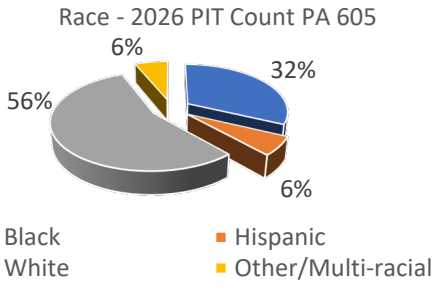
Erie County, PA Continuum of Care

Erie County Home Team
Homeless and Housing Coalition

2026 POINT IN TIME COUNT
a one-day snapshot of homelessness in our community.

What is the PIT Count?

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count is an annual street and shelter count that determines the number of people experiencing homelessness on any given day. Coinciding with one identified night in the last part of January, this project includes a brief survey to identify the needs and characteristics of those experiencing homelessness. Every Continuum of Care is required to submit PIT Count results to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of a national effort to identify the extent of homelessness across the country.



Those who are homeless often face other stressors that compound their issue (sheltered and unsheltered).

- *183 Adults battle mental illness*
- *140 Adults face substance use disorders (43%)*
- *23 Adults are fleeing domestic abuse (10%)*

On the night of January 22, 2026…

433

People experienced homelessness
in Erie County

394 were sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven…

While 39 were unsheltered, spending the night outside or a place not meant for human habitation.

Who were these 394 sheltered on the night of January 22, 2026?

35 Families with Children

- There were 104 persons in these households
- 65 Children under the age of 18
- 69 were Female and 35 were Men

324 Households of Adults only

- There were 329 persons in these households
- 26 were Senior Citizens (65+)
- 93 were Female, 236 were Men, 2 Other

There were 20 households led by Veterans who served our country, accounting for 27 persons.

The Unsheltered

What we know about our unsheltered….

The 2026 PIT Count identified a lower number of unsheltered persons compared to 2024 and 2025, but still higher than historical numbers (76, 47, and 39 respectively). There are many reasons that people find themselves unsheltered. It should be noted that this is the most vulnerable and challenging of our homeless population to serve.

- ✓ 39 unsheltered were in adult-only situations
- ✓ No youth were identified as unsheltered in 2026
- ✓ There were 29 Males and 10 Females
- ✓ 18 of the 39 were identified as Chronically Homeless
- ✓ 5 were identified as Veterans
- ✓ Multiple new encampments were identified as the street outreach efforts expanded

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TREND ANALYSIS: 2018 - 2026

Total Number of Identified Households

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Unsheltered	4	6	8	0	21	38	64	47	35
Emergency Shelter	191	214	206	138	183	212	250	262	254
Transitional/Safe Haven	79	87	72	77	44	39	54	52	51
TOTAL	**274**	**307**	**286**	**215**	**248**	**289**	**368**	**361**	**340**

Total Number of Identified People in Households

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Unsheltered	4	6	8	0	23	40	76	47	39
Emergency Shelter	238	273	255	165	224	266	301	326	318
Transitional/Safe Haven	114	117	85	96	53	65	77	84	76
TOTAL	**356**	**396**	**348**	**261**	**300**	**371**	**454**	**457**	**433**

The number of households and individuals in Erie County identified as Sheltered or Unsheltered has risen over the past several years. Point in Time Counts in 2024 and 2025 saw the highest number of households and people identified as unsheltered, residing in an emergency shelter, or in a transitional housing program. 2026 saw a slight dip. Overall, the past three years have seen similar numbers.

To be **CHRONICALLY HOMELESS** means that you have a disability such as mental illness, substance use disorder, or physical impairment, *and* you have experienced homelessness for **AT LEAST 1** full year continuously, or **at least four times** in the past three years. In Erie County, 100 of the 433 homeless persons, or 23%, were found to be **CHRONICALLY HOMLESS** in the 2026 Point in Time Count.

The Near Homeless

In addition to those deemed homeless, there is another cohort of families and individuals that are served by Permanent Supportive and Rapid Rehousing programs. Each year, Erie County has roughly 600 people, including adults and children, residing in one of our local Permanent Supportive or Rapid Rehousing Programs on the night of the Point in Time Count. Many of the residents came from the Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing programs or were unsheltered. Why is this population important to keep an eye on? If not for these programs, our homeless population could be significantly higher.

2026 POINT IN TIME DATA was gathered from the following sources:

Emergency Shelters
Community of Caring
CSS Drop-In Center
Erie City Mission Samaritan Care
EUMA Our Neighbors Place
EUMA The Refuge
SafeNet Hospitality House
Safe Journey
St. Patrick's Haven
We Soldier On

Transitional Housing/Safe Havens
Erie City Mission New Life Program
EUMA Liberty House
Mercy Center for Women
SafeNet Bridge House
SafeNet TLC

Supplemental Collection Locations
Emmaus Ministries Meal Service
Erie City Mission Meal Service
MHA of NWPA Meal Service
Upper Room Drop in Center
Salvation Army of Corry/Union City
ECCM Street Outreach Team
Harvest 912 Street Outreach Team
Erie City Mission Street Outreach Team

Visit www.endhomelessnesseriecountypa.org for more information on homelessness in Erie County