2026

POINT IN TIME COUNT

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POINT IN TIME COUNT OVERVIEW

WHAT IS POINT IN TIME COUNT?

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is an annual count of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness carried out on one night in January. It is Conducted by every community nationwide in the last 10 days of January at least every other year. It is intended to be a "snapshot" of homelessness on this one night in our community.

IMPORTANCE OF PIT COUNT AND WHY WE DO IT

The purpose of PIT Count is to measure and monitor trends and chanes in homelessnes on local and national levels. On the local level, point-in-time counts help communities plan services and programs to appropriately address local needs, measure progress in decreasing homelessness, and identify strengths and gaps in a community's current homelessness assistance system. It is also a federal requirement to complete a PIT Count.

WHY DOES PIT COUNT TAKE PLACE DURING THE LAST 10 DAYS IN JANUARY?

Using the same timeframe for every community keeps results consistent across the country. Repeating this window each year also makes it easier to track changes accurately. Doing the PIT Count on a winter night also offers a clearer view of who cannot access emergency shelter or other crisis response assistance. The count is scheduled at the end of the month so people who can only afford short-term lodging earlier in the month are more likely to be included. is to ensure that people who can only pay for temporary housing for part of the month are generally included in the count. For example, some people can afford to stay in a motel, but only for the first few weeks after receiving their public benefits payment at the beginning of the month.

WHAT IS UNSHELTERED AND SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) definition of "homeless," for the purpose of the PIT count, includes two main types of homelessness:

- Unsheltered: Individuals or familties whose primary nighttime residence is a public place not meant for human habitation

- Sheltered: Individuals or families residing in a place dedicated to serving people who would otherwise be unsheltered

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Total PIT Count Surveys

93 ⬇ -11 from 2025

Total Chelan-Douglas Surveys

111 ⬇ -10 from 2025

Sheltered Numbers

391 ⬇ -14 from 2025

- Gender was removed from this years PIT Count survey per HUD. Due to this we asked about gender on the Chelan-Douglas Survey.
- The next required count will occur in 2028.
- Households observed totals represent those who were unhoused but did not participate in the survey.
- The question of circumstances leading to their housing situation was included in this years PIT Count survey and was not added to the Chelan-Douglas survey.
- This year's shift to the Salvation Army from the Lighthouse may have influenced the lower survey numbers.

UNSHELTERED HOMELESS SURVEY REPORT

Date : January 29, 2026

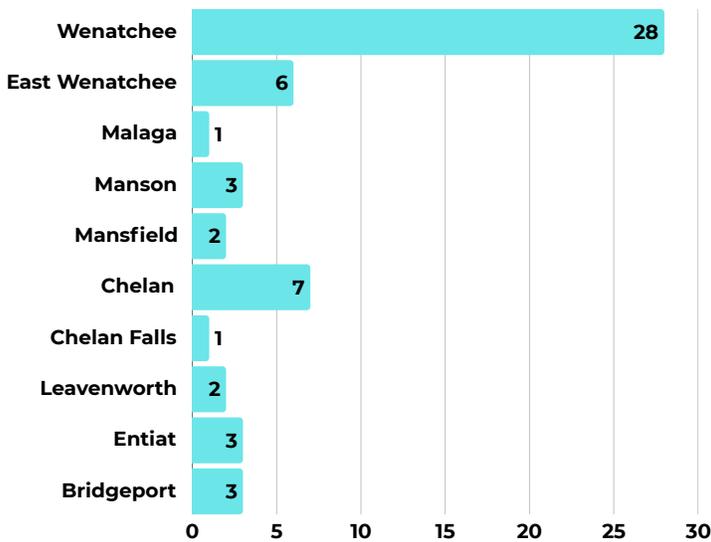| Total Surveys Completed	Total Households	Total Unhoused Observed
93	**84**	**47**

Last Known Permanent Location

68 people answered the question about where they last had permanent housing:

- **4** people said their last known permanent home was from out of state.
- **7** people said their last known permanent home was in another Washington City (outside of the two-county area)
- **56** people said their last known permanent home was from a city / town in Chelan or Douglas County.

Wenatchee **28**
East Wenatchee **6**
Malaga **1**
Manson **3**
Mansfield **2**
Chelan **7**
Chelan Falls **1**
Leavenworth **2**
Entiat **3**
Bridgeport **3**

Average Age: **44**
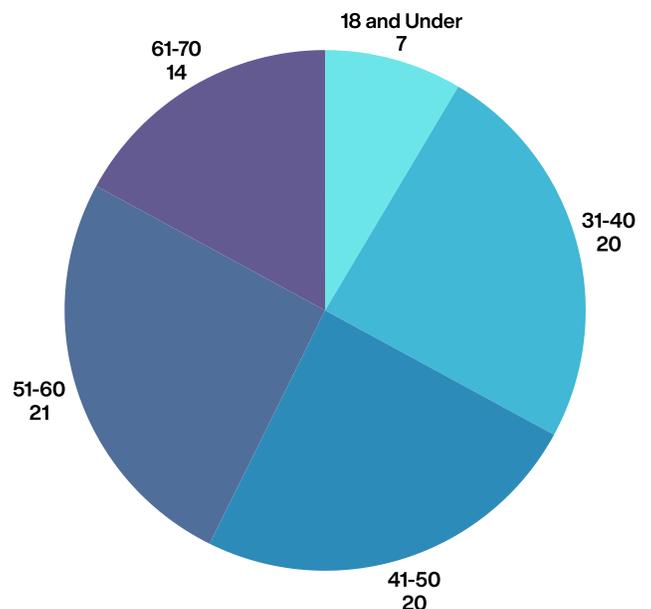Youngest: **6**
Oldest: **70**
Under 18: **5**

Household Compostion

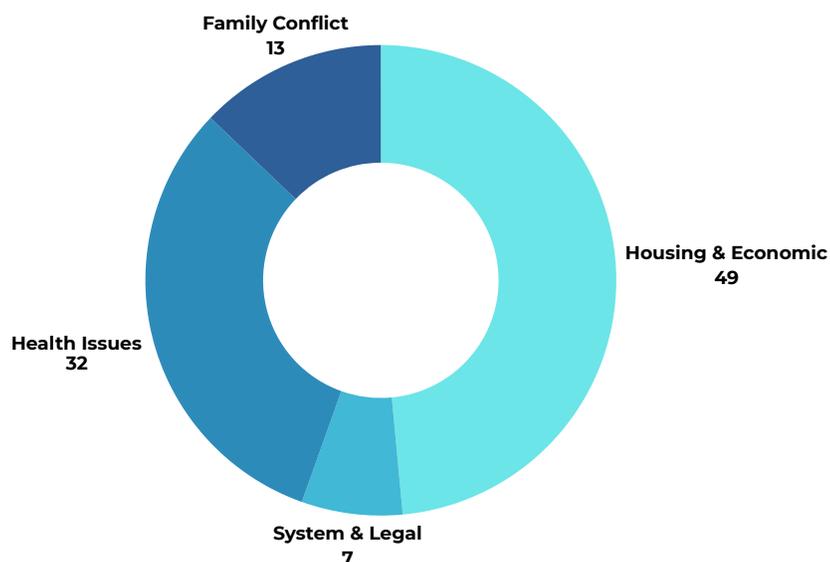**81** Households without children
3 Households with children

74 households are considered chronically homeless
6 households endorsed fleeing DV
1 person endorsed veteran status

40 people identified as White
14 people identified as Hispanic/Latino/a/e,
1 people identified as American Indian/Alaska Native/Indigenous
1 person identified as Black/African American/African
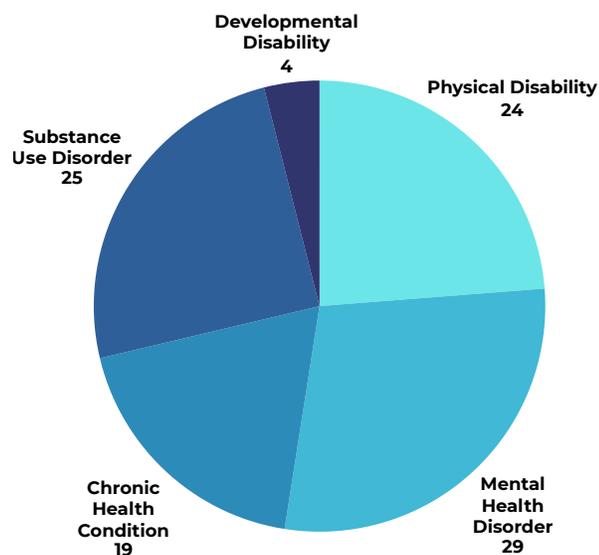**1** person identified as Asian/Asian American

Age

18 and Under
7

31-40
20

41-50
20

51-60
21

61-70
14

Circumstances leading to their housing status

Family Conflict
13

Housing & Economic
49

Health Issues
32

System & Legal
7

Disabling Conditions/Barriers

Developmental Disability
4

Physical Disability
24

Substance Use Disorder
25

Chronic Health Condition
19

Mental Health Disorder
29

*For a breakdown of categories see end of report

Where the household slept on 1/29

RV/Boat
9

Abandoned Building
4

Out of Doors
47

Vehicle
24

Sources of household income and benefits

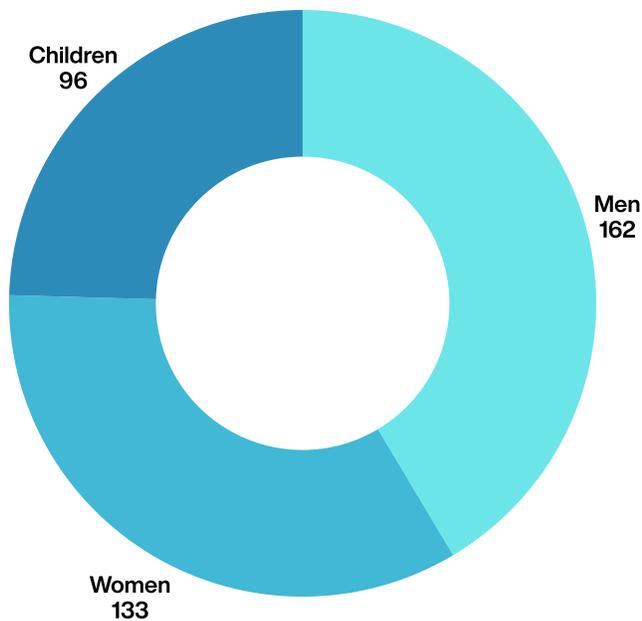- ● Public Assistance/Benefits
- ● Employment ● Other

17

9

5
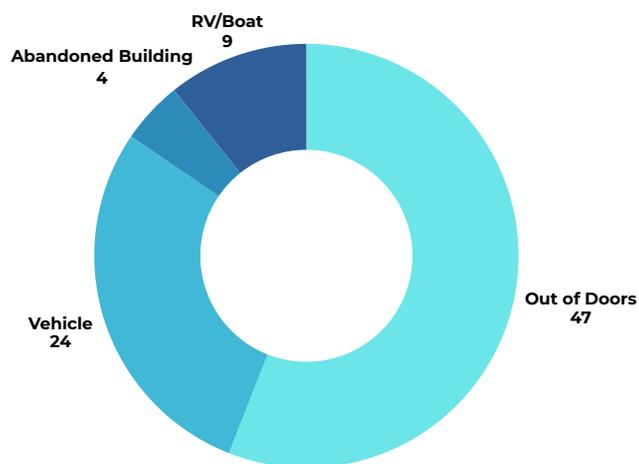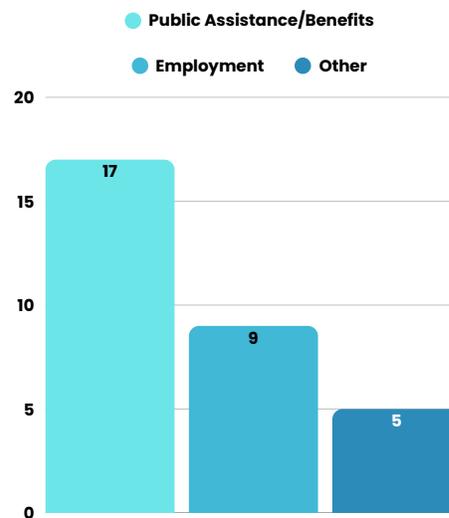
*For a breakdown of categories see end of report

SHELTERED HOMELESS REPORT

Date : January 29, 2026

Total Sheltered
391

Children
96

Men
162

Women
133

391 people stayed in emergency shelters (including emergency hotel-motel voucher programs), transitional housing, or RV Safe Park programs.

CHELAN-DOUGLAS SURVEY REPORT

Date : January 29, 2026

38 people indicated this was their first time being homeless (104 people responded to this question). For how long they have been experiencing homelessness this time:
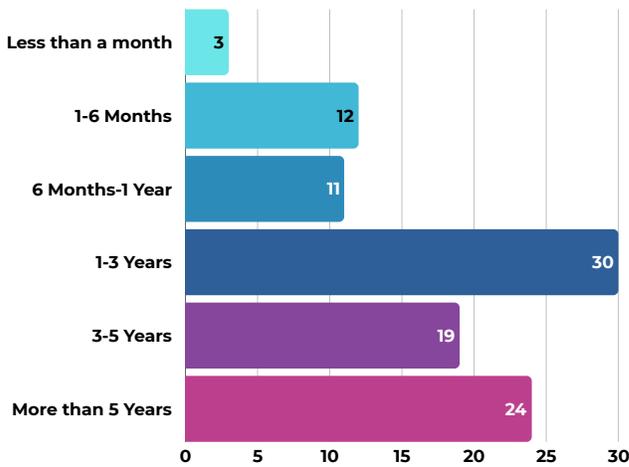
Total Surveys Completed

111

Sexual Orientation

96 people indicated they are heterosexual/straight
4 people indicated they are bisexual
4 people indicated other

Gender

♂ **77 Male**

♀ **32 Female**

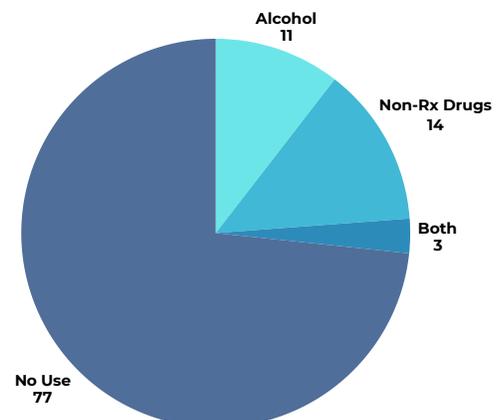| Category	Value
Less than a month	3
1-6 Months	12
6 Months-1 Year	11
1-3 Years	30
3-5 Years	19
More than 5 Years	24

63 people stated they'd be willing to stay at a shelter if there was room; **46** said they would not. Reasons people stated they did not want to go into a shelter included:

Reason	Count
Cannot have pet	5
Shelter does not provide storage	1
Overcrowded	7
Sobriety Requirements	4
Feels unsafe	9
Seem dirty or unsanitary	1
Rules are too strict	10
Drugs and alcohol onsite	4
Not ADA accessible	1
Other	13

When asked if they were currently enrolled in Coordinated Entry (CE)

What is CE? 9
Not Sure 14
Enrolled in CE 48
Not enrolled in CE 36
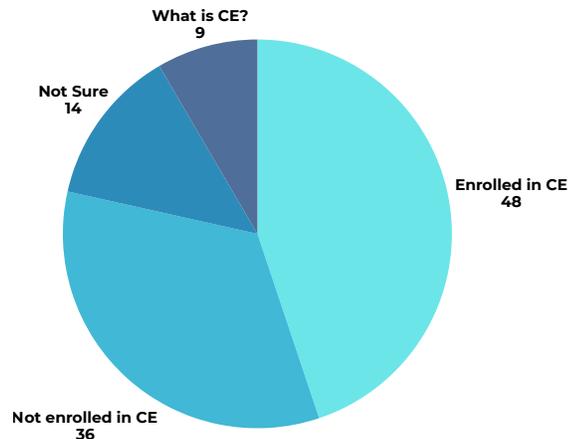
When asked about daily substance use

Alcohol 11
Non-Rx Drugs 14
Both 3
No Use 77

When asked about employment status

97 people indicated no job
4 people indicated part-time
2 people indicated full-time

When asked if they were originally from Chelan or Douglas County

48 people indicated being from Chelan County
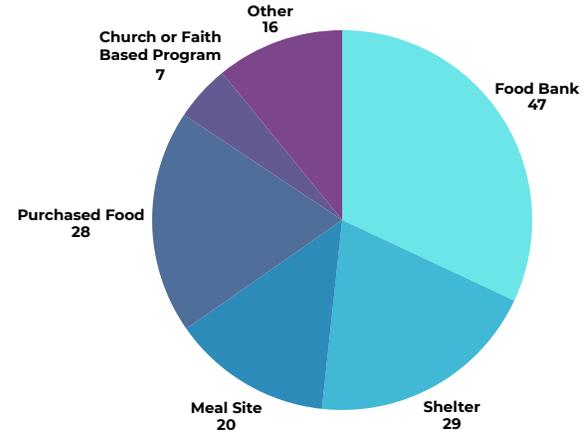**9** people indicated being from Douglas County
52 people indicated no

When asked how long they have been in Chelan or Douglas county

Category	Value
1-6 Months	2
6 Months-1 Year	3
1-3 Years	14
3-5 Years	5
More than 5 Years	23
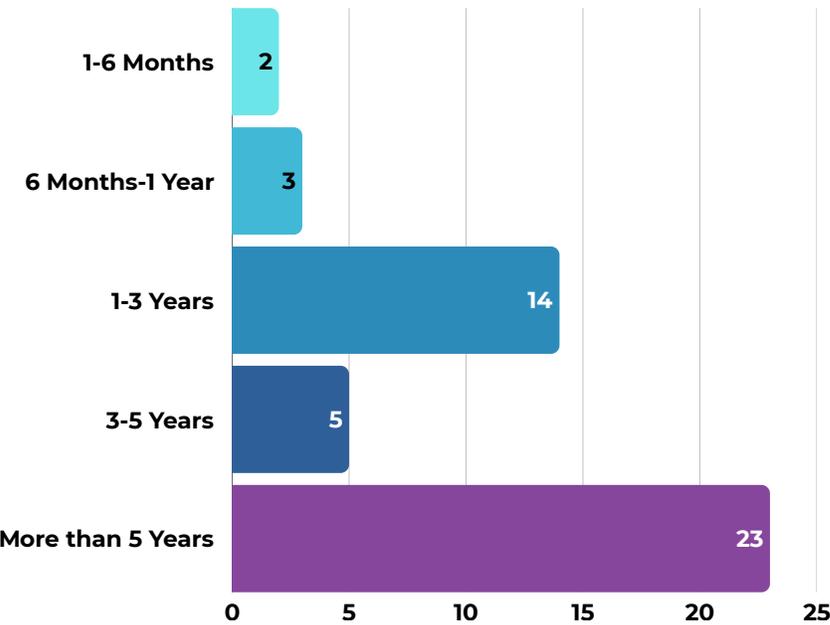
When asked if they felt like there are enough places in the area where they can get food when they are hungry

67 people indicated yes
36 people indicated no

When asked where most of their meals came from in the past week

Church or Faith Based Program 7
Other 16
Food Bank 47
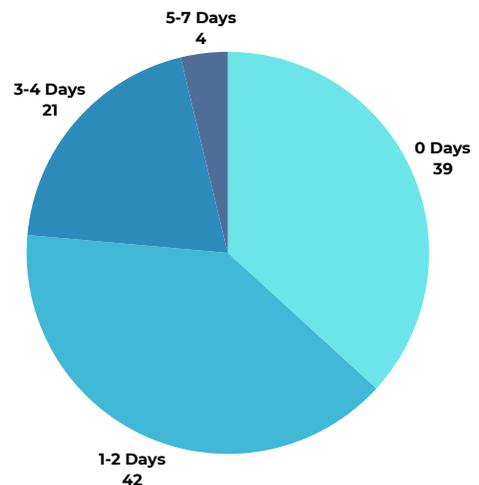Purchased Food 28
Meal Site 20
Shelter 29

Other responses
- Friends/Family
- Store Gives
- Food Stamps
- Panhandle
- Volunteers at Locomotive Park
- Dumpster Diving
- Street

Where did you live previously?

Other Country 3
Another WA City 17
Out of State 21
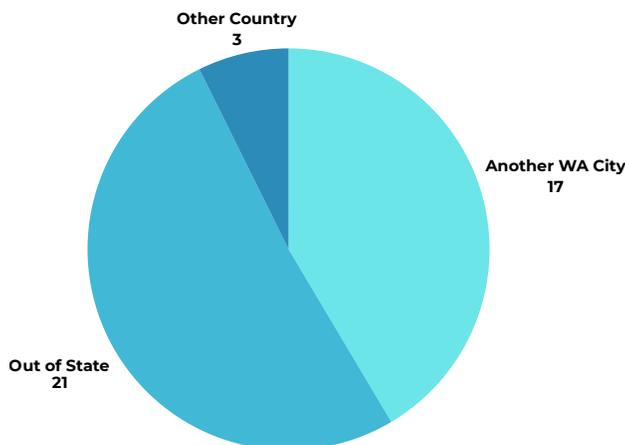
In the past 7 days, how many did you go hungry?

5-7 Days 4
3-4 Days 21
0 Days 39
1-2 Days 42

End of Report

Circumstances leading to their housing status

Housing &Economic
Job loss/unemployment: 16
Eviction/loss of housing: 10
Housing affordability: 7
Lack of childcare: 1
Unable to work: 15

System & Legal
Discharged from hospital or other medical facility: 4
Discharged from criminal/juvenile justice system: 1
Medical costs/bills: 2

Health Issues
Physical illness: 4
Mental illness: 8
Physical disability: 8
Substance Use: 12

Family Conflict
Domestic Violence: 5
Family rejection/kicked out: 8

Sources of household income and benefits

Public Assistance
Medicare/Medicaid: 4
SSI/SSDI: 8
TANF: 5

Employment
Farm/Seasonal: 3
Part-Time: 3
Under the table/Informal: 3

Other
Panhandle: 2
Relative/Friends: 3