Chronic Homelessness

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

- Of the 61 individuals who were unsheltered, 22 people (or 36% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless. *The percentage of unsheltered people meeting the chronic definition is 13% higher than the 2021 level.*
- Of the 309 individuals who were sheltered, 33 individuals (or 11% of the overall total) were identified as being chronically homeless. *The percentage of those meeting the chronic definition is 43% lower than the 2021 level\*.*



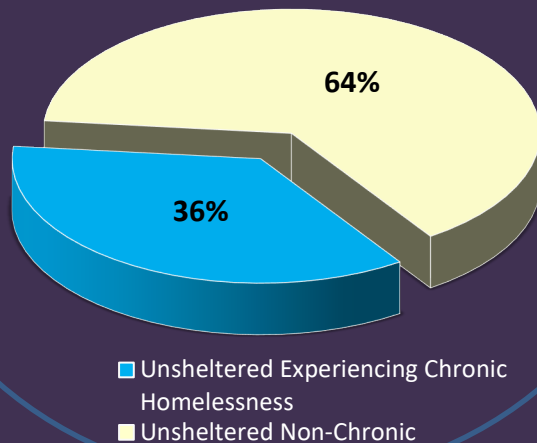
\*NOTE: The 2021 figure was found to be in error and corrected in 2022.

## Chronic Homelessness

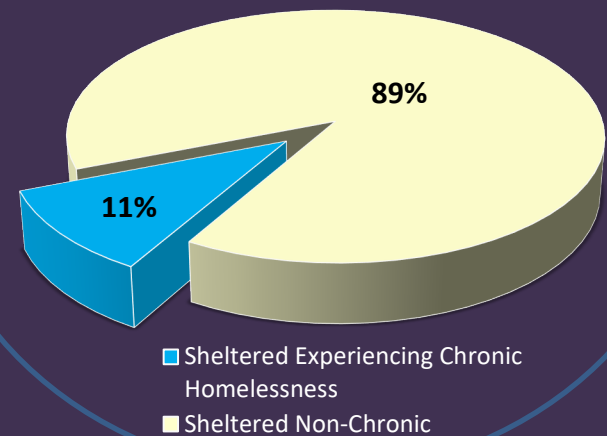
Contrary to federal expectations, the number of those meeting the definition of chronic homelessness and living in shelter over the past year decreased from 2021 levels.

Data also shows that the numbers of those who are unsheltered and considered chronically homeless significantly rose compared with 2021, meaning those most vulnerable to repeated incidences of homelessness are disproportionately remaining unhoused.

**Unsheltered Persons who were Chronically Homeless in 2022**



**Sheltered Persons who were Chronically Homeless in 2022**



# Statistics

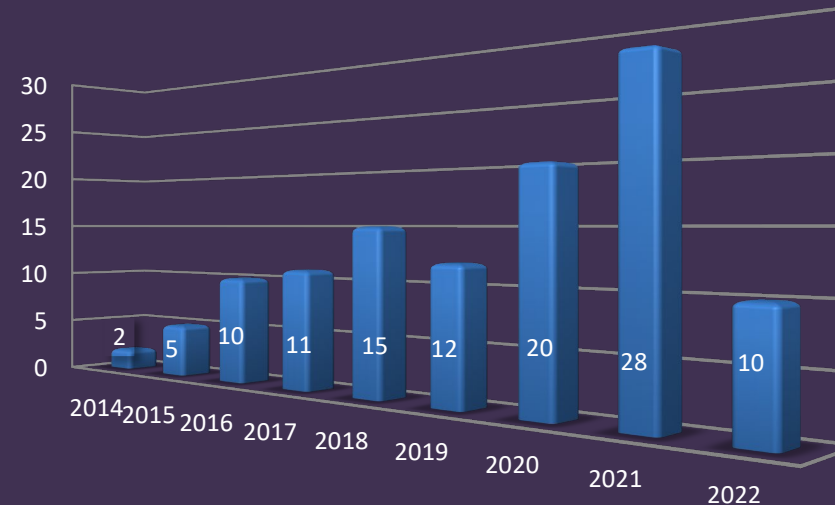
## Unaccompanied Youth

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

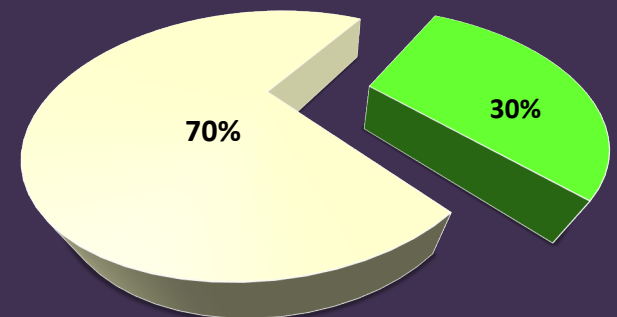
**The total number of unaccompanied youth decreased by 64% between 2021 and 2022.**

In 2022, 7 of the 10 unaccompanied youth (70%) were living in shelters. The remaining three (3) were living on the streets and accounted for 30% of the total.

Total Unaccompanied Youth Count



Comparison of Sheltered vs. Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth in 2022



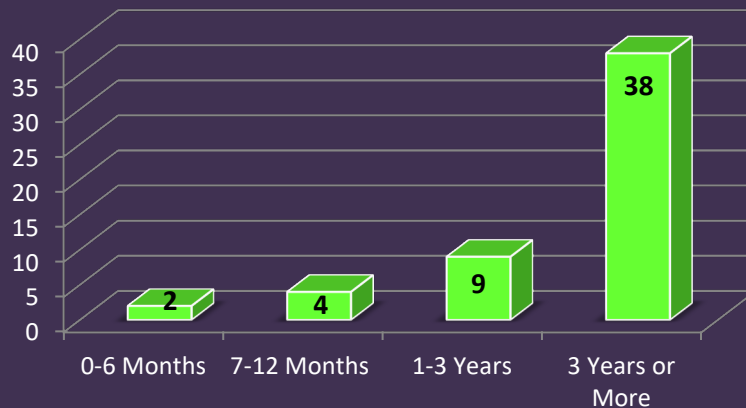


## New Bedford Residency

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

Of those responding, 72% reported that they have lived in New Bedford for over 3 years.

Unsheltered Individuals Living in New Bedford  
(Of those responding, number of years)



The image is a composite graphic. On the left side, there is a white spiral-bound notebook with a silver metal spiral binding. The notebook is open to a blank page. On the right side, there is a blurred, black and white photograph of a person standing in a field, possibly a park or a public square, with trees in the background. The person is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants. The overall composition is split vertically, with the notebook on the left and the photograph on the right.

# Housing Inventory

# Housing Inventory

## HIC

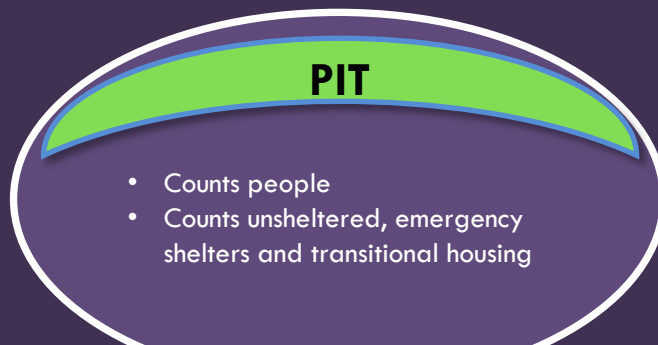
The Housing Inventory Count or “HIC” is a collection of information about all beds and units in the Continuum of Care homeless system by housing category.

### 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. Support. 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 2022HIC is based on the February 23, 2022 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.	Grace House	11	11	100%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	HOUSE Program	40	58	69%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Killian's House	6	8	75%
ES	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Sister Rose House	25	25	100%
ES	Steppingstone, Inc.	Seasonal Overflow Shelter	0	0	N/A
ES	Justice Resource Institute	Focus on the Family	73	80	91%
ES	Missionary Sisters of Charity	Missionary Sisters of Charity	0	0	N/A
ES	SEMCOA	Harbour House	51	63	81%
ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis I Shelter	7	20	35%
ES	Greater New Bedford Women's Center	Artemis II Shelter	6	18	33%
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER TOTAL</b>			<b>219</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>77%</b>

# Housing Inventory

## Transitional Housing

Prog Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
TH	Catholic Social Services	Penniman Transitional Housing	7	7	100%
TH	Steppingstone, Inc.	Graduate Program	6	9	67%
TH	Steppingstone, Inc.	NB Women's Therapeutic Community	16	21	76%
TH	SE MA Vets Housing Program, Inc.	VTH GPD	18	19	95%
TH	SE MA Vets Housing Program, Inc.	VTH Main House	16	25	64%
TH	The Women's Center	Housing Stabilization	27	43	63%
<b>TRANSITIONAL HOUSING TOTAL</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>73%</b>

# Housing Inventory

## Permanent Housing

Prog. Type	Organization Name	Program Name	PIT Count	Year-Round Beds	Utilization Rate
PSH	Catholic Social Services, Inc.	Portico	133	123	108%
PSH	Catholic Social Services, Inc.	PRISM	8	12	67%
RRH	Catholic Social Services, Inc.	Transition to Stability	15	17	88%
PSH	PAACA, Inc.	Step Up	28	35	80%
PSH	PACE, Inc.	HomeBASE Stabilization Prog	57	57	100%
RRH	PACE, Inc.	PACE Housing Services	3	3	100%
RRH	Catholic Social Services Inc.	Emergency Solutions Dept.	4	4	100%
PSH	Providence VA Medical Center	HUD VASH	46	51	90%
PSH	Steppingstone, Inc.	Welcome Home	14	15	93%
PSH	SEMCOA Inc.	Unity House	13	15	87%
PSH	Southeast Family Services Inc.	Family Preservation Program	46	46	100%
PSH	SE MA Veterans Program, Inc.	VTH-PSH	30	32	94%
<b>PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TOTAL</b>			<b>397</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>97%</b>



**Take Aways...**





# Take-Aways

- **Overall Count**

The 2022 PIT Count identified 370 people, both sheltered and unsheltered, a figure consistent with the previous year and reflecting the lowest count total since 2017.

- **Unsheltered**

The unsheltered count of 61 was the highest number ever counted in New Bedford and is likely attributable to the fact that fair weather meant the cold weather overflow shelter was not available and more people were on the streets as a result.

- **Sheltered Count**

The sheltered count (emergency and transitional) of just 309 reflected the second lowest census since 2010.

- **Families versus Individual Households**

Although last year the number of people experiencing homelessness living in family households with children compared with those living in single adult-only households was fairly even, 2022's Count revealed that single adult households outpaced family households at a rate of roughly 2:1.

The number of people within single vs. family households revealed 111 in single adult households compared with 198 people within family households, a ratio of just under 1:2 single to family households.



# Take-Aways

## ■ Unaccompanied Youth

The number of unaccompanied youth (those aged 18-24) decreased by 64% between 2021 and 2022. In 2022, 70% of the unaccompanied youth were living in shelter while the remaining 30% (3 individuals) were living on the streets.

## ■ Domestic Violence

The total of those identifying as either fleeing/surviving domestic violence in the 2022 PIT Count was 46% higher than the previous year's count and 10% higher than the average of 55 over the past over the previous seven years.

## ■ Utilization

During the 2022 PIT, emergency shelter utilization was 77%, (219 of 283 beds), transitional housing was 73% (90 of 124 beds) and permanent housing utilization was 97% (397 of 410 beds).

## ■ Chronic Homelessness

Contrary to federal expectations, the number of those meeting the definition of chronic homelessness and living in shelter over the past year decreased from 2021 levels. Data also shows that the numbers of those who are unsheltered and considered chronically homeless significantly rose compared with 2021, meaning those most vulnerable to repeated incidences of homelessness are disproportionately remaining unhoused.

## ■ New Bedford Residency

As has been the case since such data was collected, almost three-quarters of those counted in the 2022 PIT have lived in New Bedford for three or more years.

# Take-Aways

- **Subpopulations**

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

- **Veterans**

For the second consecutive year since PIT counts have been recorded in New Bedford, no one unsheltered identified as being a veteran.

- **Families**

The number of adults and children living in family households in homeless shelters in New Bedford (198) in 2022 has increased by almost 20% over the 2021 count.

# Homelessness Data 2022

New Bedford | MA

