Illinois Homelessness Mortality and Morbidity Report

Continuum of Care Fact Sheet

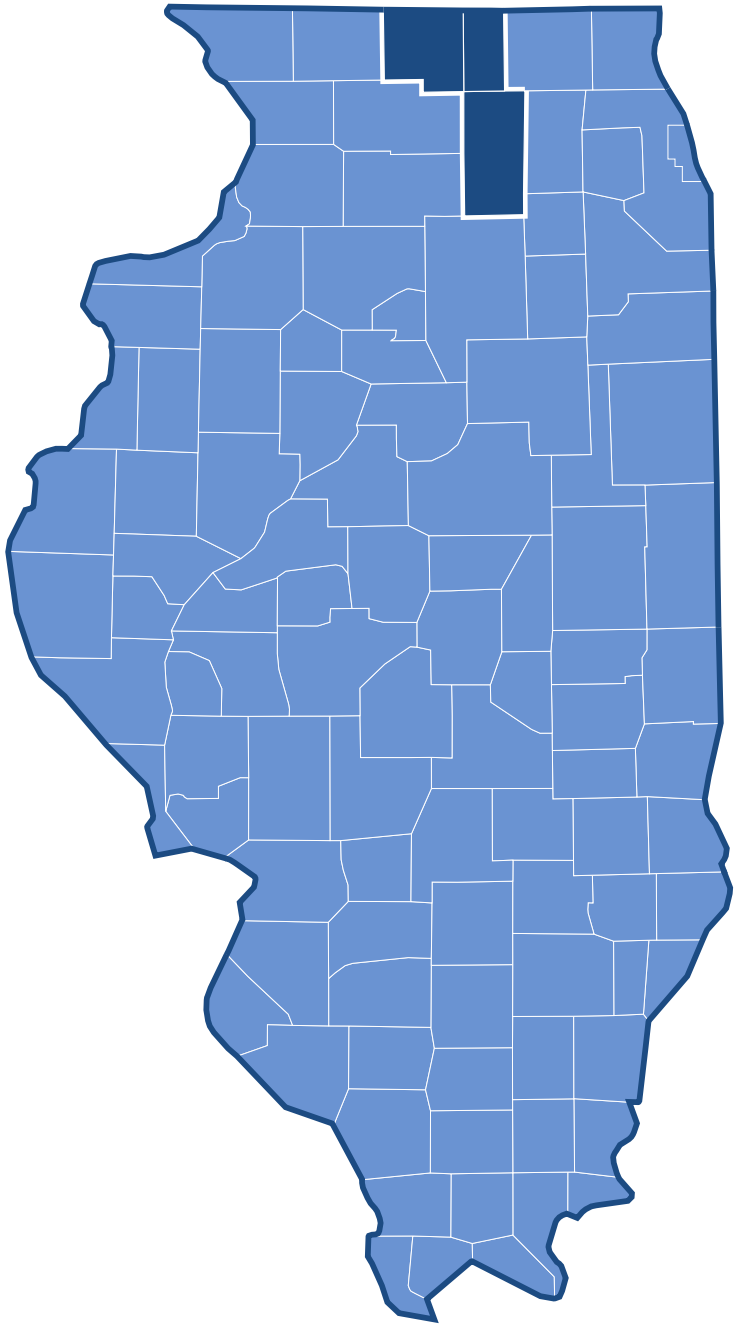
2019-2023

Northern Illinois Homeless

IL-501

Recognizing a need to understand the state of health of people experiencing homelessness, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health have partnered to produce this fact sheet. It augments the Statewide Illinois Homelessness Mortality and Morbidity Report by summarizing death certificates and hospital data.

The goal of the fact sheet is to provide stakeholders with actionable data to help understand mortality and morbidity patterns that can support systemic changes that promote health equity for people experiencing homelessness and housing instability.



This map showcases the Continuum of Care districts within Illinois and the counties they serve.

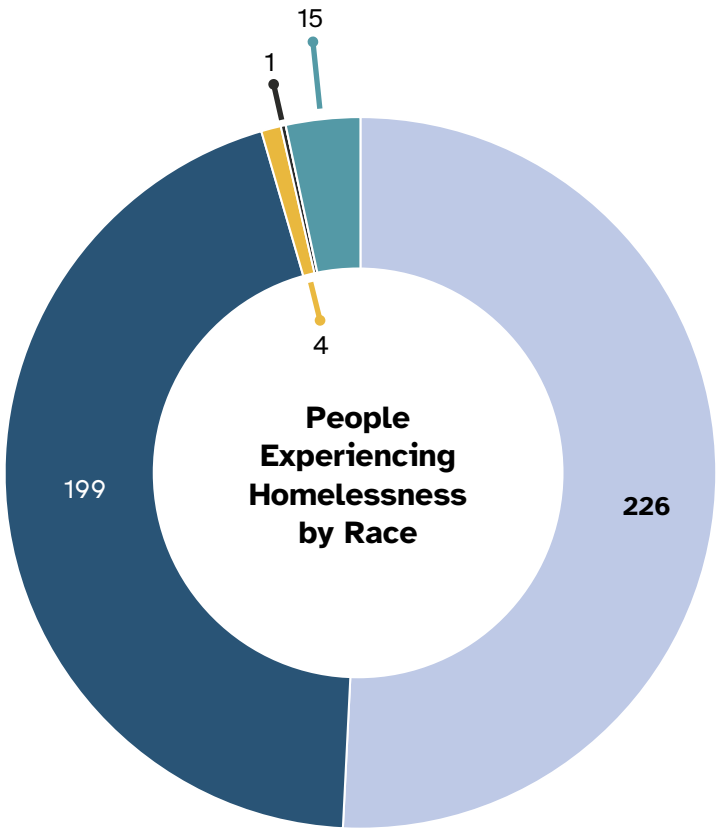
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO

ILLINOIS OFFICE TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IDPH PROTECTING HEALTH, IMPROVING LIVES

Most Recent Annual Point-In-Time Count (2023)

Counts	IL-501	Statewide
Overall Homeless	445	11,947
Unsheltered Homeless	66	1,619
Sheltered Homeless	379	10,328
Overall Homeless People in Families	148	4,045
Overall Homeless Parenting Youth Under 18	0	1
Overall Homeless Parenting Youth Age 18-24	16	242
Total Homeless Children of Parenting Youth	21	316
Overall Homeless Veterans	24	523
Overall Chronically Homeless	48	1,443
Gender		
Male	227	7,266
Female	216	4,584
Transgender	1	58
Gender that is not Singularly Female or Male	1	33
Gender Questioning	0	6
Age		
Under 18 Years	92	2,426
18 to 24 Years	39	1,347
25 to 34 Years	84	2,490
35 to 44 Years	71	2,414
45 to 54 Years	63	1,297
55 to 64 Years	74	1,439
Over 64 Years	22	512
Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino	48	3,584



Race	IL-501	Statewide
Black or African American	226	5,583
White (including Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity)	199	5,535
Asian	4	197
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	143
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	62
Multiracial, Declined, or Other	15	427

Mortality Of PEH 2019-2023

Data Source: Illinois Death Records

People experiencing homelessness at their time of death were identified in Illinois death records if they met at least one of the following criteria: (1) there was a homelessness-related keyword in a narrative field, or (2) if the individual did not have a known residential address, or (3) a narrative/address field matched to a known shelter. The counts shown include individuals experiencing homelessness who died during the most recent five years of available data.

Total Deaths	84	2,321

Gender	IL-501		Statewide	
Female	24	28.6%	510	22.0%
Male	60	71.4%	1,796	77.4%
Unspecified	0		15	0.6%

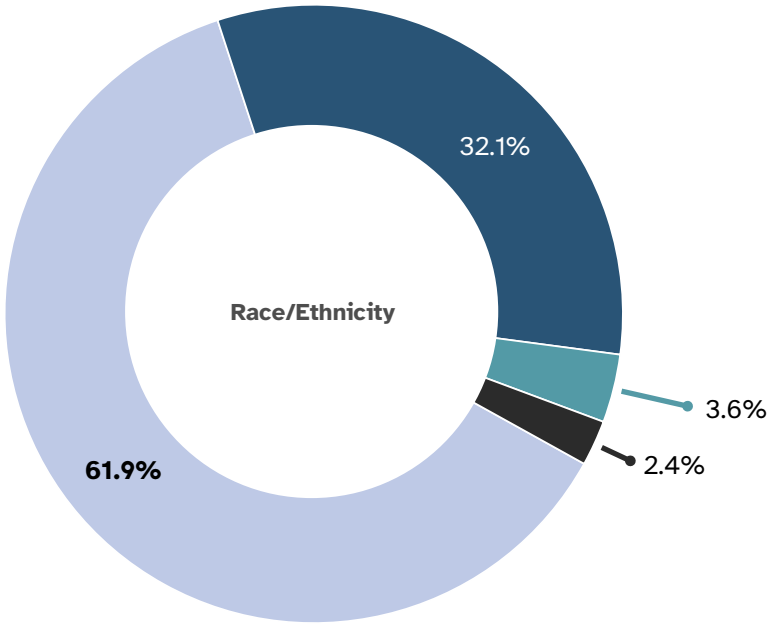
Mean Age	53		56	
Under 18 Years	2	2.4%	36	1.6%
18 to 24 Years	1	1.2%	29	1.2%
25 to 34 Years	7	8.3%	177	7.6%
35 to 44 Years	16	19.0%	296	12.8%
45 to 54 Years	21	25.0%	433	18.7%
55 to 64 Years	20	23.8%	730	31.5%
Over 64 Years	17	20.2%	579	24.9%
Unknown	0		41	1.8%

Veteran	8	9.5%	228	9.8%

Family Member was Key Informant*	67	79.8%	1,547	66.7%

**A family member was identified as the key informant providing personal information about the decedent to the individual completing the death certificate (all other informants were unrelated to the decedent).*

Race/Ethnicity	IL-501		Statewide	
White, non-Hispanic	52	61.9%	1,053	45.4%
Black, non-Hispanic	27	32.1%	954	41.1%
Hispanic or Latino	3	3.6%	213	9.2%
Other/Unspecified	2	2.4%	101	4.4%

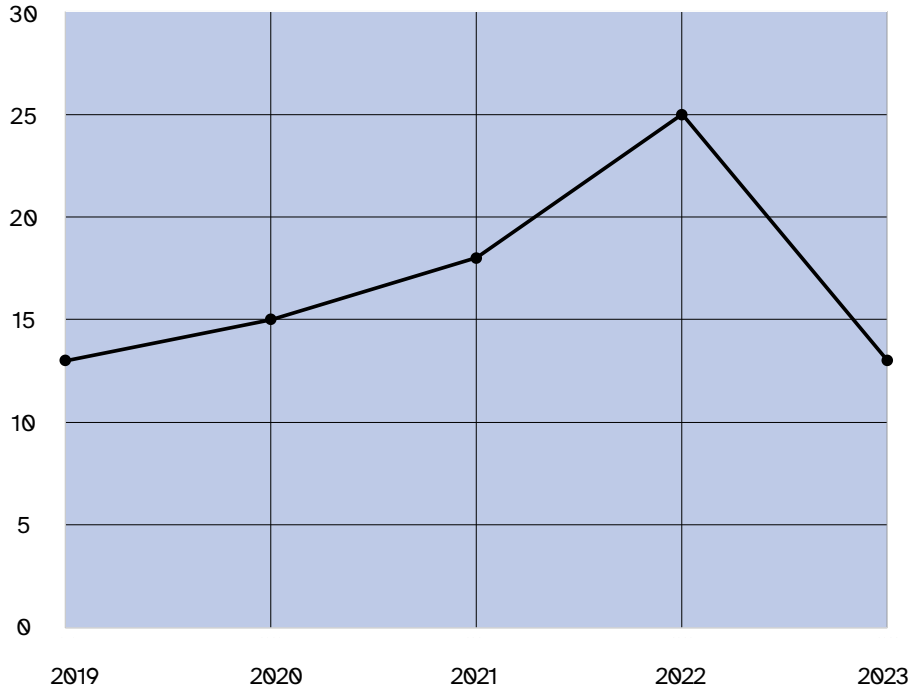


Marital Status	IL-501		Statewide	
Never Married	40	47.6%	1,047	45.1%
Married or Civil Union	3	3.6%	150	6.5%
Divorced or Separated	22	26.2%	455	19.6%
Widowed	7	8.3%	130	5.6%
Unknown	12	14.3%	539	23.2%

When Are People Experiencing Homelessness Dying?

Weekday of Death	IL-501		Statewide	
Monday	17	20.2%	372	16.0%
Tuesday	12	14.3%	298	12.8%
Wednesday	13	15.5%	336	14.5%
Thursday	8	9.5%	337	14.5%
Friday	11	13.1%	341	14.7%
Saturday	13	15.5%	330	14.2%
Sunday	10	11.9%	307	13.2%

Year of Death	IL-501		Statewide	
2019	13	15.5%	343	14.8%
2020	15	17.9%	488	21.0%
2021	18	21.4%	481	20.7%
2022	25	29.8%	560	24.1%
2023	13	15.5%	449	19.3%



Month of Death	IL-501		Statewide	
Cold Months: November to March	43	51.2%	989	42.6%

What Are the Most Common Contributing Causes of Death?

Contributing Cause of Death	IL-501		Statewide	
Injury and Poisoning	39	46.4%	1,062	45.8%
Drug-Related Overdose	27	32.1%	947	40.8%
Traumatic Injury	4	4.8%	87	3.7%
Suicide	2	2.4%	36	1.6%
Homicide	4	4.8%	72	3.1%
Excessive Cold	1	1.2%	90	3.9%
Disease of the Circulatory System	27	32.1%	806	34.7%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	14	16.7%	327	14.1%
Endocrine, Metabolic, and Nutritional Diseases	7	8.3%	248	10.7%
Diabetes	3	3.6%	147	6.3%
Nutritional Deficiencies	1	1.2%	17	0.7%
Fluid and Electrolyte Disorders	2	2.4%	25	1.1%
Cancer	5	6.0%	155	6.7%
Infectious Diseases	5	6.0%	149	6.4%

Toxicology Results	IL-501		Statewide	
Positive for any Drug Associated with Substance Use Disorders	27	32.1%	947	40.8%
Opioids	26	31.0%	689	29.7%
Fentanyl Analogs and Precursors	26	31.0%	632	27.2%
Heroin	4	4.8%	187	8.1%
Methadone	0		37	1.6%
Stimulants	9	10.7%	430	18.5%
Amphetamine	0		70	3.0%
Cocaine	9	10.7%	379	16.3%
Alcohol	4	4.8%	354	15.3%
Sedative-Hypnotic and Anxiolytic	1	1.2%	134	5.8%
Benzodiazepine	0		58	2.5%

Morbidity For PEH 2019-2023

Data Source: Illinois Hospital Discharge Data

People experiencing homelessness were identified in Illinois hospital records in two stages. In stage one, emergency department visits or admissions with an ICD-10 code of Z59 for "homelessness" were identified. Z59 coding is used to identify patients with a lack of housing, including persons living in permanent/temporary housing or in a shelter. All other hospital visits involving the patients in stage one were identified in stage two. In these latter visits, the medical staff did not identify the patients as experiencing homelessness with a Z59 code. The housing status of hospital visits identified in stage 2 is unknown. The counts shown below only include hospital visits within the state for the most current five years.

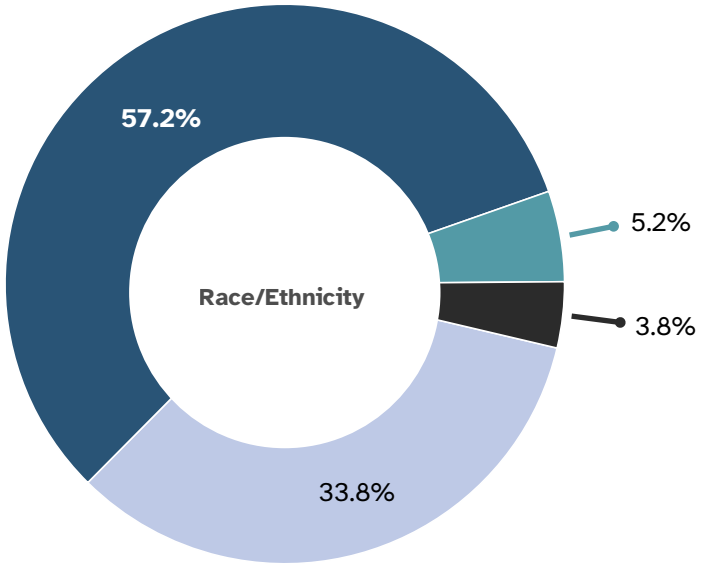
Hospital Visits	IL-501		Statewide	
Total Number of Hospital Visits	**38,699**		**1,292,091**	
Total Number of Emergency Department Visits	30,794	79.6%	990,733	76.7%
Total Number of Hospital Admissions	7,905	20.4%	301,358	23.3%
Hospital Visits with ICD-10 Z59 Code	*(Designated as Experiencing Homelessness)*			
Number and Percent of Emergency Department Visits with Z59 Code	1,745	5.7%	89,164	9.0%
Number and Percent of Hospital Admissions with Z59 Code	1,786	22.6%	75,686	25.1%

Median Number of Hospital Visits per Person	**18**	**14**

Gender	IL-501		Statewide	
Female	14,307	37.0%	434,928	33.7%
Male	24,392	63.0%	857,008	66.3%
Unspecified	0		155	

Mean Age at Date of Hospital Visit	45		45	
Under 18 Years	443	1.1%	15,814	1.2%
18 to 24 Years	2,702	7.0%	92,823	7.2%
25 to 34 Years	8,012	20.7%	266,789	20.6%
35 to 44 Years	7,542	19.5%	265,841	20.6%
45 to 54 Years	7,915	20.5%	273,664	21.2%
55 to 64 Years	8,910	23.0%	278,355	21.5%
Over 64 Years	3,175	8.2%	98,805	7.6%

Race/Ethnicity	IL-501		Statewide	
Black, non-Hispanic	13,062	33.8%	576,646	44.6%
White, non-Hispanic	22,134	57.2%	533,398	41.3%
Hispanic or Latino	2,029	5.2%	95,159	7.4%
Other / Unspecified	1,474	3.8%	86,888	6.7%



Payer Type (Insurance)	IL-501		Statewide	
Medicaid	25,632	66.2%	800,661	62.0%
Medicare	9,504	24.6%	259,069	20.1%
Commercial Insurance	1,637	4.2%	97,965	7.6%
Self-Pay	1,646	4.3%	112,806	8.7%
Other	280	0.7%	21,590	1.7%

Total Billed Charges*	**$561,117,893**	**$16,308,482,183**

**This does not represent actual costs, as typically only a fraction of the total charges is reimbursed. This rate varies by payer but typically the reimbursed total will be 50% or more of the total charges.*

When Are People Experiencing Homelessness Utilizing Hospital-Based Services?

Day of Hospital Visit	IL-501		Statewide	
Monday	5,679	14.7%	192,156	14.9%
Tuesday	6,016	15.5%	198,064	15.3%
Wednesday	5,940	15.3%	196,524	15.2%
Thursday	5,895	15.2%	194,655	15.1%
Friday	5,922	15.3%	192,647	14.9%
Saturday	4,703	12.2%	163,893	12.7%
Sunday	4,544	11.7%	154,152	11.9%

Year of Hospital Visit	IL-501		Statewide	
2019	8,861	22.9%	279,135	21.6%
2020	7,913	20.4%	254,749	19.7%
2021	7,381	19.1%	248,575	19.2%
2022	7,337	19.0%	249,496	19.3%
2023	7,207	18.6%	260,136	20.1%

Month of Hospital Visit	IL-501		Statewide	
Cold Months: November to March	15,692	40.5%	525,550	40.7%

What Are the Most Common Serious Comorbidities Among People Experiencing Homelessness?

Most Common Serious Comorbidities	IL-501		Statewide	
Hypertension	8,272	21.4%	310,968	24.1%
Psychoses	4,297	11.1%	200,068	15.5%
Depression	4,825	12.5%	176,095	13.6%
Diabetes	4,916	12.7%	144,359	11.2%
Heart Disease	3,191	8.2%	116,537	9.0%
Fluid and Electrolyte Disorders	3,605	9.3%	104,205	8.1%
Renal Failure	1,676	4.3%	46,681	3.6%
Liver Disease	1,082	2.8%	37,169	2.9%
Cancer	536	1.4%	14,811	1.1%
AIDS/HIV	104	0.3%	8,737	0.7%
Chronic Pulmonary Disease	222	0.6%	9,457	0.7%

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Diagnosis	18,678	48.3%	656,922	50.8%
SUD-Alcohol	5,427	14.0%	204,871	15.9%
SUD-Stimulants	2,927	7.6%	111,853	8.7%
SUD-Opioids	1,654	4.3%	100,931	7.8%
SUD-Polysubstance Abuse	1,207	3.1%	41,685	3.2%

What Are the Most Common Primary Diagnoses Among People Experiencing Homelessness When They Visit a Hospital?

Primary Diagnosis	IL-501		Statewide	
Mental Disorders	6,032	15.6%	228,812	17.7%
Substance Use Disorder (Primary Diagnosis Only)	4,577	11.8%	218,275	16.9%
Traumatic Injury	3,865	10.0%	121,046	9.4%
Fracture	626	1.6%	20,196	1.6%
Open Wound	466	1.2%	16,785	1.3%
Traumatic Brain Injury	94	0.2%	3,038	0.2%
Internal Injury of the Torso (including spine)	28	0.1%	741	0.1%
Other Traumatic Injury	1,680	4.3%	46,977	3.6%
Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders	2,987	7.7%	103,155	8.0%
Disorders of the Respiratory System	1,857	4.8%	56,184	4.3%
Disorders of the Circulatory System	1,363	3.5%	42,580	3.3%
Diseases of the Skin	805	2.1%	27,317	2.1%
Disorders of the Digestive System	940	2.4%	27,079	2.1%
Diseases of the Central and Peripheral Nervous System	959	2.5%	26,713	2.1%
Infectious Disease	659	1.7%	22,601	1.7%
Diseases of the Urinary Tract and Genitalia	777	2.0%	22,141	1.7%
Pregnancy and Perinatal Related	753	1.9%	20,536	1.6%
Diabetes	690	1.8%	19,410	1.5%
Diseases of the Oral Cavity	401	1.0%	11,116	0.9%
Anemias and Other Blood Disorders	425	1.1%	13,995	1.1%
Liver Conditions	403	1.0%	10,652	0.8%

What Are Common Hospital-Based Courses of Treatment Among People Experiencing Homelessness?

Hospital Measures of Severity	IL-501		Statewide	
Median Days In Hospital	5		5	
Underwent Surgical Intervention	2,689	6.9%	59,494	4.6%
Required Mechanical Ventilation	493	1.3%	11,119	0.9%
Received Obstetric Care	921	2.4%	24,454	1.9%
Received Drug Treatment Services	604	1.6%	33,393	2.6%
Administered Naloxone	114	0.3%	9,720	0.8%

Discharge Status from Hospital	IL-501		Statewide	
Routine Discharge (Home/Home Health/Home Care Services)	32,333	83.5%	1,067,947	82.7%
Discharge to Another Acute Health Care Facility	445	1.1%	25,457	2.0%
Discharge to a Psychiatric Facility	1,910	4.9%	60,151	4.7%
Discharge to a Rehabilitation, Skilled Nursing, or Long-Term Care Facility	1,205	3.1%	53,125	4.1%
Left Against Medical Advice	2,154	5.6%	64,985	5.0%
Discharge to Court/Law Enforcement	253	0.7%	8,079	0.6%
Expired During Course of Hospitalization or Discharge to Hospice	120	0.3%	4,038	0.3%
Other/Unspecified	279	0.7%	8,309	0.6%