



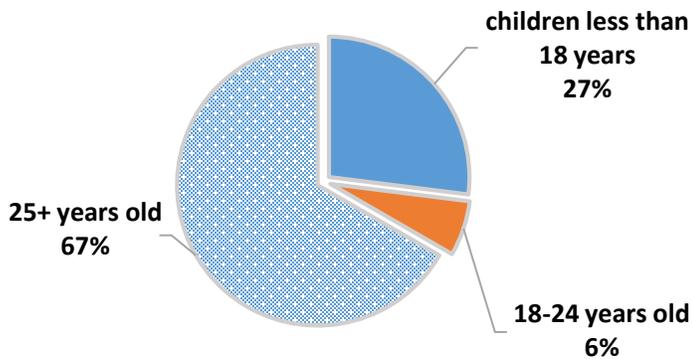
Homelessness in Johnson County, 2019

One hundred and eighty-nine persons were identified in Johnson County’s 2019 point-in-time (PIT) count of homelessness – an increase in overall numbers for a second year. The number of unsheltered individuals remained essentially the same – but the number of households in emergency shelter doubled. Understanding who is experiencing homelessness and their permanent housing needs is critical in Johnson County’s work to end homelessness in 2019 and beyond.

The term “homelessness” invokes a variety of images and experiences. The experience of homelessness results in significant barriers and challenges for adults and children, both now and in the future. Johnson County’s Continuum of Care on Homelessness is a collaboration of public and private service providers committed to quickly and effectively responding to housing crises to either prevent or end homelessness among local residents.

<p>The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires that Continuums of Care count all homeless households within their geographic region annually. The Johnson County Continuum of Care conducted its 2019 point-in-time count on the night of January 22. A total of 189 persons were identified as homeless on that night, having been either in emergency shelter, transitional housing or living in a place not meant for human habitation. Of these, 51 or 27% were under the age of 18 years. Thirty-nine persons were unsheltered – compared to 38 in 2018.</p>	2019 Point-In-Time Count				
		Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
	Total Number of Households	85	10	28	123
	Total Number of Persons	129	21	39	189
	Number of Children	40	11	0	51
	Number of Adults 18-24 years	9	3	0	12
	Number of Adults 25+ years	80	7	39	126

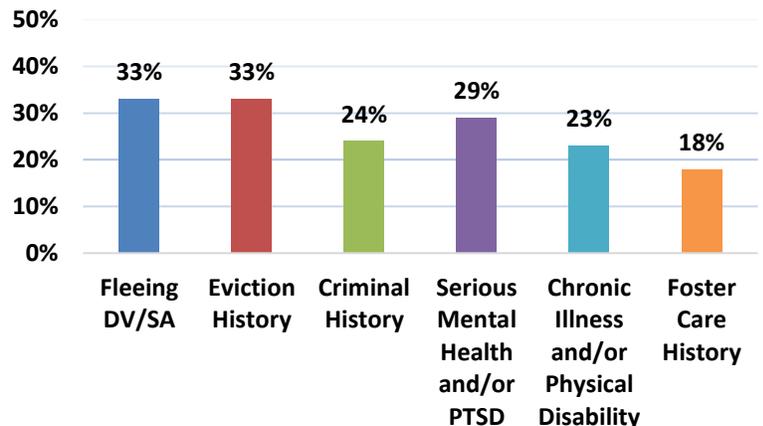
2019 PIT count by age group



In Johnson County, 58% of homeless adults surveyed during the 2019 point-in-time count reported they had been abused by a household member, either as a child or an adult. All adults were asked about behaviors and past experiences that may act as barriers to holding a job or living in stable housing. More than four in ten were employed, and almost half of adults reported a disability serious enough to affect their ability to keep a job or stay housed, including serious psychiatric disorders, PTSD, brain injury, and chronic or physical health conditions.

The median age of a person experiencing homelessness in Johnson County’s 2019 count was 32 years, continuing a trend of fewer children and older adults in the annual count. Forty-two percent or two in five persons identified as homeless in the 2019 point-in-time count were in households with children under 18 years of age. No unaccompanied youth or children under 18 were counted as unsheltered.

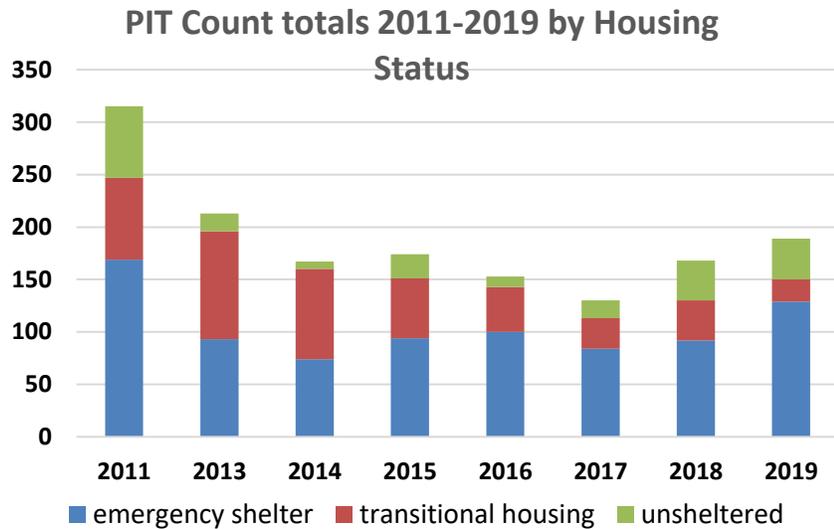
Characteristics of Households Experiencing Homelessness in the 2019 PIT



Johnson County Trends in Homelessness:

- 2019’s PIT count is the second year in a row that numbers of persons identified as experiencing homelessness increased. While overall numbers decreased from 2011 to 2017, the 2018 count of 168 reflected a one-year increase of 30% and 2019’s count was a 13% increase over 2018.
- The proportion of households experiencing homelessness who had no children is growing and the size of households with children is shrinking.
- Consistent with national trends, the median age of persons experiencing homelessness in Johnson County is rising.
- An increasing number of households are experiencing longer periods of homelessness. Thirty-two persons met the criteria for chronic homeless in 2019 – up from 14 in 2018 - having both been literally homeless 12 months or more in the past three years and having a significant disability that impacted their ability to maintain stable housing and employment.

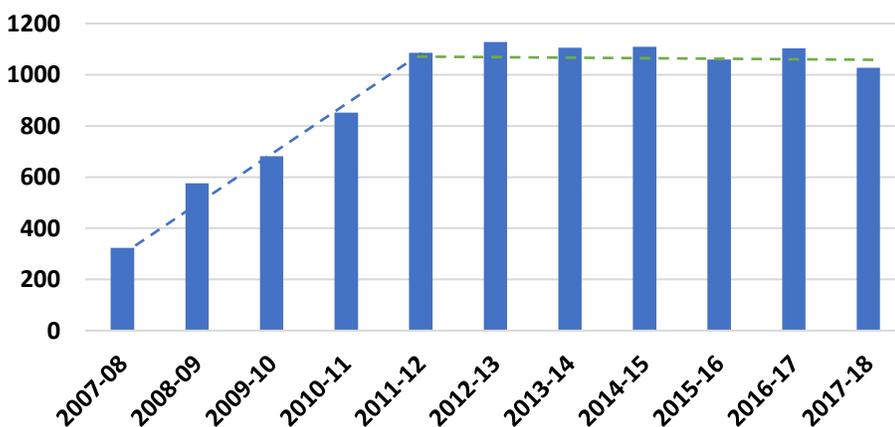
- Almost four of five households identified as homeless in 2019 were adult only households. While the opening of a cold weather shelter in 2018-19 winter season accounts for some of the shift, trend analyses without these households still find that the PIT count is shifting to adults. For example, three-fifths of households sheltered by a local domestic violence organization were single adult households.
- In 2019, there was not a large median age difference between those who were unsheltered (38 years) and the total PIT population (32 years).
- The chronically homeless proportion of the count has grown dramatically in the past two years, from 2% in 2017 to 17% in 2019.



Homelessness among School Age Children and Youth:

The Department of Education uses a broader definition of homelessness than the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). But like HUD, school districts are also required to count and report the number of children and youth in their district that were identified as homeless each school year. The Department of Education’s definition differs in that it also includes those students who are temporarily “doubled up” with family and friends in addition to those in shelter or on the streets.

Total number of McKinney Vento students in 6 Johnson County School Districts by school year



The number reported by school districts is not a count of one night – but reflects the total number of students who were identified as homeless at some point during a school year. Numbers of students experiencing homelessness in any given year in the six Johnson County school districts has varied little since 2011 (between 1,050-1,130 students per school year). Approximately 85% of those identified as homeless were “doubled up” and most were living with family members versus living on their own. Very few were classified as “unaccompanied youth”.

2018-19 school year numbers are not available until Fall 2019 from the KS Department of Education