



Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless

Legislative Priorities for 2018 Session -

- Legislation to Ban Discrimination Based on Tenant Income Source - S2301, H7528
- Support Pay for Success Project to House 125 Chronically Homeless Individuals
- Appoint a Housing/Homelessness Czar in State Government
- Restore Housing Stabilization Medicaid Funding
- Support the Housing Opportunity Initiative

Data on Homeless in Rhode Island from 2017¹ -

| Point in Time Count | Number |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Persons Homeless on a Given Night | 1,180 |
| Homeless Single Adults | 801 |
| Homeless Adults in Families | 143 |
| Homeless Children in Families | 235 |
| Homeless Children not in Families | 1 |
| Homeless Families | 378 |

| Annual Count | Number |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| # of Homeless over Whole Year | 4,501 |

| Subpopulations | Number | % |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Severely Mentally Ill | 268 | 23% |
| Chronically Homeless | 240 | 20% |
| Victims of Domestic Violence | 175 | 15% |
| Chronic Substance Abuse | 171 | 14% |
| Veterans | 95 | 8% |

| Race | Number | % |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|
| White | 762 | 65% |
| Black or African-American | 309 | 26% |
| Hispanic | 263 | 22% |
| Multiple Races | 82 | 7% |
| American Indian/Alaskan | 16 | 1% |
| Asian | 8 | 1% |
| Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 3 | 0% |

| Subpopulations | Number | % |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----|
| Unsheltered | 69 | 6% |
| Unaccompanied Youth 18-24 | 48 | 4% |
| Unsheltered Chronically Homeless | 25 | 2% |
| Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth 18-24 | 8 | 1% |

Housing Affordability in Rhode Island -

The average rent for a two-bedroom apartments with utilities is now roughly \$1,288 per month. To afford that apartment, a household would need an annual income of over \$50,000, provided that their rent was 30% of income (the recommended percentage of income one should pay for their housing costs). However, the median household income for a household who rents in Rhode Island in 2016 was only just over \$33,000. This results in over 17,500 Rhode Islanders annually that are actually severely cost burdened by spending more than 50% of their income.

¹ HUD 2017 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless Populations and Subpopulations Report