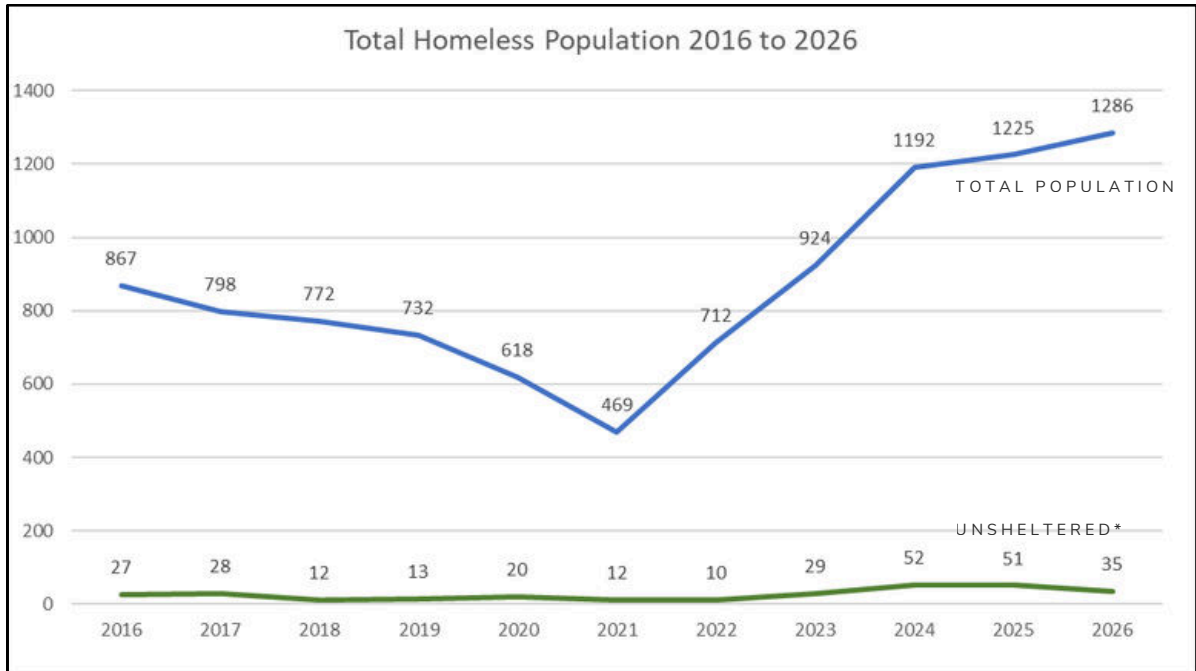


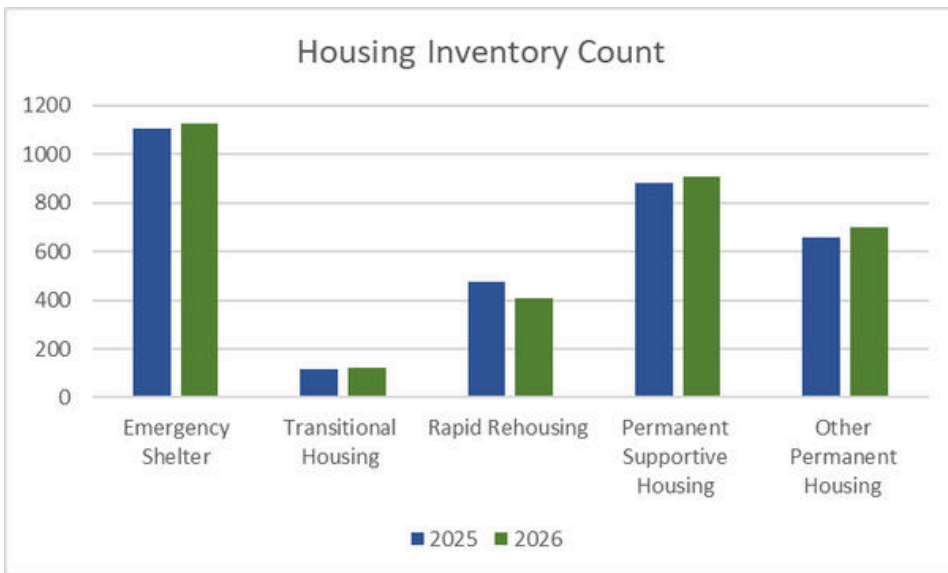
# POINT IN TIME AND HOUSING INVENTORY DE-BRIEF 2026

The Housing and Homeless Coalition of CNY collects and analyzes data from the homelessness response system for Cayuga, Onondaga, and Oswego Counties. The Point in Time Count and Housing Inventory Count capture a one-day snapshot of both the number of people experiencing homelessness and the number of beds dedicated to house people experiencing homelessness.

The Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count data was captured on February 4, 2026.



Prior to 2022, Central New York was decreasing homelessness annually. As a result of rising rental costs, loss of available housing to disinvestment, and various economic factors, homelessness has **increased over 174%** since 2021. \*Note: the unsheltered count is included in the total population depicted by the blue line.



### DEFINITIONS

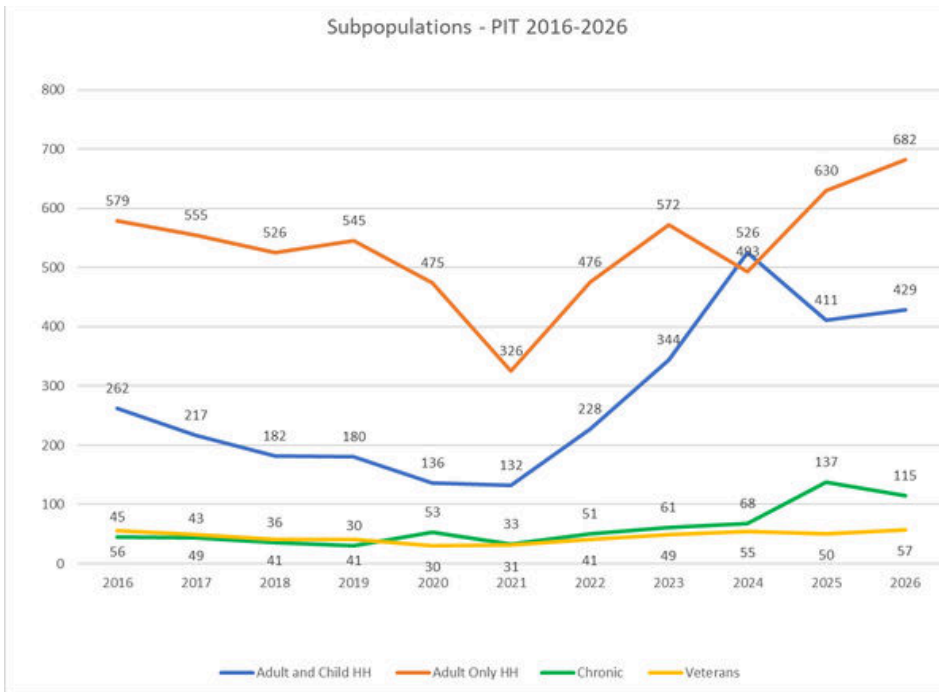
- **Emergency Shelter\*\*:** Short term emergency stays in congregate or non-congregate shelters
- **Transitional Housing:** Medium term residential stays, up to two years
- **Rapid Rehousing:** Medium term permanent housing subsidy, up to two years
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Long term subsidy for people with disabilities
- **Other Permanent Housing:** Long term subsidy without disability requirement

\*\*Note: Emergency shelter beds will increase to accommodate need by using hotel/motel stays, increase does not reflect increase in congregate availability

### METHODOLOGY

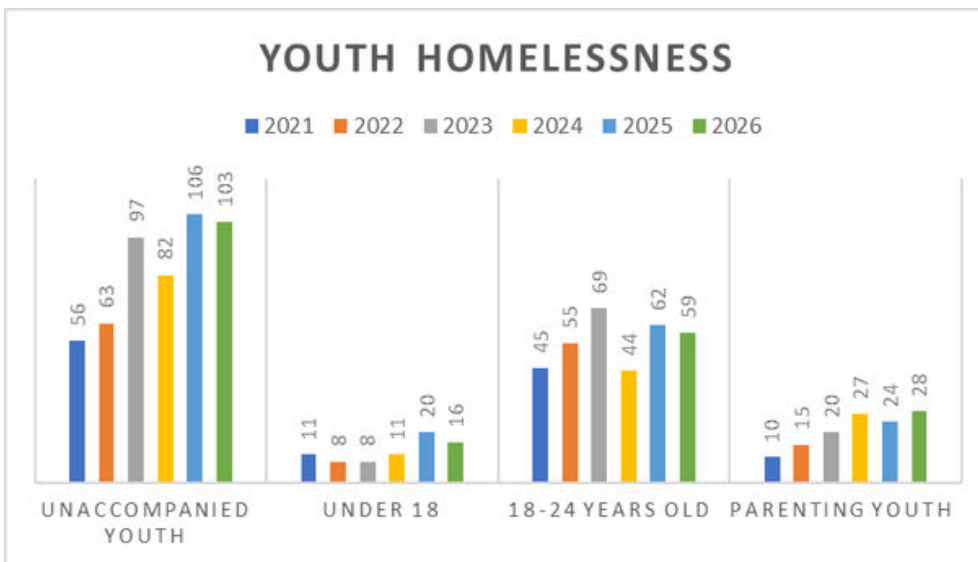
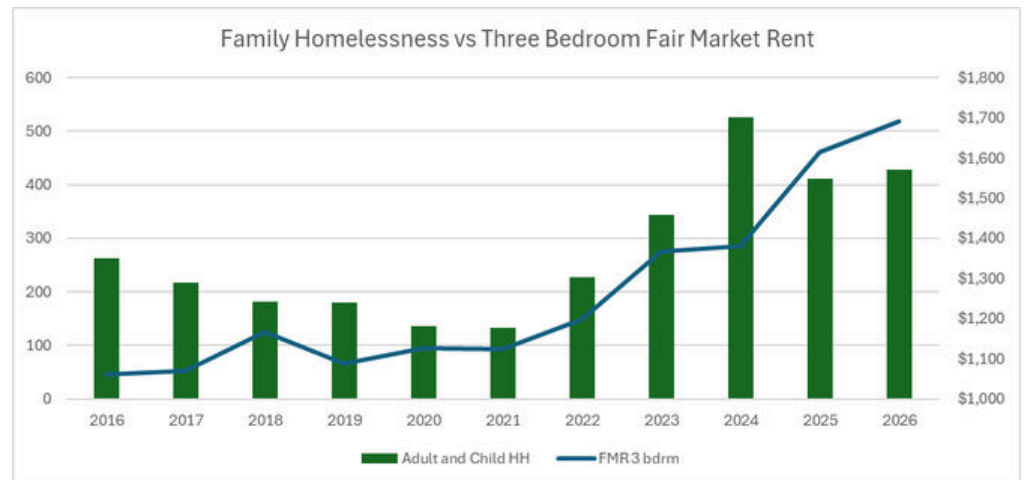
On the night of the Point in Time count, nearly 100 volunteers canvas the Continuum of Care’s three county region (Cayuga, Onondaga, and Oswego) surveying people who staying in places not meant for human habitation. That data is then de-duplicated and combined with emergency shelter and transitional housing data pulled from the Homeless Management Information System database, as well as aggregated data collected from emergency shelters serving survivors of domestic violence.

# SUB-POPULATIONS



The Point in Time Count breaks down into single individuals, the number of people in families, veterans, and people who are chronically homeless. Note: the number of people in families is not the number of households. It is a count of all members in a family. Chronically homeless is defined as someone who has a disability and has experienced homelessness for more than 12 months in the past 3 years.

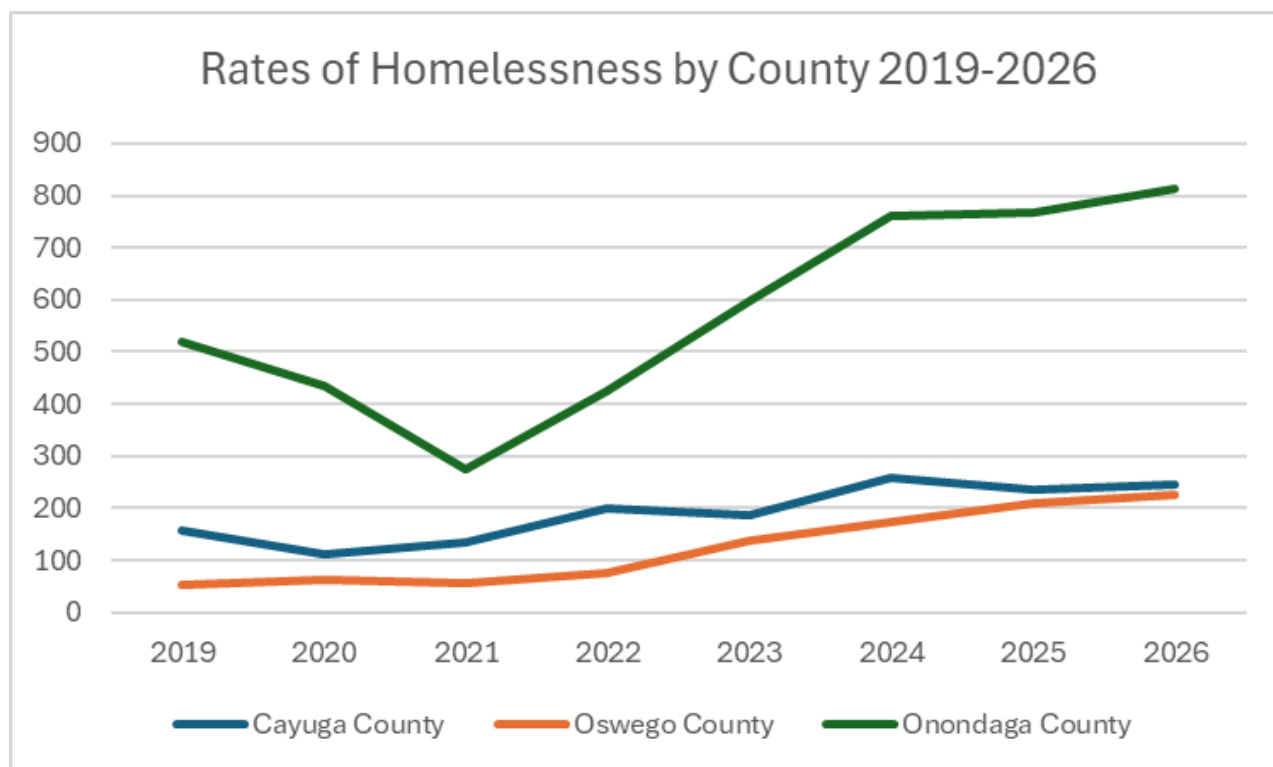
Increases in families experiencing homelessness has been on the rise since 2020. This chart demonstrates the similarities between rises in family homelessness alongside the rise in housing costs locally.



Youth is a population also experiencing overall increases in homelessness. Runaway and homeless youth are broken down into three sub-populations: Youth Under 18, Youth aged 18-24, and Parenting Youth.

Note: These numbers reflect youth who are unaccompanied by a family member, parent, or legal guardian.

## COUNTY BREAKDOWN



## MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- SINCE 2021, HOMELESSNESS HAS INCREASED BY 174%. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS DECREASED BY 31%, INDICATING THAT INCREASED CAPACITY IN EMERGENCY SHELTER BED ASSISTED IN LOWERING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SLEEPING IN PLACES NOT MEANT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.
- AFTER YEARS OF SEEING SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN FAMILY HOMELESSNESS, 2025 BROUGHT A 21% DECREASE
- THE COMMUNITY INCREASED CAPACITY IN ALL HOUSING TYPES EXCEPT RAPID REHOUSING, A PROJECT THAT QUICKLY MOVES PEOPLE OUT OF HOMELESSNESS AND INTO PERMANENT HOUSING.
- YOUTH HOMELESSNESS HAS BEEN ON THE RISE SINCE 2020, WITH AN INCREASE IN YOUTH HOMELESSNESS OF 74%, WHICH INCLUDES A 29% INCREASE FROM IN JUST THE LAST YEAR
- ALL COUNTIES IN THE REGION SAW SIMILAR INCREASES IN HOMELESSNESS FROM 2025 TO 2026.

The Housing and Homeless Coalition of CNY is a community collaborative, acting as the Continuum of Care for homelessness services. Our mission is to assess community needs and develop a comprehensive community strategy and coordinated network of services to reduce, prevent, and ultimately end homelessness and housing vulnerability in Central New York. For full data set, please visit: [hhccny.org](http://hhccny.org).