

Washington County, Oregon  
 POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT  
 (January 28, 2015)

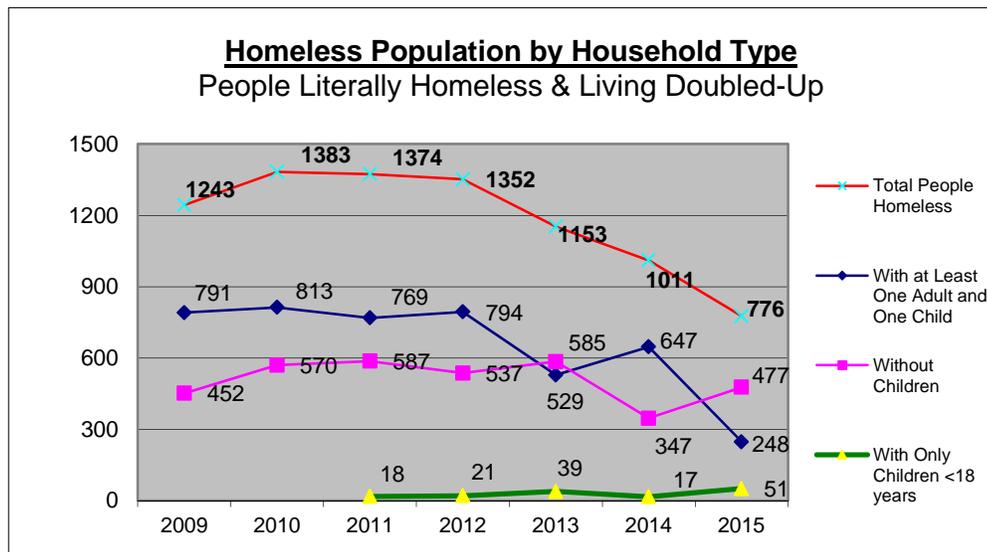
***A Road Home: Ending Homelessness through Prevention and Housing First.***

Washington County collects homeless data as prescribed in the Federal Homeless Definition (24 CFR Part 91) to include people in temporary shelter/housing and places not meant for human habitation, and in the State of Oregon homeless definition to include persons who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence (living doubled-up). To view a comprehensive PIT report, visit [www.co.washington.or.us/homeless](http://www.co.washington.or.us/homeless)

- Community Action Organization, Luke-Dorf, Inc. and HomePlate partnered to plan the point-in-time (PIT) activities and train volunteers to perform the homeless outreach during the last 10 days of January 2015 that included staff from the Portland HUD Field Office.
- Concentrated outreach was performed within 10 geo-coded regions of Washington County that included locations where homeless persons camp, and various outreach sites that included six Severe Weather Shelter sites, five meal sites, Veteran resource events, and Project Homeless Connect.
- The 2015 approach focused outreach resources on interviewing literally homeless people, resulting in fewer homeless people defined under the State definition (the doubled-up population).
- All PIT data from street and shelter count activities was de-duplicated using HMIS.

**Washington County historical homeless count data.**

	Federal HEARTH Act Homeless Definition <sup>1</sup>	Federal and State Homeless Definition <sup>2</sup>	% Literally Homeless
2015	591	776	76%
2014	537	1,011	54%
2013	432	1,153	38%
2012	751	1,331	56%
2011	752	1,356	55%
2010	950	1,383	69%
2009	748	1,243	60%
2008	772	1,145	67%
2007	680	1,241	55%
2006	661	1,162	57%
2005	*	787	n/a



<sup>1</sup> **Federal homeless** definition includes people living in shelter and housing designated to provide temporary living arrangement, and people with a primary nighttime residence that is a place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (place not meant for human habitation).

\***Chronic homeless** definition includes people living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, and has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least one year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, and can be diagnosed with one or more disabling conditions.

<sup>2</sup> **State homeless** definition expands the Federal definition to include people sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, personal safety, or facing impending eviction from a private dwelling unit and have not found a subsequent residence and resources needed to obtain housing.

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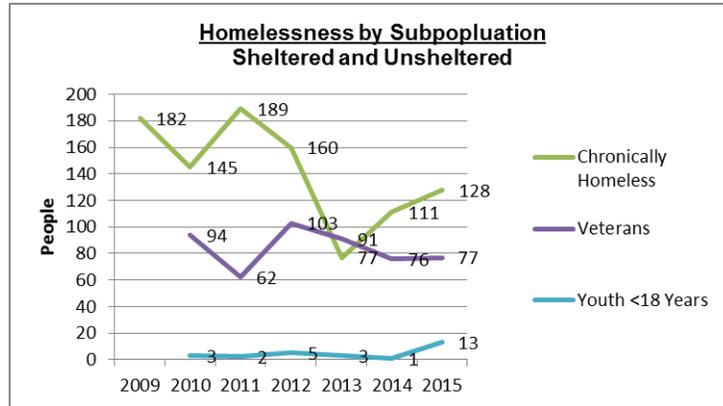
**Unsheltered homeless population increases despite community efforts.**

In January 2015, 591 people were literally homeless on any given night representing 76% of the homeless population. Of the 591 homeless, 33% were staying in temporary shelter/housing programs, and 67% were found in unsheltered locations (e.g. places not meant for human habitation). Nearly a quarter of the homeless (137 people) are children less than 18 years of age.

In addition, 185 people were reported living doubled-up and at risk of homelessness with family and friends bringing the total homeless population to 776 people.

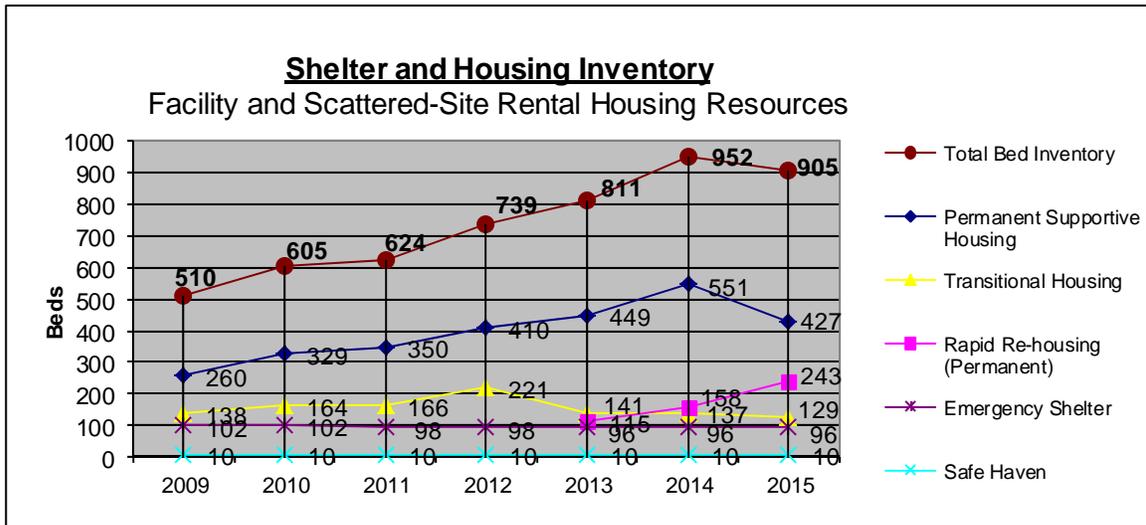
**Homelessness among Subpopulations (Federal Definition)**

An increase across all subpopulations is reported during the past 12 months to include chronically homeless persons (13 sheltered, 115 unsheltered), veterans (48 sheltered, 29 unsheltered) and unaccompanied youth less than 18 years (1 sheltered, 12 unsheltered).



**Community Connect provides a single-point entry system for re-housing homeless!**

Implemented in 2014, Community Connect provides all homeless households with equal access to homeless resources and housing opportunities in Washington County. Households are assessed for the appropriate housing placement within 31 programs comprising 905 beds.



**Year 7 of the 10-Year Plan: Affordable housing crisis slows housing first outcomes.**

With less than 2% housing vacancy in Washington County, providing access to affordable housing serving extremely low-income and low-income households is a barrier to preventing and ending homelessness.

- ✓ A reduction in housing inventory (952 beds reduced to 905 beds) is a result of public-funded rent assistance that is not fully utilized as homeless households are not able to access rental housing. An average of 30 households with rent assistance vouchers are “churning” in the community for 90 days or more, and many are not able to find housing.
- ✓ A new face of homelessness is reported with 73 people age 62 years and older entering the Community Connect system during July 2014 to April 2015, with few homeless housing programs serving this subpopulation.
- ✓ Severe Weather Shelters at six churches report higher occupancy with 5,409 bed stays provided (November to March).