

2023 PASADENA HOMELESS COUNT

TALKING POINTS

Despite housing more people in 2022 than ever before, homelessness in Pasadena increased by 9% in 2023.

- **On the night of the count, 556 people were experiencing homelessness in Pasadena, marking a 9% increase over 2022.** The Homeless Count results are one of many data sources used to measure the prevalence of homelessness in the City and does not reflect the total number of people who experience homelessness throughout the year.
- **In 2022, 310 people who experienced homelessness in Pasadena were permanently housed** through programs operated in Pasadena and other parts of Los Angeles County. This represents a 48% growth in people permanently housed by Pasadena programs since 2019.
- **First-time homelessness is on the rise.** Fifteen percent of people reported being homeless for the first time vs. only 9% in 2022.
- **Seniors (62+) are one of the fastest-growing groups,** and the number of unhoused seniors grew by 31% compared to 2022.
- **More people are staying in emergency shelter.** Despite the loss of shelter beds during the pandemic, there was a 9% increase in the number of people staying in emergency shelter compared to 2022.

Homeless count results are most useful for tracking demographic trends rather than as a singular tool to quantify the homeless population.

- **People experiencing homelessness are long-time Pasadenans.** Over half (56%) of unsheltered people surveyed were last housed in Pasadena and were residents for an average of 21 years before losing their housing.
- **Racial disparities remain** with 30% of unhoused residents identifying as Black or African American despite representing only 8% of Pasadena's general population. This disparity is more pronounced among Black seniors, veterans, and youth.
- **The share of unhoused people who are Hispanic or Latino returned to pre-pandemic rates;** however, they are still slightly overrepresented in the homeless population compared to the City's overall population (38% vs. 36%). These disparities are even more pronounced among families and people experiencing homelessness for the first time.

More housing resources are needed to ensure future reductions in homelessness.

- **The homeless services system is housing more people than ever,** however increasing inflows mean that we must do even more than we're doing now, including building out our emergency shelter and permanent housing inventories.
- **The forthcoming Pasadena Continuum of Care CoC Homelessness Plan** will establish a comprehensive framework with aggressive targets for significantly reducing homelessness in Pasadena over the next five years. The plan is in the final development stage and is expected to be presented to City Council in late summer 2023.

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The full 2023 Homeless Count presentation and results can be found at www.pasadenahomelesscount.org.