

Homeless Populations: Facts, Data, Numbers

The National Landscape

- ✚ From our best 2020 data, there are about 580,000 homeless persons in America, equivalent to the populations of Eugene, Salem, Hillsboro, Bend, and Grants Pass - combined.
- ✚ About 60% have shelter of some kind; 40% live on the streets.
- ✚ HUD estimates that 61% are male.
- ✚ 20% are kids.
- ✚ The national percentage: there are 18 homeless for every 10,000 population.
- ✚ The life expectancy of a chronically homeless person is 50.
- ✚ Recent longitudinal studies (esp. Denver) indicate that the cost of operating reasonably successful comprehensive continuum of care programs for our homeless is substantially or wholly offset by the savings resulting from the reduction in emergency calls, EMT, police, and other emergency services. (PEW Research Center, August 2021)

The West

- ✓ California, Oregon and Washington are home to more than 200,000 of America's 580,000 homeless persons.
- ✓ Our states rank 3rd, 4th, and 5th nationally having the highest number of homeless as a percentage of population. (NY and Hawaii are 1 and 2)
- ✓ The western states are "home" to more than 50% of the national total.

Our Oregon

- ❖ On any given night, more than 15,000 are homeless.
- ❖ Statewide our number per 10,000 is 34.7 (remember the national number of 18).
- ❖ 61% of our homeless have NO shelter.
- ❖ Our rural Community of Care (CoC), OR 505 is "home" to about 6,000 homeless, 51.2 per 10,000, the same percentage as Portland and Multnomah County.
- ❖ The Clackamas County number, as a contrast: 8.4 per 10,000 CoC507).
- ❖ Our homeless feeder system or farm league: there are more homeless students and children than adults.