Illinois Homelessness Mortality and Morbidity Report

Continuum of Care Fact Sheet

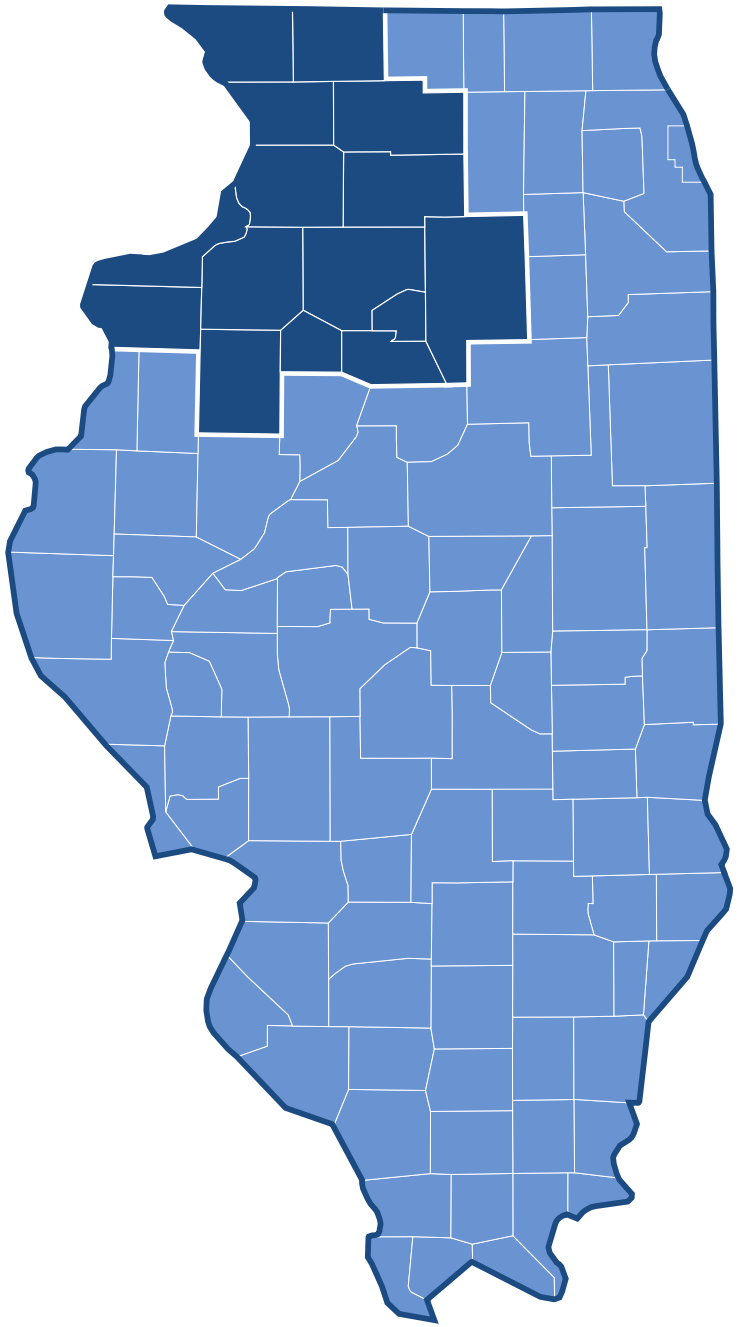
2019-2023

Northwestern

IL-518

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.

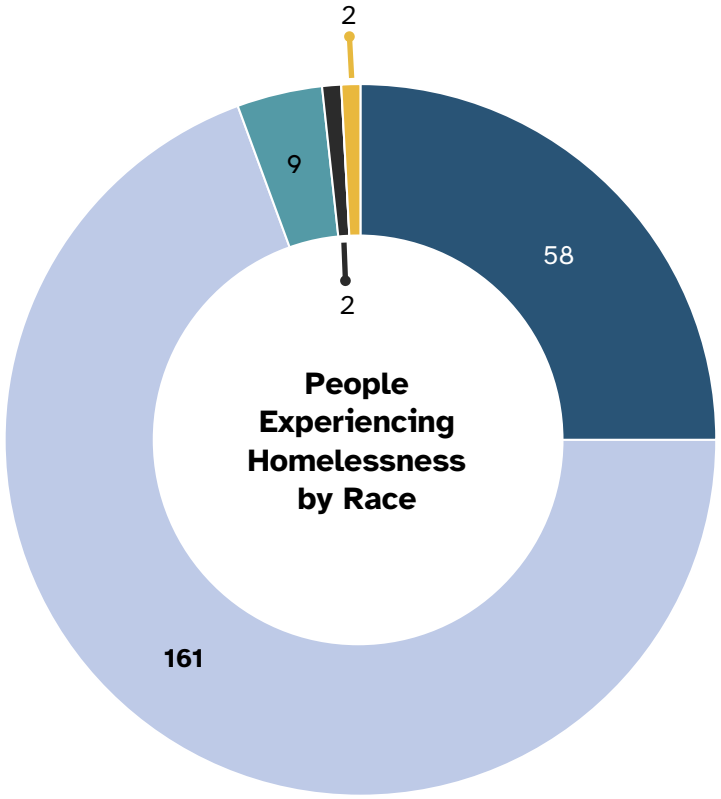
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO

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-518	Statewide
Overall Homeless	232	11,947
Unsheltered Homeless	23	1,619
Sheltered Homeless	209	10,328
Overall Homeless People in Families	53	4,045
Overall Homeless Parenting Youth Under 18	0	1
Overall Homeless Parenting Youth Age 18-24	0	242
Total Homeless Children of Parenting Youth	0	316
Overall Homeless Veterans	4	523
Overall Chronically Homeless	15	1,443
Gender		
Male	126	7,266
Female	106	4,584
Transgender	0	58
Gender that is not Singularly Female or Male	0	33
Gender Questioning	0	6
Age		
Under 18 Years	24	2,426
18 to 24 Years	26	1,347
25 to 34 Years	44	2,490
35 to 44 Years	47	2,414
45 to 54 Years	47	1,297
55 to 64 Years	42	1,439
Over 64 Years	2	512
Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino	14	3,584



Race	IL-518	Statewide
Black or African American	58	5,583
White (including Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity)	161	5,535
Asian	9	197
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	143
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	62
Multiracial, Declined, or Other	2	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	48	2,321

Gender	IL-518		Statewide	
Female	17	35.4%	510	22.0%
Male	31	64.6%	1,796	77.4%
Unspecified	0	0.0%	15	0.6%

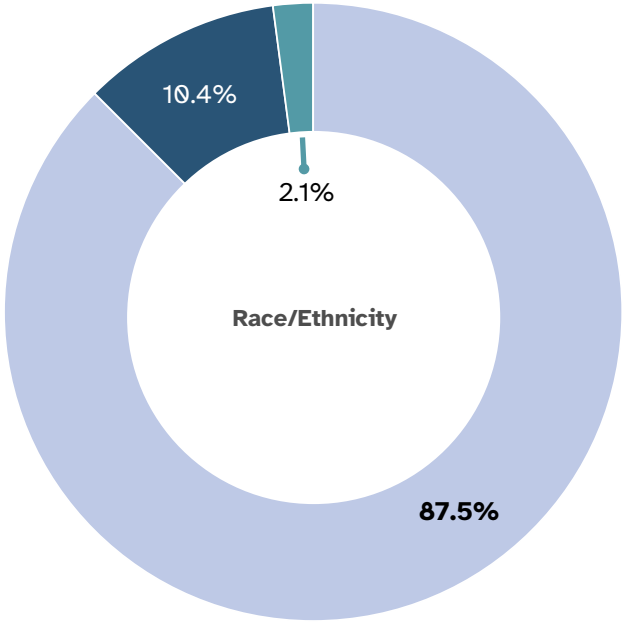
Mean Age	64		56	
Under 18 Years	0		36	1.6%
18 to 24 Years	1	2.1%	29	1.2%
25 to 34 Years	3	6.3%	177	7.6%
35 to 44 Years	3	6.3%	296	12.8%
45 to 54 Years	5	10.4%	433	18.7%
55 to 64 Years	14	29.2%	730	31.5%
Over 64 Years	22	45.8%	579	24.9%
Unknown	0		41	1.8%

Veteran	9	18.8%	228	9.8%

Family Member was Key Informant*	43	89.6%	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-518		Statewide	
White, non-Hispanic	42	87.5%	1,053	45.4%
Black, non-Hispanic	5	10.4%	954	41.1%
Hispanic or Latino	1	2.1%	213	9.2%
Other/Unspecified	0		101	4.4%

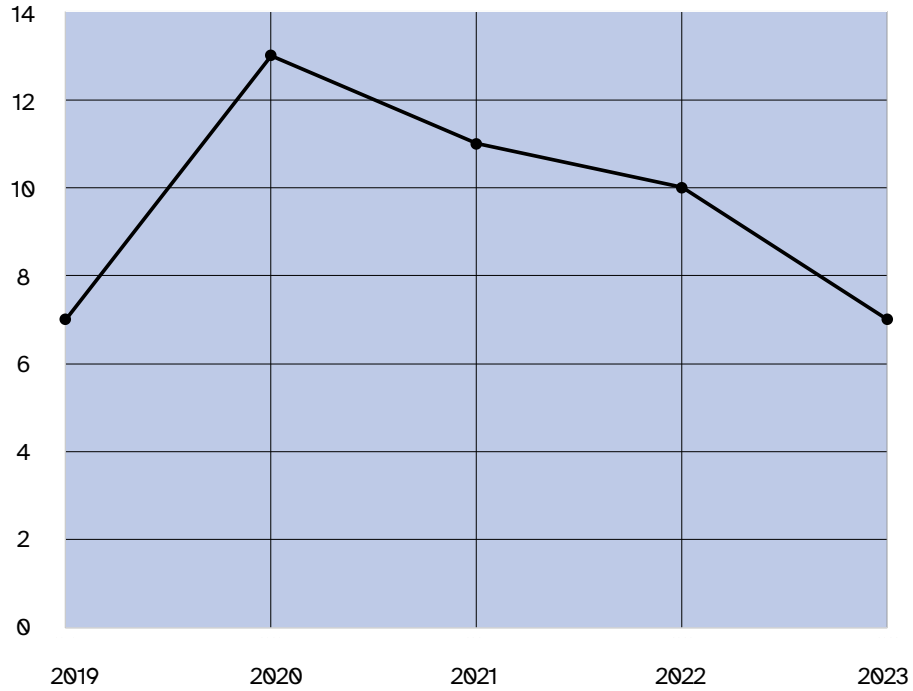


Marital Status	IL-518		Statewide	
Never Married	19	39.6%	1,047	45.1%
Married or Civil Union	5	10.4%	150	6.5%
Divorced or Separated	19	39.6%	455	19.6%
Widowed	5	10.4%	130	5.6%
Unknown	0		539	23.2%

When Are People Experiencing Homelessness Dying?

Weekday of Death	IL-518		Statewide	
Monday	11	22.9%	372	16.0%
Tuesday	6	12.5%	298	12.8%
Wednesday	10	20.8%	336	14.5%
Thursday	4	8.3%	337	14.5%
Friday	8	16.7%	341	14.7%
Saturday	5	10.4%	330	14.2%
Sunday	4	8.3%	307	13.2%

Year of Death	IL-518		Statewide	
2019	7	14.6%	343	14.8%
2020	13	27.1%	488	21.0%
2021	11	22.9%	481	20.7%
2022	10	20.8%	560	24.1%
2023	7	14.6%	449	19.3%



Month of Death	IL-518		Statewide	
Cold Months: November to March	18	37.5%	989	42.6%

What Are the Most Common Contributing Causes of Death?

Contributing Cause of Death	IL-518		Statewide	
Injury and Poisoning	12	25.0%	1,062	45.8%
Drug-Related Overdose	4	8.3%	947	40.8%
Traumatic Injury	4	8.3%	87	3.7%
Suicide	1	2.1%	36	1.6%
Homicide	2	4.2%	72	3.1%
Excessive Cold	2	4.2%	90	3.9%
Disease of the Circulatory System	22	45.8%	806	34.7%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	10	20.8%	327	14.1%
Endocrine, Metabolic, and Nutritional Diseases	7	14.6%	248	10.7%
Diabetes	7	14.6%	147	6.3%
Nutritional Deficiencies	0		17	0.7%
Fluid and Electrolyte Disorders	0		25	1.1%
Cancer	7	14.6%	155	6.7%
Infectious Diseases	5	10.4%	149	6.4%

Toxicology Results	IL-518		Statewide	
Positive for any Drug Associated with Substance Use Disorders	4	8.3%	947	40.8%
Opioids	1	2.1%	689	29.7%
Fentanyl Analogs and Precursors	1	2.1%	632	27.2%
Heroin	0		187	8.1%
Methadone	0		37	1.6%
Stimulants	1	2.1%	430	18.5%
Amphetamine	1	2.1%	70	3.0%
Cocaine	0		379	16.3%
Alcohol	3	6.3%	354	15.3%
Sedative-Hypnotic and Anxiolytic	0		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.

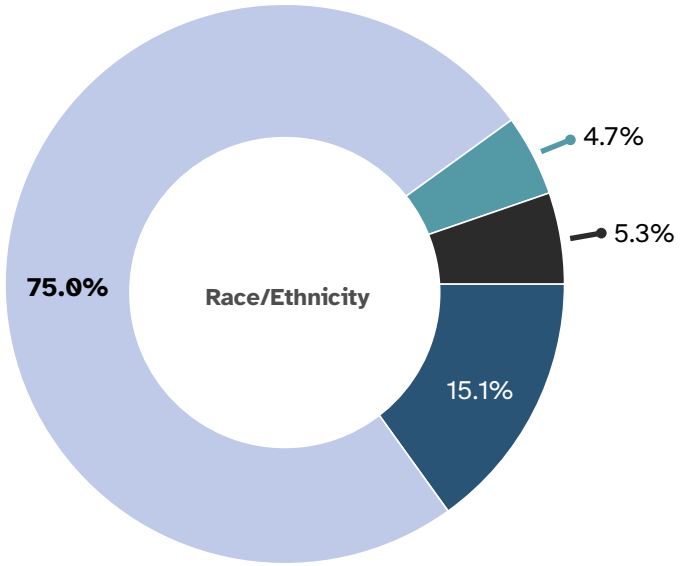
Hospital Visits	IL-518		Statewide	
Total Number of Hospital Visits	**38,524**		**1,292,091**	
Total Number of Emergency Department Visits	31,358	81.4%	990,733	76.7%
Total Number of Hospital Admissions	7,166	18.6%	301,358	23.3%
Hospital Visits with ICD-10 Z59 Code	*(Designated as Experiencing Homelessness)*			
Number and Percent of Emergency Department Visits with Z59 Code	1,647	5.3%	89,164	9.0%
Number and Percent of Hospital Admissions with Z59 Code	1,617	22.6%	75,686	25.1%

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

Gender	IL-518		Statewide	
Female	14,503	37.6%	434,928	33.7%
Male	24,020	62.4%	857,008	66.3%
Unspecified	1		155	

Mean Age at Date of Hospital Visit	43		45	
Under 18 Years	617	1.6%	15,814	1.2%
18 to 24 Years	3,934	10.2%	92,823	7.2%
25 to 34 Years	8,419	21.9%	266,789	20.6%
35 to 44 Years	8,599	22.3%	265,841	20.6%
45 to 54 Years	7,062	18.3%	273,664	21.2%
55 to 64 Years	7,109	18.5%	278,355	21.5%
Over 64 Years	2,784	7.2%	98,805	7.6%

Race/Ethnicity	IL-518		Statewide	
Black, non-Hispanic	5,809	15.1%	576,646	44.6%
White, non-Hispanic	28,875	75.0%	533,398	41.3%
Hispanic or Latino	1,808	4.7%	95,159	7.4%
Other / Unspecified	2,032	5.3%	86,888	6.7%



Payer Type (Insurance)	IL-518		Statewide	
Medicaid	23,995	62.3%	800,661	62.0%
Medicare	9,346	24.3%	259,069	20.1%
Commercial Insurance	3,038	7.9%	97,965	7.6%
Self-Pay	1,575	4.1%	112,806	8.7%
Other	570	1.5%	21,590	1.7%

Total Billed Charges*	**$385,356,726**	**$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-518		Statewide	
Monday	5,711	14.8%	192,156	14.9%
Tuesday	5,910	15.3%	198,064	15.3%
Wednesday	5,851	15.2%	196,524	15.2%
Thursday	5,953	15.5%	194,655	15.1%
Friday	5,776	15.0%	192,647	14.9%
Saturday	4,849	12.6%	163,893	12.7%
Sunday	4,474	11.6%	154,152	11.9%

Year of Hospital Visit	IL-518		Statewide	
2019	8,249	21.4%	279,135	21.6%
2020	7,707	20.0%	254,749	19.7%
2021	7,653	19.9%	248,575	19.2%
2022	7,549	19.6%	249,496	19.3%
2023	7,366	19.1%	260,136	20.1%

Month of Hospital Visit	IL-518		Statewide	
Cold Months: November to March	15,149	39.3%	525,550	40.7%

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

Most Common Serious Comorbidities	IL-518		Statewide	
Hypertension	7,311	19.0%	310,968	24.1%
Psychoses	3,884	10.1%	200,068	15.5%
Depression	5,156	13.4%	176,095	13.6%
Diabetes	3,730	9.7%	144,359	11.2%
Heart Disease	3,030	7.9%	116,537	9.0%
Fluid and Electrolyte Disorders	2,880	7.5%	104,205	8.1%
Renal Failure	1,052	2.7%	46,681	3.6%
Liver Disease	1,024	2.7%	37,169	2.9%
Cancer	325	0.8%	14,811	1.1%
AIDS/HIV	112	0.3%	8,737	0.7%
Chronic Pulmonary Disease	154	0.4%	9,457	0.7%

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Diagnosis	19,585	50.8%	656,922	50.8%
SUD-Alcohol	6,431	16.7%	204,871	15.9%
SUD-Stimulants	2,477	6.4%	111,853	8.7%
SUD-Opioids	1,113	2.9%	100,931	7.8%
SUD-Polysubstance Abuse	1,157	3.0%	41,685	3.2%

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

Primary Diagnosis	IL-518		Statewide	
Mental Disorders	6,817	17.7%	228,812	17.7%
Substance Use Disorder (Primary Diagnosis Only)	5,820	15.1%	218,275	16.9%
Traumatic Injury	4,155	10.8%	121,046	9.4%
Fracture	681	1.8%	20,196	1.6%
Open Wound	614	1.6%	16,785	1.3%
Traumatic Brain Injury	112	0.3%	3,038	0.2%
Internal Injury of the Torso (including spine)	23	0.1%	741	0.1%
Other Traumatic Injury	1,885	4.9%	46,977	3.6%
Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders	2,747	7.1%	103,155	8.0%
Disorders of the Respiratory System	1,737	4.5%	56,184	4.3%
Disorders of the Circulatory System	1,001	2.6%	42,580	3.3%
Diseases of the Skin	920	2.4%	27,317	2.1%
Disorders of the Digestive System	929	2.4%	27,079	2.1%
Diseases of the Central and Peripheral Nervous System	928	2.4%	26,713	2.1%
Infectious Disease	616	1.6%	22,601	1.7%
Diseases of the Urinary Tract and Genitalia	760	2.0%	22,141	1.7%
Pregnancy and Perinatal Related	607	1.6%	20,536	1.6%
Diabetes	594	1.5%	19,410	1.5%
Diseases of the Oral Cavity	484	1.3%	11,116	0.9%
Anemias and Other Blood Disorders	416	1.1%	13,995	1.1%
Liver Conditions	370	1.0%	10,652	0.8%

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

Hospital Measures of Severity	IL-518		Statewide	
Median Days In Hospital	5		5	
Underwent Surgical Intervention	1,568	4.1%	59,494	4.6%
Required Mechanical Ventilation	286	0.7%	11,119	0.9%
Received Obstetric Care	708	1.8%	24,454	1.9%
Received Drug Treatment Services	483	1.3%	33,393	2.6%
Administered Naloxone	100	0.3%	9,720	0.8%

Discharge Status from Hospital	IL-518		Statewide	
Routine Discharge (Home/Home Health/Home Care Services)	32,222	83.6%	1,067,947	82.7%
Discharge to Another Acute Health Care Facility	1,250	3.2%	25,457	2.0%
Discharge to a Psychiatric Facility	1,472	3.8%	60,151	4.7%
Discharge to a Rehabilitation, Skilled Nursing, or Long-Term Care Facility	1,142	3.0%	53,125	4.1%
Left Against Medical Advice	1,740	4.5%	64,985	5.0%
Discharge to Court/Law Enforcement	386	1.0%	8,079	0.6%
Expired During Course of Hospitalization or Discharge to Hospice	95	0.2%	4,038	0.3%
Other/Unspecified	217	0.6%	8,309	0.6%