LANE COUNTY, OREGON

2019 POINT IN TIME COUNT REPORT

VERSION 1.0
MAY 2019

LANE
COUNTY
OREGON

www.LaneCounty.org/HomelessCount

LANE COUNTY 2019 POINT IN TIME COUNT

Every year, on the last Wednesday of January, the Lane County Human Services Division conducts the annual one-night Homeless Point in Time (PIT) Count. The PIT Count is a three part survey which includes a count of the unsheltered and sheltered population of people experiencing homelessness, as well as a Housing Inventory Count (HIC) which is a point in time look at Continuum of Care beds and units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness.

The 2019 PIT Count was conducted for the night of January 30, 2019. Unsheltered count locations included the streets, under bridges, parks and other places not meant for human habitation, as well as food pantries, day access centers, schools, churches, emergency shelters, and transitional housing programs.

The Point-In-Time Count provides a useful tool for understanding homelessness and year-over-year trends in our community. One-night counts are required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Oregon Housing and Community Services (State of Oregon) which provides funding for housing and services related to homelessness. Across the nation, one night counts are conducted within the last 10 days of January. The Point in Time Summary is used year-round by planning boards, nonprofits, community organizations, and policy makers on local, state, and federal levels to inform their work on this issue.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development defines sheltered homeless persons as individuals and families who, on the night of the count, are living in shelters for the homeless or transitional housing projects. Unsheltered homelessness is defined as those who reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, Conestoga huts, or on the street. The sheltered count consists of data extracted from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and the unsheltered count consists of a street-based count, service-based count, and HMIS data. The PIT Count provides a snapshot of the County's visible homeless and is not intended to represent a complete accounting of the homeless population.
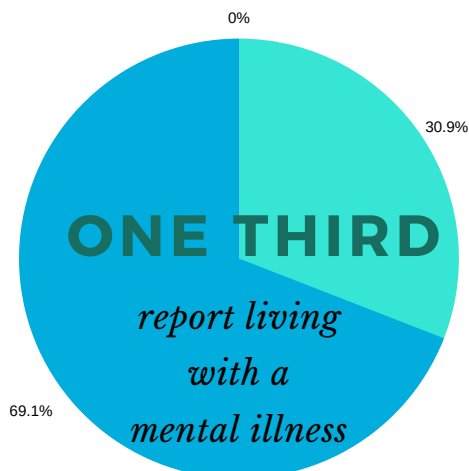
POINT IN TIME COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

2,165

TOTAL PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

426 individuals stayed in Emergency Shelter.
106 individuals were in Transitional Housing (counted as sheltered for the PIT Count).
1,633 individuals, families, and children were without shelter.

841

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

197 homeless veterans
26 unaccompanied homeless youth
84 families with children

0%
25%

ONE QUARTER

of all people counted report substance use

75%

0%
30.9%

ONE THIRD

report living with a mental illness

69.1%

32%

PIT COUNT INCREASE IN TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS FROM 2018.
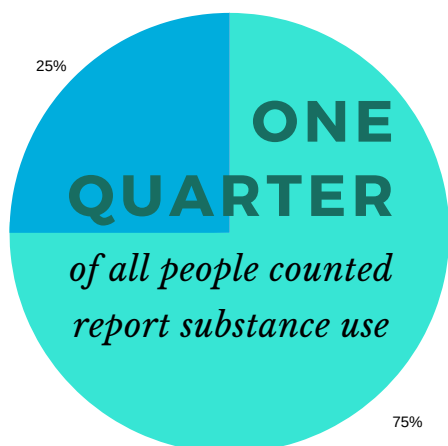The majority of this increase was in unsheltered homelessness.

2,070

PEOPLE STAYED AT THE EUGENE MISSION IN 2018

1,537 people served at Egan Warming Center over 22 nights of activation Winter 2018/2019

UNSHELTERED COUNT METHODOLOGY

The unsheltered count was compiled through a census-survey collected by Street Count Volunteers at hotspots where people who are unsheltered congregate, including the streets, under bridges, parks, meal sites, and other places not meant for human habitation. The street count was made possible by hundreds of volunteers, including community members, people with lived experience of homelessness, elected officials, and Poverty and Homelessness Board members (the Continuum of Care and Community Action Agency board). Partnerships with Food for Lane County ensured countywide coverage at food pantries, resources where volunteers and staff have trusted relationships with consumers. McKinney-Vento Liaisons collected surveys representing the four largest school districts in Lane County. There was active coordination and participation in the unsheltered count with City of Eugene Parks and Open Spaces staff. Park Ambassadors collected surveys on the day of the Count and traversed difficult to access areas along river paths and in parks. Lane County Sheriff's Office, City of Eugene Police Department, and City of Springfield Police Department were abreast of the Count activities.

Survey data were entered into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which provides the means to an unduplicated count. Individuals staying in unsheltered projects or accessing services for people who are unhoused on the night of the count, but for whom a survey was not collected, were also included in the Point in Time Count.
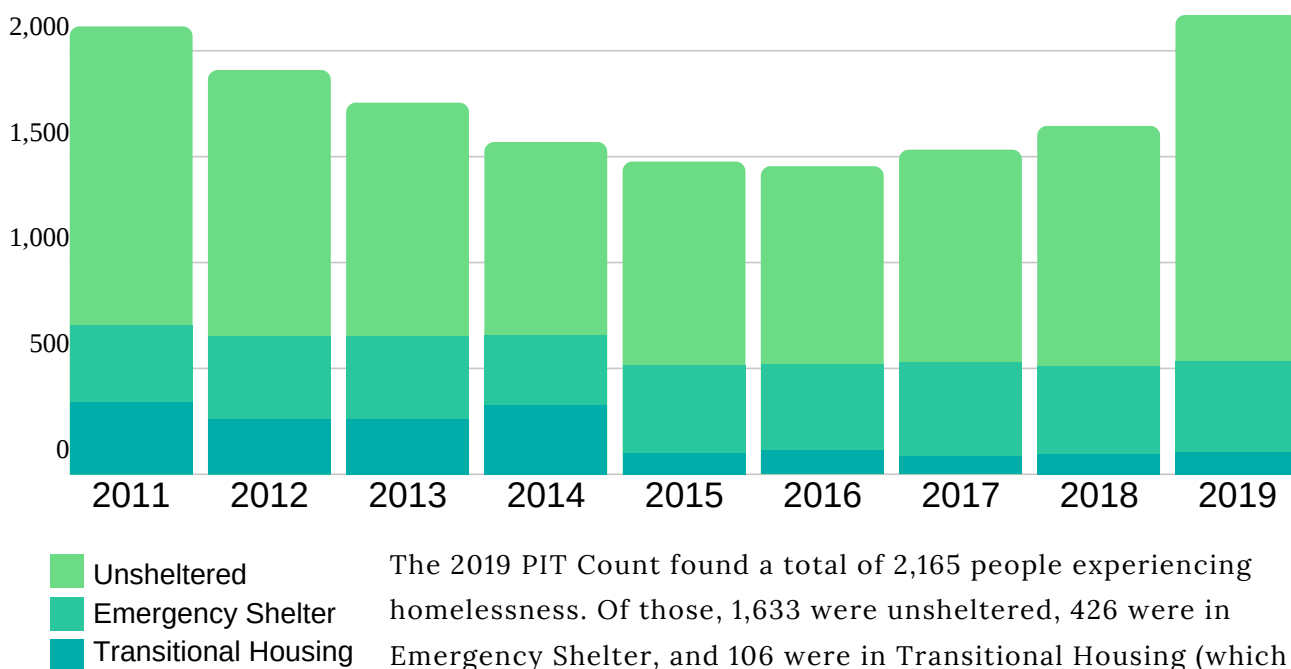
SHELTERED COUNT METHODOLOGY

Lane County has one 100% participation in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), meaning that all Lane County Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing projects for homeless persons enter data into HMIS. Therefore, the Sheltered Count data (aka- census or stayer data) is easily queried for any date throughout the year, including the date of the Point in Time Count.

YOUTH POINT IN TIME COUNT

Lane County conducted a youth-specific Point in Time Count for the first time in January 2019. This was based on the recommendation of the Youth Homeless Solutions Workgroup (YHSWG), a subgroup of the Poverty and Homelessness Board, and the 15th Night Youth Action Council (YAC), which is the Continuum of Care youth action board. The youth-specific count was conducted in conjunction with the 2019 PIT Count in order to capitalize on the volunteer engagement in the regularly scheduled January PIT Count.

The findings of the Youth Point in Time Count will be reported separately.

2,500

EXHIBIT 1: TOTAL PIT COUNT 2011-2019

Legend:
- Unsheltered
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing

411

OF THE UNSHELTERED WERE IN ALTERNATIVE SHELTER PROGRAMS
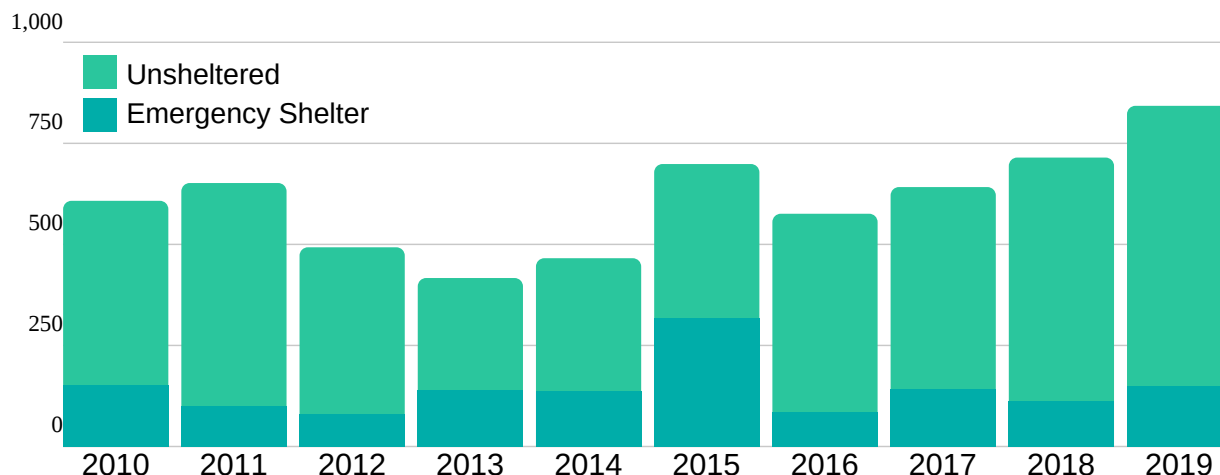
This includes:
- Opportunity Village
- Dusk to Dawn
- Dawn to Dawn Micro-Tents
- Car Camping Programs
- Community Supported Shelters

The 2019 PIT Count found a total of 2,165 people experiencing homelessness. Of those, 1,633 were unsheltered, 426 were in Emergency Shelter, and 106 were in Transitional Housing (which is considered by HUD to be sheltered but still homeless as it is not permanent housing). Of people who were unsheltered, 25% (411) people were in "alternative to shelter" programs such as Dusk to Dawn, Opportunity Village, and Conestoga huts. These are not considered shelter by HUD because they do not meet the habitability standards of HUD.

There was an increase of 524 people counted from 2018 to 2019, with 499 of the total increase experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This represents a 32% increase in the total number of homeless people from the 2018 to 2019 PIT Count, and a 44% increase in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
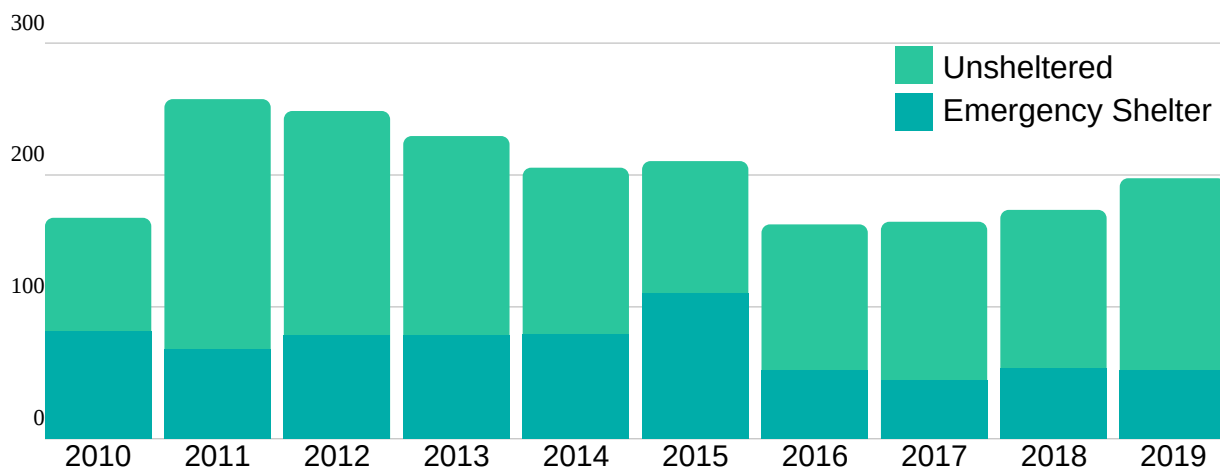
Further analysis demonstrated that 563, or 26% of the 2019 total, were counted two years in a row (2019 and 2018). Fifteen percent (332) of the 2019 total were counted in 2019 and 2017. Twelve percent (256) of those counted in 2019 were also counted in 2016. Eleven percent (238) were counted in 2019 and 2015. Three percent (57) were counted in all 5 of the past PIT Counts. This information represents those who are unable to self-resolve their homelessness, experiencing chronic homelessness, and who are not being adequately served by existing homeless system resources and capacity.

EXHIBIT 2: CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

A person is considered "chronically homelessness" when they experience homelessness for a period of 12 consecutive months, or 4 episodes of homelessness within the past 3 years that total 12+ months AND have a long-term disability. The number of chronically homeless people rose from 713 in 2018 to 841 in 2019. Thirty-eight percent of all homeless people counted were chronically homeless, a slight decrease overall as the trend in previous years had fluctuated from 40-43% of the total being chronically homeless.

EXHIBIT 3: VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The number of homeless veterans counted increased from 173 in 2018 to 197 in 2019. The overall percentage of homeless veterans in the Count decreased from 11% in 2018 to 9% in 2019. This is consistent with what is seen in the Homeless Veteran By-Name List (VBNL), used by veteran advocates, veteran-specific services, and housing projects with dedicated beds for veterans. The list flags homeless veterans when they appear anywhere in the 174 projects in HMIS. Since March 2016, 529 homeless veterans on the VBNL have been housed and 1,804 individuals have been assessed for the VBNL.

EXHIBIT 4:TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS BY AGE

HOUSEHOLDS BY AGE	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
Total number of households	358	71	1,538	1,967
Total number of persons	426	106	1,633	2,165
Total children (under age 18)	65	35	66	166
Total transition age youth (18-24)	19	14	98	131
Total persons over age 24	342	57	1,469	1,868

The 2019 PIT Count saw 1,967 households, totaling 2,165 people. Of those, 166 were children under age 18, 131 were transition-age youth (ages 18-24), 1,868 were over age 24, and 1,999 were over age 18.

EXHIBIT 5:GENDER IDENTITY

GENDER	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
Female	135	51	454	640
Male	290	55	1,168	1,513
Transgender	0	0	8	8
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	1	0	3	4

The 2019 PIT Count saw more males than females, with a total of 1,513 males counted, 640 females, 8 people who identified as transgender, and 4 people who identified as gender non-conforming. All of the people who identify as transgender were unsheltered. Approximately 30% of the PIT Count population identified as female.

EXHIBIT 6:ETHNICITY IN THE 2019 COUNT

ETHNICITY	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	381	93	1,526	2,000
Hispanic/Latino	45	13	107	165

The majority of those counted identified as non-Hispanic or non-Latino (92%), while 165 people experiencing homelessness identified as Hispanic or Latino. Seventy-six percent of the non-Hispanic/non-Latino population was unsheltered, compared to 65% of the total Hispanic/Latino population who were unsheltered.

EXHIBIT 7: RACE IN THE 2019 COUNT

RACE	EMERGENCY SHELTER	TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	UNSHELTERED	TOTAL
White	348	92	1,353	1,793
Black or African-American	26	4	48	78
Asian	3	0	3	6
American Indian or Alaska Native	9	2	45	56
Multiple Races	38	8	164	210
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0	20	22

The majority of those counted identified as white, totaling 1,793 people. This constitutes 83% of the total homeless population counted, while white people constitute 76% of the total population in poverty in Lane County. Seventy-five percent of white homeless people were unsheltered. Seventy-eight people counted (.04%) identified as black, with 62% of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Ten percent, 210 people, identified as multiple races, with 78% of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

SUBPOPULATIONS

The number of homeless adults who self-report mental illness increased from 547 in 2018 to 759 in 2019. The percentage of the total homeless population who self-reported mental illness in the 2018 PIT Count was 33%, and 35% in the 2019 Count. About a third of people experiencing homelessness in Lane County report living with a mental illness.

1 IN 3

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN LANE COUNTY REPORT HAVING A MENTAL ILLNESS

The number of homeless adults who self-report that substance use presents a barrier to maintaining stable housing increased from 412 in 2018 to 525 in 2019. One quarter (24%) of the people experiencing homelessness in Lane County report substance abuse, this percentage has remained steady for two years.

1 IN 4

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN LANE COUNTY REPORT SUBSTANCE USE

Of adults with serious mental illness, 170 were in emergency shelter, 20 were in transitional housing, and 569 were unsheltered and living in a place not meant for human habitation. Of adults with substance use disorder, 113 were in emergency shelter, 17 in transitional housing, and 395 were unsheltered.

87%

OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN LANE COUNTY ARE SINGLE ADULTS

The 2019 Count identified 12 adults with HIV/AIDS, 5 in Emergency Shelter and 7 unsheltered. This data point is often under-reported; many people do not wish to disclose their status, or may report a "chronic health condition" (disability) but not identify it specifically as HIV/AIDS. The Point in Time Count asked people if they were currently fleeing or survivors of domestic violence and counted 94 adult survivors of domestic violence, 35 in Emergency Shelter, 8 in Transitional Housing, and 51 unsheltered.
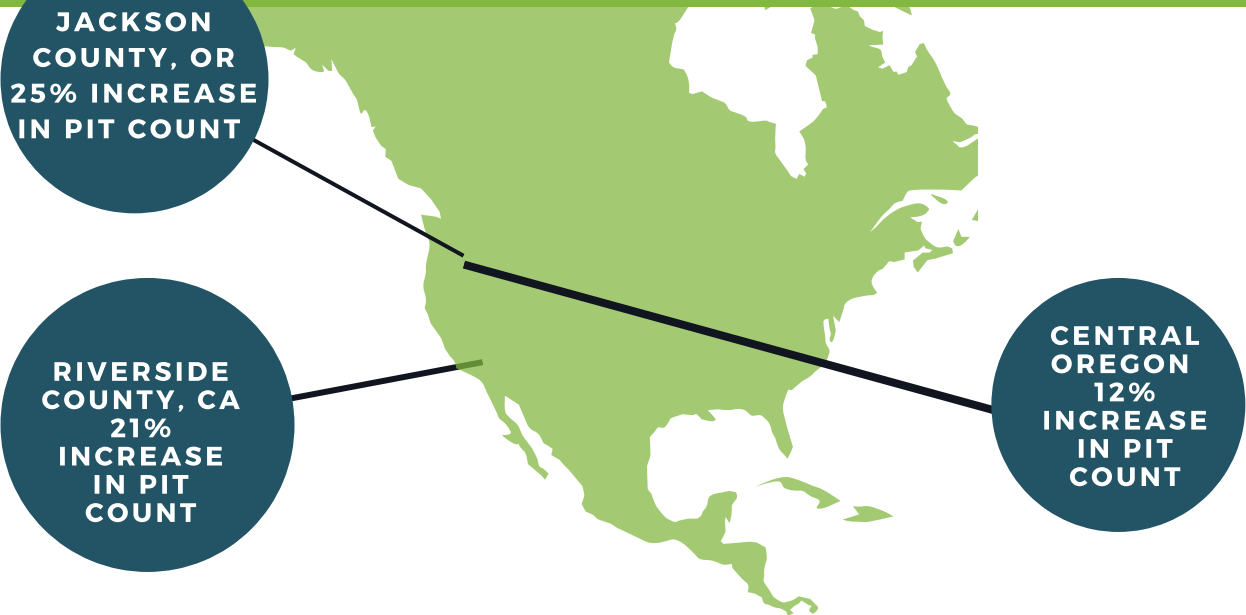
26

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH UNDER 18

Households with adults only (everyone in the household is age 18 or over, this may be a household of one) comprise the majority of homeless households in Lane County, with 1,882 counted in 2019, and 1,365 counted in 2018. This is a 37% increase in the number of adult households from 2018 to 2019, which is consistent with the overall reported increase in homelessness in Lane County. Eighty-four households with adults and children (someone over 18 and someone under 18 in the household) were counted in 2019, and 76 in 2018. This is a 10% increase of homeless households with children and adults from 2018 to 2019.

Households of children-only are households in which everyone in the household (may be a household of one) is under age 18. These represent unaccompanied youth. Twenty-six unaccompanied youth were counted in 2019, and 25 were counted in 2018.

WEST COAST TRENDS

The increase in homelessness in Lane County is part of a nation-wide trend of increasing homelessness, especially on the West Coast.

Many factors affect homelessness, including rising housing costs. Oregon Housing Alliance estimates that for every 100 families with extremely low incomes in Lane County, there are only 16 affordable housing units.

JACKSON COUNTY, OR 25% INCREASE IN PIT COUNT

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA 21% INCREASE IN PIT COUNT

CENTRAL OREGON 12% INCREASE IN PIT COUNT

Jackson County, Oregon saw a 25% increase in the total number of people experiencing homelessness from 2017 to 2018 PIT Counts, representing a seven-year high in the number of people experiencing homelessness.

The Central Oregon Continuum of Care (Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson Counties) reported a 12% increase in total number of homeless adults and children from 2018 to 2019. They report a 33% increase in the number of unaccompanied children (under 18) experiencing homelessness, and a 15% increase in chronically homeless individuals.

Riverside County in Southern California saw a 21% increase in people experiencing homelessness counted from 2018 to 2019.

The City of San Bernardino, California reported a 23% increase in homelessness.

EXHIBIT 8: HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT

INVENTORY TYPE	2019 PIT COUNT	VACANT BEDS	TOTAL BEDS	UTILIZATION RATE
Emergency Shelter	426	67	493	86%
Transitional Housing	106	22	128	83%
Rapid Rehousing	235	NA	235	100%
Permanent Supportive Housing	621	102	723	86%
Total:	**1,388**	**191**	**1,579**	**Avg. 88.75%**

Lane County's overall inventory dedicated for people who are homeless or formerly homeless increased from 1,380 beds in 2018 to 1,579 beds in 2019. The Permanent Supportive Housing inventory increased to 723 beds - up from 594 beds in 2018. This is mainly due to the reclassification of multiple ShelterCare Supportive Rental Assistance projects to Permanent Supportive Housing, and does not constitute an overall increase in housing resources.

The total Emergency Shelter inventory in Lane County has not increased significantly in a decade. In fact, some inventory has been lost due to staffing capacity and set-asides for projects that are not yet active.

Eighty-six percent of Emergency Shelter beds were utilized on the night of the Count (426), with 67 vacant beds.

The Transitional Housing inventory in Lane County has steadily decreased since 2010, reflecting an administrative priority from the Department of Housing and Urban Development which prioritizes Permanent Housing investments rather than Transitional Housing. In 2019, Lane County had 85 units of Transitional Housing; in 2018 Lane County had 52 units. The inventory has slightly increased from 2018 to 2019, with the addition of two youth-specific Transitional Housing projects that added 19 units.

One hundred and six participants were in Transitional Housing on the night of the Count, with 22 beds vacant. Eighty-three percent of Transitional Housing units were utilized on the night of the Count.

The Rapid Rehousing inventory has increased in the past five years (consistent with HUD's deprioritization of Transitional Housing as a project type), with Rapid Rehousing resources decreasing in the past two years (236 in 2018 and 235 in 2019). Lower utilization of Rapid Rehousing resources is likely due to difficulty finding affordable units in the community.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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