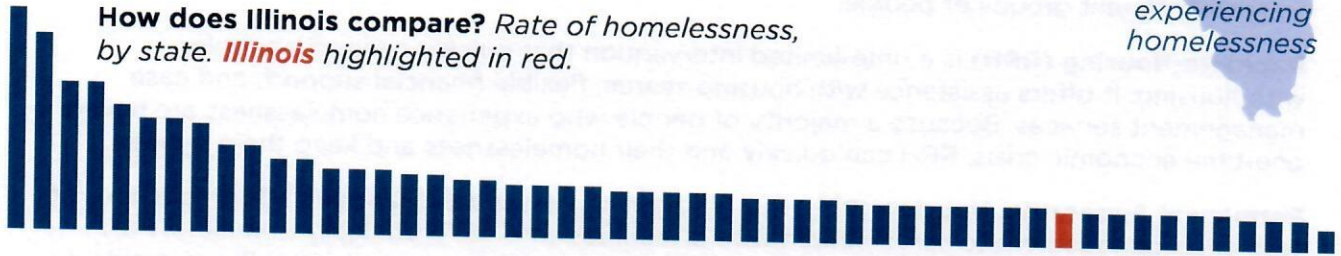


How many people are homeless in Illinois?

There are **10,798** people experiencing homelessness in Illinois on any given night. That's a rate of **8** in every **10,000** people in the state. Across the United States, 17 in every 10,000 people are homeless, making Illinois's rate **significantly lower** than the national average.

10,798
Illinoisans
experiencing
homelessness

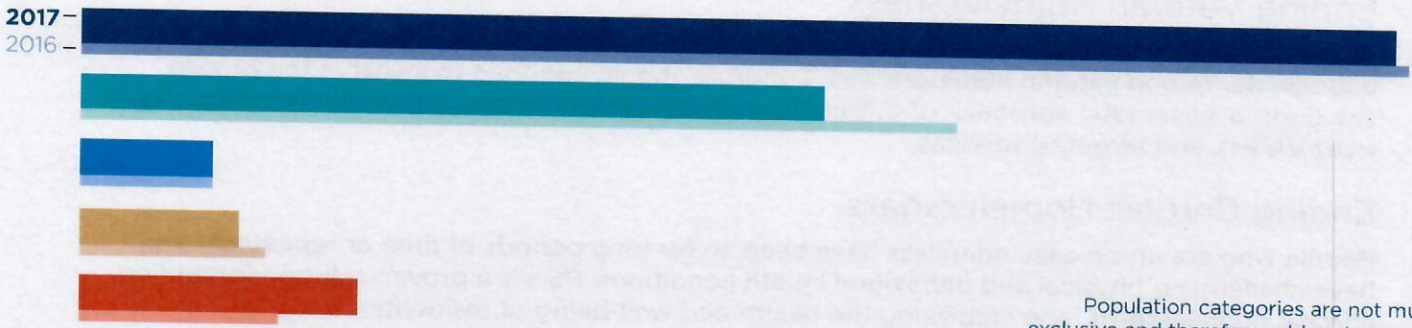


Is homelessness up or down in Illinois?

Since 2010, overall homelessness in Illinois has **decreased by 25%**. Between 2016 and 2017, homelessness decreased by 6.8%.

Who experiences homelessness in Illinois?

Most people experiencing homelessness in Illinois are **individual adults**, followed by **people in families with children**.

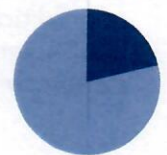


Population categories are not mutually exclusive and therefore add up to more than overall homeless number.

What does homelessness look like in Illinois?

21% of people experiencing homelessness in Illinois live unsheltered in a place not meant for human habitation — such as a park, car, or abandoned building. That's lower than the national unsheltered rate of **35%**.

21% unsheltered in Illinois



How to End Homelessness

Ending homelessness requires a coordinated, community-wide approach, combined with federal investment in proven strategies. In light of significant national declines in overall homelessness, service providers and researchers have identified the most effective interventions to serve different groups of people.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is a time-limited intervention that quickly connects people with housing. It offers assistance with housing search, flexible financial support, and case management services. Because a majority of people who experience homelessness are having a one-time economic crisis, RRH can quickly end their homelessness and keep them housed.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a long-term intervention that pairs affordable housing with case management to serve people with disabilities who are chronically homeless. PSH reduces costs for hospitals, criminal justice, shelters, and other systems by stabilizing residents and connecting them with health care and other supports.

Ending Homelessness for Individual Adults

Individual adults are the largest population of people experiencing homelessness. Many people lose their homes after an economic crisis: losing a job, leaving a relationship, or suffering a medical emergency. Despite stereotypes, most of this population does not suffer from chronic mental illness or other disabling conditions. Emergency shelter and crisis response services are critical for this group. Emergency shelters must be part of a coordinated system that quickly connects people to housing, employment and income, and health care. Individuals experiencing homelessness can be served by either RRH or PSH.

Ending Family Homelessness

Housing is the solution to homelessness for low-income families. RRH helps families quickly transition back into housing. Some may require more intensive or long-term support through transitional housing, permanent rental assistance, or PSH. Families also benefit from supports such as child care, employment assistance, income support, and mental health counseling.

Ending Veteran Homelessness

Thanks to federal investment and a coordinated approach, veteran homelessness is down nationwide. To end veteran homelessness, Congress should continue to invest in the proven solutions: a systematic approach of outreach, emergency shelter, housing (including RRH and HUD-VASH), and targeted services.

Ending Chronic Homelessness

People who are chronically homeless have been so for long periods of time or repeatedly and have challenging physical and behavioral health conditions. PSH is a proven solution for ending chronic homelessness, and stabilizing the health and well-being of residents.

Ending Youth Homelessness

Homeless youth are those under age 25 who are experiencing homelessness without a parent or guardian. A coordinated approach to end youth homelessness includes: family intervention work; enhanced support for youth exiting the child welfare and juvenile justice systems; and facilitated connections to mainstream resources (i.e., education and employment, mental and behavioral health services). Low-barrier housing options, such as RRH, should also be available to young people who cannot return home.