

# Loudoun County, Virginia

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Regional Homelessness Continues to Decrease**

According to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' May 2022 
<u>Homelessness in Metropolitan Washington: Results and Analysis from the 2022 Point-in-Time</u>
<u>Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness</u> report, regional homelessness is down 27 percent, or by over 2,800 persons in just the last five years. In Loudoun County, the number of persons experiencing homelessness decreased by 26 percent in the last five years.

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is a one-day snapshot of persons experiencing homelessness across nine area jurisdictions. The *Homelessness in Metropolitan Washington* report is a comprehensive analysis of the state of homelessness in our region. The Loudoun County Continuum of Care conducts the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Point-in-Time Count of persons in the community experiencing a housing crisis or literal homelessness every January.

This is the second year that the PIT was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The team that conducted the count followed safety precautions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health departments to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

#### The 2022 findings include:

- In Loudoun County, the total number of persons experiencing homelessness increased from 80 in 2021 to 99 in 2022. This represents a 24 percent increase in Loudoun County since last year.
- Regionally, a total of 7,605 individuals were identified as literally homeless, an 8 percent decrease from 2021.

"While the overall trend of homelessness is decreasing, the increase in Loudoun from 2021 highlights the challenges that members of our community continue to face during the coronavirus pandemic," said Loudoun County Department of Family Services Director Ina Fernández. "We will continue to use a variety of tools, including the Point-In-Time Count, to refine our services to support the most vulnerable in our community who are experiencing a housing crisis."

Data from Loudoun County is part of a regional analysis by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee.

Loudoun County offers a variety of programs to assist households in need through the Department of Family Services and the Loudoun Continuum of Care, a partnership between local government, nonprofit agencies, the public school system, health care providers, faith-based organizations and others that work together to address the needs of those experiencing housing instability or homelessness in Loudoun County.

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Anyone who may be experiencing a housing crisis is encouraged to contact the Department of Family Services' <u>Information & Referral /Coordinated Entry program</u> at 703-777-0420.