

Connecticut Counts 2015 – Bridgeport-Stratford-Fairfield

On the night of February 18, 2015, Bridgeport counted 419 people experiencing homelessness, including 122 children. The larger populations are shaded in the table below.

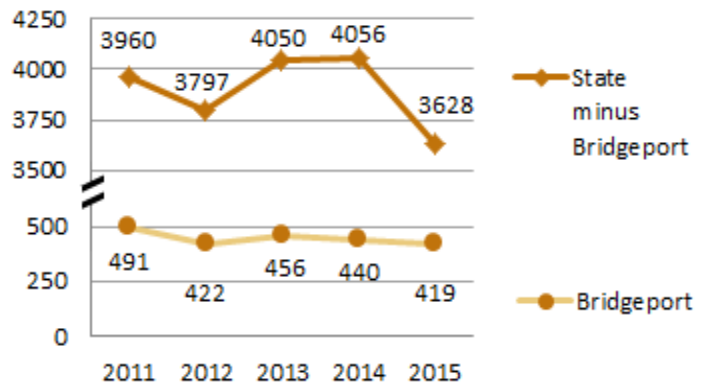
CT PIT 2015 Bridgeport Sheltered and Unsheltered

Population	# of Persons in Bridgeport	% of Bridgeport's Total	# of Persons in Bridgeport	# of Persons in State	Bridgeport's Share of State #s
Adults in Families	67	16%	67	503	13%
Children in Families	122	29%	122	816	15%
Single Adults	230	55%	230	2,717	8%
Unaccompanied Children	0	0%	0	11	0%
Total	419	100%	419	4,047	10%

Since Bridgeport's maximum in 2011, the total number of people experiencing homelessness declined almost twice as fast (15%) as in the rest of the state (8%).

Since last year, total homelessness in the rest of the state fell 11%, in Bridgeport 5%.

Bridgeport Totals vs Rest of State

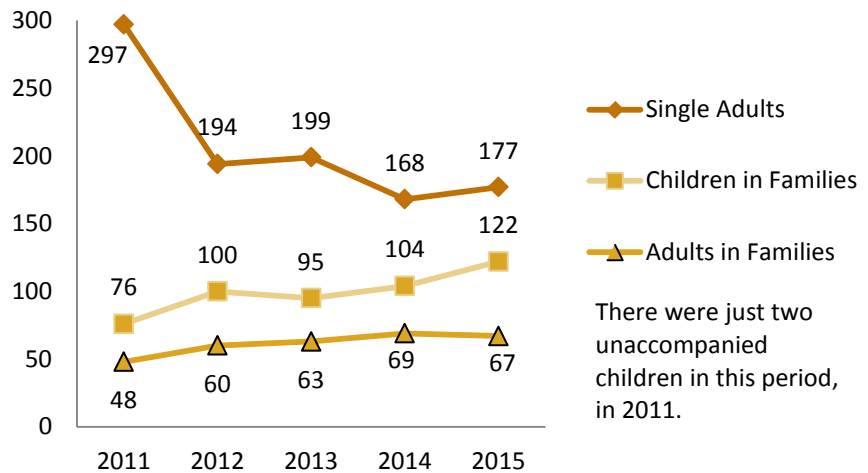


Sheltered Trends

Since 2011, the number of sheltered single adults in Bridgeport has dropped 40%; since last year, 1%.

The number of people in families has risen 52% since 2011, 9% since last year.

CT PIT Bridgeport Sheltered

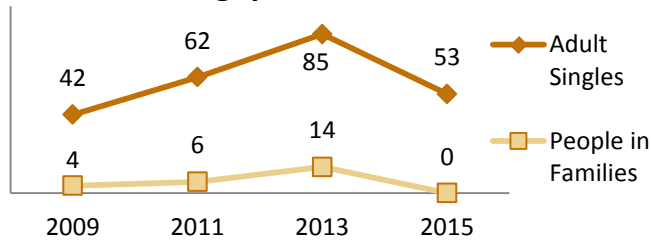


Unsheltered Trends

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 may have had a significant 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.

Bridgeport Unsheltered



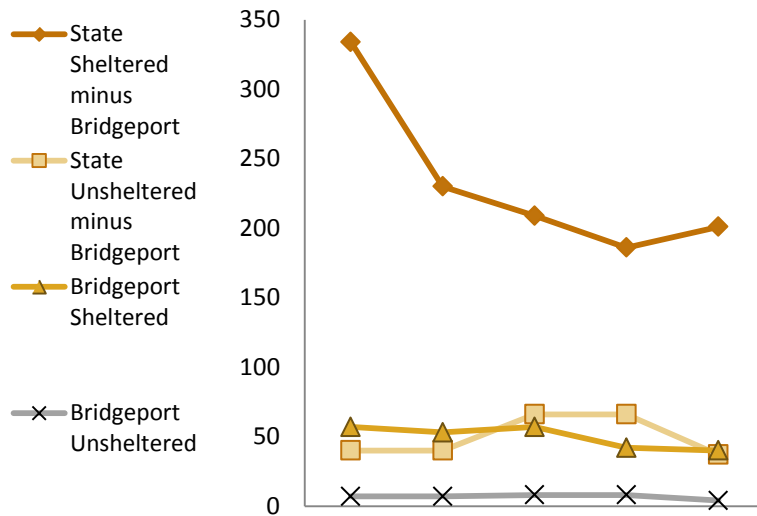
For the first year since 2009, no families were found in Bridgeport during the unsheltered PIT Count.

The 53 men and women counted this year represent 8% of all unsheltered people in *CT PIT 2015*, statewide.

Homeless Veterans

Thanks in part to a national commitment to end veteran homelessness, the number of Connecticut veterans experiencing homelessness has been trending down.

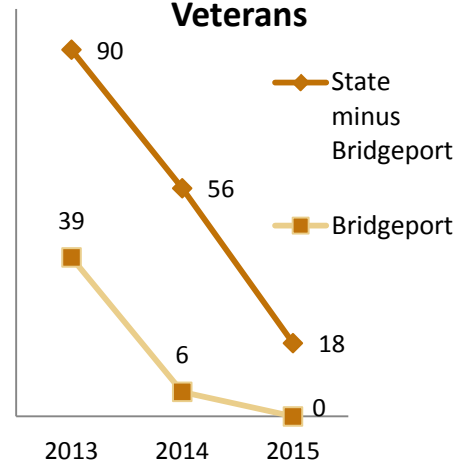
Bridgeport counted 44 veterans in *CT PIT 2015*, comprising 16% of the state’s homeless veterans.



Chronic homelessness among veterans has dramatically declined.

Bridgeport had no chronically homeless veterans this year.

Chronically Homeless Veterans



Region and Population	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sheltered – State minus Bridgeport	334	230	209	186	201
Unsheltered – State minus Bridgeport	40	40	66	66	37
Bridgeport Sheltered	57	53	57	42	40
Bridgeport Unsheltered	7	7	8	8	4

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. The new measures do, however, lead to better targeting of those most in need of permanent supportive housing.

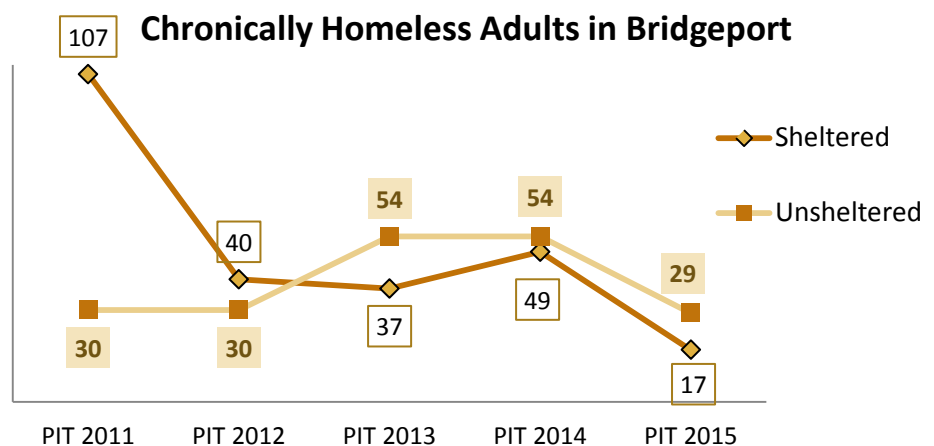
Eight percent of the state’s chronically homeless adults were found in Bridgeport during this year’s PIT Count. This table illustrates how Bridgeport’s chronic homelessness figures compare to the rest of the state.

CT PIT 2015 Chronic Homelessness (CH)

Region	Sheltered			Unsheltered			Total		
	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All	# of CH Adults	All Adults	% of All
State	257	2,614	10%	301	606	50%	558	3,220	17%
State minus Bridgeport	240	2,370	10%	272	553	49%	512	2,923	18%
Bridgeport	17	244	7%	29	53	55%	46	297	15%

Total chronic homelessness in Bridgeport dropped 55% since last year.

Statewide, the drop was 50%.



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 Bridgeport, for example, the number of people reporting a serious mental illness declined by 61% since last year, almost three times greater than any previous decline from one year to the next. The drop in adults reporting chronic substance abuse was even greater: 82%.

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. In fact, Bridgeport showed a 71% increase since last year.

CT PIT 2015 Adults with Serious Health or Safety Issues

Bridgeport	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	244	42	17%	11	5%	11	5%	55	23%
Unsheltered	53	18	34%	23	43%	1	2%	10	19%
Total	297	60	20%	34	11%	12	4%	65	22%

* 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 (244) as the denominator.

Please see <http://cceb.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CT-Counts-v2-1.pdf> for detailed *CT PIT 2015* numbers.