

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Robert Thompson
Administrator

February 14, 2025

Diane Thornton, Director
Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: 2024 Housing Crisis Response System Report

Dear Director Thornton:

In accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 422A.695, please see the attached 2024 Housing Crisis Response System Report from the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.

This report provides information concerning:

- The activities and services provided through the Nevada Housing Crisis Response System established pursuant to NRS 422A.680;
- Any other activities or services provided by the Department or any division thereof to prevent homelessness; and
- Any activities or services provided by any other state or local governmental entity, nonprofit organization, or other person or entity in this State to prevent homelessness.

We welcome questions and feedback on the information provided.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert H. Thompson".

Robert H. Thompson, Administrator
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Department of Health and Human Services
State of Nevada

cc: Richard Whitley, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Shannon Litz, Deputy Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Maria Tello Magana, Executive Assistant, Department of Health and Human Services
Kelly Cantrelle, Deputy Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Shelly Aguilar, Social Services Chief III, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

State of Nevada

2024 Nevada Housing Crisis Response System Report



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This report summarizes the activities and services provided in Nevada including the Nevada Housing Crisis Response System; activities and services of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) to prevent homelessness; and activities and services provided by other state or local government entities, nonprofit organizations, persons, or entities within Nevada to prevent homelessness as required by NRS 422A.695.

Homelessness Data in Nevada

Homelessness is a complex public health concern and is often a cumulative result of social, economic, and relational factors. There continues to be a substantial number of individuals and families seeking relief. Recent data reflects an overall increase in homelessness for Rural, Northern, and Southern Nevada. In 2023, Nevada reported 8,666 individuals experiencing homelessness compared to 2024, Nevada reported 10,106 individuals. While there has been an increase in the total population of homeless persons in recent years, there has been a decrease in homeless veterans in Nevada and also throughout the nation. In 2023, 1,094 veterans were experiencing homelessness in Nevada and as of 2024, this has reduced to 644 veterans.

In Nevada's current housing market, there continues to be crisis with not enough affordable housing to meet the needs of all Nevadans. The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates a shortage of over 78,000 affordable rental homes being available for extremely low-income renters. Additionally, rental prices continue to increase. In Las Vegas, apartment rental prices now exceed \$1,470 per month and in Reno/Sparks, apartment rental prices now exceed \$1,675 per month (Rent Cafe, n.d.a., n.d.b.). 91,243 people (19%) of all renters in Nevada are extremely low income (at or below 30% area median income (AMI)).

In Nevada, the minimum wage is \$11.25 which is \$11.21 below what is considered a living wage for a single adult without children in the State (Living Wage, 2024). 17% of Nevadans spent half or more of their income on housing, while 19% of households experienced high housing costs, lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities, and/or overcrowding (County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2024).

The 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) count, an annual snapshot of homelessness on one night, took place shortly after the pandemic-related eviction protections expired, surely contributing to the increase to the number of those experiencing homelessness as Nevada 211 indicated the most searched need was "Housing and Shelter."

Annual PIT counts must be conducted across the state during the last 10 days in January. Nevada's counts were conducted January 25, 2024, and were performed by the 3 continuums of care (CoC's). The Southern Nevada PIT count reflected 7,906 people in Southern Nevada, marking a 13-year high for number of unhoused individuals. The Rural Nevada PIT count reported 439 adults experiencing homelessness, with an additional 1,037 children facing housing instability. The Washoe County PIT count documented 1,760 people experiencing homelessness.

Nevada continues to battle homelessness with a focus on increasing shelter bed access and utilization throughout the state. In Clark County, 1,670 non-congregate shelter beds have been added since 2023 and on the night of the PIT count, 85% of shelter beds were utilized. Emergency shelter beds and rapid rehousing beds

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had the highest utilization at 86% and 100%. Of 2,134 available permanent housing beds, 1,523 (71%) were full.

Statewide Point-in-Time Summary by Subpopulation

- Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC): 5,900
- Chronically Homeless: 3,203
- Domestic Violence: 357
- Gender:
 - Male: 6,403
 - Female: 3,602
 - Transgender, Questioning, or Gender not singularly “Female” or “Male”: 101
- HIV / AIDS: 55
- Mental Health: 1,415
- Chronic Substance Use: 1,069
- Transition Aged Youth (TAY) (18-24): 622
- Veterans: 644

Nevada Housing Crisis Response System and Nevada 211

The Department of Health and Human Services is required to establish and administer the Nevada Housing Crisis Response System to prevent and address homelessness in the State by coordinating with local governments and nonprofit organizations; providing a system to respond to crises 24 hours per day, seven days per week; developing prevention and assistance programs; and generally assisting people who are transient, at imminent risk of homelessness, or who are chronically homeless.

Nevada 211, a program of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, is committed to helping Nevadans connect with the services they need. Information can be accessed online at <https://www.nevada211.org>; the Nevada 211 App / Youth App, or by dialing 2-1-1 seven days a week, 24 hours per day. Nevada 211 is a telephone number reserved in Canada and the United States to provide information and referrals to health, human and social service organizations. Dialing 2-1-1 in almost every part of the United States connects people to human and social services in their area. 2-1-1 services include places to find emergency food, housing and emergency shelter locations, children’s services, support for seniors, older persons, and people with disabilities, and mental health and counseling services, among many other resources.

The Nevada 211 website has a section titled, “Nevada Housing Crisis Response System – Emergency Shelter, Housing and Rental Assistance” <https://www.nevada211.org/shelter/> which provides housing and shelter resources. Nevada 211 publishes annual reports showing the number of referrals received in each resource category. Listed below is the number of referrals from all housing inquiries from 2024.

Fiscal Year 2024 Nevada 211 online report (<https://www.nevada211.org/reports/>)

- Low Income/Subsidized Private Rental Housing – 10,914 referrals
- Transitional Housing/Shelter – 5,970 referrals
- Rapid Re-Housing Programs - 4,286 referrals

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- Housing Related Coordinated Entry – 3,065 referrals

Nevada's Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing (ICHH)

Nevada's Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing (ICHH) was established via Executive Order 2013-20 and reestablished through Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 232.4981 to coordinate and focus the State's efforts to effectively address the challenge of homelessness in the State of Nevada. The Council provides the opportunity for Nevada to engage in an integrated approach regarding the issue of homelessness by promoting interagency cooperation. The Council works to increase the awareness of homelessness issues among State and local government agencies and local organizations that provide services to people who are experiencing homelessness. The ICHH's current Strategic Plan was adopted on October 26, 2022 ([ICHH Strategic Plan](#)).

Values:

Nevada has a common set of values it shares with federal, State, and local jurisdictions:

- Every person matters and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Homelessness is unacceptable.
- Homelessness can be prevented.
- Homelessness is expensive; it is better to invest in housing solutions.
- Homelessness is solvable; we have learned a lot about what works.
- There is strength in collaboration.

Guiding Principles:

Nevada uses guiding principles shared with the Dedicating Opportunities to End Homelessness (DOEH) initiative, a joint effort between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). These guiding principles include:

- Coordinating Across Partners
- Community-led Action Data-driven Achievable Strategies and Goals
- Making Commitments and Measuring Results
- Leveraging Existing and Untapped Resources
- Removing Barriers
- Targeting Priority Populations

Strategic Issues:

- Housing
- Homelessness Prevention and Intervention
- Wraparound Services
- Education and Workforce Development
- Coordination of Primary and Behavioral Health
- Coordination of Data and Resources
- Policies
- Long Term Planning

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In 2024, the Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing Subcommittee for Technical Assistance (ICHHTA) continued to focus on the development of the Action Plan portion of the Strategic Plan in collaboration with the Continuums of Care (CoC), providers, and the people they serve. Subcommittee members of the ICHHTA presented at Nevada's Statewide Conference on Addressing Homelessness and gathered additional feedback.

In the coming year, the ICHHTA hopes to finalize their Action Plan through work with the CoCs to develop action steps which address areas in the Plan that are not otherwise being addressed; compile all work into a comprehensive document that will accompany the Strategic Plan in the form of an Action Plan; and complete the Action Plan to accompany the Statewide Strategic Plan to End Homelessness within 2025.

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Homeless to Housing (H2H) Team

The Homeless to Housing (H2H) Team was established in 2019 by the Governor to support Nevada's Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing (ICHH), as well as the Technical Assistance Subcommittee (ICHHTA). The H2H team is housed within the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services within the Department of Health and Human Services.

The H2H Team continues to provide administrative support to both the ICHH and ICHHTA, and will also connect participants with other benefits, such as medical insurance, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Workforce Development, Employment and Training (E&T), SNAP Employment and Training program (SNAPET), and energy assistance.

Furthermore, the team will continue to collaborate with community partners and expand the availability of temporary addresses for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Continuums of Care (CoCs)

The Continuums of Care (CoCs) are federally funded programs through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness through funding and increased access to services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Nevada has three Continuums of Care (CoCs) designated for Southern Nevada, Northern Nevada, and Rural Nevada. CoCs across the nation function as the entities to organize efforts made by local governments, non-profits, and stakeholder groups to end homelessness in their region.

The Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care (SNH CoC) is the official board acting on behalf of the Continuum of Care to further the mission to end homelessness in Southern Nevada. The Board is made up of representatives from governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, housing developers, law enforcement, organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans, homeless and formerly homeless persons and any other identified stakeholder that benefits the mission of ending homelessness in Southern Nevada.

The Rural Nevada Continuum of Care (RNCoc) is funded by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health. Since 2000, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) has served as the RNCoc Coordinator, planning, and leading

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the rural strategy to prevent and end homelessness in Nevada's 15 rural counties and ensuring compliance with HUD requirements for the CoC.

The mission of the Northern Nevada Continuum of Care (NNCoC) is to ensure homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring. NNCoC covers all of Washoe County and is made up of a governance board known as the Northern Nevada CoC Leadership Council, a stakeholder group known as the Regional Alliance to end Homelessness (RAH) formerly (RAAH), with working committees focusing on youth, data, veterans, advocacy, and diversion.

Current Progress and Innovation

LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Youth Homelessness Study

The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services contracted with Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) to conduct the two-year study on LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Youth Homelessness in the State of Nevada. The study's primary objective is addressing and reducing youth homelessness.

Thus far, the efforts for this study have included completing an environmental scan related to youth homelessness, as well as preliminary statewide systems map and county profiles which summarize data collected by county and region. The environmental scan includes resources, policies, funding opportunities, and recommended best practices. The systems map and county profiles data summary bring awareness to the prevalence of youth experiencing homelessness in Nevada.

Year Two's deliverables include identifying system gaps and needs, as well as the development and presentation of the study report.

Shelter Mobile Application

Nevada's Department of Education is in process of procuring a contract with a vendor who will be building an application for homeless children and youth. Service providers and other stakeholders across the State will have the opportunity to not only be a point of contact delivered through the application, but also be able to access general data as to who is using the application and what resources they are utilizing.

Disconnected Youth Coalition

DWSS serves with a coalition of partners from public agencies, community-based organizations, and educators, to address one of Southern Nevada's most critical workforce development and community investment issues. The Disconnected Youth Coalition reports that there are approximately 47,500 disconnected youths in Nevada. These are teens and young adults aged 16–24 years old who are neither working nor engaged in education. The group is working together to develop strategies to connect with this population and offer educational and career development opportunities.

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Statewide Resources

Help Hope Home

<https://helphopehome.org/>

Since 2001, Southern Nevada has been working toward ending homelessness throughout the region and striving to ensure that each member of our community maintains economic self-sufficiency, and most importantly, health and well-being. The Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care is the group responsible for overseeing Help Hope Home, Southern Nevada's plan to end homelessness.

Courtyard (City of Las Vegas)

<https://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Residents/Resident-Services/Homeless-Services>

Since August 2017, the city and service providers at the Courtyard have been assisting in getting the unhoused off the streets and into housing. Through the Courtyard, the city has connected those in need with mental health providers, legal assistance, and job information. The Courtyard is a starting point where individuals can go to access resources all in one place.

Shine-A-Light Las Vegas

<https://www.shinealightlv.com>

Outreach and placement service that assists men, women, and children in the Las Vegas area; primary focus is those living in the underground flood channels. Provides basic needs as well as access to treatment and housing resources.

The Shade Tree

<https://theshadetree.org/>

To provide safe shelter to abused and homeless women and women with children in crisis; as well as offer life-changing services promoting stability, dignity, and self-reliance.

Shannon West Homeless Youth Center

<https://www.helpsonv.org/shannon-west-homeless-youth-center>

Assists families and individuals throughout Southern Nevada to overcome barriers and attain self-sufficiency through direct services, training, and referral to community resources.

Nevada Cares Campus Washoe County

<https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/Cares-Campus/>

To provide shelter for men and couples (single women and families are referred to Our Place). Offers a resource center, emergency shelter, a safe camp, and inclement weather center.

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Our Place

<https://renoinitiative.org/our-place-2/>

To provide shelter for single women, seniors, and families. Offers a resource center, temporary shelter, job placement, and allows pets.

Friends In Service Helping (FISH)

<http://www.nvfish.com/>

To provide food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid to the homeless and hungry in Northern Nevada with the objective of providing programs and referrals for families and individuals so they may become self-sufficient.

Friends In Service Helping – FISH Elko

<https://fishelko.org/>

To determine and provide for the needs of individuals seeking urgent or supplemental assistance in Elko County and surrounding Northeastern Nevada.

Eddy House

<https://eddyhouse.org/>

To provide a safe environment for homeless and at-risk youth as well as aged-out foster children in Northern Nevada. Assists individuals with shelter (emergency and transitional), life skills training, counseling, educational assistance, and workforce development.

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<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/nevada?year=2024&measure>

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. (2022, October). *Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness to Housing Strategic Plan*. Retrieved from the DWSS website:

<https://dwss.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dwssnv.gov/content/Energy/NV%20ICHH%202022%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf>

Living Wage (2024). Living Wage Calculation for Nevada

<https://livingwage.mit.edu/states/32>

National Low Income Housing Coalition. (n.d.) Housing needs by state: Nevada.

<https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/Nevada>

National Low Income Housing Coalition. (n.d.) 2024 Nevada Housing Profile.

https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/SHP_NV.pdf

Nevada 211 Annual Reports

<https://www.nevada211.org/reports/>

Nevada 211 Counts

<https://nv.211counts.org/>

PIT Count

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-housing-inventory-count-reports/>

PIT Count- Clark County

<https://nevadacurrent.com/2024/09/09/homeless-report-shows-20-spike-from-previous-year-highlights-growing-unhoused-subpopulations/>

<https://lasvegassun.com/news/2024/sep/04/more-homeless-identified-in-southern-nevada-this-y/>

PIT Count - Rurals

<https://nevadacurrent.com/2024/11/12/like-its-urban-counterpart-rural-homelessness-increasing-in-nevada/>

PIT Count- Veterans

https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/veteran_homelessness_drops

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<https://news3lv.com/news/local/veteran-homelessness-drops-by-41-in-nevada-va-reports-housing-urban-development-pit-count-sheltered-unsheltered>

PIT Count – Washoe County

https://www.washoecounty.gov/homeless/CoC/pit/pit_2024.php

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<https://www.rentcafe.com/average-rent-markettrends/us/nv/las-vegas/>

Rent Cafe. (n.d.b.). Reno, NV rental market trends.

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