

## **New York State Office of the State Comptroller**

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Division of State Government Accountability

# HOMELESS SHELTERS AND HOMELESSNESS IN NEW YORK STATE

AN OVERVIEW, EXCLUSIVE OF NEW YORK CITY

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We are grateful for the partnership and assistance provided to us by the following County Comptrollers from regions across the State, who have shared with us not only their expertise in planning this effort but also their staff resources, which greatly assisted with the conduct of our site visits and consideration of the risks and conclusions they highlighted:

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## **Executive Summary**

New York State continues to experience record numbers of homeless people. Generally, the focus of media coverage and policy discussions is on New York City and other large metropolitan areas as they contain the largest populations of homeless. This report focuses on conditions found in homeless shelters outside of New York City, and also presents demographic data "snapshots" for ten regions that represent the next largest populations of homeless people.

## Overview of Homelessness in New York State

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress:

- Between 2007 and 2015, although homelessness nationwide decreased by 11 percent (or 82,550), it increased in 18 states, including New York. In fact, New York had the largest increase of any state, rising 41 percent (or 25,649) from 62,601 to 88,250.
- Between 2014 and 2015 alone, New York State's homeless population jumped by 7,660 again the largest increase in the nation for the one-year period. This single-year increase accounted for nearly 33 percent of New York State's total homeless population growth in the eight-year period since 2007. Of the State's 7,660 new homeless, 7,513 (98 percent) were living in New York City, accounting for an 11 percent rise in New York City's total homeless population.
- In 2015, New York City ranked first among major cities in the number of homeless people, with a count of 75,323.

Even though the majority of New York State's homeless are concentrated in New York City, our visits to almost 400 locations outside the City confirm that communities in virtually every corner of the State are having to deal with the problem of homelessness on a daily basis.

The impact of homelessness on children is particularly devastating. Research has shown that, among young children, the stress of homelessness can lead to changes in brain architecture, which can interfere with learning, emotional self-regulation, cognitive skills, and social relationships. A 2014 report from the National Center on Family Homelessness ranked New York State 38<sup>th</sup> (with 1<sup>st</sup> being the best) in overall performance across four domains: extent of child homelessness, child well-being, risk for child homelessness, and State policy and planning efforts.

## Federal Oversight

The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was signed into law in July 1987 in response to demands to address the increase in homelessness as a national problem. The McKinney-Vento Act funds numerous programs providing a range of services to homeless people, including the Continuum of Care (CoC) programs: the Supportive Housing Program, the Shelter Plus Care Program, the Single Room Occupancy Program, and the Emergency Shelter Grant Program. Further, Title VII of the Act, Education of Homeless Children and Youths, seeks to ensure immediate enrollment and education stability for homeless children and youth by providing federal funding for school district programs that serve homeless students.

## State Responsibility

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) administers New York State's homeless housing and services programs. OTDA seeks to meet critical transitional housing needs of the State's homeless population – composed of families, couples, and single adults – while working to guide them to self-sufficiency through assessment services, permanent housing preparation, information and referral services, and health, child care, and social rehabilitation services.

OTDA certifies and directly oversees larger-scale shelter facilities and is responsible for inspecting them and ensuring they meet certain standards, as established in the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations. OTDA has delegated authority for oversight of smaller, uncertified shelters to county Departments of Social Services (Local Districts), but remains responsible for monitoring Local Districts' oversight and inspection of uncertified shelters and for ensuring they meet minimum standards established by State and local laws and codes. Additionally, there are numerous other types of shelters operating in the State exclusive of the certified/uncertified shelters, such as emergency, temporary, and warming shelters; domestic violence shelters; runaway and youth shelters; certain forms of sex offender housing; and shelters operated by voluntary entities that receive no government funding.

## Shelter Safety and Health Risks

In 2016, the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) released an audit of OTDA's Oversight of Homeless Shelters (Report 2015-S-23), undertaken to determine whether OTDA adequately oversees homeless shelters to ensure they are operating in compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations. The audit found that OTDA does not sufficiently monitor State-certified shelters, nor Local Districts' oversight of uncertified shelters, to ensure that inspection violations are addressed properly and timely and that shelters are operating in compliance with applicable State and local requirements. In addition, during site visits to a total of 39 facilities located throughout the State, auditors observed a range of substandard living conditions, the most egregious of which pose obvious and dangerous risks to shelter residents' health and safety, including fire and safety violations, rodent and vermin infestations, and mold conditions. In response to a draft report of the OSC audit and heightened media attention on the issue, Governor Cuomo, in his 2016 State of the State message, announced a new Homeless Housing Initiative that would give the State new oversight of the homeless shelter system.

During February and March 2016, OSC auditors launched a large-scale assessment of the State's homeless shelter system, encompassing 200 emergency shelters and 187 hotel and motels located across 48 different counties (exclusive of New York City and the City of Buffalo). Auditors' observations confirmed the findings from the prior audit. While many facilities were able to provide "adequate" living conditions (i.e., basic level of habitability), risks to health, personal safety, and fire safety were pervasive. Despite our communities' best efforts, there continue to be pockets of deficient – and sometimes squalid – properties that pose persistent dangers to the health and safety of this already vulnerable population. Further, the shelters we visited often indicated that they face an uphill battle in terms of facility maintenance and upkeep – in some cases because of funding, but in others simply by virtue of the transient and temporary nature of the population they serve. As a result, any condition can be volatile at best: conditions that are deemed to be "acceptable" one day can easily escalate to "unacceptable" the next.

Shelters operated by voluntary agencies (and not publicly funded) receive even less oversight than the hotels and motels. OTDA and the Local Districts do not annually inspect these shelters, nor do they include them in their shelter database.

The overarching risk areas outlined above require expedited actions to ensure that homeless shelters are operating in compliance with State and local regulations. Such steps could include:

- Comprehensive inventory of shelter facilities and operations;
- Improved oversight of hotels/motels and unfunded voluntary operated facilities; and
- Sharing of Local Districts and shelters' best practices and innovations.

OSC will continue to conduct audits related to homeless housing conditions and homelessness and to monitor the State's oversight of homeless housing inspections. OSC will also continue to collaborate with County Comptrollers and Local Districts to pursue these areas and identify other significant issues related to the housing of homeless people.

## Homeless Data for Ten Continuums of Care

In addition to the data collected by OSC auditors on the condition of shelters located throughout the State exclusive of New York City, this report contains homeless data compiled from various national and local sources for ten CoC regions (comprising 20 counties) that represent the largest populations of homeless individuals outside of the New York City metropolitan area.

By incorporating data from multiple sources, this report provides not only an assessment of the conditions of shelters in a particular county or region of the State serving the homeless population, but also descriptive information on local populations that are at risk of becoming homeless. At-risk populations include persons in poverty, unemployed persons, low-income rental households with severe housing cost burdens, and people in low-income households living doubled up. For this reason, we have included income and poverty demographics, data collected by school districts, as well as selected housing characteristics.

## Introduction

New York State continues to experience record numbers of homeless people. Generally, the focus of media coverage and policy discussions is on New York City and other large metropolitan areas as they contain the largest populations of the homeless. Regardless of whether a homeless individual resides in New York City, an urban area like Rochester, or a rural town in Albany County, the shelter provided to them should be safe, clean, and habitable. This report focuses on conditions found in homeless shelters around the State outside of New York City, and also presents demographic data "snapshots" for ten regions that represent the largest populations of homeless individuals outside of the New York City metropolitan area.

According to the 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

- Between 2007 and 2015, although homelessness nationwide decreased by 11 percent (or 82,550), it increased in 18 states, including New York. In fact, New York had the largest increase of any state, rising 41 percent (or 25,649) – from 62,601 to 88,250 individuals.
- Between 2014 and 2015 alone, New York State's homeless population jumped by 7,660 again the largest increase in the nation for the one-year period. (California had the second largest increase, at 1,786.)
  - This single-year increase of 7,660 accounted for nearly 33 percent of New York State's total homeless population growth in the eight-year period since 2007.
  - Of the State's 7,660 new homeless, 7,513 (98 percent) were living in New York City, accounting for an 11 percent rise in New York City's total homeless population.
  - In 2015, New York City ranked first among major cities in the number of homeless, with a count of 75,323.

However, while this data largely demonstrates the extent of homelessness in New York City, it is important to note that homelessness is not just a New York City problem. For example:

- According to the HUD report, among smaller city/county/regional Continuum of Care programs (see later discussion), Nassau and Suffolk counties/Babylon/Islip/Huntington had the third largest homeless population nationwide, with a count of 3,861.
- Between October 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, shelter providers in the Poughkeepsie/ Dutchess County area served 1,277 people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

The impact of homelessness on children is particularly devastating. Research has shown that, among young children, the stress of homelessness can lead to changes in brain architecture, which can interfere with learning, emotional self-regulation, cognitive skills, and social relationships.<sup>1</sup> A 2014 report from the National Center on Family Homelessness ranked New York State 38<sup>th</sup> nationally (with 1<sup>st</sup> being the highest) on a state composite score that reflects each state's overall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The National Center on Family Homelessness at American Institutes for Research. (2014). *America's Youngest Outcasts: A Report Card on Child Homelessness*. Available at <a href="https://www.homelesschildrenamerica.org">www.homelesschildrenamerica.org</a>.

performance across four domains: extent of child homelessness, child well-being, risk for child homelessness, and State policy and planning efforts.

## Federal Oversight

The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was signed into law in July 1987 in response to demands to address the increase in homelessness as a national problem. The McKinney-Vento Act funds numerous programs providing a range of services to homeless people, including the Continuum of Care (CoC) programs: the Supportive Housing Program, the Shelter Plus Care Program, the Single Room Occupancy Program, and the Emergency Shelter Grant Program. Further, Title VII of the Act, Education of Homeless Children and Youths, is a federal law that seeks to ensure immediate enrollment and education stability for homeless children and youth by providing federal funding to states for the purpose of supporting district programs that serve homeless students.

HUD introduced the CoC concept to local communities in 1994 as a unified plan to help them address the problems of housing and homelessness in a coordinated, comprehensive, and strategic way. "The concept is designed to help communities develop the capacity to envision, organize and plan comprehensive and long-term solutions to addressing the problem of homelessness in their community."<sup>2</sup>

Today, CoCs track the homeless population in their area and manage the services and resources that make up the homeless assistance systems. One of the most important duties of a CoC is the biannual count of the homeless population and an annual account of the emergency systems, transitional housing units, and beds in their communities.<sup>3</sup> In New York, a total of 26 CoCs, representing 59 counties, reported homeless data to HUD for the 2015 reporting year.<sup>4</sup> As of this writing, the counties of Essex, Herkimer, and Tioga do not belong to a CoC, since New York does not require counties to join a CoC. As a result, data for those counties is not generally included in the State's homeless counts, and there can be a loss of federal funding for programs in those areas.<sup>5</sup>

## State Responsibility

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) administers New York State's homeless housing and services programs. OTDA seeks to meet critical transitional housing needs of the State's homeless population – composed of families, couples, and single adults – while working to guide them to self-sufficiency through assessment services, permanent housing preparation, information and referral services, and health, child care, and social rehabilitation services.

OTDA certifies and directly oversees larger-scale facilities (i.e., certain family shelters that accommodate 10 or more families that provide Tier II services and adult shelters that accommodate 20 or more individuals), and is responsible for inspecting them and ensuring they meet certain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Heading Home Minnesota. (n.d.). *Guide to Continuum of Care Planning and Implementation.* Available at <a href="www.ramsey.headinghomeminnesota.org/files/Continuum\_of\_Care.pdf">www.ramsey.headinghomeminnesota.org/files/Continuum\_of\_Care.pdf</a>.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2015 Housing Inventory Count and Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Persons. Available at https://www.hudexchange.info/manage-a-program/coc-housing-inventory-count-reports/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> CARES Ending Homelessness. Staff communication, May 5, 2016...

standards, as established in the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations. In contrast, OTDA has delegated authority for oversight of smaller, uncertified shelters to county Departments of Social Services (Local Districts), but remains responsible for monitoring Local Districts' oversight and inspection of uncertified shelters and for ensuring they meet minimum standards established by State and local laws and codes.

Additionally, there are numerous other types of shelters operating in the State exclusive of the certified and uncertified shelters, such as emergency, temporary, and warming shelters; domestic violence shelters; runaway and youth shelters; certain forms of sex offender housing; and shelters operated by voluntary entities that receive no government funding.

## **Shelter Safety and Health Concerns**

In 2016, the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) released an audit of OTDA's Oversight of Homeless Shelters (Report 2015-S-23), undertaken to determine whether OTDA adequately oversees homeless shelters to ensure they are operating in compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations. The audit found that OTDA does not sufficiently monitor State-certified shelters, nor Local Districts' oversight of uncertified shelters, to ensure that inspection violations are addressed properly and timely and that shelters are operating in compliance with applicable State and local requirements. In addition, during site visits to a total of 39 facilities located throughout the State, we observed a range of substandard living conditions, the most egregious of which pose obvious and dangerous risks to shelter residents' health and safety. These included fire and safety violations, rodent and vermin infestations, and mold conditions. We also found numerous examples of other unacceptable living conditions, including: trash piles stored in a children's play area; holes in walls, ceilings, and floors; worn or mutilated mattresses; and a rooftop-access door off its hinges, which could allow anyone – including children – access to the roof.

In response to a draft report of our audit, which identified significant concerns related to the safety and conditions of shelters throughout the State – as well as heightened media attention on the issue – Governor Cuomo, in his 2016 State of the State message, announced a new Homeless Housing Initiative that would give the State new oversight of the homeless shelter system. The homeless plan would be aided by statewide independent shelter risk assessment efforts by the Office of the State Comptroller as well as the Comptrollers of New York City and the City of Buffalo. In addition, the Governor's Office and OTDA undertook an extensive inspection program and data collection program.

## **OSC Data Gathering**

Our statewide risk assessment is based on comprehensive data and other information provided to us by the Governor's Office and gathered from counties themselves (see Appendix A). We contacted Commissioners of the 57 Local Districts, exclusive of the five New York City boroughs, to request information on shelters operating in their area, including: shelters that received State or county funding; shelters not receiving public funding; homeless shelters used by State and local law enforcement; domestic violence shelters; and runaway and youth homeless shelters. We also requested contact information for each shelter and for the Local Districts responsible for shelter inspections. In addition, we requested data on the number of homeless placements by Local

Districts in each facility during the months of December 2015 and January 2016, including type of shelter (e.g., family/adult) provided, and information regarding placement of sex offenders.

Of the 57 counties we contacted, all but two – Rensselaer and Rockland – responded, although they did not always provide complete information. Two counties did not list any shelters operating in their areas; seven did not provide the number of individuals and families who received emergency housing during 2015; and 11 did not give the total number of nights that shelter was provided. In total, the counties reported the following statistics:

- Number of shelters (including hotels/motels): 627
- Number of families housed during 2015: 12,038
- Number of family members housed during 2015: 33,876
- Number of individuals housed during 2015: 80,027
- Total number of nights shelter/housing provided during 2015: 554,654

## **OSC Initial Risk Assessment of Shelters**

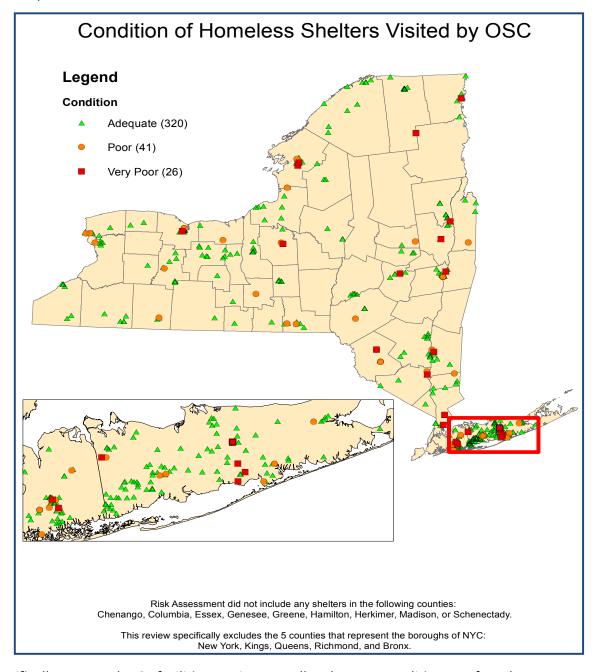
Using the lists of shelters provided by the Governor's Office and the counties, during February and March 2016, we visited 200 emergency shelters and 187 hotels and motels, located across 48 different counties (exclusive of New York City and the City of Buffalo). We chose to conduct our site visits during the winter months because we believe this is the time of highest need and demand for shelter in our State. As a result, due to weather conditions, as well as staffing and time constraints, we did not visit any emergency shelters or hotels/motels in the following nine counties: Chenango, Columbia, Essex, Genesee, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Madison, and Schenectady. Although we did not officially announce our site visits, shelters were given advance notice in the form of the Governor's announced initiative, our contacting of Local Districts for shelter information, and OTDA's letter to Local Districts requesting that they notify shelters to provide us access. Further, on a weekly basis we shared our tentative site visit schedule with OTDA, and in certain instances we were accompanied by representatives from OTDA and Local Districts on site visits. If, during our observations, we identified serious deficiencies that endangered residents, we contacted OTDA officials. In each instance, OTDA reacted quickly to correct and remediate the inhabitable condition.

During our site visits, we conducted assessments using a uniform checklist, which consisted of select sections of the Habitability Standards for Temporary Housing Accommodation Inspection Checklist prepared by OTDA. Our risk assessment focused on observable conditions – including the physical condition of both the facility and the surrounding area (e.g., the neighborhood, any passers-by) – and did not include a review of case management services, food preparation, or staffing levels. Our assessment is based on both our observations and our discussions with shelter occupants.

#### **OSC Site Visits**

Given the observational nature of our risk assessment, and our use of condition rankings as described below, the results are necessarily subjective. Our standard of "adequate" equates to living conditions that, while substandard by any other measure, in total are reasonably acceptable in the short term as an alternative to homelessness.

Auditors consistently found similar types of deficient conditions across facilities (e.g., mold, poor sanitation). Key issues that also factor into the overall assessment of facility condition — that is, generally adequate versus generally not adequate — are the scope and severity that exist. Based on our observations, we considered 320 facilities to be in generally adequate condition. The remaining 67 facilities were not in generally adequate condition, and included 41 facilities in poor condition and 26 facilities in very poor condition (see map below for shelter conditions by location).



Specifically, among the 67 facilities not in generally adequate condition, we found:

• 45 facilities had one or more health safety issues, including mold (33 locations), unsanitary restrooms (24 locations), and vermin (9 locations).

- 61 facilities had one or more fire safety issues with two facilities having as many as eight such issues including: lack of fire escape or second means of egress (20 locations); missing or uninspected fire extinguishers (19 locations); missing or disabled smoke detectors (20 locations); no carbon monoxide detector (12 locations); portable space heaters in use (10 locations); dryer vent issue (9 locations); heater or radiator missing a cover (14 locations); bedroom or building egress restricted (4 locations); lightbulbs missing from sockets or missing outlet covers (17 locations); exposed electrical wires (24 locations); and outlets missing covers or beds placed too close to outlets (19 locations).
- 37 facilities had personal safety issues, including: restroom doors that didn't lock (8 locations); unsafe stairs and railings (14 locations); obstructed stairway (2 locations); unsafe playground (5 locations); unsecured roof access (1 locations); and unsafe physical security (20 locations).
- 20 locations had issues with occupant accommodations, including: insufficient space between adult beds (6 locations); insufficient bedding provided (13 locations); and an insufficient number of toilets, sinks, and showers for the number of occupants (3 locations).

Specific examples of the more egregious conditions among these facilities are as follows:

• At a hotel for families and single adults in Albany County holding from 75 to 120 residents, of the 63 rooms viewed, only 19 were generally adequate. We found candles and space heaters in use, disabled smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, missing outlet covers, missing light covers, exposed wires, mold in bathrooms and bedrooms, and bathroom doors that didn't lock. We also identified significant structural issues: the second floor walkway was being propped up by temporary support beams (Figure 1A) and cement on the second floor walkway was significantly cracked and pulling away from the building (Figure 1B).

Figure 1



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В

• At a 40-bed men's shelter in Monroe County, we found an insufficient number of toilets, sinks, and showers based on the number of occupants. We also observed a fan blowing on an electrical panel – a red flag for potentially problematic wiring (Figure 2A). A shelter official stated that the fan runs continuously to keep the electrical panel from overheating. There was also a furnace covered with asbestos (Figure 2B) in the same room where the fan was blowing on the electrical panel. We also observed missing fire extinguishers, no carbon monoxide detectors, mold and mildew, unsanitary bathrooms, beds that were less than three feet apart as required, and peeling paint.

Figure 2





A B

 At a 100-bed family shelter in Westchester County, we identified: excessive mold and mildew in some showers (Figure 3A); a mattress that had been repaired with duct tape; an excessively dirty air filter in one room; one leaking as well as one broken refrigerator; and, as pointed out to us by shelter residents, a bug infestation and the remains of a dead rat in the air duct (see Figure 3B).

Figure 3





A B

 At a 20-room family motel in Schoharie County, we identified: electrical cords running on the ground through a children's play area (Figure 4A); scrap metal and an old appliance piled behind the motel (Figure 4B); a missing window covered with plastic; and apparent hoarding in rooms used by the motel owner. In addition, the motel owner told us that 12 of the 20 rooms were closed due to concerns expressed by the owner's insurance company regarding the safety of the guardrails on the second floor.

Figure 4





A B

- We identified a shelter in Chemung County that takes in adults and families, as well as sex offenders if no children are at the shelter. However, the shelter shares the building with a program for parolees, who may be sex offenders.
- At a family shelter in Onondaga County, one room housing a mother and her three children

had mold on the ceiling tile above a child's bed and a crib (Figure 5).





 At a family shelter in Nassau County, one guest was living in the third floor (attic) bedroom, which did not have a permanent or a portable fire escape, as mandated for third floors. At this shelter, all fire extinguishers were missing inspection tags, and there was no carbon monoxide detector in the basement.

While we considered 320 facilities to be in overall generally adequate condition, many issues still need to be corrected at these facilities, as follows:

- 64 facilities had one or more health safety issues, including mold (51 locations), unsanitary restrooms (14 locations), and vermin (7 locations).
- 124 facilities had one or more fire safety issues with one having as many as five including: lack of fire escape or second means of egress (47 locations); missing or uninspected fire extinguishers (26 locations); missing or disabled smoke detectors (27 locations); no carbon monoxide detector (14 locations); portable space heaters in use (11 locations); dryer vent issue (4 locations); heater or radiator missing a cover (8 locations); bedroom or building egress restricted (2 locations); lightbulbs missing from sockets or missing outlet covers (20 locations); exposed electrical wires (17 locations); and outlets missing covers or beds placed too close to outlets (9 locations).
- 41 facilities had personal safety issues, including: restroom doors that didn't lock (8 locations); unsafe stairs and railings (5 locations); obstructed stairway (6 locations); unsafe playground (2 locations); unsecured roof access (2 locations); and unsafe physical environment (21 locations).
- 17 facilities had issues with occupant accommodations, including: insufficient space between adult beds (6 locations); insufficient bedding (8 locations); and an insufficient number of toilets, sinks, and showers for the number of occupants (3 locations).

## **OTDA Inspections**

In April 2016, the Governor's Office provided us with the raw inspection results for the 916 facility inspections that were overseen by the Governor's Office and OTDA as of March 24, 2016. These

inspections were more detailed than those we performed and included, among other elements, examination of more in-depth structural issues, food preparation, case management, outstanding violations, and staffing. Inspections for these 916 facilities, which accounted for a total of 35,999 beds, were segregated as New York City (639 inspections) and the Rest of State (277 inspections). The raw data is also segregated by the severity of violations (Level 3 = severe; Level 2 = defective; Level 1 = material). The inspections found 27,471 violations (15,290 Level 1; 7,581 Level 2; and 4,600 Level 3): 23,602 in New York City and 3,869 in Rest of State. One facility had as many as 481 total violations. OTDA issued as many as 90 Level 3 violations to a second facility, 363 Level 2 violations to a third facility, and 259 Level 1 violations to a fourth facility.

## **Next Steps**

Even though the majority of New York's homeless individuals are unquestionably concentrated in New York City, our visits to almost 400 locations outside the City confirm that communities in virtually every corner of the State are having to deal with the problem of homelessness on a daily basis. Our observations indicate that many, if not most, of the facilities used to shelter homeless people meet a basic level of habitability. However, despite our communities' best efforts, there continue to be pockets of deficient – and sometimes squalid – properties that pose a persistent danger to the health and safety of this already vulnerable population. Further, staff at the shelters we visited often indicated that they face an uphill battle in terms of facility maintenance and upkeep – in some cases because of funding, but in others simply by virtue of the transient and temporary nature of the population they serve. As a result, any condition can be volatile at best: issues that are deemed to be "acceptable" one day can easily escalate to "unacceptable" the next.

In this context, our observations ultimately point to several risk areas where it is evident that actions are needed to ensure that all homeless shelter facilities are operating in compliance with State and local regulations. For our part, OSC will continue to conduct audits related to various issues associated with homeless housing conditions and other variables connected to homelessness and to monitor the State's oversight of shelter inspections, which is intended to ensure violations are addressed properly and timely. OSC will continue to collaborate with County Comptrollers to pursue the following risk areas and identify other significant issues related to homeless housing.

## **Inventory of Facilities and Operations**

Although OTDA is ultimately responsible for ensuring the health and safety of individuals participating in the shelter system, much of its oversight authority has been delegated to local officials, with varying degrees of success. As our original audit pointed out, OTDA had very little information about the conditions — and in some cases, even the existence — of facilities that were not subject to its direct supervision as certified shelters. In fact, it had no idea that several shelters had grown so large that they should have been subject to OTDA supervision. The data that officials provided us for our statewide risk assessment represents a significant step forward in this area, but it is clearly still incomplete because OTDA lacks information on many of the hotels and motels used for short-term placements, as well as many other operations that do not necessarily receive direct government funding.

Both during our previous audit and through discussions with local officials, shelter operators, and shelter residents during subsequent site visits in the months of February and March 2016, we became aware of at least 45 additional shelters that exist and aren't accounted for by OTDA. A more comprehensive statewide database of shelters could help officials keep an accurate inventory, better manage the conditions at shelters, and facilitate the placement of homeless people. Such a database should include all emergency shelters, with the possible exception of those that are open solely to deal with immediate natural disasters (e.g., flooding, hurricane, fire). To facilitate this effort, the State could consider a system where all homeless shelters would be required to at least register with the State. This would include not only certified and uncertified shelters receiving government funding, but also hotels and motels as well as Code Blue and other forms of temporary shelters, including those that do not receive government funding but are instead operated by religious or voluntary organizations. Such an effort could also better serve the homeless by identifying known areas of need and highlighting prevailing shelter conditions.

## **Oversight of Hotels and Motels**

There is a significant reliance on the use of hotels or motels to lodge otherwise homeless individuals in many areas of the State, particularly where more formal shelters do not exist or are already operating at or above capacity. In fact, fully half of the facilities that operate outside New York City fall into this category. In general, the rate of poor conditions and health and safety hazards that we observed was about twice as high in facilities that were not associated with a recognized hotel/motel chain. Further, these facilities often house not only homeless individuals or families but also other populations participating in a variety of government-funded programs. As a result, in some areas, homeless people may be housed with individuals receiving substance abuse treatment or recently released prisoners. Five of the facilities we visited also housed registered sex offenders.

Given the overall division of responsibilities among governmental entities in New York, no one State or local agency is responsible for complete oversight of this type of housing. From a health and safety standpoint, most of the burden is borne by local officials such as building inspectors, zoning officers, and fire officials. Other State and local agencies that may be involved in placements are often focused mainly on the services provided to their own program constituents. Because these facilities form an important link in the housing continuum for individuals in many disparate programs, there appears to be a pressing need for greater coordination and cooperation in what is now a significantly fragmented system of oversight.

## **Unfunded Voluntary Operated Facilities**

Some areas of the State, especially urban centers, have shelter facilities operated by nonprofit groups like churches or voluntary agencies that receive no direct public funding at all, relying instead on donations or funding from a parent organization. Some of these shelters are quite large, while others may operate only part-time or on an emergency-only basis when conditions warrant. Since they receive no government money, these facilities generally receive even less oversight than the hotels and motels.

We identified 14 of these shelters during our site visits, none of which were listed in the State data provided to us, while 6 were not even identified by the Local Districts. We visited 12 of these

facilities, 2 of which we rated as in poor condition as a result of our observations. The other 2 denied us access. However, shelter residents we spoke with at other local shelters told us these 2 locations were unacceptable and they would not seek shelter at either of them. As with the hotel and motel sector, there needs to be greater coordination and cooperation among stakeholders to devise means of ensuring that the individuals who use these facilities remain safe and secure.

## **Sharing of Best Practices and Innovations**

As previously stated, many, if not most, of the shelters we visited appeared generally habitable and reasonably safe and secure. Still, there are pockets of problems that need to be addressed. At the same time, several local officials and shelter operators from around the State took the time to tell us about various different approaches and initiatives that they were working on to help address specific problems or target populations in their areas. For example, several people spoke of innovative approaches aimed at homeless veterans, and many touted what they felt were recent successes. Clearly, there is a diverse body of knowledge working to address homelessness throughout the State, which can only benefit from the an effective means of sharing ideas and replicating successes.

## **Funding Rates and Methodologies**

Lastly, although our initial risk assessment focused primarily on health and safety issues, it is apparent that there is considerable disparity in the way homeless housing is funded around the State. Some areas have their own government-operated shelters, while others rely primarily on contracted facilities, hotels and motels, or even groups that receive no government financial assistance. Furthermore, the cost of these services also varies considerably, sometimes even within the same geographic region. These fiscal issues merit further study and discussion to identify which methodologies constitute the best prospects from both an economic and a service quality perspective.

## **Homeless Data for Ten Continuums of Care**

In addition to the data collected by OSC auditors on the condition of shelters located throughout the State exclusive of New York City, this report contains homeless data compiled from various national and local sources for ten Continuum of Care (CoC) regions (comprising 20 counties) that represent the largest populations of homeless individuals outside of the New York City metropolitan area.

Because the data are collected from different sources and over different time periods, the counts of the different subpopulations will not be exactly comparable. This is also why we often see reports with different estimates on the number of individuals experiencing homelessness at the national and state levels. Depending on when, how, by whom, and for what purpose the data was collected, some reports will show homelessness on the increase, while others may show a slight decrease.

For example, HUD releases the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) each year to the U.S. Congress. The report is issued in two parts. Part 1 of the report provides estimates of homelessness at the national, state, and CoC levels based on the Point-in-Time (PIT) count data that is gathered

by communities across the country in the last 10 days of January. The CoCs report the data to HUD as part of their annual applications for McKinney-Vento funding.<sup>6</sup> The PIT counts are the only measure that captures sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness.

Part 2 of the AHAR report includes one-year estimates of sheltered homelessness based on data from HUD's Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). The one-year HMIS estimates provide unduplicated counts of homeless people who use an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing during a 12-month period (October through September of the following year). For this report, we used data reported and/or provided by the CoCs reporting on their respective participating community members' projects. Specifically, the CoCs provided data on the number of unduplicated persons served by shelter type and, for those individuals served who reported having special needs, by percentage of special needs type.

There are populations other than those captured in the PIT count who are eligible for homeless assistance services, including those who will be without housing within 14 days or are living unstably doubled up or "couch-surfing." By incorporating data from multiple sources, this report not only provides an assessment of the conditions of shelters in a particular county or region of the State serving the homeless population, but also recognizes the portion of the local population that is at risk of becoming homeless. At-risk populations include persons in poverty, unemployed persons, low-income rental households with severe housing cost burdens, and people in low-income households living doubled up. For this reason, we have included income and poverty demographics, data collected by school districts, as well as selected housing characteristics.

We have included data collected by the New York State Education Department (SED) on students (pre-K through grade 12) who have been designated as homeless. Under McKinney-Vento and New York State law, students are considered homeless if they lack a nighttime residence that is fixed, regular, and adequate. This definition of homeless includes those students who are living doubled up. In order for school districts to receive McKinney-Vento funding, they are required to report data to SED about the students they serve who have been designated as homeless. <sup>10</sup> Because the data collected by school districts includes those students living doubled up, it provides the Local Districts and counties with a more accurate picture of the number of individuals who are experiencing homelessness on a local level.

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data is based on the PIT counts conducted by the CoCs, and represents the inventory of beds that are available for people who are homeless during a given year.<sup>11</sup> In addition, we have provided information on the affordability of housing for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2015). *The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress: Part 2: Estimates of Homelessness in the United States*. Washington, DC: Author. Available at <a href="https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/2014-AHAR-Part-2.pdf">https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/2014-AHAR-Part-2.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2015). *The State of Homelessness in America 2015: An Examination of Trends in Homelessness, Homelessness Assistance, and At-Risk Populations at the National and State Levels*. Washington, DC: Author. Available at http://www.endhomelessness.org/page/-/files/State\_of\_Homelessness\_2015\_FINAL\_online.pdf.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center for Homeless Education. (2014, September). *Homeless Placements and STACing*. Available at <a href="https://www.nysteachs.org">www.nysteachs.org</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2015). The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress: Part 2: Estimates of Homelessness in the United States. Washington, DC: Author. Available at <a href="https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/2014-AHAR-Part-2.pdf">https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/2014-AHAR-Part-2.pdf</a>.

each county within the CoC included in this report. The conventional public policy indicator of housing affordability in the United States is the percentage of income spent on housing. Housing expenditures that exceed 30 percent of household income have historically been viewed as an indicator of a housing affordability problem.<sup>12</sup>

It is important to remember that regardless of the source of the data, these numbers are only estimates of the number of people and the corresponding subpopulations experiencing homelessness. The actual homeless population in New York State is likely higher than HUD estimates in the annual AHAR reports, because many homeless individuals are living in environments that allow them to go undetected by the survey counters and local departments of social services, such as those living in remote rural areas or living doubled up with family or friends.

In Appendix C, we present the profiles for ten CoC regions (comprising 20 counties), representing the largest populations of homeless individuals outside of the New York City metropolitan area (presented in order of size, largest to smallest).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Schwartz M, Wilson E, U.S. Census Bureau. Who Can Afford to Live in a Home? A Look at Data From the 2006 American Community Survey. Available at <a href="https://www.census.gov/housing/census/publications/who-can-afford.pdf">https://www.census.gov/housing/census/publications/who-can-afford.pdf</a>.

## **Appendix A: County Homeless Housing Data Reported to OSC in February 2016**

	NUMBER OF SHELTERS REPORTED	NUMBER OF FAMILIES HOUSED DURING 2015	NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN ABOVE FAMILIES	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HOUSED DURING 2015 (EXCLUDING FAMILIES)	TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS SHELTER/HOUSING PROVIDED
ALBANY	22	416	1,022	1,446	68,268
ALLEGANY	2	15	36	64	981
BROOME	11	314	887	1,359	30,902
CATTARAUGUS	5	13	31	198	NOT AVAILABLE
CAYUGA	11	94	285	391	NOT REPORTED
CHAUTAUQUA	11	49	150	63	1,110
CHEMUNG	2	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
CHENANGO	3	8	24	106	2,891
CLINTON	9	102	358	406	34,843
COLUMBIA	14	41	109	130	8,644
CORTLAND	6	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
DELAWARE	5	6	19	64	4,095
DUTCHESS	13	90	278	69	10,459
ERIE	21	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
ESSEX	4	5	18	40	2,174
FRANKLIN	12	57	90	344	365
FULTON	7	20	78	57	453
GENESEE	NO LIST PROVIDED	49	137	91	4,644
GREENE	4	26	74	123	365
HAMILTON	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HERKIMER	9	4	16	32	65
JEFFERSON	8	39	124	322	6,741
LEWIS	6	1	3	22	214
LIVINGSTON	10	48	121	205	4,276
MADISON	5	1	2	21	328
MONROE	15	2,876	7,812	5,473	15,965
MONTGOMERY	2	8	26	85	157
NASSAU	40	672	2,006	1,121	133,728
NIAGARA	11	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
ONEIDA	10	40	152	518	10,702
ONONDAGA	14	486	1,546	2,852	143,810
ONTARIO	13	49	125	274	7,393
ORANGE	7	775	1,834	1,250	365
ORLEANS	2	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
OSWEGO	11	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED	NOT REPORTED
OTSEGO	6	27	79	231	8,594

	NUMBER OF SHELTERS REPORTED	NUMBER OF FAMILIES HOUSED DURING 2015	NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN ABOVE FAMILIES	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HOUSED DURING 2015 (EXCLUDING FAMILIES)	TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS SHELTER/HOUSING PROVIDED
PUTNAM	7	8	26	15	365
SARATOGA	23	70	203	331	10,017
SCHENECTADY	24	52	NOT REPORTED	67 AVERAGE	365
SCHOHARIE	5	23	67	69	2,618
SCHUYLER	3	11	38	63	1,785
SENECA	4	31	100	108	NOT REPORTED
ST. LAWRENCE	14	36	110	208	1,650
STEUBEN	8	64	232	292	3,586
SUFFOLK	112	586	2,094	585	365
SULLIVAN	6	75	263	261	NOT REPORTED
TIOGA	4	27	88	51	2,134
TOMPKINS	4	120	146	354	11,053
ULSTER	17	170	304	479	365
WARREN	9	166	450	403	3,179
WASHINGTON	19	96	304	275	9,743
WAYNE	4	13	31	32	193
WESTCHESTER	25	4,137	11,907	59,055	365
WYOMING	1	1	2	16	107
YATES	7	21	69	73	4,232
TOTALS FOR 55 RESPONDING COUNTIES	627	12,038	33,876	80,027	554,654

## **Appendix B: Glossary**

Sources for the following list of terms include U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Glossary of HMIS Definitions and Acronyms and The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress; State Education Department's New York State Student Information Repository System (SIRS) Manual; and the New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center for Homeless Education.

**Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)** is HUD's annual report to Congress on the extent and nature of homelessness.

**Bed Utilization** is an indicator of whether shelter beds are occupied on a particular night or over a period of time.

Chronically Homeless Individuals are homeless individuals with disabilities who have either been continuously homeless for a year or more or experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years. To be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency homeless shelter during that time.

**Code Blue** refers to programs that support Executive Order No. 151 requiring all municipalities across the State to take homeless people off the streets and into shelters in inclement winter weather (i.e., temperatures at or below 32°F).

**Continuum of Care (CoC)** is a community with a unified plan to organize and deliver housing services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximize self-sufficiency. HUD funds many homeless programs and Homeless Management Information System implementations through CoC grants.

**Continuum of Care Programs** are designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

**Disabling Condition** in reference to chronic homelessness is defined by HUD as a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. A disabling condition limits an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living.

**Doubled Up** is defined as an individual or family living in a housing unit with extended family, friends, or other non-relatives due to economic hardship, earning no more than 125 percent of the federal poverty level. While not all people who are doubled up become homeless, for many this event serves as a precursor.

**Emergency Shelter** is any facility whose primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless.

**Family** refers to a household that has at least one adult and one child. It does not include households composed only of adults or only children.

**Homeless** describes a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. There are many variances on this definition depending on the oversight agency, program type, and source of funding.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is the computerized data collection tool designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness. Each CoC maintains its own HMIS, which can be tailored to meet local needs, but must also conform to HUD's HMIS Data and Technical Standards. HMIS data provide an unduplicated count of people who are homeless in shelters and information about their characteristics and service use patterns over a one-year period of time. These data are entered into each CoC's HMIS at the client level but are submitted in aggregate form for the AHAR.

**Household Type** refers to the composition of a household upon entering a shelter program. People enter shelter either as an individual or as part of a family with children, but can be served as both individuals or family members during the AHAR reporting year. However, the estimates reported in the AHAR adjust for this overlap and thus provide an unduplicated count of homeless people.

**Housing Inventory Count (HIC)** is a point-in-time inventory of provider programs within a CoC that provide beds and units dedicated to serve persons who are homeless, categorized by five program types: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Safe Haven, and Permanent Supportive Housing.

**Individuals** are people who are not part of a family with children during their episode of homelessness. They are homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

**McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**, signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on July 22, 1987, funds numerous programs providing a range of services to homeless people, including the Continuum of Care programs: the Supportive Housing Program, the Shelter Plus Care Program, and the Single Room Occupancy Program, as well as the Emergency Shelter Grant Program.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act is federal legislation that discusses the public education of children and youth experiencing homelessness. Under McKinney-Vento and State law, students are considered homeless if they lack a nighttime residence that is fixed, regular, and adequate. The New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center for Homeless Students (NYS-TEACHS) provides technical assistance to school districts, social service providers, shelters, families, youth, and others about the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act.

**Mental Health** is the state of emotional and psychological well-being in which an individual is able to use his or her cognitive and emotional capabilities, function in society, and meet the ordinary demands of everyday life.

New York State Student Information Repository System (SIRS) provides a single source of standardized individual student records for analysis at the local, regional, and State levels to improve student performance and to meet State and federal reporting and accountability requirements. The System to Track and Account for Children (STAC) and Special Aids Unit is the office within the New York State Education Department (SED) responsible for processing requests for the Commissioner's approval for reimbursement. This includes reimbursement approval for students who have been designated as homeless.

**Permanent Supportive Housing** is designed to provide housing and supportive services on a long-term basis for formerly homeless people who have disabilities.

**People in Families with Children** are people who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child.

**Point-in-Time (PIT)** is a snapshot of the homeless population taken on a given day. Since 2005, HUD requires all CoC applicants to complete this count every other year in the last week of January. This count includes a street count in addition to a count of all clients in emergency and transitional beds.

**Sheltered Homeless People** are individuals who are staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens.

**Transitional Housing Program** provides homeless people a place to stay combined with supportive services for up to 24 months in order to help them overcome barriers to moving into and retaining permanent housing.

**Unaccompanied Youth (under 18)** are people who are not part of a family with children during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 18.

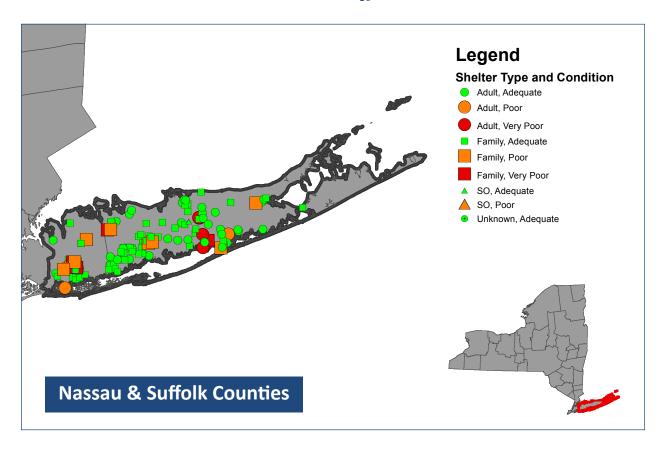
**Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)** are people who are not homeless as a part of a family with children, who are not accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are between the ages of 18 and 24.

**Unduplicated Count of Sheltered Homelessness** is an estimate of people in shelter that counts each person only once, even if the person enters and exits the shelter system multiple times throughout the year within a CoC.

**Unsheltered Homeless People** are people who stay in places not meant for human habitation, such as the streets, abandoned buildings, vehicles, and parks.

## **Appendix C: Profiles for Ten Continuum of Care Regions**

## 1. CoC Number NY-603: Nassau and Suffolk Counties



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

	Nassau	Suffolk	
Population*	1,350,601	1,493,350	
Median Age*	41.3	40.3	
Median Household Income*	\$98,401	\$88,323	
Number of Unemployed◊	30,009	37,212	
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	6.3%	6.8%	
Children in Poverty†	9.3%	10.4%	
Number of Estimated Homeless Δ	3,861		

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

#### **Homeless Counts in Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

An estimated 3,861 people in Nassau and Suffolk counties are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	3207				
Persons in households with children	2447	1643	175	629	
Persons in households without children	760	0	101	659	
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	549				
Persons in households with children	366	221	36	109	
Persons in households without children	183	0	3	180	
Unsheltered	105				
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0	
Persons in households without children	105	0	0	105	
Total Homeless Persons	3861	1864	315	1682	
Percentage		48.28%	8.16%	43.56%	

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-603 Nassau, Suffolk Counties Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Emergency Shelter	5102				
Individuals	1871	71	284	1516	
Families with children	3231	1977	301	953	
Transitional Housing	882				
Individuals	279	0	25	254	
Families with children	603	375	41	187	
Permanent Housing	1298				
Individuals	466	0	19	447	
Families wth children	832	499	24	309	

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. Data reflects an unduplicated count of clients served in Suffolk County and Nassau County in shelter/housing programs between 10/1/14 and 9/30/15 using data available in HMIS.

#### **Student Homelessness in Nassau County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Nassau County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 3,059 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Nassau County (2,671 living doubled up, 388 living in a shelter), an increase of about 429 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up and the number of children living in shelters increased from the prior year. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Nassau County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	800	954	2438	2107	2671
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	119	154	130	S
Children living in a shelter	293	372	590	383	388
Children living unsheltered	S	5	13	10	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

#### **Student Homelessness in Suffolk County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Suffolk County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 4,825 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Suffolk County (2,875 living doubled up, 1,935 living in a shelter or hotel/motel, and 15 living unsheltered), an increase of about 270 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up decreased from the prior year and the number living in a shelter increased from 1,598 to 1,681. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Suffolk County**

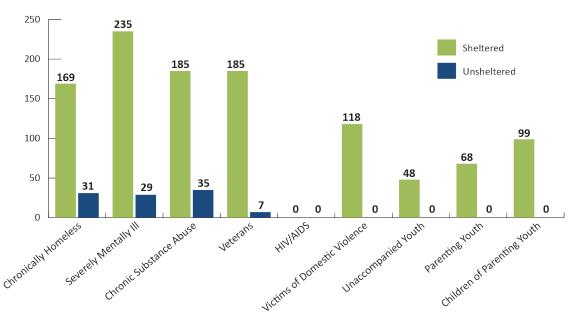
School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	2057	2328	3201	2957	2875
Children living in a hotel/motel	247	347	313	S	254
Children living in a shelter	1160	1301	1425	1598	1681
Children living unsheltered	5	5	6	S	15

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

## **Homeless Subpopulations in Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

## Summary of Homeless Persons by Subpopulations

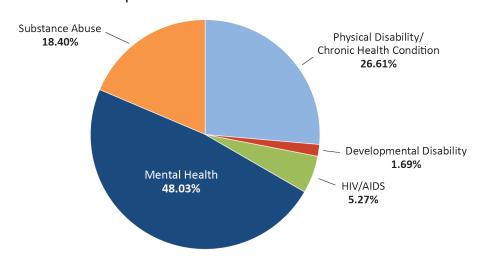


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-603 Nassau, Suffolk Counties PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

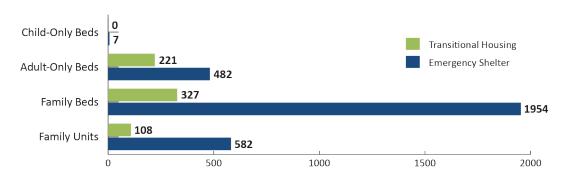


Source: Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. Data reflects an unduplicated count of clients served in Suffolk County and Nassau County in shelter/housing programs between 10/1/14 and 9/30/15 using data available in HMIS.

#### **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

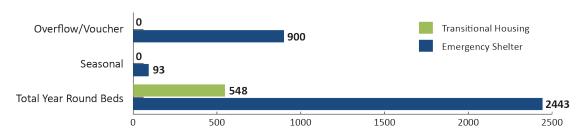
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	108	327	221	0
Emergency Shelter	582	1954	482	7

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-603 Nassau, Suffolk Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

## **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	548	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	2443	93	900

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-603 Nassau, Suffolk Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

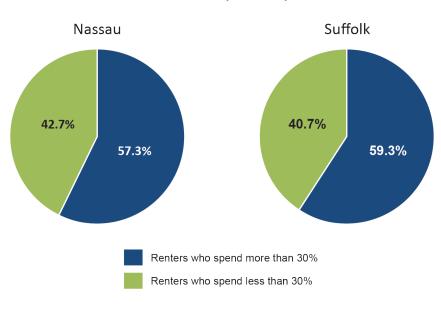
## **Selected Housing Characteristics for Nassau and Suffolk Counties**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

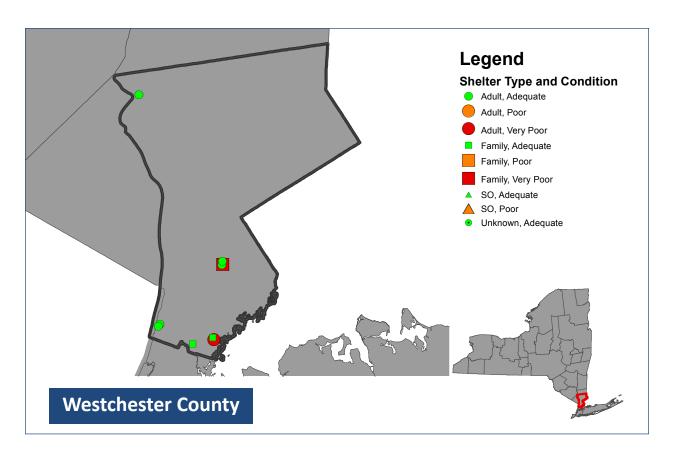
	Nassau	Suffolk
Total Housing Units	467,621	570,122
Vacant Housing Units	25,709	73,342
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.2%	1.5%
Rental vacancy rate	4.6%	4.5%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$3,123	\$2,776
Median Rent	\$1,559	\$1,519
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing		
Owners with mortgage	47.7%	47.9%
Renters	57.3%	59.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

#### Renters by County



## 2. CoC Number NY-604: Cities of Yonkers and Mount Vernon, and Westchester County



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Westchester County**

	Westchester
Population*	962,319
Median Age*	40.3
Median Household Income*	\$83,422
Number of Unemployed◊	22,113
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	9.6%
Children in Poverty†	13.3%
Number of Estimated HomelessΔ	1,797

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

## **Homeless Counts in Westchester County**

An estimated 1,797 people in Westchester County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	820				
Persons in households with children	339	208	32	99	
Persons in households without children	481	0	20	461	
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	950			410	
Persons in households with children	733	420	80	233	
Persons in households without children	217	0	40	177	
Unsheltered	27				
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0	
Persons in households without children	27	0	2	25	
Total Homeless Persons	1797	628	174	995	
Percentage		34.95%	9.68%	55.37%	

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-604 Yonkers, Mount Vernon/Westchester County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	2974				
Individuals	1996	2	232	1762	
Families with children	978	588	111	279	
Transitional Housing	1272				
Individuals	441	4	77	360	
Families with children	831	487	104	240	
Permanent Housing	1209				
Individuals	730	0	49	681	
Families with children	479	257	70	152	

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: HMIS data provided by the Westchester County Continuum of Care Partnership for the Homeless for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

## **Student Homelessness in Westchester County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Westchester County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 2,678 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Westchester County (1,833 living doubled up, 76 living in a hotel/motel, 761 living in a shelter, and 8 living unsheltered), an increase of about 75 from the 2013-2014 school year. Although the number of children spending the night in shelters declined, the number of children spending the night doubled up increased (from 1,724 to 1,833). The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### Westchester County

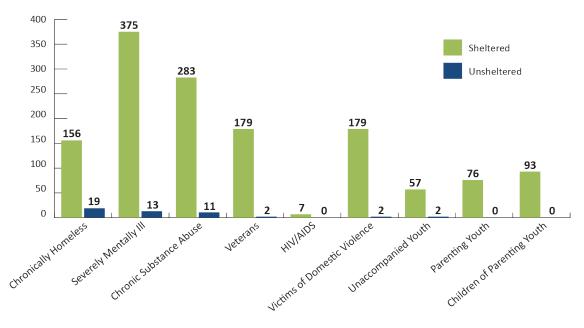
School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	1241	1463	1720	1724	1833
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	S	S	S	76
Children living in a shelter	659	818	928	877	761
Children living unsheltered	S	S	S	S	8

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

## **Homeless Subpopulations in Westchester County**



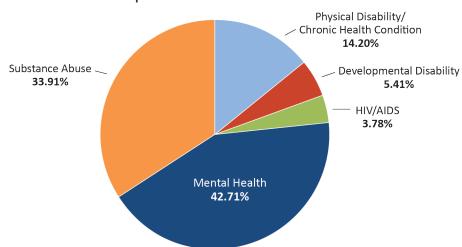


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-604 Yonkers, Mount Vernon/Westchester County Homeless PIT by Subpopulations (1/28/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Westchester County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.



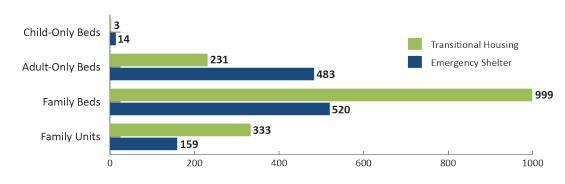


Source: HMIS data provided by the Westchester County Continuum of Care Partnership for the Homeless for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

## **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Westchester County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

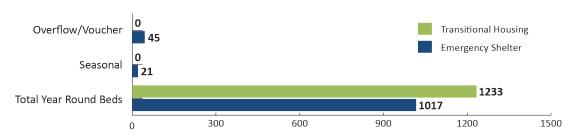
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	333	999	231	3
Emergency Shelter	159	520	483	14

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-604 Yonkers, Mount Vernon/Westchester County Housing Inventory Count Report

## **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	1233	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	1017	21	45

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-604 Yonkers, Mount Vernon/Westchester County Housing Inventory Count Report

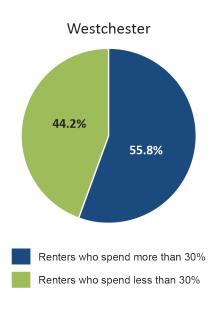
## **Selected Housing Characteristics for Westchester County**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

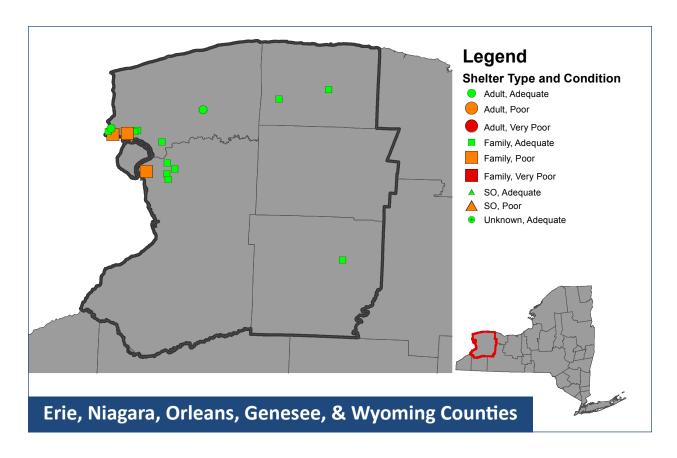
	Westchester
Total Housing Units	370,283
Vacant Housing Units	27,327
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.8%
Rental vacancy rate	6.0%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$3,306
Median Rent	1,354
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	43.2%
Renters	55.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## Renters by County



# 3. CoC Number NY-508: Cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, and Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties



# Basic Facts and Demographics in Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

	Erie	Niagara	Orleans	Genesee	Wyoming
Population*	920,694	214,973	42,492	59,702	41,679
Median Age*	40.5	42.3	41.7	42.3	41.2
Median Household Income*	\$51,050	\$49,091	\$48,015	\$50,573	\$53,012
Number of Unemployed◊	24,346	6,335	1,166	1,521	1,056
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	14.7%	13.6%	15.5%	12.6%	10.2%
Children in Poverty†	22.9%	18.0%	21.5%	17.1%	16.9%
Number of Estimated Homeless – All Counties in CoC NY-508 $\Delta$			919		

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

 $<sup>\</sup>Delta$  Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# Homeless Counts in Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

An estimated 919 people in Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming counties are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group							
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24			
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	424						
Persons in households with children	135	89	15	31			
Persons in households without children	289	0	28	261			
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	434						
Persons in households with children	192	125	21	46			
Persons in households without children	242	0	26	216			
Unsheltered	61						
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0			
Persons in households without children	61	0	1	60			
Total Homeless Persons	919	214	91	614			
Percentage		23.29%	9.90%	66.81%			

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-508 Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming Counties Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	Unknown	
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	3592					
Individuals	2309	294	289	1673	53	
Families with children	1283	812	123	346		
Transitional Housing	553					
Individuals	269	33	51	183	2	
Families with children	284	178	38	68		
Permanent Housing	916					
Individuals	859	0	55	804		
Families with children	57	32	5	20		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 HMIS data provided by the Homeless Alliance of Western New York

#### **Student Homelessness in Erie County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Erie County, for the 2015-2015 school year, 2,731 school-age children experienced homelessness, an increase of about 719 from the 2013-2014 school year. Both number of children spending the night in motels and shelters and the number of children spending the night doubled up increased from 2013-2014. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### Erie County

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	943	1255	1347	1631	2234
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	S	53	S	77
Children living in a shelter	314	277	155	381	412
Children living unsheltered	S	S	9	S	8

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

#### Student Homelessness in Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

Based on data submitted by school districts in Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming counties, for the 2015-2015 school year, 485 school-age children experienced homelessness, an increase of about 50 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children living doubled up increased in Niagara and Genesee counties. The number of children spending the night living in hotels/motels or shelters increased slightly or remained about the same for all of the counties. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### Niagara County

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	245	145	157	181	226
Children living in a hotel/motel	9	12	S	S	S
Children living in a shelter	34	30	34	40	57
Children living unsheltered	0	0	S	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

#### **Orleans County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	76	46	83	57	45
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	S	S	9	S
Children living in a shelter	17	18	15	S	13
Children living unsheltered	S	S	S	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

## **Genesee County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	38	38	47	64	78
Children living in a hotel/motel	20	20	18	19	27
Children living in a shelter	13	12	5	S	S
Children living unsheltered	0	0	0	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

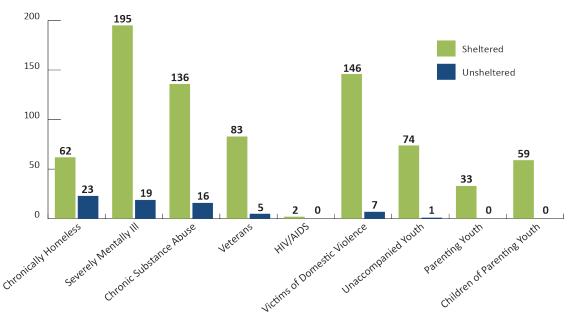
#### **Wyoming County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	55	59	78	56	30
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	0	S	S	0
Children living in a shelter	8	13	9	9	9
Children living unsheltered	S	0	S	S	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

# Homeless Subpopulations in Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties



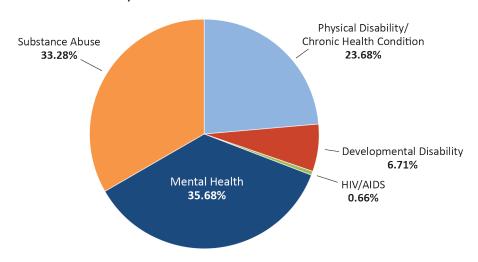


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-508 Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015)

# Breakout of Special Needs for Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

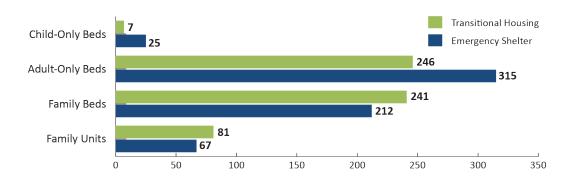


Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 HMIS data provided by the Homeless Alliance of Western New York

# Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

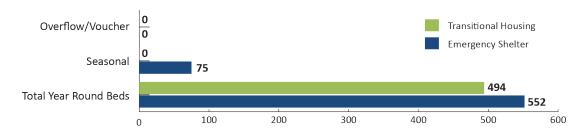
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	81	241	246	7
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	67	212	315	25

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-508 Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

#### **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	494	0	0
Emergency Shelter	552	75	0

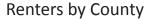
Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-508 Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

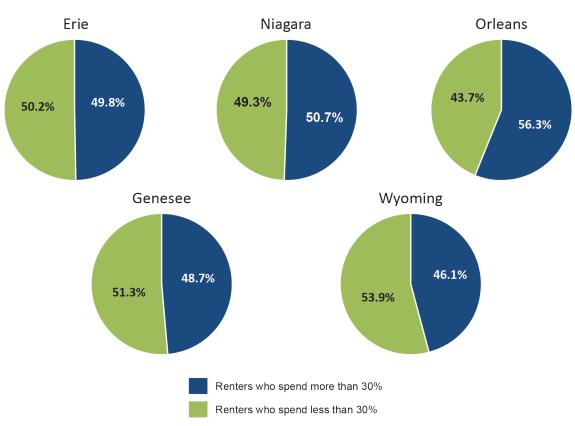
# Selected Housing Characteristics for Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30% or less of a household's income.

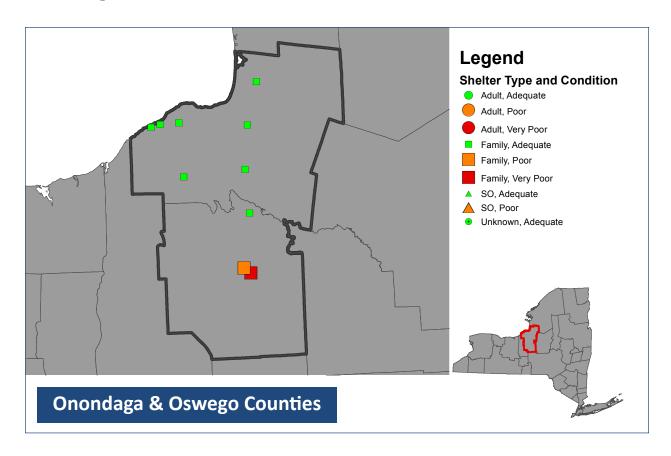
	Erie	Niagara	Orleans	Genesee	Wyoming
Total Housing Units	420,537	99,184	18,479	25,627	18,041
Vacant Housing Units	38,754	10,932	2,585	1,660	2,350
Homeowner vacancy rate	0.8%	4.7%	1.5%	0.6%	1.4%
Rental vacancy rate	5.0%	13.2%	2.6%	3.1%	3.0%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,274	\$1,224	\$1,231	\$1,210	\$1,136
Median Rent	\$738	\$655	\$638	\$722	\$594
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing					
Owners with mortgage	25.1%	26.3%	28.9%	26.0%	23.1%
Renters	49.8%	50.7%	56.3%	48.7%	46.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates





# 4. CoC Number NY-505: City of Syracuse and Onondaga and Oswego Counties



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Onondaga and Oswego Counties**

	Onondaga	Oswego	
Population*	467,846	121,659	
Median Age*	38.7	38.9	
Median Household Income*	54,498	47,646	
Number of Unemployed◊	11,150	3,956	
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	15.2% 18.5%		
Children in Poverty†	23.7%	27.9%	
Number of Estimated Homeless – All counties in CoC NY-505Δ	821		

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# **Homeless Counts in Onondaga and Oswego Counties**

An estimated 821 people in Onondaga and Oswego counties are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	587					
Persons in households with children	190	120	22	48		
Persons in households without children	397	0	52	345		
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	221					
Persons in households with children	56	37	13	6		
Persons in households without children	165	0	23	142		
Unsheltered	13					
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0		
Persons in households without children	13	0	1	12		
Total Homeless Persons	821	157	111	553		
Percentage		19.12%	13.52%	67.36%		

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-505 Syracuse/Onondaga, Oswego Counties Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	537	9	63	465		
Individuals	341	9	37	295		
Families with children	196	0	26	170		
Transitional Housing	262	35	37	190		
Individuals	174	7	20	147		
Families with children	88	28	17	43		
Permanent Housing	1029	159	59	811		
Individuals	740	0	35	705		
Families with children	289	159	24	106		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: HMIS data provided by the Housing & Homeless Coalition of Syracuse & Onondaga County for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

#### **Student Homelessness in Onondaga County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Onondaga County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 2,620 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Onondaga County (1,905 living doubled up, 184 living in a hotel/motel, 531 living in a shelter, and 5 living unsheltered), an increase of about 639 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up and the number of children living in shelters increased from the prior year. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Onondaga County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	948	1019	1062	1474	1905
Children living in a hotel/motel	91	78	S	121	184
Children living in a shelter	218	193	255	380	531
Children living unsheltered	17	7	S	6	5

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

### **Student Homelessness in Oswego County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Oswego County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 707 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Oswego County (655 living doubled up and 52 living in a shelter), a decrease of about 9 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up decreased from the prior year, while the number of children living in hotels/motels increased by about 3. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

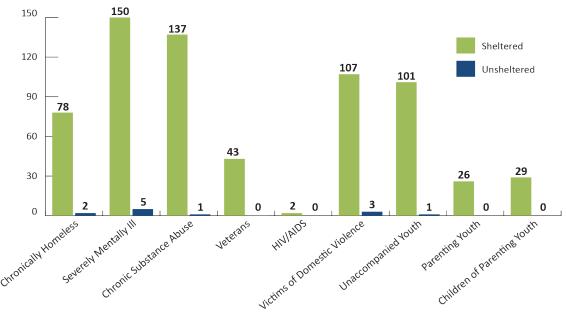
#### Oswego County

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	515	640	591	667	655
Children living in a hotel/motel	24	30	S	S	S
Children living in a shelter	47	55	45	49	52
Children living unsheltered	19	13	S	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

# **Homeless Subpopulations in Onondaga and Oswego Counties**



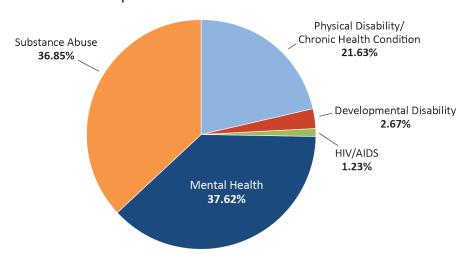


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-505 Syracuse/Onondaga, Oswego Counties PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Onondaga and Oswego Counties**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

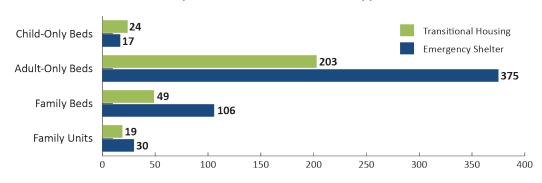


Source: HMIS data provided by the Housing & Homeless Coalition of Syracuse & Onondaga County for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

# **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Onondaga and Oswego Counties**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

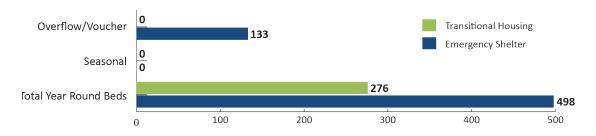
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	19	49	203	24
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	30	106	375	17

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-505 Syracuse/Onondaga, Oswego Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

## **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	276	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	498	0	133

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-505 Syracuse/Onondaga, Oswego Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

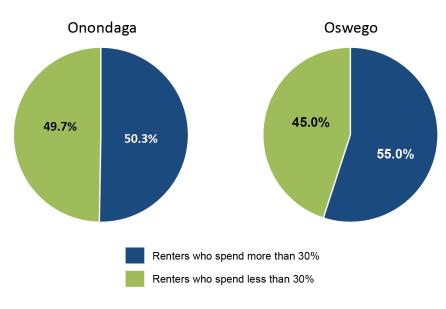
# **Selected Housing Characteristics for Onondaga and Oswego Counties**

Populations at risk for becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

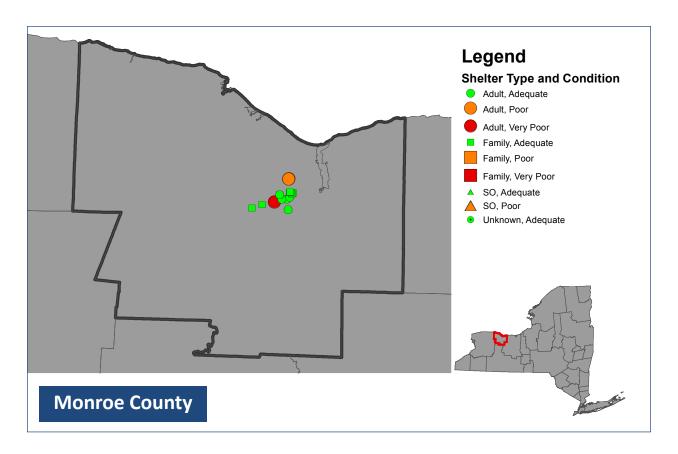
	Onondaga	Oswego
Total Housing Units	203,496	53,661
Vacant Housing Units	18,407	8,361
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.5%	2.6%
Rental vacancy rate	6.2%	7.2%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,372	\$1,214
Median Rent	\$771	\$725
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing		
Owners with mortgage	25.1%	27.5%
Renters	50.3%	55.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

# Renters by County



# 5. CoC Number NY-500: Cities of Rochester, Irondequoit, and Greece and Monroe County



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Monroe County**

	Monroe
Population*	748,076
Median Age*	38.5
Median Household Income*	\$52,501
Number of Unemployed◊	18,863
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	15.4%
Children in Poverty†	22.2%
Number of Estimated Homeless∆	762

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# **Homeless Counts in Monroe County**

An estimated 762 people in Monroe County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	499					
Persons in households with children	242	155	35	52		
Persons in households without children	257	0	66	191		
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	228					
Persons in households with children	131	84	25	22		
Persons in households without children	97	0	30	67		
Unsheltered	35					
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0		
Persons in households without children	35	0	4	31		
Total Homeless Persons	762	239	160	363		
Percentage		31.36%	21.00%	47.64%		

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-500 Rochester/Monroe County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Emergency Shelter	4891					
Individuals	2363	243	530	1590		
Families with children	2528	1558	362	608		
Transitional Housing	485					
Individuals	285	10	83	192		
Families with children	200	125	41	34		
Permanent Housing	1832					
Individuals	956	0	81	875		
Families with children	876	506	87	283		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: HMIS data provided by the Rochester Housing Authority for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

# **Student Homelessness in Monroe County**

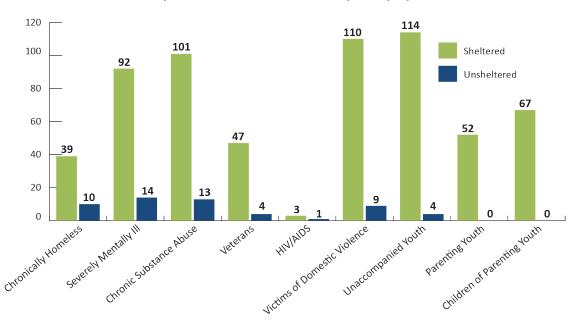
Based on data submitted by school districts in Monroe County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 3,030 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Monroe County (2,197 living doubled up, 624 living in a shelter or hotel/motel, and 209 living unsheltered), a decrease of about 34 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up decreased from the prior year. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Monroe County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	1282	1783	1953	2203	2197
Children living in a hotel/motel	65	73	87	104	73
Children living in a shelter	488	555	515	492	551
Children living unsheltered	22	11	18	38	209

#### **Homeless Subpopulations in Monroe County**

### Summary of Homeless Persons by Subpopulations

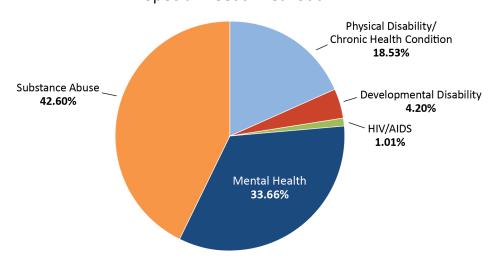


Source: HUD 2015 CoC 500 Rochester/Monroe County PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Monroe County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

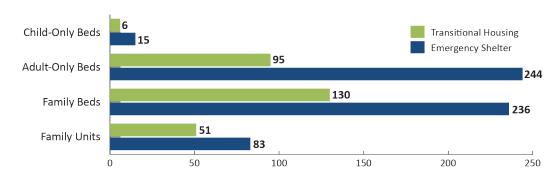


Source: HMIS data provided by the Rochester Housing Authority for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

# **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Monroe County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

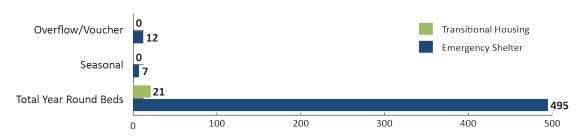
### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	51	130	95	6
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	83	236	244	15

Source: HUD 2015 CoC 500 Rochester/Monroe County Housing Inventory Count Report

## **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	21	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	495	7	12

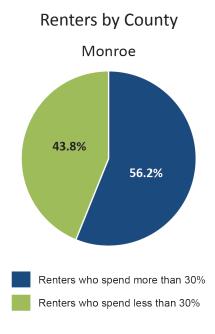
Source: HUD 2015 CoC 500 Rochester/Monroe Housing Inventory Count Report

## **Selected Housing Characteristics for Monroe County**

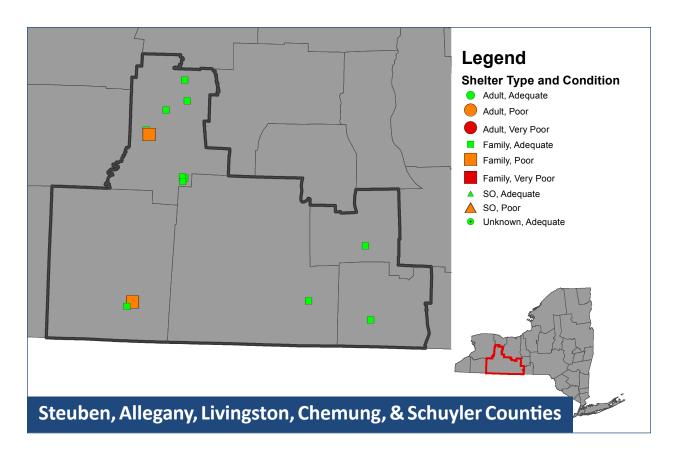
Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

	Monroe
Total Housing Units	322,204
Vacant Housing Units	23,289
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.0%
Rental vacancy rate	6.4%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,374
Median Rent	\$820
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	27.8%
Renters	56.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



# 6. CoC Number NY-501: City of Elmira and Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties



# Basic Facts and Demographics in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

	Steuben	Allegany	Livingston	Chemung	Schuyler
Population*	98,917	48,387	64,867	88,681	18,458
Median Age*	41.8	38.3	39.9	40.9	44.9
Median Household Income*	\$47,733	\$42,726	\$52,200	\$49,685	\$49,225
Number of Unemployed◊	2,810	1,345	1,669	2,247	565
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	15.9%	17.0%	14.7%	16.0%	13.4%
Children in Poverty†	24.1%	26.5%	18.9%	26.6%	23.9%
Number of Estimated Homeless – All Counties in CoC NY-501Δ			648		

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# Homeless Counts in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

An estimated 648 people in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler counties are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group							
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24			
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	25						
Persons in households with children	9	4	2	3			
Persons in households without children	16	0	2	14			
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	452						
Persons in households with children	238	152	30	56			
Persons in households without children	214	0	38	176			
Unsheltered	171						
Persons in households with children	49	30	8	11			
Persons in households without children	122	0	27	95			
Total Homeless Persons	648	186	107	355			
Percentage		28.70%	16.51%	54.78%			

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-501 Elmira/Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, Schuyler Counties Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/28/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Emergency Shelter	506					
Individuals	330	5	72	253		
Families with children	176	95	15	66		
Transitional Housing	451					
Individuals	293	1	55	237		
Families with children	158	98	21	39		
Permanent Housing	1216					
Individuals	691	0	91	600		
Families with children	525	302	58	165		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: HMIS data provided by Catholic Charities of Chemung and Schuyler counties for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

# Student Homelessness in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

Based on data submitted by school districts in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler counties, for the 2015-2015 school year, 538 school-age children experienced homelessness, an increase of about 43 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children living doubled up decreased in Steuben and Schuyler counties. The number of children spending the night living in hotels/motels or shelters increased slightly or remained about the same for all of the counties. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### Steuben County

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	97	134	149	168	113
Children living in a hotel/motel	15	22	37	16	19
Children living in a shelter	S	S	S	S	36
Children living unsheltered	S	S	S	S	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

#### **Allegany County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	59	63	96	84	86
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	6	S	S	6
Children living in a shelter	S	11	9	6	S
Children living unsheltered	0	0	S	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

#### **Livingston County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	37	97	90	92	110
Children living in a hotel/motel	13	19	14	6	12
Children living in a shelter	7	6	S	16	9
Children living unsheltered	0	0	S	0	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

## **Chemung County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	67	71	73	61	103
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	9	S	S	0
Children living in a shelter	10	S	S	S	9
Children living unsheltered	S	S	0	0	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

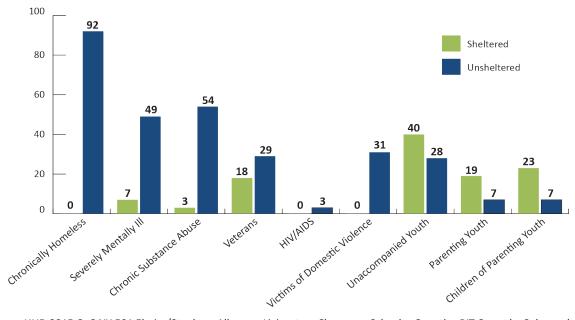
# **Schuyler County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	18	21	19	22	20
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	8	0	S	S
Children living in a shelter	10	S	S	6	11
Children living unsheltered	S	S	S	S	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

# Homeless Subpopulations in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties



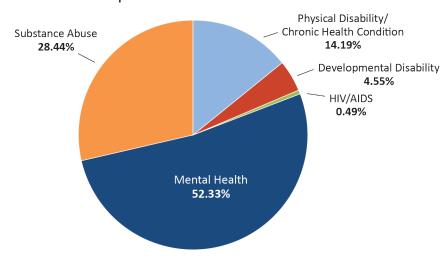


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-501 Elmira/Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, Schuyler Counties PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015)

# Breakout of Special Needs for Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

#### Special Needs Breakout

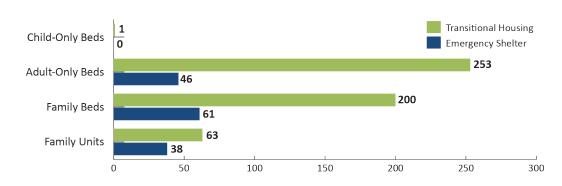


Source: HMIS data provided by Catholic Charities of Chemung and Schuyler counties for the federal fiscal year ending 2015

# Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

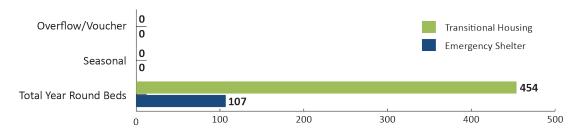
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	63	200	253	1
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	38	61	46	0

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-501 Elmira/Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, Schuyler Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

#### **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	454	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	107	0	0

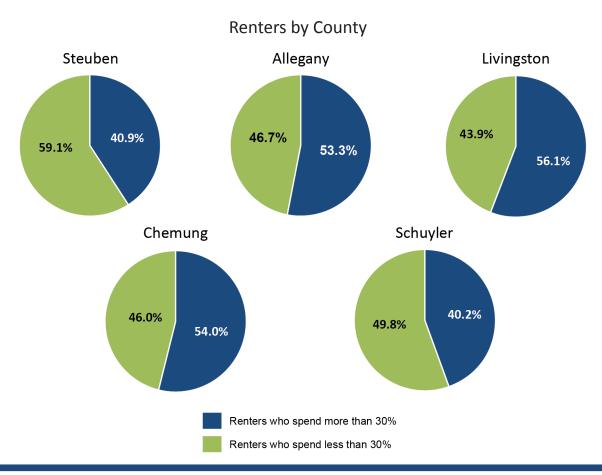
Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-501 Elmira/Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, Schuyler Counties Housing Inventory Count Report

# Selected Housing Characteristics for Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, and Schuyler Counties

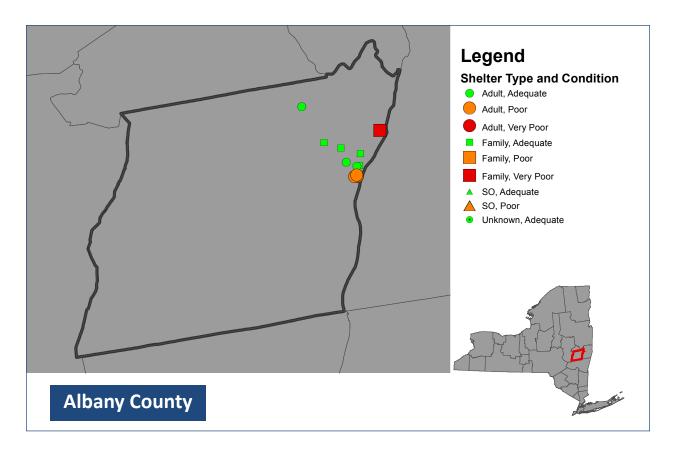
Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30% or less of a household's income.

	Steuben	Allegany	Livingston	Chemung	Schuyler
Total Housing Units	48,859	26,106	27,220	38,376	9,507
Vacant Housing Units	7,574	7,699	2,978	2,986	1,748
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.2%	1.1%	1.5%	1.0%	0.5%
Rental vacancy rate	3.7%	4.2%	6.3%	4.5%	5.8%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,096	\$1,003	\$1,283	\$1,111	\$1,129
Median Rent	\$664	\$604	\$711	\$707	\$620
Spend More Than 30% of Household income on Housing					
Owners with mortgage	25.6%	26.0%	26.7%	19.7%	25.1%
Renters	40.9%	53.3%	56.1%	54.0%	40.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



# 7. CoC Number NY-503: City of Albany and Albany County



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Albany County**

	Albany
Population*	306,124
Median Age*	37.9
Median Household Income*	\$59,940
Number of Unemployed◊	7,007
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	13.6%
Children in Poverty†	18.5%
Number of Estimated HomelessΔ	597

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

 $\Delta$  Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

## **Homeless Counts in Albany County**

An estimated 597 people in Albany County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	450					
Persons in households with children	111	70	7	34		
Persons in households without children	339	-	14	325		
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	127					
Persons in households with children	48	34	7	7		
Persons in households without children	79	-	21	58		
Unsheltered	20					
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0		
Persons in households without children	20	-	-	20		
Total Homeless Persons	597	104	49	444		
Percentage		17.42%	8.21%	74.37%		

Source: HUD CoC 2015 NY-503 Albany/Albany County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/29/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	2127					
Individuals	1155	121	122	912		
Families with children	972	622	78	272		
Transitional Housing	222					
Individuals	170	19	27	124		
Families with children	52	28	23	1		
Permanent Housing	893					
Individuals	533	1	23	509		
Families with children	360	209	21	130		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Albany City & County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

### **Student Homelessness in Albany County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Albany County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 678 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Albany County (564 living doubled up and 114 living in a shelter), a decrease of about 34 from the 2013-2014 school year. Although the number of children spending the night in motels and shelters declined, the number of children spending the night doubled up increased (from 429 to 564). The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

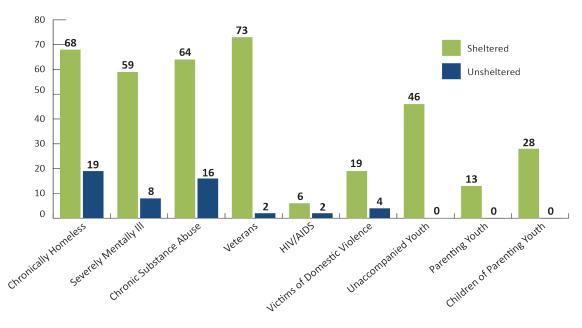
#### **Albany County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	232	400	428	429	564
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	50	S	56	S
Children living in a shelter	252	482	303	227	114
Children living unsheltered	S	0	S	0	S

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

# **Homeless Subpopulations in Albany County**

# Summary of Homeless Persons by Subpopulations

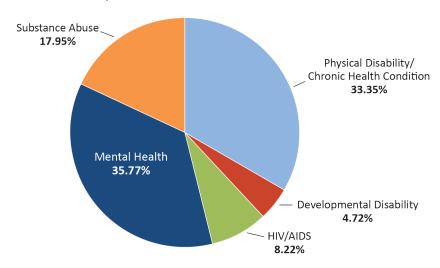


<sup>\*</sup>Source: HUD CoC 2015 NY-503 Albany/Albany County PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/29/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Albany County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

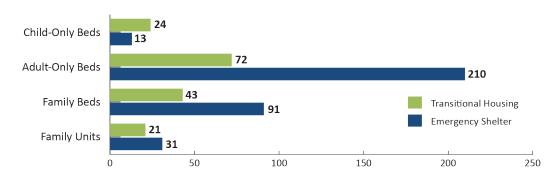


Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Albany City & County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

#### **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Albany County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

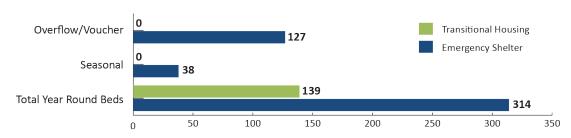
### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	21	43	72	24
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	31	91	210	13

Source: HUD CoC 2015 NY-503 Albany/Albany County Housing Inventory Count Report

#### **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	139	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	314	38	127

Source: HUD CoC 2015 NY-503 Albany/Albany County Housing Inventory Count Report

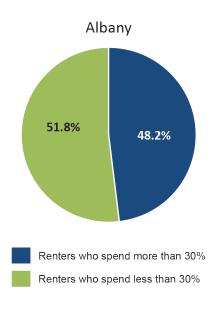
# **Selected Housing Characteristics for Albany County**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

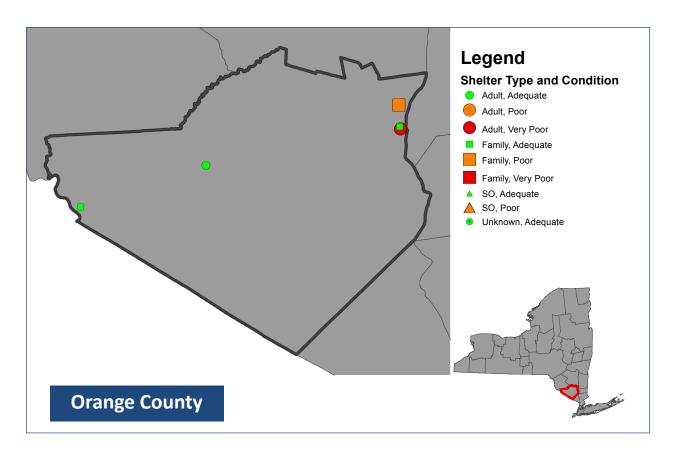
	Albany
Total Housing Units	137,859
Vacant Housing Units	14,914
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.6%
Rental vacancy rate	5.7%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,684
Median Rent	\$918
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	27.3%
Renters	48.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## Renters by County



# 8. CoC Number NY-602: Cities of Newburgh and Middletown, and Orange County



## **Basic Facts and Demographics in Orange County**

	Orange
Population*	374,518
Median Age*	36.8
Median Household Income*	\$70,794
Number of Unemployed◊	8,426
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	12.6%
Children in Poverty†	20.8%
Number of Estimated Homeless∆	495

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# **Homeless Counts in Orange County**

An estimated 495 people in Orange County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	303					
Persons in households with children	163	110	16	37		
Persons in households without children	140		15	125		
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	47					
Persons in households with children	37	19	2	16		
Persons in households without children	10		0	10		
Unsheltered	145	0				
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0		
Persons in households without children	145		17	128		
Total Homeless Persons	495	129	50	316		
Percentage		26.06%	10.10%	63.84%		

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-602 Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/30/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015						
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24		
Emergency Shelter	1111					
Individuals	700	123	88	489		
Families w/Children	411	270	41	100		
Transitional Housing	209					
Individuals	67	0	19	48		
Families w/Children	142	86	14	42		
Permanent Housing	597					
Individuals	392	1	26	365		
Families w/Children	205	114	16	75		

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Newburgh/Middletown/Orange County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

### **Student Homelessness in Orange County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Orange County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 1,568 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Orange County (1,060 living doubled up, 502 living in a shelter or hotel/motel, and 6 living unsheltered), a decrease of about 28 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up decreased from the prior year, but the number of children living in hotels/motels increased from 167 to 193. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

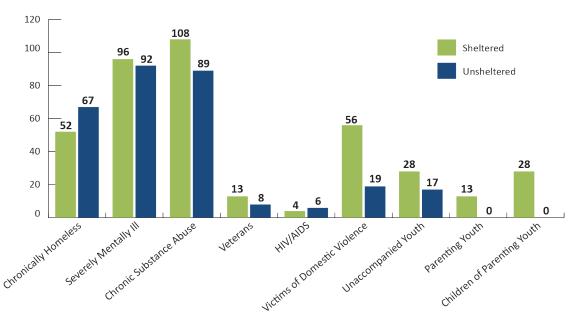
#### **Orange County**

School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	869	850	980	1108	1060
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	S	164	167	193
Children living in a shelter	161	242	256	313	309
Children living unsheltered	S	S	7	8	6

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

# **Homeless Subpopulations in Orange County**

### Summary of Homeless Persons by Subpopulations

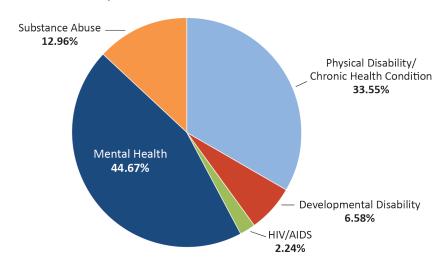


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-602 Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/28/2015))

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Orange County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

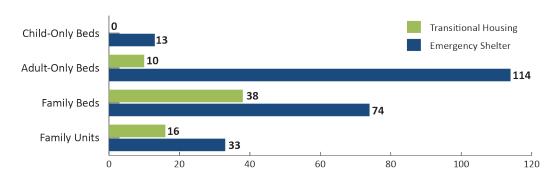


Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Newburgh/Middletown/Orange County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

# **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Orange County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

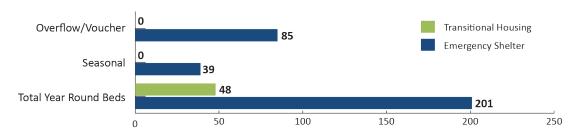
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	16	38	10	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	33	74	114	13

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-602 Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County Housing Inventory Count Report

#### **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	48	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	201	39	85

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-602 Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County Housing Inventory Count Report

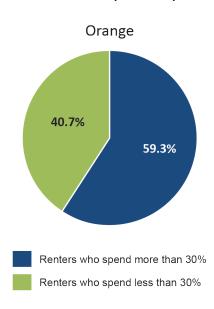
# **Selected Housing Characteristics for Orange County**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

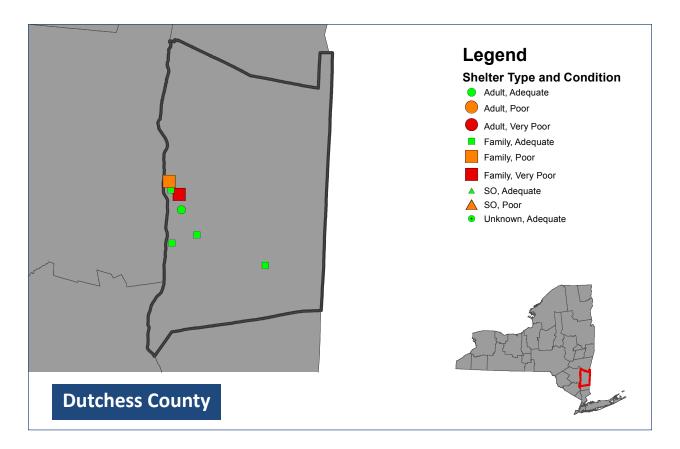
	Orange
Total Housing Units	138,441
Vacant Housing Units	13,540
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.3%
Rental vacancy rate	4.8%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$2,318
Median Rent	\$1,156
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	27.2%
Renters	59.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

# Renters by County



# 9. CoC Number NY-601: City of Poughkeepsie and Dutchess County



# **Basic Facts and Demographics in Dutchess County**

	Dutchess
Population*	297,388
Median Age*	40.8
Median Household Income*	\$72,471
Number of Unemployed◊	6,567
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	8.8%
Children in Poverty†	12.9%
Number of Estimated HomelessΔ	375

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

 $\Delta$  Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

<sup>♦</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

#### **Homeless Counts in Dutchess County**

An estimated 375 people in Dutchess County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	169				
Persons in households with children	99	58	7	34	
Persons in households without children	70	0	9	61	
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	191				
Persons in households with children	106	61	7	38	
Persons in households without children	85	0	11	74	
Unsheltered	15				
Persons in households with children	0	0	0	0	
Persons in households without children	15	0	0	15	
Total Homeless Persons	375	119	34	222	
Percentage		31.73%	9.07%	59.20%	

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-601 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/25/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Emergency Shelter	1101				
Individuals	831	65	99	667	
Families with children	270	166	24	80	
Transitional Housing	324				
Individuals	215	0	32	183	
Families with children	109	60	11	38	
Permanent Housing	289				
Individuals	206	0	9	197	
Families with children	83	46	6	31	

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Dutchess County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

# **Student Homelessness in Dutchess County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Dutchess County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 669 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Dutchess County (359 living doubled up and 310 living in a shelter or hotel/motel), an increase of about 127 from the 2013-2014 school year. Both the number of children spending the night in motels and shelters and the number of children spending the night doubled up increased from 2013-2014 to 2014-2015. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Dutchess County**

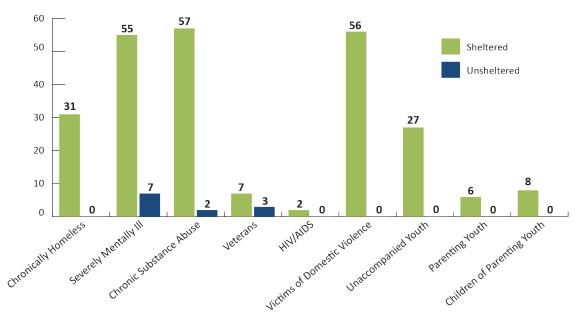
School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	233	239	277	287	359
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	S	S	S	69
Children living in a shelter	192	222	277	255	241
Children living unsheltered	S	S	S	S	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

# **Homeless Subpopulations in Dutchess County**



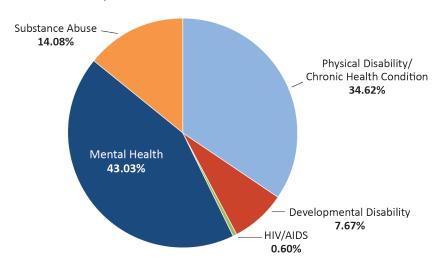


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-601 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Homeless Point in Time (PIT) by Subpopulations Reported (1/25/2015)

# **Breakout of Special Needs for Dutchess County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

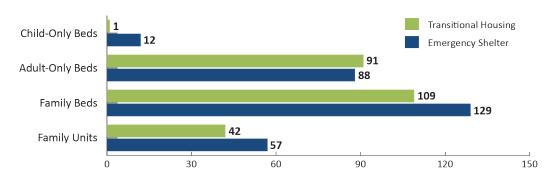


Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

#### **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Dutchess County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

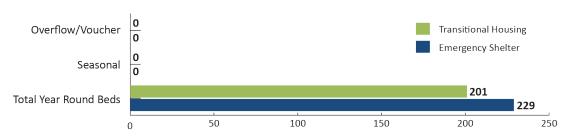
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	42	109	91	1
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	57	129	88	12

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-601 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Housing Inventory Count Report

### **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	201	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	229	0	0

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-601 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Housing Inventory Count Report

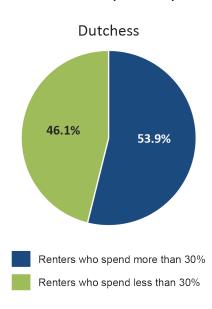
# **Selected Housing Characteristics for Dutchess County**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

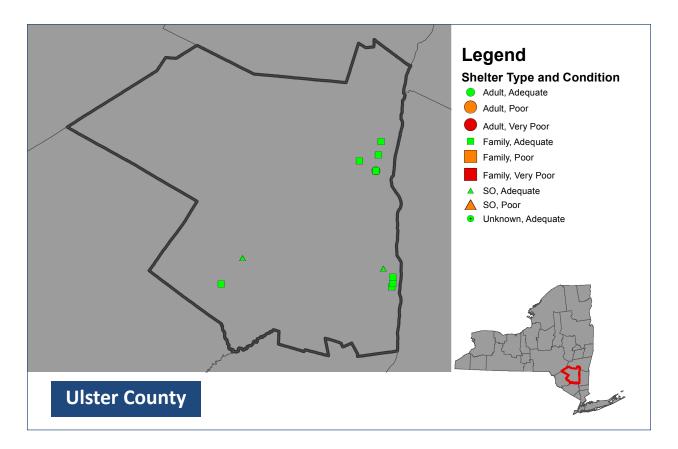
	Dutchess
Total Housing Units	118,848
Vacant Housing Units	11,950
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.0%
Rental vacancy rate	7.3%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$2,276
Median Rent	\$1,124
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	43.2%
Renters	53.9%

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-601 Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County Housing Inventory Count Report

# Renters by County



# 10. CoC Number NY-608: City of Kingston and Ulster County



### **Basic Facts and Demographics in Ulster County**

	Ulster
Population*	181,598
Median Age*	42.9
Median Household Income*	\$58,592
Number of Unemployed◊	4,339
Individuals Below the Poverty Level*	12.3%
Children in Poverty†	17.3%
Number of Estimated Homeless∆	343

<sup>\*</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

 $<sup>\</sup>Diamond$  Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Force Data by County, 2015 Annual Averages

<sup>†</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE)

Δ Source: HUD 2015 CoC Point-in-Time (PIT) Date: 1/28/2015

# **Homeless Counts in Ulster County**

An estimated 343 people in Ulster County are homeless on any given night.

Homeless PIT Results by Household Type and Age Group					
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24	
Sheltered/Emergency Shelter	248				
Persons in households with children	141	86	9	46	
Persons in households without children	107	0	12	95	
Sheltered/Transitional Housing	29				
Persons in households with children	3	3	0	0	
Persons in households without children	26	0	12	14	
Unsheltered	66				
Persons in households with children	11	6	0	5	
Persons in households without children	54	0	2	52	
Total Homeless Persons	343	95	35	212	
Percentage		27.70%	10.20%	61.81%	

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-608 Kingston/Ulster County Homeless PIT Count by Household Type and Age Group (1/30/2015)

The following chart provides data on homeless individuals and the types of shelter/housing programs provided by those projects that participate in the local CoC and HMIS database.\*

Unduplicated Persons by Shelter Type, Federal Year Ending 2015				
	Totals	Children Under 18	Persons Age 18 – 24	Persons Over Age 24
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	1178			
Individuals	588	97	102	389
Families with children	590	353	65	172
Transitional Housing	79			
Individuals	79	12	22	45
Families with children	0	0	0	0
Permanent Housing	236			
Individuals	126	0	14	112
Families with children	110	66	9	35

<sup>\*</sup>Programs by non-mandated providers may not be included.

Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Kingston/Ulster CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

# **Student Homelessness in Ulster County**

Based on data submitted by school districts in Ulster County, for the 2014-2015 school year, there were at least 536 school-age children experiencing homelessness in Ulster County (279 living doubled up, 257 living in a shelter or hotel/motel), a significant increase of about 372 from the 2013-2014 school year. The number of children spending the night living doubled up increased (from 108 to 279), as has the number of children spending the night in shelters. The number of children living doubled up is significant because children living doubled up are at a higher risk of living in an unstable and potentially abusive environment. Because the housing situation is not permanent, children living doubled up are also at a higher risk of losing shelter.

#### **Ulster County**

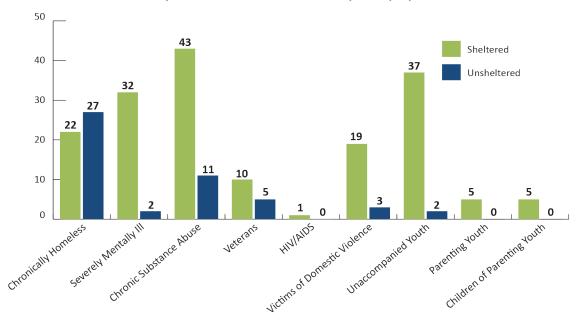
School Count Categories	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Children doubled up	211	263	305	108	279
Children living in a hotel/motel	S	106	S	S	119
Children living in a shelter	173	169	170	36	138
Children living unsheltered	S	5	S	S	0

s = suppressed (1-4 students identified as homeless)

Source: NYS SIRS Reporting Data

#### **Homeless Subpopulations in Ulster County**



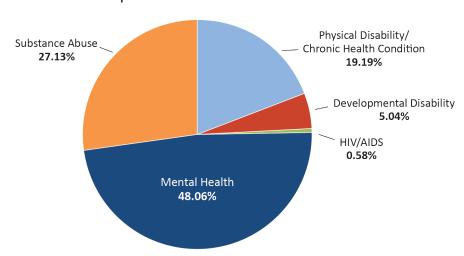


Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-608 Kingston/Ulster County PIT Count by Subpopulations Reported (1/30/2015)

#### **Breakout of Special Needs for Ulster County**

Many homeless individuals experience at least one physical, emotional, or other disabling health condition. The chart below is a breakout by condition based on the data self-reported by those homeless individuals who experienced one or more of the conditions.

Special Needs Breakout

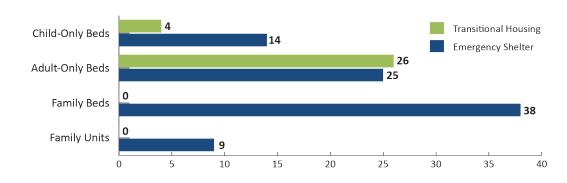


Source: Federal fiscal year 2015 Kingston/Ulster CoC Annual HMIS Report, Cares Regional Report

# **Emergency, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing in Ulster County**

The charts below indicate the number of available beds at the time of the PIT count, as reported to HUD by the CoC.

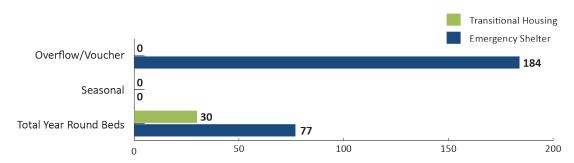
#### Beds by Intended Household Type Served



	Family Units	Family Beds	Adult-Only Beds	Child-Only Beds
Transitional Housing	0	0	26	4
Emergency Shelter	9	38	25	14

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-608 Kingston/Ulster County Housing Inventory Count Report

# **Housing Inventory Count**



	Total Year Round Beds	Seasonal	Overflow/Voucher
Transitional Housing	30	0	0
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	77	0	184

Source: HUD 2015 CoC NY-608 Kingston/Ulster County Housing Inventory Count Report

# **Selected Housing Characteristics for Ulster County**

Populations at risk of becoming homeless include low-income rental households. Housing is considered affordable when it accounts for 30 percent or less of a household's income.

	Ulster
Total Housing Units	83,738
Vacant Housing Units	14,350
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.4%
Rental vacancy rate	7.1%
Median Monthly Owner Costs for Housing Units with a Mortgage	\$1,908
Median Rent	\$1,014
Spend More Than 30% of Household Income on Housing	
Owners with mortgage	41.5%
Renters	59.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

#### Renters by County

