

Connecticut Counts 2015 – Waterbury

On the night of February 18, 2015, Waterbury counted 201 people experiencing homelessness, including 41 children. The larger populations are shaded in the table below.

CT PIT 2015 Waterbury Sheltered and Unsheltered

Population	# of Persons in Waterbury	% of Waterbury's Grand Total	# of Persons in Waterbury	# of Persons in State	Waterbury's Share of State #s
Adults in Families	25	12%	25	503	5%
Children in Families	41	20%	41	816	5%
Single Adults	135	67%	135	2,717	5%
Unaccompanied Children	0	0%	0	11	0%
Total	201	100%	201	4,047	5%

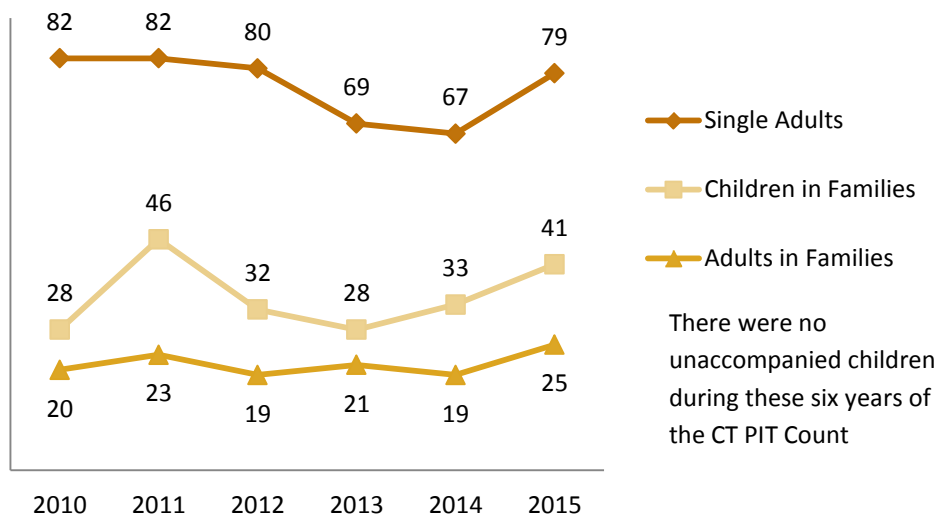
Waterbury's overall trend of increasing numbers of people experiencing homelessness since 2010 does not mirror the state's trend of a decrease during this period.

CT PIT Sheltered and Unsheltered

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change to 2015	
							From 2010	From 2014
Waterbury	145	184	165	169	170	201	39%	18%
State	4,338	4,484	4,252	4,506	4,496	4,047	-7%	-10%

Sheltered Trends

Waterbury Sheltered



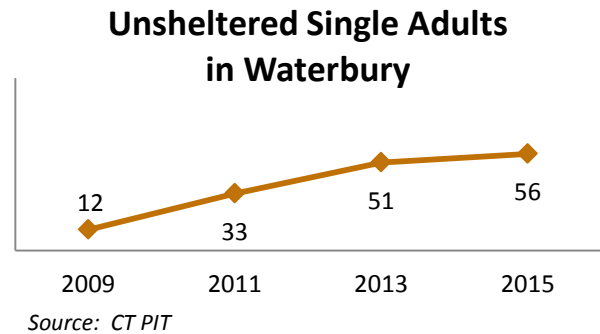
Unsheltered Trends

The unsheltered count is conducted only in odd-numbered years. Per HUD, in an even year the previous year’s unsheltered counts are applied.

This year, two events had an effect on the unsheltered count. First, the count took place during a week that was bitterly cold, which tends to reduce temporarily the number of people sleeping outdoors or in other places not meant for human habitation. Second, enhanced canvassing efforts helped volunteers connect with more people experiencing homelessness.

As is true throughout Connecticut, the unsheltered in Waterbury are overwhelmingly adults without children. Since *CT PIT 2009*, only one unsheltered family was found in Waterbury, in 2009.

Unlike the rest of the state, Waterbury’s unsheltered count has risen every year. While the state unsheltered numbers decreased 32% since the last unsheltered count in 2013*, Waterbury’s numbers increased 10%.



Homeless Veterans

Thanks in part to a national commitment to end veteran homelessness, the number of Connecticut veterans experiencing homelessness has been trending down. While the state numbers went up slightly this year compared to last year, Waterbury had its lowest number of veterans in any PIT Count: four. No chronically homeless veterans were found in Waterbury this year.

Veterans over Time	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Waterbury Sheltered	2	3	5	5	2
Waterbury Unsheltered	4	4	1	1	2
State Sheltered	391	283	266	229	241
State Unsheltered*	47	47	74	74	41

Chronically Homeless Adults

Chronic homelessness status is assigned to an adult who has long-term and/or numerous occasions of homelessness, with an accompanying disability. In 2014, HUD modified how to ascertain if a disability is qualifying by specifying that it is of indefinite duration, impairs the ability to live independently, and would be improved with stable housing. (For more information on federal data standard changes, please visit www.cceh.org.)

These new characteristics alone account for at least a 40% drop between last year’s chronic homelessness count and this year’s, making year-to-year comparisons problematic. So while Waterbury showed an 18% drop since last year, it is possible that the entire decrease and more is attributable to this year’s changes to the disability questions. It is noteworthy that the state showed a 50% drop in chronic homelessness numbers from last year.

Seven percent of the state’s chronically homeless adults were found in Waterbury during this year’s PIT Count. The table below illustrates differences in numbers and percentages between Waterbury and the state.

CT PIT 2015 Chronic Homelessness (CH) in Adults

Region	Sheltered			Unsheltered			Total		
	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All Adults	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All Adults	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All Adults
Waterbury	26	104	25%	11	56	20%	37	160	23%
State	257	2,614	10%	301	606	50%	558	3,220	17%

Health and Safety

CT PIT collects data on a number of common service needs that are shared by a large proportion of individuals facing homelessness. By drawing out information on these health needs, more targeted interventions that allow a focus on well-being in addition to housing can be developed.

The changes in the federal data standards have modified downward the numbers of those who are counted as having a disability. In Waterbury, for example, only 4% of sheltered adults were considered to have a chronic substance abuse problem, a drop of 57% since last year’s PIT.

The question about survivors of domestic violence has actually broadened over time. It no longer applies only to those for whom domestic violence was the proximate cause of their homelessness, but to anyone who’s been a victim at any time in his or her life. Not surprisingly, therefore, this category does not show the decline in CT PIT 2015 found in counts for severe and long-lasting disabilities. Waterbury’s number of homeless domestic violence survivors rose 10% from last year.

CT PIT 2015 Adults with Serious Health or Safety Issues

Balance of State	All Adults*	Severe Mental Illness		Chronic Substance Abuse		HIV/ AIDS		Domestic Violence Survivors	
		Number	% of All Adults	Number	% of All Adults	Number	% of All Adults	Number	% of All Adults
Sheltered	104	23	22%	4	4%	10	10%	22	21%
Unsheltered	56	17	30%	25	45%	0	0%	12	21%
Total	160	40	25%	29	18%	10	6%	34	21%

* The denominator for each percentage is the total number of the region’s adults as displayed in the “All Adults” column. In the “Sheltered” row, for example, all the percentages use the total number of *sheltered* adults (104) as the denominator.

Please see

<http://cceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CT-Counts-v2-1.pdf>

for detailed *CT PIT 2015* numbers.