



STATS & FACTS

- As of September 2021, Utah had an estimated 2,876 individuals experiencing homelessness on any given night.
- This figure is better represented by the 12,442 people enrolled in homeless services in Utah.
- During the winter months, homeless shelters often experience a surge in demand as individuals seek refuge from the cold and harsh weather conditions.
- Warming shelters reached full capacity last winter, leaving people on the streets in sub-zero temperatures.
- 13 people died on the streets due to exposure in Salt Lake City last winter.
- Families with children are particularly vulnerable during the winter, as they may struggle to find suitable shelter and warmth.
- Cold weather can exacerbate health issues among homeless individuals, including respiratory infections and frostbite.
- About 25% of homeless people suffer from severe mental illness.
- Many individuals experiencing homelessness lack access to warm winter clothing, including coats, gloves, hats, and blankets.
- The winter season can bring additional safety concerns, such as slip-and-fall accidents on icy sidewalks and increased fire risks as people try to stay warm through makeshift heating methods.
- In the U.S., the average life expectancy for an individual experiencing homelessness is between 42 and 52 years.
- Homeless shelters and service providers often face higher heating and utility costs during the winter, putting additional strain on their resources.
- For children experiencing or at risk of homelessness, the holiday season often highlights the stark disparities in their access to essential resources.
- Despite progress, family homelessness remains a concern, with thousands of children experiencing homelessness in Utah each year.
- Homeless youth have a higher risk of experiencing physical and sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Approximately 35% of the homeless population in the U.S. consists of families with children.
- Utah has one of the highest rates of food insecurity among the elderly population in the nation.
- Homelessness remains a complex and multifaceted issue, requiring ongoing efforts from various nonprofit organizations to address it effectively.
- Homeless individuals often face barriers to employment, including lack of transportation, access to clean clothing, and a stable address.
- Only a small percentage of homeless individuals are able to maintain full-time employment.
- The primary cause of homelessness in the U.S. is the lack of affordable housing.



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- Housing costs in Utah are increasing at a faster rate than income, making it difficult for low-income individuals and families to secure stable housing.
- In Utah, the median home price has risen significantly in recent years, contributing to housing instability.
- Utah has sought alternative solutions to criminalization, such as offering supportive services instead of punitive measures.
- The homeless population faces a higher risk of infectious diseases, including tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.
- The mortality rate among homeless individuals is much higher than that of the general population.
- Affordable rental housing is scarce, with only 26 affordable units available for every 100 extremely low-income households in Utah.
- Homeless women often face unique health challenges, including limited access to menstrual hygiene products and healthcare.
- Approximately 1 in 30 children in the U.S. experiences homelessness each year.
- Homeless shelters often operate at or near capacity, highlighting the critical need for additional shelter and housing options.
- The majority of homeless individuals in Utah are found in the Salt Lake City area.
- Employment instability is a significant contributor to homelessness, with many homeless individuals experiencing unemployment or underemployment.
- In Utah, homelessness has decreased by 14% between 2019 and 2020, but since 2020 homelessness has increased.
- The 2023 Annual Data Report on Homelessness shows 8,637 experienced homelessness for the first time in 2022, an increase of 821 people compared to the federal fiscal year 2021.
- The state's annual data report showed a 96% increase in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness in Utah since 2019.
- With the conclusion of pandemic-era funding resources and the increase in living costs, service providers are facing an increased demand for their services.
- 93% of individuals enrolled in permanent housing, excluding rapid rehousing, successfully exited to or maintained their permanent housing.
- The Point-In-Time count found the subpopulation of adults with mental illness increased significantly year over year, increasing from 979 in 2022 to 1,500 in 2023.
- From 2020 to 2022, there was a 27% increase in the number of Utahns becoming homeless for the first time.
- Utah has seen a 16% rise in people using temporary and emergency shelters since 2020.