

2022 POINT IN TIME COUNT



RHA
King County Regional
Homelessness Authority

The Point in Time (PIT) Count is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is an estimate of people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night in King County. In prior years, the unsheltered PIT was conducted by volunteers during one night in January, using a combination of a census and survey. The PIT is widely understood to be an undercount, especially as it represents a single night rather than a full year.

WHAT WE DID

The RHA received approval from HUD to conduct the 2022 unsheltered count as part of a qualitative interview process over the month of March, using a methodology called Respondent Driven Sampling. The sheltered count was pulled from HMIS data on March 1.

This methodology has a strong track record for producing high-quality demographic and population estimates, confirmed by numerous studies by academic researchers and the World Health Organization. For the 2022 unsheltered PIT, the RHA worked with an expert statistician at the University of Washington to advise on sampling design and statistical modeling.

HOW THIS WORKS

- Start interviews at places like encampments and day centers across King County
- Ask people who were interviewed to connect us with other people who could be interviewed too
- People can then be interviewed at “hubs” hosted at places like libraries
- Those people are asked to connect us with more people they know
- All interviewees were compensated with a \$25 prepaid debit card, and provided bus tickets to and from hubs.
- In addition to recording an interview, participants complete a demographic and network survey
- Our statistician used these surveys to produce population estimates for the unsheltered PIT

PIT RESULTS

13,368
2022 POINT IN TIME
**INDIVIDUALS
EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS**



CROSS-SYSTEMS RESULTS

The recent King County Department of Community and Human Services Cross Systems Homelessness Analysis found that at least 40,871 people experienced homelessness at some point in 2020.

This annualized figure is the number that the RHA holds itself accountable to.

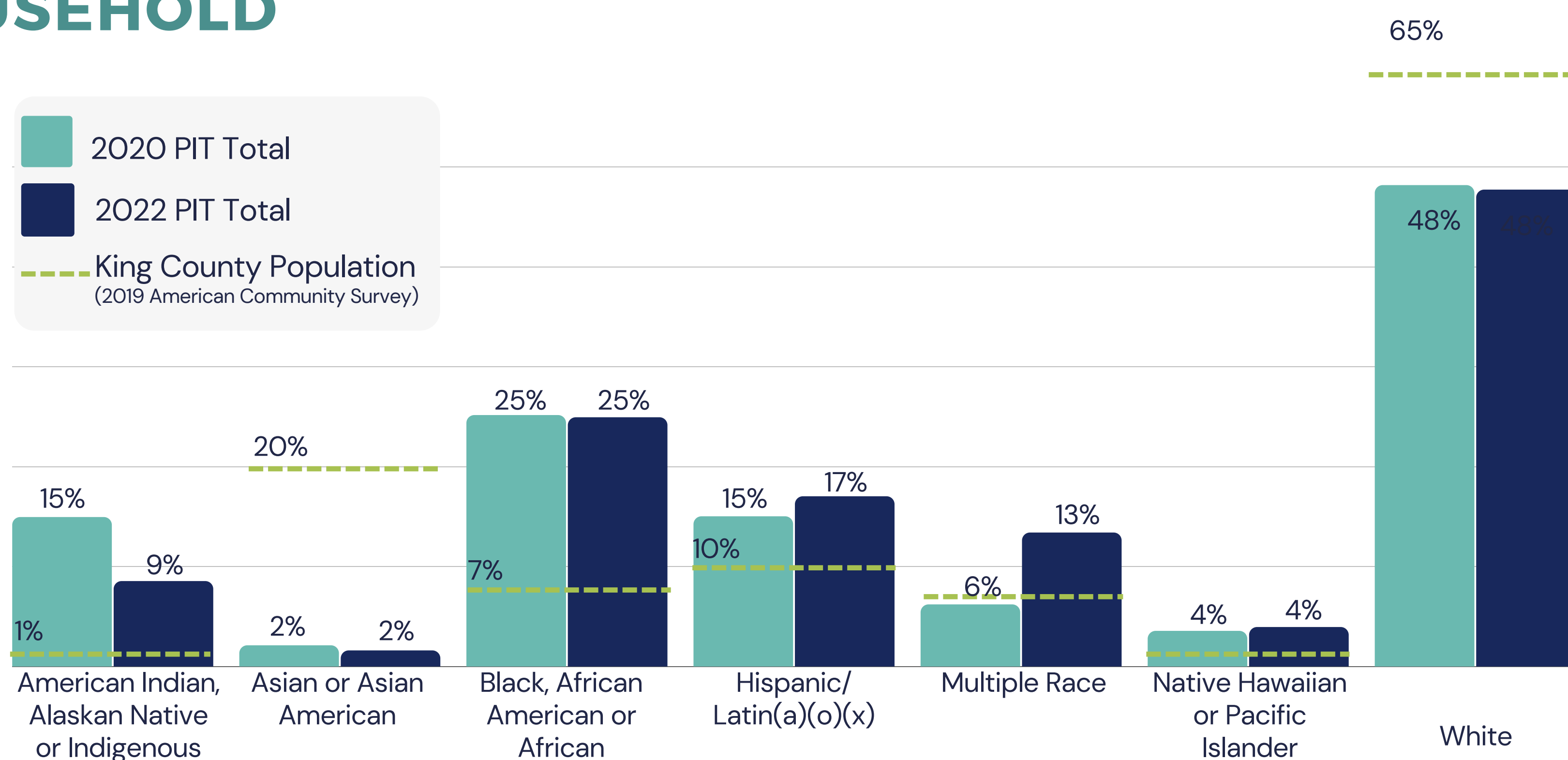
40,871
2020 ANNUALIZED COUNT
FROM DCHS CROSS SYSTEM ANALYSIS

RACIAL INEQUITY

Homelessness continues to have a disproportionate impact on communities of color. Based on the PIT analyses, 25% of people experiencing homelessness in King County identify as Black/African-American, but according to the 2020 U.S. Census only 7% of King County's population identifies as Black/African-American. Similarly, 9% of people experiencing homelessness identify as American Indian, Alaskan Native, or Indigenous, but that group makes up only 1% of King County's population.

As our community continues the dialogue about race and equity, it is important to recognize that homelessness is a symptom of structural racism and racial inequities.

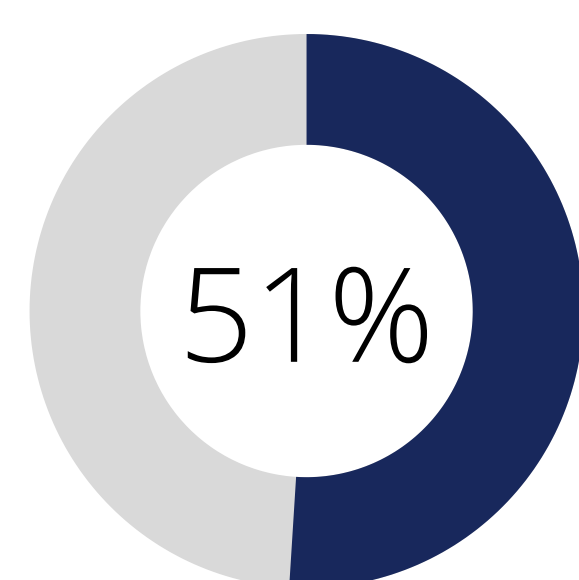
RACE & ETHNICITY* OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD



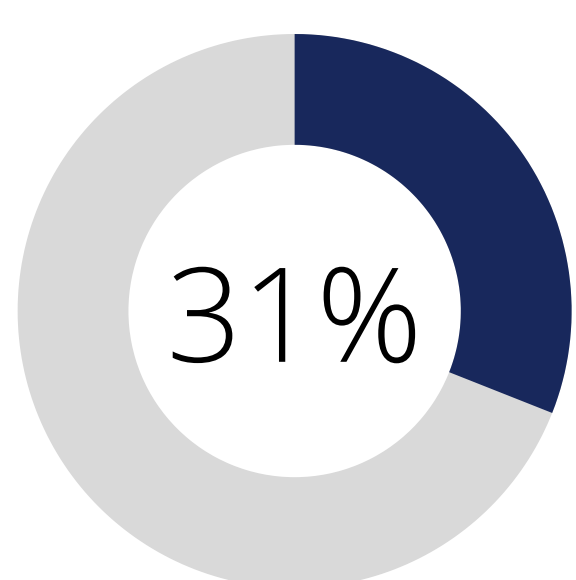
*HUD requires submission of race and ethnicity as separate categories. Here, we have included households identifying as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) with the HUD-required race categories. Since these questions are asked separately, a respondent may identify as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) and in another category represented in this chart.

HEALTH CARE NEEDS

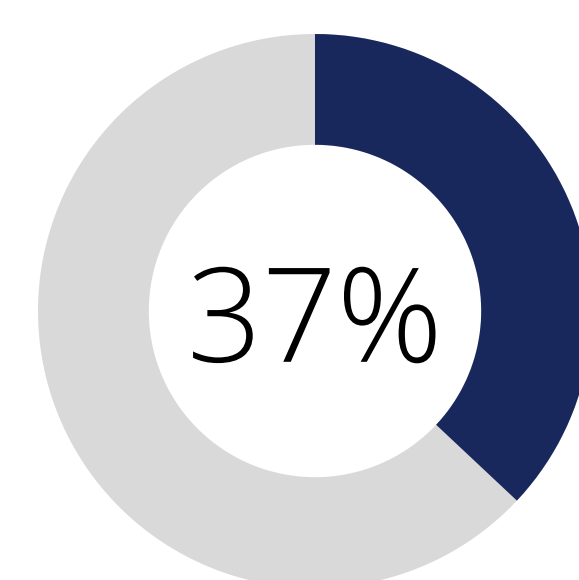
Experiencing homelessness is traumatic and can trigger, create, or exacerbate health conditions, disability, substance use, and mental and behavioral health conditions, while at the same time making it harder to access treatment and care. Navigating the health care system is difficult, and it's harder for people who are regularly being displaced to make traditional appointments. Expanded access to stable housing and high-acuity care would directly improve health outcomes.



Identify as Having a Disability



Identify as Having a Mental Health Disorder



Identify as Having a Substance Use Disorder

THANK YOU!

We Couldn't Do This Without Our Partners.

Thank you to the hundreds of people living unsheltered who participated in interviews to share their stories. Thank you to the Lived Experience Coalition and our partners with lived experience who served as interviewers. We also appreciate the partnership of the King County Library System, which offered spaces to interview, the hub leads across our RHA staff, the cities that hosted interview hubs – Burien, Auburn, North Bend, Bellevue, Redmond, Bothell, Renton, and Seattle neighborhoods Georgetown and North Aurora, and all of the partners who made this work possible. We appreciate you.