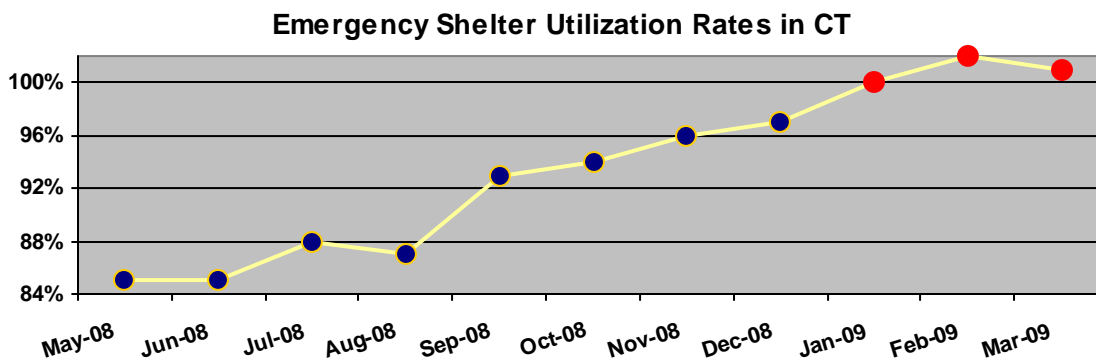


Facts About Homelessness in Connecticut

The solution to homelessness is clear:
Increase the supply of federal housing vouchers,
expand supportive housing,
and create employment/income opportunities.

13,642 people used Emergency Shelters in CT during 2008.
This includes 528 children, 333 families, and 4,010 single adults¹.

However, shelters are consistently filled to capacity...



Due to a lack of available beds, CT emergency shelters had to turn away people 26,907 times in 2008¹. This is just about **double the number of people they served**.

And for many, housing costs remain unaffordable...

- The average housing wage necessary for a 2-bedroom apartment in CT is \$21.60/hour, or a salary of \$44,938/year².
- 27% of single adults and 32% of adults in families said that they left their place of residence due to Rent Problems³.





Who is homeless in Connecticut?

Over the course of a year....

Data collected on in-state emergency homeless shelters by the CT Department of Social Services between October 2007-September 2008, reveals:

- 1,078 children between aged birth to 5 years old stayed in emergency shelter.
- Eviction⁴ was cited by 44% of respondents as the reason for loss of housing.
- Unemployment and Expenses Exceed Income were cited by 47% of respondents as factors contributing to homelessness.

On any given day...

Data from *CT Counts 2009, Point-in-Time Count*, a *one day* collection of statewide homelessness data, conducted on January 28, 2009, reveals that in the state of Connecticut:

- 34% of sheltered single adults and 55% of unsheltered single adults were chronically homeless⁵.
- 36% of homeless single adults and 18% of homeless adults in families had been hospitalized for mental health.
- 57% of single adults and 17% of adults in families had been in hospital, detox, or rehab for substance abuse.
- 13% of single adults had served in the military.
- 18% of single adults and 32% of adults in families were working.

1 CT DSS Annual Homeless Shelter Report FFY 2008 for October 2007-September 2008. Does not include people in non DSS funded shelters, domestic violence shelters, "doubled up" with friends or family, or living outside in cars.

2 "Out of Reach" report was released by the National Low Income Housing Coalition in April 2008. Data represents necessary hourly wage to afford a 2-bedroom apt. at 30% of income.

3 CT Counts 2009, Point-in-Time Count, CT Coalition to End Homelessness, 2009.

4 Eviction includes the following reasons for loss of housing: 'Legal eviction', 'Lockout', 'Family/Friend Eviction'. Annual Homeless Shelter Demographic Report FFY 2008, 2008.

5 Under the HUD definition, a person who is "chronically homeless" is an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. In order to be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.