



**FULTON
COUNTY**

2026 Point in Time Count Report

“Everybody Counts”

Fulton County Continuum of Care

HUD CoC Identifier: GA-502

Count Date: January 22, 2026



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Executive Summary

The 2026 Fulton County Point-in-Time (PIT) Count provided a critical snapshot of homelessness in the county, excluding the City of Atlanta, by capturing the number and characteristics of individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. Conducted annually, the PIT Count offers valuable insights into local trends, service gaps, and population demographics. The data informs strategic planning, funding decisions, and program development at both the local and regional levels, and helps track changes in the scale and nature of homelessness over time.



Key Findings

Population Overview.

On January 22, 2026, the PIT Count identified 323 individuals experiencing homelessness in Fulton County. Of these, 146 individuals (45.2%) were classified as unsheltered, residing in places not meant for human habitation. The remaining 177 individuals (54.8%) were sheltered, including 61 in emergency shelter and 116 in transitional housing. This total represents a 34.0% increase from the 2025 count of 241 persons.

Household Composition.

The majority of the homeless households counted were adult-only households (219; 85.9% of total households). Households with at least one adult and one child accounted for 31 of the 255 total households (12.2%). A smaller portion (5; 2.0%) of households consisted of only children under the age of 18, all of whom were in emergency shelter.

Age Distribution.

The age distribution of the homeless population indicates that 19.8% (64 persons) were children under the age of 18. Among adults, persons aged 35 to 44 represented the largest subgroup, comprising 22.3% of the total count (72 persons). Persons aged 65 and older accounted for 5.0% (16 persons).

Subpopulations.

A total of 26 veterans, 24 chronically homeless individuals, 26 unaccompanied youth (including 5 unaccompanied children under 18), and 21 adult survivors of domestic violence were identified. Adults with serious mental illness totaled 24, and 12 adults reported a substance use disorder.

Housing Inventory.

Fulton County had 835 year-round beds dedicated to serving persons experiencing homelessness, with the largest portion (71.3%) being Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Total inventory decreased by 80 beds (-8.7%) compared to 2025, primarily attributable to a reduction in Rapid Re-Housing capacity from 148 beds in 2025 to 29 beds in 2026.

Supply and Demand Analysis.

A comparison between the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) and PIT data reveals that the largest demand-side pressure is among unsheltered adults, with 146 unsheltered persons and zero dedicated beds. Transitional Housing showed the highest utilization at 95.9% (116 persons in 121 beds), and Emergency Shelter operated at 67.8% utilization (61 persons in 90 beds).

Conclusion

The 2026 PIT Count documents a 34% year-over-year increase in identified homelessness, with significant growth across the unsheltered population and a continued geographic concentration in East Point, Roswell, Alpharetta, and Sandy Springs. The data reflect both improvements in count execution and operational outreach over 2025, and persistent gaps in shelter capacity relative to demand. The findings serve as a foundational reference for Fulton County stakeholders to track changes in homelessness trends, demographic composition, and system capacity.

Introduction

Homelessness in Fulton County reflects a complex set of housing, economic, and social conditions that require coordinated and informed responses. As one of the largest counties in Georgia, Fulton encompasses a diverse mix of suburban and rural communities, each facing distinct challenges in addressing housing instability. The Fulton County Continuum of Care (CoC), designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as CoC GA-502, plays a critical role in coordinating

services, gathering data, and advocating for resources to reduce homelessness across the region. Each year, the CoC conducts a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to assess the scope and characteristics of homelessness on a single night, providing one of the many data points for planning, funding, and policy decisions.

This report presents findings from the 2026 PIT Count, conducted on the night of January 22, 2026. The PIT Count is mandated by HUD under 24 CFR § 578.7(c)(1) and serves as both a federal compliance activity and a critical local planning tool. By examining trends in homelessness and analyzing the demographic and geographic distribution of those affected, the report supports a community-wide understanding of housing needs and highlights areas where additional resources or systemic changes may be required.

Scope: Fulton County CoC (GA-502)

The Fulton County CoC geography includes all jurisdictions within Fulton County except for the City of Atlanta. The City of Atlanta operates its own Continuum of Care (GA-500, Atlanta CoC) and conducts its own separate Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Count. As a result, all data, charts, and tables in this report exclude residents and providers located within the City of Atlanta. References to Fulton County throughout this report should be read as Fulton County excluding the City of Atlanta unless otherwise specified.

Purpose

This report serves three purposes:

- Provide an unduplicated census of persons experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on the night of the count, consistent with HUD methodology guidance.
- Document the housing inventory available to serve persons experiencing homelessness within the CoC.
- Track multi-year trends in homelessness counts, demographics, household composition, and system capacity to inform local planning.

This report is descriptive in nature. It does not contain policy recommendations or funding allocation proposals. Stakeholders are encouraged to use these findings as a factual baseline for subsequent planning conversations.

Data Sources

The data presented in this report is drawn primarily from three key sources: the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC), and the American Community Survey (ACS). Together, these datasets provide a broad view of homelessness in Fulton County, capturing both system capacity and population characteristics. A fourth source, the FY2025 System Performance Measures (SPM), is referenced for context on year-round system performance.

Point-in-Time Count (PIT)

The PIT Count is a HUD-mandated census conducted to measure the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. It includes people staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and those unsheltered and sleeping in places not meant for human habitation. The PIT Count captures demographic information, subpopulation data, and geographic distribution. All 2026 PIT data in this report reflects final values submitted by Fulton County CoC to HUD through the Homelessness Data Exchange 2.0 (HDX 2.0).



Point in Time Count (PIT)

Housing Inventory Chart (HIC)

The HIC is conducted on the same night as the PIT Count and documents the number of beds and units available to serve people experiencing homelessness. It includes programs across a range of housing types, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing, and categorizes beds by household type, HMIS participation status, and target populations. The HIC helps assess system capacity, identify service gaps, and track year-over-year changes in housing availability. All 2026 HIC data in this report reflects final values submitted by Fulton County CoC to HUD through the Homelessness Data Exchange 2.0 (HDX 2.0).



Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

American Community Survey (ACS) 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates

To provide a baseline for comparing the demographic profile of persons experiencing homelessness to the general population, this report references the 2020-2024 Five-Year ACS Estimates produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. The City of Atlanta has been removed from ACS figures to align with the CoC GA-502 geography. ACS data inform the demographic comparison and disparity analysis sections of this report.



American Community Survey (ACS)

FY2025 System Performance Measures (SPM)

The FY2025 SPM report (covering the period from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025), submitted by Fulton County CoC to HUD, provides annualized data on length of time persons remain homeless, returns to homelessness, and successful exits to permanent housing. SPM data complements the point-in-time perspective by offering a system-wide longitudinal view of homelessness.



Methodology

HUD requires CoCs to select one night during the last 10 days of January to collect data on people experiencing both unsheltered and sheltered homelessness. The date selected for the 2026 PIT Count was Wednesday, January 22, 2026. The Fulton County CoC coordinated activities for the PIT Count from January 22, 2026 through January 29, 2026.

Data was collected from people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by conducting street outreach and completing surveys. The Fulton County CoC organized street outreach teams and volunteers across the county to conduct a “street count.” The street count consisted of canvassing neighborhoods, alleys, parks, high-traffic areas, known encampments, meal service sites, and general community service sites to engage and survey people who identified as being in a homeless situation on the night of January 22, 2026.

Unsheltered Count

In addition to the street count, service-based counts were conducted in the days following January 22, 2026. This methodology includes surveying people at various social service locations or other public or private locations to identify people who were unsheltered on the “night of the count.” Service-based counts are conducted at locations frequented by people who are homeless, including soup kitchens, day shelters, libraries, and other community locations and include interviews to determine whether people were unsheltered on the night of the count, as well as their characteristics.

A survey instrument provided by Simtech Solutions, called the Counting Us app, was used to complete and compile surveys. The Counting Us app included several data points and survey questions that ensure the quality of the data collected and allow for the deduplication of persons counted. The Counting Us app collated the information from all surveys into a single database that was used for data organization, data quality review, and reporting.

Sheltered Count

The sheltered count represents all people residing in Emergency Shelters (ES) and Transitional Housing (TH) projects across the CoC on the night of the count. For ES and TH projects using the countywide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), data was obtained through HMIS reports and automatically deduplicated. Data from non-HMIS projects was collected manually using a standardized data collection form.

Housing Inventory Count

The Housing Inventory Count reports each project's current service capacity in terms of bed and unit inventory, and the total number of people enrolled in Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) on the night of the count. Both HMIS and non-HMIS datasets were combined to obtain the final totals.

Methodological Limitations

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count data was collected by a broad group of community members, service providers, and individuals with lived experience of homelessness. The accuracy of this data can be influenced by several factors, including the availability and training of volunteers, the level of community engagement, the locations selected for surveying, and weather conditions at the time of the count. Additionally, much of the data is self-reported, which may lead to inconsistencies or gaps.

There are also known challenges with the survey-based approach used in the PIT count. Many individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness may be reluctant or unable to complete a survey due to time constraints, privacy concerns, or other barriers. As a result, the survey responses may not fully capture the total number of people encountered during the count, especially in high-turnover or hard-to-reach areas. Not all observed individuals are surveyed, and not all surveys are completed, which affects the completeness of the data.

The PIT count represents a snapshot of homelessness on a single night in January. This one-night approach does not capture individuals who cycle in and out of homelessness or who are unsheltered outside of the count period and therefore provides only a limited view of the scope of homelessness in a community.

While the PIT Count remains a valuable tool for identifying trends and informing planning decisions, it is important to understand its limitations. As a one-night snapshot, the PIT Count may not fully capture the scale or complexity of homelessness, but it continues to offer critical insights that guide the CoC's efforts and help shape more responsive and informed solutions.

Point-in-Time Count Results

The following data was collected from unsheltered and sheltered people experiencing homelessness and is organized by living situation as captured on the night of January 22, 2026.

Overall Count

Number of Households

The total count of households experiencing homelessness on January 22, 2026 is shown below.

Household Type	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Households with at least one adult and one child	15	15	1	31
Adult Only Households	13	68	138	219
Child Only Households	5	0	0	5
Total Households	33	83	139	255

Table 1. Households by Composition and Sheltering Status, 2026 PIT Count

Household Composition

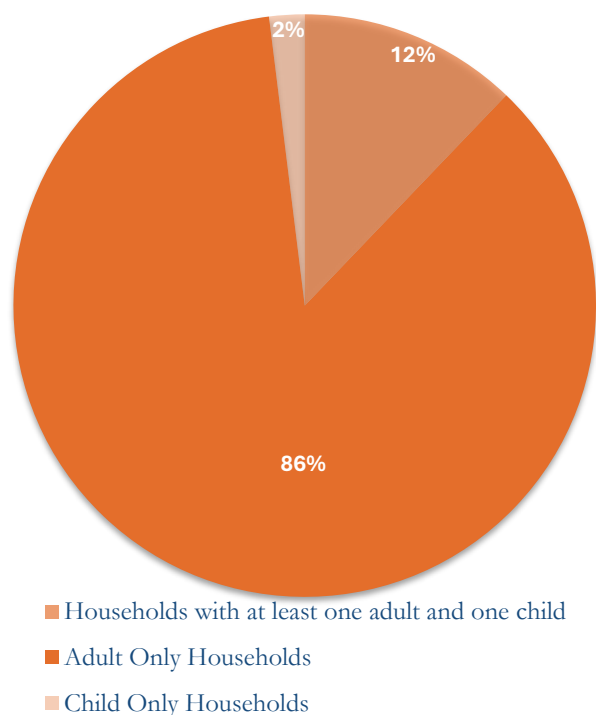


Figure 1. 2026 Household Composition

The majority of households counted (219; 85.9% of total) were adult-only households. A large portion of these households were found in unsheltered settings (138) compared to sheltered settings (81). Households with at least one adult and one child made up 31 of the total households, with the vast majority found in sheltered settings (30 of 31). Households with only children represented a smaller segment, totaling 5 households, all of which were in emergency shelter. This distribution underscores the prevalence of unsheltered adults living alone, while families and children remain predominantly engaged with the sheltered system.

Number of Persons

The total count of persons experiencing homelessness on January 22, 2026 is shown below.

Population	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Persons in Households with at least one adult and one child	43	45	3	91
Persons in Adult Only Households	13	71	143	227
Persons in Child Only Households	5	0	0	5
Total Persons	61	116	146	323

Table 2. Persons by Household Type and Sheltering Status, 2026 PIT Count

In total, 323 persons were counted across all sheltering categories. Persons in adult-only households accounted for 227 individuals (70.3%), with the majority of these (143; 63.0%) being unsheltered. Persons in families with at least one adult and one child accounted for 91 persons (28.2%), with these individuals predominantly in sheltered settings (88 of 91). Persons in households comprised solely of children under age 18 accounted for 5 individuals (1.5%), all located in emergency shelter.

2026 Shelter Status (n=323 persons)

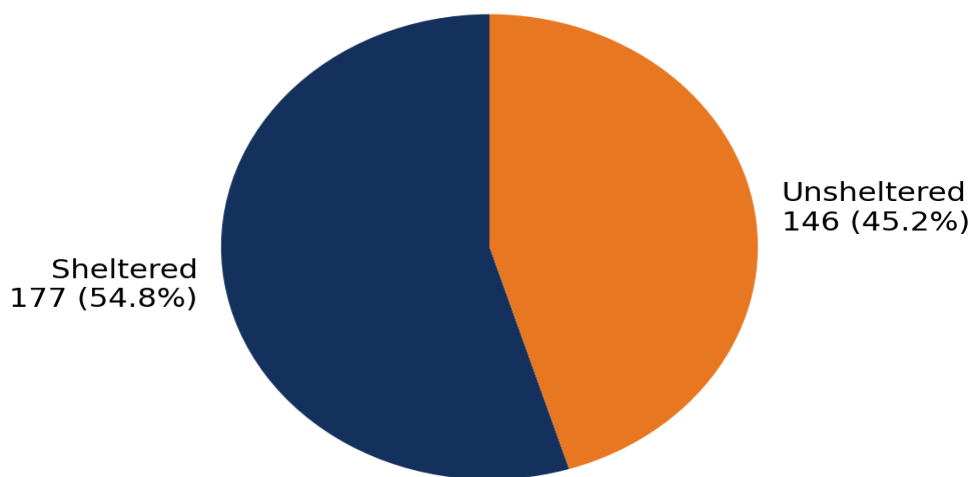


Figure 2. 2026 Sheltered vs. Unsheltered Distribution

Age

The age distribution of persons counted in the 2026 PIT is shown below.

Age Group	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total	% of Total
Under 18	33	29	2	64	19.8%
18-24	0	19	2	21	6.5%
25-34	7	11	31	49	15.2%
35-44	9	21	42	72	22.3%
45-54	7	22	31	60	18.6%
55-64	3	11	27	41	12.7%
65 and older	2	3	11	16	5.0%
Total	61	116	146	323	100%

Table 3. Persons by Age Group and Sheltering Status, 2026 PIT Count

The largest age group counted was adults aged 35 to 44, comprising 72 persons (22.3%) of the total count. Adults aged 45 to 54 followed with 60 persons (18.6%), and children under 18 totaled 64 persons (19.8%). Older adults (age 55-64 and 65+) together accounted for 17.6% of the population. Across age bands, the unsheltered share rises significantly from 3% among persons under 18 to 69% among persons aged 65 and older.

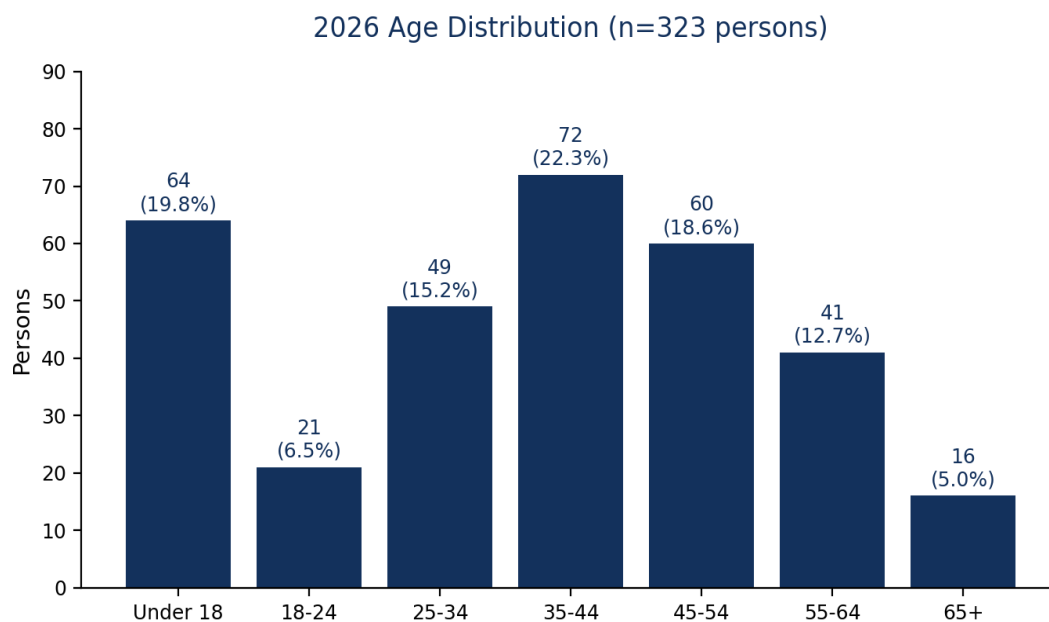


Figure 3. 2026 Age Distribution

Youth

Unaccompanied youth are persons under age 25 experiencing homelessness without a parent or guardian. Unaccompanied children are those under age 18 in this category. The 2026 PIT Count identified 26 unaccompanied youth, of whom 5 were unaccompanied children under 18 and 21 were unaccompanied young adults aged 18 to 24.

Measure	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Unaccompanied Children (under 18)	5	0	0	5
Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	0	19	2	21
Total Unaccompanied Youth	5	19	2	26

Table 4. Unaccompanied Youth, 2026 PIT Count

No Parenting Youth (PY) households (young parents under age 25) were identified in the 2026 count. Of unaccompanied young adults (age 18 to 24), the vast majority (19 of 21) were sheltered in transitional housing.

Race and Ethnicity

The 2026 PIT Count follows HUD's FY2024 Data Standards. Under these standards, Hispanic or Latino identity is captured within each race category, not as a separate ethnicity field.

Race / Ethnicity	ES	TH	Unsheltered	Total
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (only)	1	2	3	6
Black, African American, or African (only)	55	90	105	250
Black, African American, or African & Hispanic/Latina/e/o	1	3	0	4
Hispanic/Latina/e/o (only)	0	1	3	4
Middle Eastern or North African (only)	0	0	2	2
White (only)	2	11	30	43
White & Hispanic/Latina/e/o	0	3	0	3
Multi-Racial & Hispanic/Latina/e/o	0	5	0	5
Multi-Racial (all other)	2	1	3	6
Total	61	116	146	323

Table 5. Race and Ethnicity, 2026 PIT Count. Categories follow HUD FY2024 Data Standards.

In terms of race and ethnicity, the vast majority of individuals experiencing homelessness in Fulton County identified as Black, African American, or African (250 persons identifying with this race only, plus an additional 4 who also identified as Hispanic/Latina/e/o). This combined group totals 254 individuals (78.6% of total). White individuals accounted for 43 persons (White only) plus 3 who also identified as Hispanic/Latina/e/o, for a combined total of 46 (14.2%). Persons identifying as Hispanic or Latina/e/o across all race categories totaled 16 (4.95%): 4 Hispanic only, 4 Black and Hispanic, 3 White and Hispanic, and 5 Multi-Racial and Hispanic.

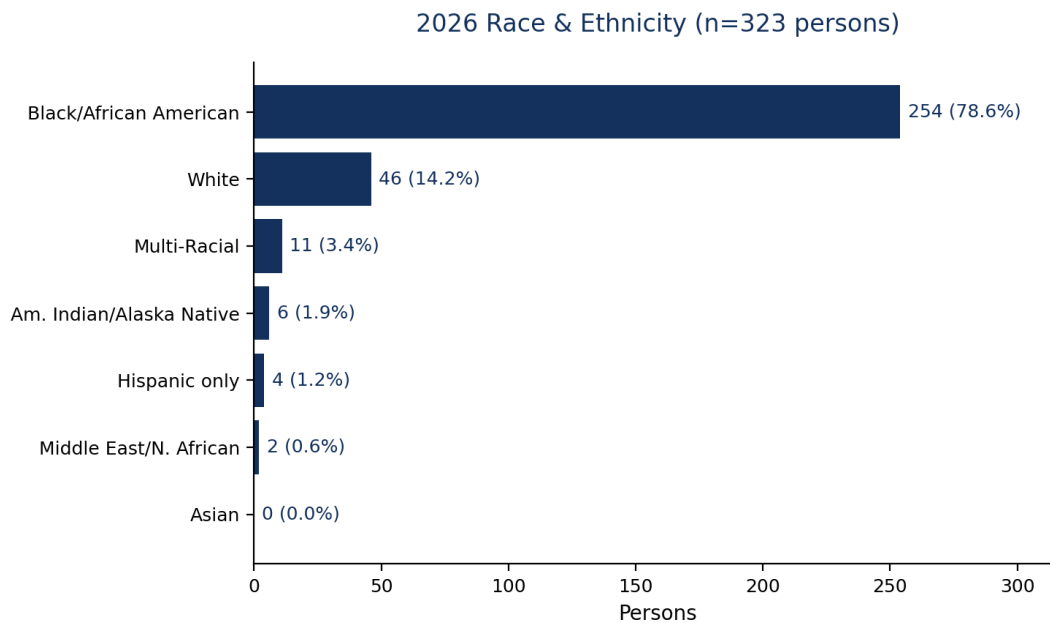


Figure 4. 2026 Race and Ethnicity Distribution

By Location

The PIT Count provides insight into the distribution of unsheltered homelessness across cities in the county.

City	Unsheltered Count
Alpharetta	22
College Park	7
East Point	32
Fairburn	1
Hapeville	1
Johns Creek	1
Milton	9
Roswell	30
Sandy Springs	19
City of South Fulton	15
Union City	9
Mountain Park	0
Palmetto	0
Chattahoochee Hills	0
Total	146

Table 6. Unsheltered Persons by City, 2026 PIT Count.

East Point recorded the highest number of unsheltered individuals with 32 persons (21.9% of unsheltered with recorded location). Roswell followed closely with 30 persons (20.5%), and Alpharetta with 22 persons (15.1%). Combined, these three cities account for 57.5% of the unsheltered count with recorded location. Sandy Springs 19 persons (13.0%) and City of South Fulton 15 persons (10.3%) also reported notable unsheltered populations. Smaller counts were reported in Milton 9 persons (6.2%), Union City 9 persons (6.2%), College Park 7 persons (4.8%), Fairburn 1 person (0.68%), Hapeville 1 person (.69%), and Johns Creek 1 person (0.69%).

Figure 5. 2026 Unsheltered Count by City

2026 Unsheltered Count by City Fulton County excluding City of Atlanta

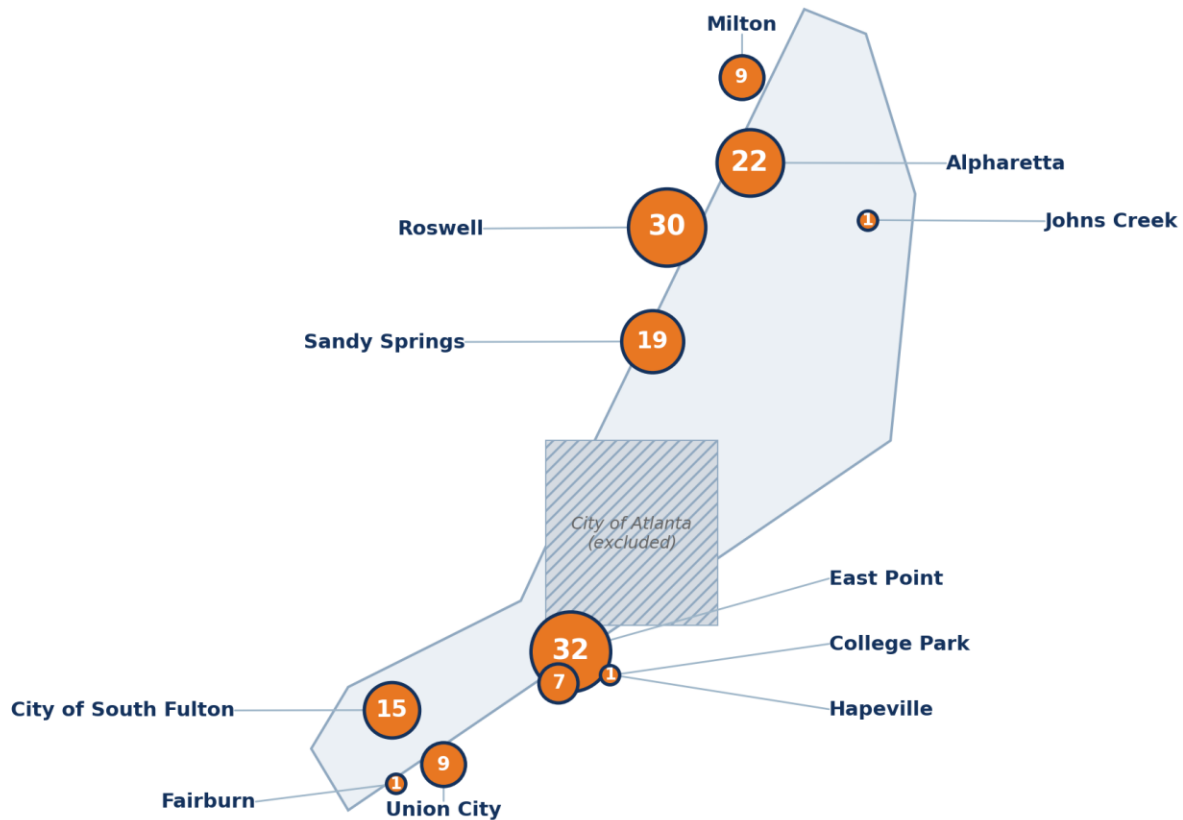


Figure 5. 2026 Unsheltered Count by City

Subpopulations and Additional Populations

Veterans

Veterans account for a notable segment of the homeless population, with 26 individuals (10.0% of adults counted) identifying as veterans. The veteran population was distributed across 13 in emergency shelter, 8 in transitional housing, and 5 unsheltered. Of veterans, 4 were also identified as chronically homeless (2 in emergency shelter and 2 unsheltered).

Chronically Homeless

Chronic homelessness, as defined under 24 CFR § 91.5, applies to individuals with a disabling condition who have been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or have had at least four episodes of

homelessness in the past three years totaling 12 months or more. The 2026 PIT Count identified 24 chronically homeless persons, with the vast majority (22) found in unsheltered settings.

Additional Adult Populations

The table below captures adults experiencing homelessness who also have identified special needs. These populations are not mutually exclusive; individuals may appear in more than one category. Data are collected for adults only.

Population	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)	4	4	16	24
Adults with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)	0	2	10	12
Adults with HIV/AIDS	0	0	5	5
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence (DV)	2	0	19	21

Table 7. Additional Homeless Populations, Adults Only, 2026 PIT Count

Adults with serious mental illness (24 total) were concentrated in unsheltered settings (16 of 24), as were adults with substance use disorders (10 of 12) and adult survivors of domestic violence (19 of 21). Among all reported categories, the concentration of vulnerable adults in unsheltered settings reflects significant unmet need for behavioral health, trauma-informed shelter, and other supportive interventions.

PIT Count Trends

Fulton County CoC has conducted annual PIT Counts over many years, providing a basis for trend analysis. The following section presents a five-year view of the count, examining year-over-year changes in total counts, sheltered and unsheltered distributions, household types, and subpopulations.

Five-Year Trend (2022 to 2026)

Housing Status	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Unsheltered	101	128	154	103	146
Sheltered	172	209	185	138	177
Total	273	337	339	241	323
YoY Change	N/A	+23.4%	+0.6%	-28.9%	+34.0%

Table 8. Five-Year PIT Count Trend, 2022 to 2026

In 2026, the total number of persons counted increased by 34.0% compared to 2025, partially reversing the 28.9% decline observed between 2024 and 2025. The 2026 total of 323 persons remains below the 2023 and 2024 peaks of 337 and 339 respectively, but represents a substantial increase from the 2025 baseline of 241.

The 2025 decrease was attributed by the CoC to weather-related and operational challenges that likely contributed to an undercount of unsheltered individuals. The 2026 count, conducted under more favorable conditions, captured a sheltered increase of 28% (from 138 to 177) and an unsheltered increase of 42% (from 103 to 146).

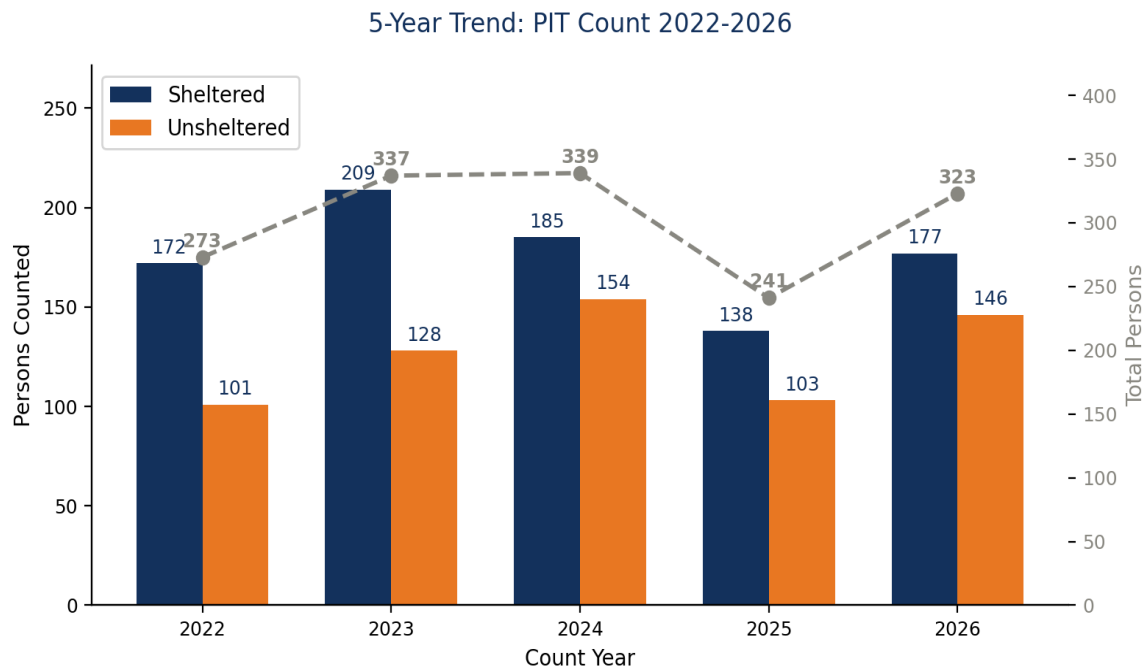


Figure 6. Five-Year PIT Count Trend, 2022 to 2026

Changes by Household Type

Household Type	2023	2024	2025	2026	Change 2025-2026
Persons in Adult and Child Households	116	110	68	91	+33.8%
Persons in Adult Only Households	212	205	167	227	+35.9%
Persons in Child Only Households	9	24	6	5	-16.7%

Table 9. Household Composition Trend, 2023 to 2026

Persons in adult-only households (227) and adult-and-child households (91) both increased substantially from 2025 to 2026 (+35.9% and +33.8% respectively). Children counted in child-only households continued to decline year-over-year. Among adult-and-child households specifically, unsheltered persons declined (from 8 in 2025 to 3 in 2026).

Changes by Subpopulation

Subpopulation	2023	2024	2025	2026	Change 2025-2026
Total Veterans	29	13	25	26	+4.0%
Total Unaccompanied Youth	33	66	25	26	+4.0%
Total Chronically Homeless	39	24	16	24	+50.0%
Persons in AC Households	116	110	68	91	+33.8%

Table 10. Subpopulation Trend, 2023 to 2026

Veterans and unaccompanied youth counts held relatively steady from 2025 to 2026 (+4% each). Chronic homelessness rose by 50% (from 16 to 24), with the increase concentrated in unsheltered settings, where 22 of 24 chronically homeless persons were located. Persons in adult-and-child households increased from 2025 from 68 to 91.

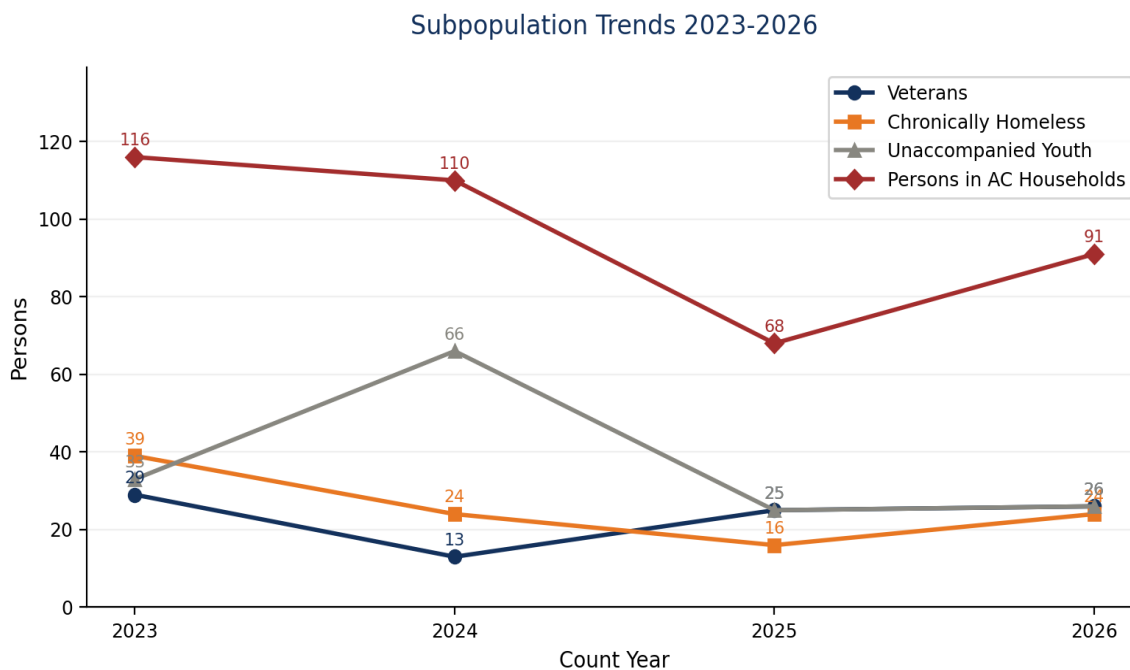


Figure 7. Subpopulation Trends, 2023 to 2026

Demographic Comparison and Disparity Index

This section compares the demographic profile of persons counted in the 2026 PIT to the general population of Fulton County (excluding the City of Atlanta) using data from the American Community Survey 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates.

Side-by-Side Population Comparison

The chart and table below present the demographic distribution of persons counted in the 2026 PIT alongside the corresponding share of the Fulton County general population (excluding the City of Atlanta) based on ACS 2020-2024 Five-Year Estimates.

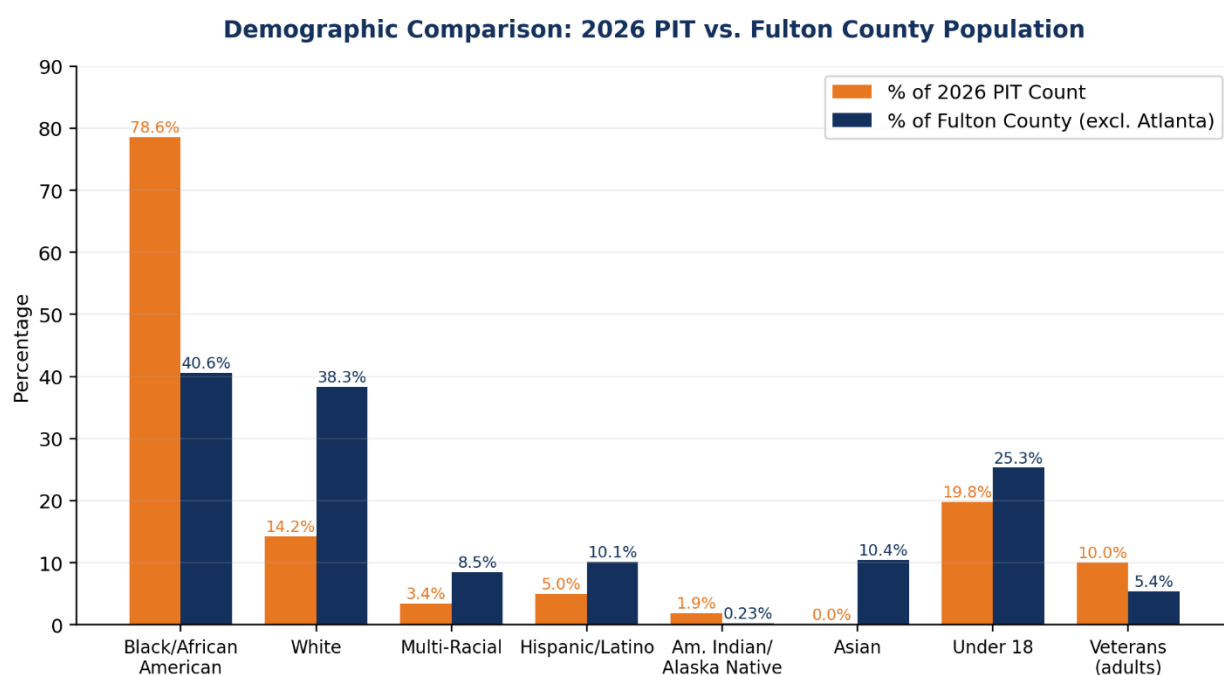


Figure 8. 2026 PIT Demographic Distribution Compared to Fulton County General Population

Demographic Category	2026 PIT Count	PIT %	County Count	County %
Total Persons	323	100%	556,495	100%
Under 18	64	19.8%	140,599	25.3%
18 and over	259	80.2%	430,694	77.4%
Black or African American (all)	254	78.6%	226,105	40.6%
White (all)	46	14.2%	213,318	38.3%
Asian	0	0.0%	57,623	10.4%

Demographic Category	2026 PIT Count	PIT %	County Count	County %
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (all)	6	1.9%	1,253	0.23%
Multi-Racial (all)	11	3.4%	47,386	8.5%
Hispanic/Latina/e/o (all)	16	4.95%	56,372	10.1%
Veterans (adults only)	26	8.0%	23,211	5.4%

Table 11. 2026 PIT Count vs. Fulton County General Population (excl. Atlanta)

Disparity Index

The Disparity Index expresses each demographic group's share of the homeless population divided by its share of the county population. A ratio of 1.0 indicates parity (the group is represented in homelessness at the same rate as in the general population). A ratio greater than 1.0 indicates overrepresentation; a ratio less than 1.0 indicates underrepresentation.

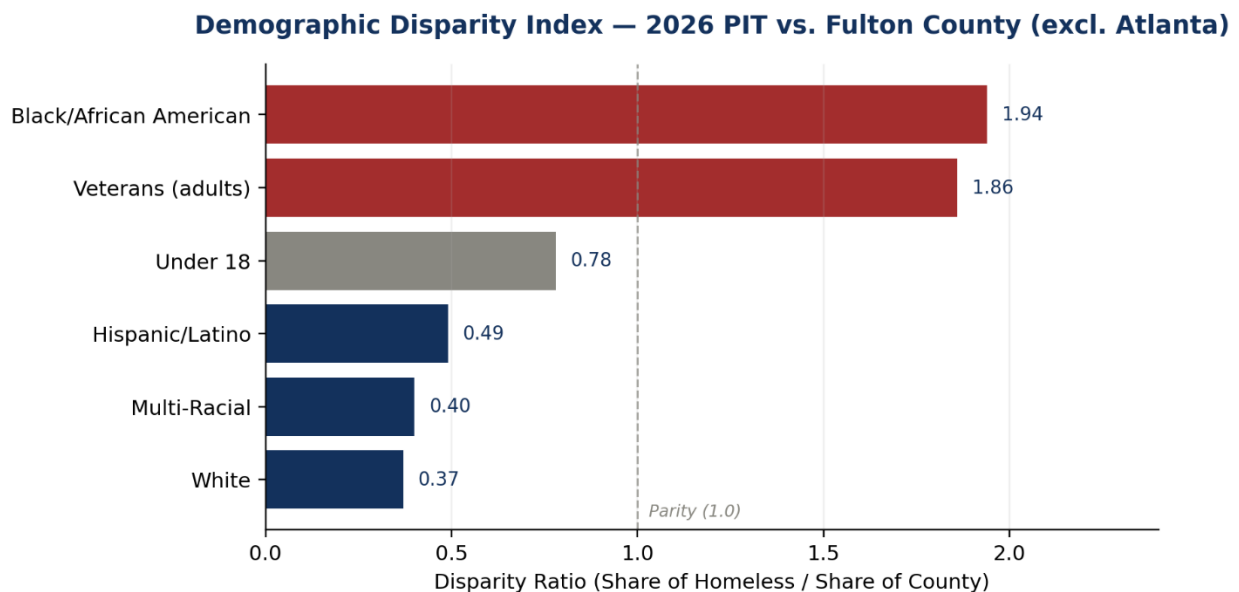


Figure 9. Demographic Disparity Index, 2026 PIT vs. Fulton County General Population

Key findings from the disparity analysis:

- Black or African American residents are represented in the homeless population at nearly twice the rate of their share of the general county population (disparity ratio of 1.94).
- Veterans (adults) are represented in the homeless population at nearly twice the rate of their share of the county adult population (disparity ratio of 1.86).
- White residents are substantially underrepresented in the homeless population (ratio of 0.37).
- Hispanic/Latina/e/o, Multi-Racial, and persons under 18 are all underrepresented in the homeless population relative to their county shares (ratios of 0.49, 0.40, and 0.78 respectively).

The interpretation of disparities should account for small sample sizes for some groups and for systemic factors influencing both housing access and engagement with the PIT methodology.

Housing Inventory and Capacity

The 2026 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) catalogs dedicated housing and service bed capacity within the Fulton County CoC on January 22, 2026. A total of 21 projects with 835 year-round beds were submitted to HUD. All inventory reflects current status beds as of the count date.

Bed Inventory

Project Type	HH w/o Children	HH w/ Children	HH w/ Only Children	Total Year-Round
Emergency Shelter (ES)	12	66	12	90
Transitional Housing (TH)	74	47	0	121
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	21	8	0	29
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	294	301	0	595
Safe Haven (SH)	0	0	0	0
Total	401	422	12	835

Table 12. 2026 HIC Year-Round Bed Inventory by Project Type and Household Type

Permanent Supportive Housing (595 beds; 71.3% of total) is the largest category in the inventory, followed by Transitional Housing (121 beds; 14.5%), Emergency Shelter (90 beds; 10.8%), and Rapid Re-Housing (29 beds; 3.5%). No Safe Haven beds were reported in 2026.

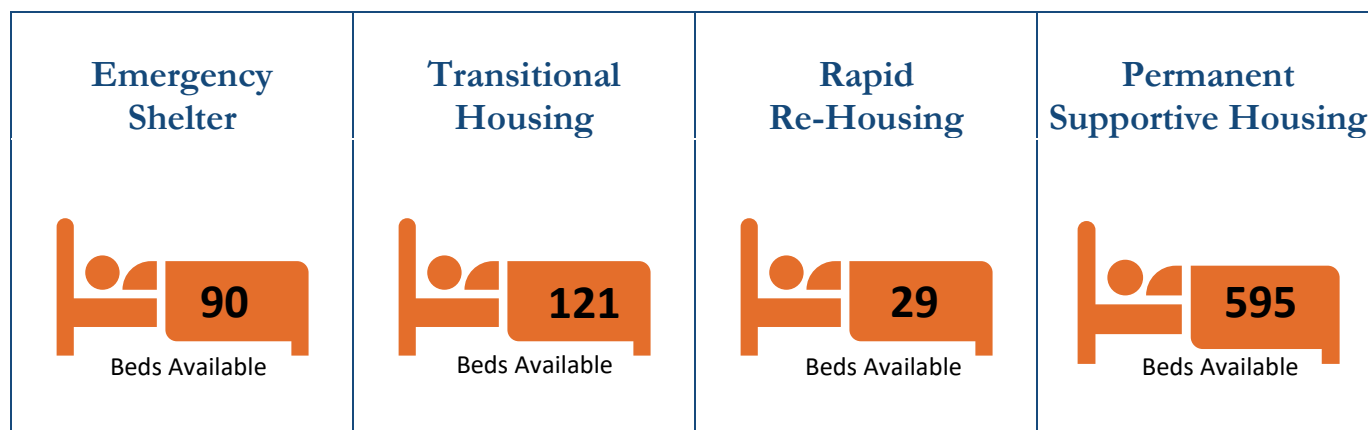


Figure 10. 2026 HIC Beds Available by Project Type

Designated Beds by Population

The 2026 HIC also catalogs beds by target population designation:

- Veteran-Designated Beds: 443 total (12 ES, 29 RRH, 402 PSH including VASH).
- Youth-Designated Beds: 17 total, all in Transitional Housing serving unaccompanied youth under age 25.
- Chronically Homeless-Designated PSH: 595 beds (all PSH inventory is CH-designated).
- Domestic Violence-Dedicated Beds: 40 total, all in PSH.

Trends in Housing Inventory

Analyzing trends in housing inventory is essential to understanding the system's capacity to meet anticipated demand. The summary below presents changes from 2023 to 2026.

Project Type	2023 HIC	2024 HIC	2025 HIC	2026 HIC	Change 2025-2026
Emergency Shelter	130	127	72	90	+25.0%
Transitional Housing	132	119	109	121	+11.0%
Rapid Re-Housing	112	165	148	29	-80.4%
Permanent Supportive Housing	548	590	586	595	+1.5%
Total	922	1,001	915	835	-8.7%

Table 13. HIC Bed Inventory Trend, 2023 to 2026

Year-over-year changes from 2025 to 2026 spanned all four project types. Emergency Shelter inventory increased by 25.0% (from 72 to 90 beds), partially recovering from a substantial 2024-to-2025 decrease. Transitional Housing inventory increased by 11.0% (from 109 to 121 beds). Rapid Re-Housing experienced a substantial reduction of 80.4% (from 148 to 29 beds), the largest year-over-year inventory change recorded across any project type in the 2023 to 2026 period. Permanent Supportive Housing remained relatively stable, increasing by 1.5% (from 586 to 595 beds). Total system inventory decreased by 8.7% (from 915 to 835 beds), primarily driven by the RRH reduction.

The 2024-to-2025 Emergency Shelter decrease reflects two contributing factors. In 2024, the CoC inventory included 67 beds dedicated to families fleeing domestic violence, spanning Emergency Shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing project types. In 2025, only 32 Permanent Supportive Housing beds for this population were reported. The Emergency Shelter beds were removed when the operating provider stopped receiving county funding and shifted to reporting under the City of Atlanta CoC (GA-

500). Additionally, two emergency shelter projects in Fulton County closed in January 2024. The 2026 increase in ES inventory partially offsets these losses.

The 2025-to-2026 RRH reduction is partly attributable to two projects that appeared on the 2025 HIC but are not included in the 2026 HIC: Hope Atlanta's Fulton RRH CSP project (32 beds) and Project Community Connections, Inc.'s RRH project funded by the State of Georgia's Department of Family and Children Services (19 beds). Together, these two projects account for 51 of the 119 beds removed from RRH inventory. The remaining 68-bed reduction reflects inventory changes in other Veteran Administration (VA) funded Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) RRH projects continuing to operate within the CoC.

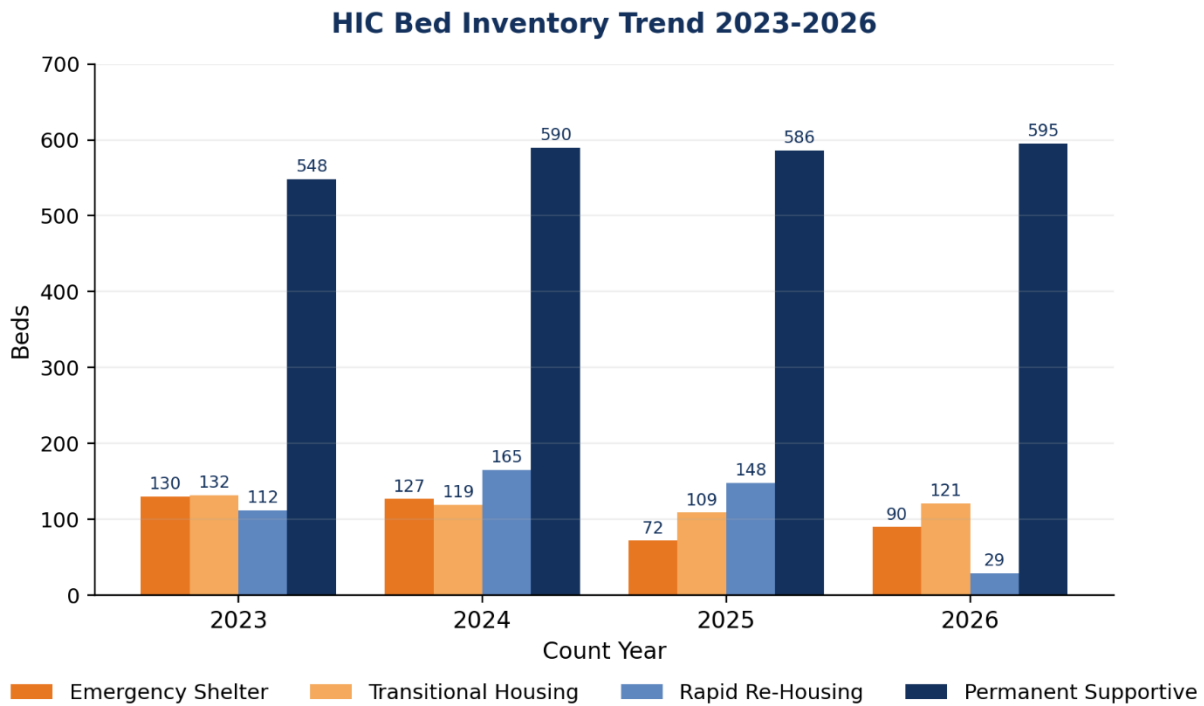


Figure 12. HIC Bed Inventory Trend, 2023 to 2026

System Performance Context

To complement the point-in-time perspective with a system-wide longitudinal view, this section summarizes selected metrics from the Fulton County CoC's FY2025 System Performance Measures (SPM) report. SPM data is calculated from HMIS records over the federal fiscal year (October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025) and provide insight into how persons move through the homeless response system over time.

System Performance Measures and Point-in-Time Count data together offer complementary perspectives. PIT captures a snapshot of homelessness at one moment, while SPM measures movement and outcomes over a year.

Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless (Measure 1)

In FY2025, 173 persons were counted in Emergency Shelter (ES) and Safe Haven (SH) projects, with an average length of time homeless of 193.8 bed-nights and a median of 144 bed-nights. When Transitional Housing (TH) is included in the calculation, the universe grew to 302 persons with an average of 361.5 bed-nights and a median of 227.5 bed-nights. Including time prior to permanent housing move-in in Permanent Housing (PH) projects, the average extends to 460.4 bed-nights for the broader ES/SH/TH/PH universe.

Returns to Homelessness (Measure 2)

Of 220 persons who exited the system to a permanent housing destination two years prior to the FY2025 reporting period, 18 (8.18%) returned to homelessness within 24 months. Returns broke down as 14 within 6 months (6.4%), 0 within 6 to 12 months, and 4 within 13 to 24 months (1.8%). Returns were highest among persons exiting from Emergency Shelter (15 of 56 exits returned within 24 months, or 26.8%), and lowest among persons exiting from Permanent Housing destinations (3 of 117 exits returned, or 2.6%).

First-Time Homelessness (Measure 5.1)

HUD Measure 5.1 counts persons entering Emergency Shelter (ES), Safe Haven (SH), or Transitional Housing (TH) during the reporting period who had no prior services in HMIS in the preceding 24 months. This measure includes only ES, SH, and TH; it does not include Permanent Housing entries (which include Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Other Permanent Housing). Permanent Housing entries are addressed separately by Measure 5.2.

In FY2025, of the 174 persons who entered ES, SH, or TH in Fulton County, 153 (87.9%) had no prior services in HMIS within the 24 months prior to their entry, qualifying as first-time homeless under Measure 5.1. The remaining 21 persons (12.1%) had at least one prior enrollment in ES, SH, TH, or any PH project type during the prior 24 months.

Successful Exit to Permanent Housing (Measure 7b.1)

In FY2025, 322 of 427 persons who exited from ES, SH, TH, or PH-RRH projects (plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing) exited to a permanent housing destination, a successful exit rate of 75.4%.

For Permanent Housing retention specifically (Measure 7b.2), of 171 clients in PH projects (excluding PH-RRH) who either moved into housing or remained in the PH project, 162 either retained PH or exited to PH, indicating a 94.7% PH retention rate.

Conclusion

The 2026 Fulton County PIT Count documents a 34% year-over-year increase in identified homelessness, growing from 241 persons in 2025 to 323 persons in 2026. Both sheltered (138 to 177; +28%) and unsheltered (103 to 146; +42%) populations grew. This increase aligns with improved weather conditions and operational continuity during the 2026 count, and partially returns the count toward 2023 and 2024 levels (337 and 339 persons respectively).

Demographic patterns continue to reflect long-observed disparities in who experiences homelessness in Fulton County. Black or African American residents (78.6% of persons counted) and veterans (10.0% of adults counted) are represented at nearly twice their share of the general county population.

Housing inventory contracted by 8.7% in 2026, primarily driven by an 80% reduction in Rapid Re-Housing beds (from 148 to 29). Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing inventory partially recovered from 2025 lows. The system continues to be anchored by Permanent Supportive Housing (595 beds; 71% of total inventory).

In 2026, the unsheltered count was concentrated in three communities: East Point (32 persons), Roswell (29 persons), and Alpharetta (22 persons). Together, these three locations represented 57% of unsheltered persons counted with a recorded location. The geographic distribution differs from 2025, when Roswell had the larger share among these three communities.

This report establishes a comprehensive baseline for the Fulton County CoC, member agencies, municipalities, County leadership, and the public. The data presented here support transparency and accountability in the local homeless response system and provide a foundation for further analysis and planning.

Appendix 1. Glossary of Terms

Continuum of Care (CoC).

A collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of persons experiencing homelessness. HUD also refers to the group of community stakeholders involved in the decision-making processes as the “Continuum of Care.” Each CoC has a governing body and a lead agency (see below).

Continuum of Care Governing Body.

The elected or selected body responsible for leading the policy, strategy, and governance of the Continuum of Care.

Continuum of Care Lead Agency.

Agency or organization designated by the CoC primary decision-making body to be the entity that submits the CoC application. The CoC lead agency is responsible for the coordination and oversight of the CoC planning efforts and has the authority to certify and submit the CoC homeless assistance funding application.

Emergency Shelter (ES).

Any facility in which the primary purpose is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

An HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics of service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count of clients served within a community’s system of homeless services. An HMIS may also cover a statewide or regional area and include several CoCs. HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC).

Annual inventory of a CoC's emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe havens, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing resources for persons who are experiencing homelessness in a CoC region. The HIC includes both HUD and non-HUD funded shelter and housing resources.

McKinney-Vento Act.

Federal legislation passed in 1987 that established a variety of programs designed to assist persons experiencing homelessness. For the purpose of this report, the McKinney-Vento Act is most notable in the protections it provides to school-aged children experiencing homelessness. The US Department of Education, through the McKinney-Vento Act, has a broader definition of homelessness than the definition used by HUD whose definition of homelessness was amended by the HEARTH Act to generally not include persons who are "Doubled Up" and paying for stays in "Hotels/Motels".

Other Permanent Housing (OPH).

Permanent housing that is designated for homeless people that provides housing and services or housing only but is not categorized as another project type such as Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

Long-term housing for homeless individuals with disabilities and families in which the head of household has a disability and supportive services are designed to meet the needs of the program participants.

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.

One night count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons; reported by CoCs into the Homeless Data Exchange (HDX). CoCs can choose to conduct these counts each year, but they are only required to conduct them every other year during the last week in January. HUD requires each CoC to conduct a sheltered count every year and an unsheltered count every other year (years ending in an odd number).

Rapid Rehousing (RRH).

Short or medium-term assistance (up to 24 months) where the lease for the unit must be between the landlord and the program participant. The program participant must be able to select the unit they lease, and the provider impose a restriction on how long the person may lease the unit, though the provider can impose a maximum length of time that grant funds will be used to assist the program participant in the

unit. In short, rapid rehousing is an intervention designed to help individuals and families that don't need intensive and ongoing supports to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing.

Safe Haven (SH).

A type of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who come primarily from the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in other housing and supportive services.

Sheltered Homelessness.

Adults, children, and unaccompanied children who are living in shelters for the homeless. These include emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing.

Street Outreach (SO).

Homeless assistance projects designed to provide essential services necessary to reach out to persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Some of the services include actively engaging individuals experiencing homelessness with the goal of connecting them to services and housing.

Transitional Housing (TH).

A project that has as its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually up to 24 months). Transitional housing includes housing primarily designed to serve deinstitutionalized homeless individuals and other homeless individuals with mental or physical disabilities and homeless families with children.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, which improve and develop the Nation's communities, and enforce fair housing laws. Among the broad scope of their mandate, HUD also is the primary federal funder for homeless assistance program via the Continuum of Care Program Competition and Emergency Solutions Grants funding streams.

Unsheltered Homelessness.

Adults, children, and unaccompanied children who are living in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, parks, abandoned buildings, or vehicles.

Appendix 2. Acronym List

Acronym	Definition
AC	Adult and Child (household type)
AHAR	Annual Homeless Assessment Report
AO	Adult-Only (household type)
CH	Chronically Homeless
CO	Child-Only (household type)
CoC	Continuum of Care
Comp. DB	Comparable Database (used by Victim Service Providers in lieu of HMIS)
DV	Domestic Violence
ES	Emergency Shelter
GA-502	HUD CoC Identification Number for Fulton County Continuum of Care
HDX	Homelessness Data Exchange 2.0 (HUD's online data submission portal)
HH	Household
HIC	Housing Inventory Chart
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
OPH	Other Permanent Housing
PIT	Point-in-Time (Count)
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PY	Parenting Youth
RRH	Rapid Re-Housing
SH	Safe Haven
SMI	Serious Mental Illness
SPM	System Performance Measures
SUD	Substance Use Disorder
TH	Transitional Housing
UY	Unaccompanied Youth
VSP	Victim Service Provider

Appendix 4. Detailed Housing Inventory Count - 2026

Provider Name	VSP	Project Name	Type	HH w/ Children Beds	HH w/ Children Units	HH w/ Children CH-Ded	HH w/ Children Vet-Ded	HH w/o Children Beds	HH w/o Children CH-Ded	HH w/o Children Vet-Ded	Child Only Beds	Total Beds	PIT / Utilization
The Drake House	No	The Drake House-ES- (GA-502)	ES	52	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	33/63.5%
Mary Hall Freedom House	No	MHFH- Vets Independent Path at MHFH (CRS-ES-502)	ES	0	0	0	0	12	0	12	0	12	11/91.7%
Family Promise of North Fulton/Dekalb	No	Family Promise of North Fulton/Dekalb- ES-GA-502 HIC	ES	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	10/71.4%
Christian City, Inc.	No	Christian City Inc- Genesis Youth Shelter (RHY-ES-502)	ES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	12	5/41.7%
HOPE Atlanta (Traveler's Aid)	No	Hope Atl- SSVFES- Emergency Lodging (NF-Other-500)	ES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2/100%
Positive Transition Services	No	PTS House of Hope (TH- 502) HIC	TH	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	32	32/100%
Zion Hill Community Development Corporation	No	Z-House (NF-TH-502) HIC	TH	12	4	0	0	11	0	0	0	23	21/91.3%
U Hope CDC, Inc	No	U Hope CDC Transitional Housing (TH-502)	TH	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	6/75%
The Drake House	No	Drake Village-TH-(GA- 502)	TH	35	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	35/100%
Christian City, Inc.	No	Thrive Transition to Independent Living Program (Private-TH- 502)	TH	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	17/100%

Provider Name	VSP	Project Name	Type	HH w/ Children Beds	HH w/ Children Units	HH w/ Children CH-Ded	HH w/ Children Vet-Ded	HH w/o Children Beds	HH w/o Children CH-Ded	HH w/o Children Vet-Ded	Child Only Beds	Total Beds	PIT / Utilization
Mary Hall Freedom House	No	MHFH-Freedom Village Homeless Services-TH-(GA-502)	TH	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	5/83.3%
Project Community Connections, Inc.	No	PCCI - SSVF (RRH-500)	RRH	5	2	0	5	12	0	12	0	17	17/100%
HOPE Atlanta (Traveler's Aid)	No	HOPE Atl - SSVF 19-RRH (RRH-500)	RRH	3	1	0	3	9	0	9	0	12	12/100%
Mary Hall Freedom House	No	Mary Hall Freedom House Mary's Heart PSH (CoC-502)	PSH	28	7	28	0	0	0	0	0	28	24/85.7%
CaringWorks, Inc.	No	Caring Works MOVE SHP PSH (CoC-502)	PSH	68	22	68	0	0	0	0	0	68	68/100%
Mary Hall Freedom House	No	Mary Hall Freedom Higher Ground III PSH (CoC-502)	PSH	37	13	37	0	2	2	0	0	39	37/94.9%
Partnership Against Domestic Violence - HIC	Yes	PADV PSH Fulton Renewal (CoC-PSH-502) HIC	PSH	37	11	37	0	3	3	0	0	40	35/87.5%
CaringWorks, Inc.	No	Caring Works-RISE Fulton-PSH-502	PSH	0	0	0	0	18	18	0	0	18	16/88.9%
DCA Compliance	No	VASH - GHFA Fulton (GA-502)	PSH	88	36	88	88	125	125	125	0	213	213/100%
The College Park Housing Authority	No	College Park Housing Authority-VASH-GA-502	PSH	43	13	43	43	71	71	71	0	114	103/90.4%
East Point Housing Authority	No	East Point Housing Authority-VASH-GA-502	PSH	0	0	0	0	75	75	75	0	75	56/74.7%