2020 Denton County Homelessness Data Report

June 2020
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United Way of Denton County is proud to partner with local governments, businesses, healthcare providers and nonprofits to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring in our community. As backbone support to the Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team, the United Way of Denton County assists with the implementation of a county-wide strategic plan to end homelessness.

The Denton County Homeless Coalition, a working group of the Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team, partners with the Texas Homeless Network to fulfill federal guidelines and promote resource and information sharing.
No single source of data tells the whole story of homelessness, and no single organization can solve homelessness on their own. This report highlights the many community partners implementing data-driven solutions to systematically address homelessness and housing insecurity Denton County.

The Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard is made possible through the collaboration of nonprofit partners in Denton County to uniformly identify, assess and prioritize our neighbors experiencing homelessness for available housing resources. The use of shared processes and a shared database allow us to analyze and improve Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System. The dashboard is updated with monthly data throughout the year to make it as real time as possible.

The Point-In-Time (PIT) Count is an annual, nationwide census of people experiencing homelessness that provides a snapshot of the homeless experience on any given day. The PIT Count provides self-reported data of the experiences and needs of people experiencing homelessness in our community.
Denton County Homelessness
Data-Driven Impact

The Housing Crisis Response System (HCRS) is a network of agencies working together to prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who are experiencing homelessness to stable housing. Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System has multiple levels of collaboration, from quasi-governmental policy-making to the boots-on-the-ground support to assist those in need.

Agencies participating in Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System are:

• Christian Community Action
• Denton County MHMR
• Denton County Veteran Service Office
• Giving Hope Inc.
• Grace Like Rain
• Interfaith Ministries
• Metrocrest Services
• Monsignor King Outreach Center
• Next Steps – The Colony
• Our Daily Bread
• Recovery Resource Council
• Salvation Army of Denton
• Salvation Army of Lewisville
• United Way of Denton County

Keep an eye out for the yellow boxes throughout this report that highlight key findings within the data.
Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard

Demographic Data

**AGE**
- 18 to 24: 14
- 25 to 34: 62
- 35 to 49: 106
- 50 to 64: 152
- 65 and up: 16
- Not Reported: 12

**RACE**
- Not-Reported/Race Not Listed: 9
- Hispanic/Latino: 234
- Non-Hispanic/Latino: 95
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 26
- Asian: 7
- Multi-Racial: 9
- Black/African American: 14
- Other: 3

**GENDER**
- Male: 67.1%
- Female: 29.3%
- Not Reported: 3.3%
- Trans Female (MTF): 0.3%

**ETHNICITY**
- Hispanic/Latino: 43
- Not Reported: 305
- Non-Hispanic/Latino: 14
Denton County Homelessness
Data Dashboard

In March of 2020, there were 362 households experiencing homelessness in Denton County.

Assessing households for the type of housing that best fits their needs allows us to match them with the most appropriate resource, identify gaps in our system and advocate for increased resources. The three housing intervention types are:

- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** – Long term or permanent housing and wrap around care assistance for households

- **Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)** – Short term housing and wrap around assistance for households that is generally up to 24 months

- **Diversion** – Minimal housing assistance to obtain housing that the household maintains following the assistance

In the 6-month period from October 2019 to March 2020, the need for Permanent Supportive Housing has grown greater than the need for Rapid Re-Housing for the first time in our community. This increase directly relates to people developing more vulnerabilities and aging into chronicity in our Housing Crisis Response System.

Denton County Housing Needs by Intervention Type

2020 Denton County Homelessness Data Report
Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard

Inflow Data

Each month we track how people enter the Denton County Housing Crisis Response System (HCRS). These ‘inflows’ are categorized as:

- **New Assessments** – a household that has never been enrolled in CE before
- **Reassessments** – a household that needs their information to be updated to more accurately reflect their current situation after extended period since last assessment or the household's family structure has changed
- **Returned from Inactive** – a household that is returning from being moved to inactive in the HMIS (moving to inactive means the household did not access services for 90+ days)
- ** Returned from Housing** – a household is returning from being housed previously

Tracking inflows allows us to assess the effectiveness of our Housing Crisis Response System and plan for resources to meet the need.

Inflows to Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Assessments</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>445</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reassessments</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ret. from Inactive</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ret. from Housing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2020 Denton County Homelessness Data Report
Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard

Outflow Data

Tracking exits or ‘outflows’ from Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System lets us know how our system is performing in its goal to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring. Types of Outflows are:

- **Housed** – A household has moved into housing either independently or through assistance at an agency
- **Moved to Inactive** – A household stopped accessing services for 90+ days and agencies involved do not have an update on the household
- **Permanently Left Service Area** – A household left the county to seek assistance or support elsewhere.

Between March 2019 and February 2020, the average length of time people spent experiencing homelessness in Denton County before being housed was 9 months.

Outflows from Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System

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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moved into Housing</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marked as Inactive</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perm. Left Service Area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School District Data

School districts across the country are required to appoint a Homeless Liaison to track student homelessness data. The data in the chart to the right was collected from each Denton County ISD’s Homeless Liaison.

The Department of Education holds a broader definition of homelessness for children and youth from the McKinney Vento Act. Students considered experiencing homelessness are either:

- **Experiencing literal homelessness** – the student’s primary nighttime residence is a place not meant for human habitation, OR
- **Living in a doubled-up situation** – the student is sharing the housing of other persons/families.

### Student’s Experiencing Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School District</th>
<th>March 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argyle</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aubrey</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krum</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Dallas</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewisville</td>
<td>1,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Elm</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot Point</td>
<td>null</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponder</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanger</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data for Pilot Point ISD not available.
Denton County Homelessness

Ending Veteran Homelessness

The Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team has a strategic goal to End Veteran Homelessness by 2020. Denton and Lewisville’s Mayors have also signed on to the Mayors Challenge (linked) to End Veteran Homelessness.

An end to Veteran homelessness means that Denton County has a systematic response in place to ensure homelessness among Veterans is prevented when possible, or is otherwise rare, brief and nonrecurring.

Currently Veterans make up approximately 9% of Denton County’s homeless population.

On average, 3-4 Veterans enter Denton County’s Housing Crisis Response System every 90 days. We will meet our goal when we can house more Veterans every month than the amount of Veterans entering our system.

28 VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
240 DAYS UNTIL OUR GOAL
2020 PIT Count volunteers canvassed more of the county than any previous count. 98 volunteers canvassed 17 cities and towns and surveyed 258 unique individuals.

Survey Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Observational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observational surveys are surveys completed by observing someone and not asking participant the survey questions.

Total Persons Surveyed

- 2016: 230
- 2017: 228
- 2018: 255
- 2019: 194
- 2020: 258

33% increase in surveys from 2019 to 2020
Denton County Homelessness
2020 Point In Time Count

Participant Demographics

**ETHNICITY**
- Don’t Know/Refused
- Hispanic/Latino
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ETHNICITY</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know/Refused</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RACE**
- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Multiple
- Don’t Know/Refused

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RACE</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaskan Native</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know/Refused</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENDER**
- Male
- Female

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENDER</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AGE**
- 17 & Under
- 18 - 24
- 25 +

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 &amp; Under</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 - 24</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 +</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>231</td>
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</tbody>
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2020 Denton County Homelessness Data Report
Denton County Homelessness
2020 Point In Time Count

Participant Education and Income

Education Level

- Nearly 20% of people surveyed during the PIT Count were receiving disability benefits and still experiencing homelessness.
- Disability income alone often does not allow individuals to sustain rent and living expenses.

Source of income for the last 12 months

*** Participants were able to select multiple answers ***
27% of survey respondents have been experiencing homelessness for 3 years or longer.
Denton County Homelessness
2020 Point In Time Count

Special Populations

Top 5 Reasons for Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unable to pay rent/mortgage</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family/personal issues</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical/mental disabilities</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of assistance/resources</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***Participants were able to select more than one response***

Vulnerable Populations

- **Domestic Violence**: 25.8%
- **HIV/AIDS**: 2.2%
- **Substance Abuse Disorder**: 19.4%
- **Serious Mental Illness**: 52.7%

Previous Institutional Involvement

Participants were asked to identify institutions they have been involved with at any point in their life.

- Criminal Justice: 79
- Foster Care: 7
- Long-term hospitalization: 13
- Drug treatment: 31
- Mental health treatment: 53
- Child Protective Services: 24

2020 Denton County Homelessness Data Report
The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the 2020 PIT Count aligns with trends from previous years, indicating the number of Veterans identified in the 2019 PIT Count was an anomaly.
Chronic Homelessness is defined as living with a disabling condition and experiencing homelessness for a length of 12 or more months within 3 years.

29% (56 individuals) of people surveyed during the 2020 PIT Count were experiencing Chronic Homelessness.
Denton County Homelessness

Key Findings

Racial Inequity

- African American households are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. While African Americans make up 9.3% of all Denton County residents, they account for 18.4% of respondents for the 2020 PIT Count and 26.2% of households represented on the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard.

Chronic Homelessness

- As of April 2020, 35.7% of the population of people on our dashboard are experiencing chronic homelessness.
- There was a 75% increase in people experiencing chronic homelessness in the 2020 PIT Count (56 individuals) from the 2019 PIT Count (32 individuals).
- The longer an individual experiences homelessness, the more severe their disabilities become which can make it hard to secure stable housing. As the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness increases, so does the need for supported housing interventions like Permanent Supportive Housing, Housing Vouchers, and Skilled Nursing Facilities.
Veterans

• Veterans in Denton County make up approximately 9% of people experiencing homelessness compared to 5% of the general population, indicating that Veterans are experiencing homelessness at a slightly higher rate.
• The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the 2020 PIT Count (18 individuals) aligns with trends from previous years, indicating the number of Veterans identified in the 2019 PIT Count (7 individuals) was an anomaly.

Youth

• There was a 28% decrease in the number of Unaccompanied Youth (18-24 years old) experiencing homelessness compared to the 2019 PIT Count.
• The number of children experiencing homelessness increased from 1 child to 9 children from the 2019 PIT County to the 2020 PIT Count. These are children living with household units rather than unaccompanied.

Mental Illness

• 85.7% of people surveyed that reported living with a serious mental illness were also living unsheltered at the time of the PIT Count. A person is considered living with a serious mental illness when their mental illness or emotional impairments seriously limit their ability to live independently.
• The Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard is updated monthly to reflect current data: [https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/homelessness-data-denton-county](https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/homelessness-data-denton-county)

• Texas Homeless Network is the lead agency for the Balance of State (BoS), Denton County’s Continuum Care for federal and state homelessness funding: [www.thn.org](http://www.thn.org)

• Visit the United Way of Denton County website to learn more about the Denton County Homelessness Leadership Team, Denton County Homeless Coalition and other housing solutions: [www.UnitedWayDenton.org/Homelessness](http://www.UnitedWayDenton.org/Homelessness)