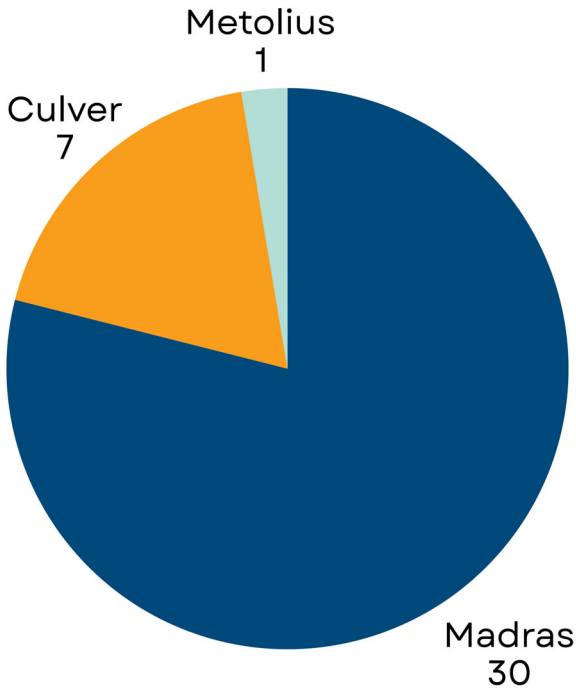
JEFFERSON COUNTY

2026 POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT

38
Total Individuals Experiencing Homeless in **Jefferson County**

-42
from 2025

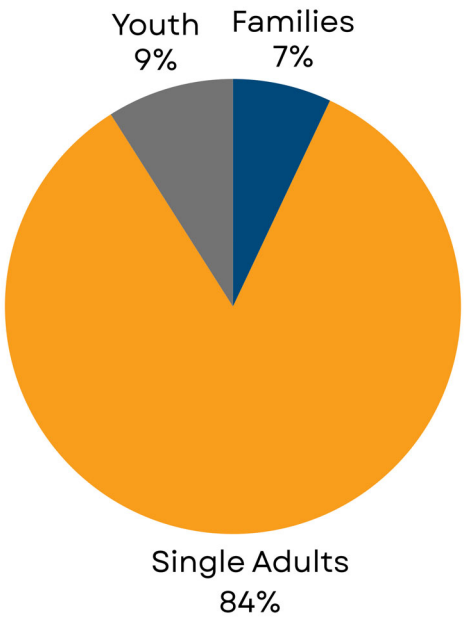
53%
decrease compared to 2025



CENTRAL OREGON

1,706
Total Individuals Homeless in Central Oregon

Households Experiencing Homelessness on January 26, 2026



Key Takeaways

- Most of our unhoused neighbors live unsheltered in Deschutes County.
- 187 people under the age of 25 were unsheltered on January 26, 2026.
- 227 people over the age of 55 were unsheltered on January 26, 2026.
- 50% experiencing homelessness in Central Oregon have lived here for more than 10 years.
- 65% of our homeless community have experienced homelessness for a year or longer.
- Between 2025 and 2026 PIT counts, expanded shelter capacity and regional housing initiatives led to a 19% reduction in homelessness.

HOMELESS LEADERSHIP COALITION

2026 POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT

WHAT IS THE PIT COUNT?

The Annual Point in Time (PIT) count is the count of sheltered and unsheltered individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. This is a requirement of all Continuums of Care (CoCs) by HUD.

Surveys were conducted between January 27 and February 2, 2026, asking folks where they resided on the night of January 26, 2026.

The Homeless Leadership Coalition (HLC) plans, coordinates, and oversees the local counts annually across Central Oregon. For more information visit cohomeless.org.

MYTH VS. FACT

There's a common myth that people move to Central Oregon to access homeless services. However, data shows otherwise: 50% of people experiencing homelessness in the region lived here for over 10 years, and more than 75% for the last three years. This highlights the vast majority are long-term residents who were priced out of housing due to rising costs - not newcomers drawn by services.

HOMELESSNESS IN CENTRAL OREGON

Lack of Housing Supply - Oregon has a projected shortage of more than 440,000 units needed in the next 20 years.

Affordability - The affordability gap is an almost insurmountable barrier for those experiencing homelessness.

Poverty - Earnings from employment and benefits have not kept pace with the cost of housing, food, and transportation.

Other Factors - Inflation, decades of disinvestment in affordable housing, inadequate wages, poor health and disability, lack of support, and other services.

HOMELESS LEADERSHIP COALITION