## **2024 EDITION**

## THE STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN NH

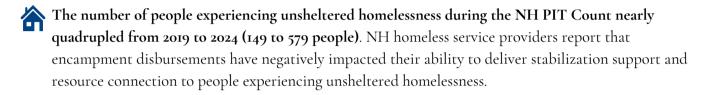
## **KEY TAKEAWAYS**



From 2022 to 2023, NH had the highest percentage increase (52%) in its annual Point in Time (PIT) Count numbers of any state in the nation.



**6,806 NH residents experienced homelessness in 2023.** This equates to 49 out of every 10,000 NH residents and is larger than the population of approximately 80% of the municipalities in the Granite State.



**1,894 people were chronically homeless in 2023. Since 2019, chronic homelessness has grown over 150% in the Granite State.** The needs of those experiencing chronic homelessness are some of the most complex; the people in this situation have a disabling condition and have not been able to exit homelessness on their own or with support in over a year, so they face many barriers to stabilization.

The number of people in families who were homeless in NH in 2023 jumped to 2,335, an increase over 45% in both the PIT Count (46.6%) and year-long HMIS data (45.8%), compared to 2022.

Youth under the age of 25 represented over a quarter (25.3%) of all people who experienced homelessness during the January PIT Count in 2023.

**1** in 5 people who experienced homelessness in NH in calendar year 2023 were age 55 or above. The intersection of aging and homelessness will continue to grow if not addressed; the number of older adults in NH is projected to double in the next 20 years.

There are not enough shelter and program beds to house everyone who is experiencing homelessness in NH. Housing alternatives beyond emergency shelter beds must also be expanded in order to support a full continuum of options to meet the unique needs of families and individuals who are homeless.

The lack of truly affordable housing remains the leading contributor to the continuation of the homelessness crisis in NH. In 2024, the median wage of NH households was almost \$20,000/year less than the \$73,300/year a family must earn to afford the \$1,833 monthly rent of a median-priced two-bedroom unit. Housing development is the long-term answer, yet interim solutions are needed to support NH residents who are *currently* experiencing housing instability and homelessness.

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