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IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO END HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness in Jeffco: Who, Why and What Can I Do?

WHO

Based on Jeffco's 2019 Comprehensive Homeless Count¹, there are at least:

997 homeless and unstably housed neighbors

668 literally homeless residents (in shelters or outside).

158 homeless and unstably housed children under 18

55 homeless and unstably housed Veterans

44 Older Adults (over age 65)



WHY

Causes of Homelessness Nationally & Locally (NAEH)*

- Shortage of affordable housing
- Discrepancy between wages and cost of housing
- Unmet health needs & health crises
- Family crisis, escaping violence
- Institutional racism

*National Alliance to End Homelessness

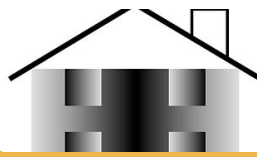


WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Speak Up in Support of Solutions: Contact your elected officials at the city, county, state and federal levels to voice your support for affordable housing and services to move people to housing.



Check out the HEADING HOME "How to Get Involved Framework" →



DID YOU KNOW?

In Jeffco...¹

The gap between median household income and median home values is **larger in Jefferson County compared to the national average.**

A household in Jeffco earning the typical entry-level income will spend 60% of their gross income on rent alone.

A household is 'cost-burdened' if they spend more than 30% of their income on housing; they are severely 'cost-burdened' if 50% or more of their income goes to housing.

Housing people saves money.²

Public costs of homelessness are estimated at \$43,000/year person. The public cost of housing someone is estimated at \$11,700/year/person. This is a savings of \$31,600.

Across the United States...³

African Americans and indigenous people remained considerably overrepresented among the homeless population compared to the U.S. population.

2020 marks the first time since data collection began that more individuals experiencing homelessness were unsheltered than were sheltered, resulting in a **seven percent increase in people staying outdoors.**

The number of **unsheltered people in families with children increased** for the first time since data collection began.

The number of **individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness increased by 15%** between 2019 and 2020.

For the fourth consecutive year, homelessness increased nationwide.

Overall, the number of people experiencing homelessness increased by **2%** from 2019 to 2020.

WHAT WE'RE DOING

- Improving our response to the homelessness crisis
- Increasing housing and support
- Improving our data collection
- Getting the community involved in solutions



Read the Jefferson County 2021-23 Homelessness Action Plan →

www.headinghomejeffco.com

1. https://arvada.org/source/Housing/2019%20JeffCo%20Comprehensive%20Survey%20Final%20Report_March3%201.pdf
 2. <https://assets.bouldercounty.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/permanent-supportive-housing-study-june-2016.pdf>
 3. <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2020-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>