



2024 MAUI COUNTY POINT IN TIME COUNT TOPLINE REPORT

OVERVIEW

Every January, counties across the nation carry out the Homeless Point In Time (PIT) Count in their respective jurisdictions. The PIT Count is an annual survey of people experiencing homelessness on a given night.

Bridging the Gap (BTG), which represents Hawai'i County, Maui County and Kaua'i County, is the Neighbor Island's Continuum of Care (CoC). As the Hawaii balance-of-state CoC, BTG serves as a local planning body designed to promote a community-wide commitment to end homelessness. In response to BTG's responsibility and dedication to achieve this goal, autonomous PIT Counts are conducted in each county. Data is then analyzed and aggregated for total rural county results. The major findings of the jurisdiction's PIT Count are required and reported in the annual funding application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

This year, teams on Maui canvassed parks, beaches, and other areas, asking people "Where did you sleep on the night of January 22nd?" This federally mandated survey seeks to count anyone who slept on the street, in a car, or in other areas not meant for human habitation. Sheltered homeless are counted through data collected from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for January 22nd. While the PIT Count does not capture every person experiencing homelessness, it does provide a one-night snapshot of homelessness on Maui. The collected data is compared county to county and year to year to help stakeholders understand homelessness in their districts.

Maui Summary

On Aug. 8, 2023, wind-driven wildfires tore through sections of the island of Maui. The most significantly impacted area was the district of Lahaina. Shortly after the wildfires, the federal government provided public assistance funding to the State of Hawaii to provide disaster-related, temporary congregate and non-congregate shelters (NCS) for survivors of the wildfires. NCS facilities used to support these shelter efforts included numerous Maui hotels, supplying temporary hotel units to households impacted by the wildfires.

Leading up to the PIT, HUD asserted that wildfire displaced households residing in congregate or NCS hotels on the night of the PIT were to be included in BTG’s sheltered count. HUD maintained that disaster-impacted households were housed prior to the wildfires and would have no housing without temporary NCS, thus should be considered homeless and counted under the emergency shelter project type. To ensure that these households were counted, KMNH was able to obtain the active NCS listing as of the PIT night from the American Red Cross (ARC), with assistance from the Hawai’i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) and County of Maui. NCS aggregate data is included in the BTG Summary, Maui Summary, and HUD HDX Reporting Tables of this report. The NCS dataset provided by ARC did not include disability or veteran status data.

Throughout other sections of this report, including the Executive Summary paragraphs that follow, statistics and methodology presented generally exclude NCS data so that PIT data from prior years can be more easily compared. In summary, NCS data added **2,328 households and 5,245 total people** to Maui’s count.

MAUI COUNTY STATISTICS AND TRENDS

Maui County has shown a consistent decline in total homelessness for the last seven years.

Table 1: Maui Summary, 2018-2024

	Maui Total	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	#	%	#	%
2024	654	369	56.42%	285	43.57%
2023	704	317	45.03%	387	54.97%
2022	741	305	41.16%	436	58.84%
2021	N/A	346	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	789	375	47.53%	414	52.47%
2019	862	420	48.72%	442	51.28%
2018	873	399	45.70%	474	54.30%

Table 2 presents the sheltered and unsheltered household configuration statistics for Maui County.

Table 2: 2024 Maui Household Configuration Summary

	Maui Total	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	#	%	#	%
Individuals	434	179	41.24%	255	58.76%
Family Individuals	220	190	86.36%	30	13.64%
Adults	110	94	86.45%	16	14.55%
Children	110	96	87.27%	14	12.73%
All Individuals	654	369	56.42%	285	43.58%
Family Households	59	49	83.05%	10	16.95%

Discussion of results

Cohesive, coordinated efforts in Maui ensured that individuals and families were triaged and assessed for appropriate levels of service.

1. **Overall homelessness counts shrank by 7%** (from 704 persons in 2023 to 654 in 2024).
2. **Unsheltered homelessness experienced a 26% decline over the previous year** (from 387 persons in 2023 to 285 in 2024). Unsheltered homelessness among individuals decreased by 96 people compared to 2023, while the level of unsheltered families increased by one.
3. **Sheltered homelessness increased by 16%** (from 317 persons in 2023 to 369 in 2024). Maui’s sheltered homelessness increased by 52 people. This shift from unsheltered into shelter was greatly impacted by the Lahaina wildfires. Ka Hale A Ke Ola’s Westside shelter burned down in the fires, however this loss was offset by the creation of Pu’uhonua o Nene, a new shelter which opened on September 29, 2023, for Maui wildfire survivors.
4. **Family homelessness decreased by 20%** (from 74 families in 2023 to 59 families in 2024). The net reduction of 15 total families resulted from a 16-family decrease within the sheltered component and one additional family in the unsheltered component.
5. **Chronic homelessness decreased by 12%** (from 223 individuals and individuals in households in 2023 to 196 in 2024).
6. **Veteran homelessness decreased by 4%** (from 35 veterans in 2023 to 15 veterans in 2024)

The following are ongoing actions implemented to achieve the results noted above:

1. Maui homeless service providers have been successful in housing both unsheltered and sheltered homeless. A comparison of the prior year’s count showed 96 individuals that were counted in 2023 PIT as being permanently housed over the course of the year.

2. New affordable housing projects on Maui increased the supply of housing availability. These projects included:
 - Kaiaulu O Kupuohi (opened Dec 2022) offering 89 Units
 - Kahului Lani (phase 2 opened Jan 2022) offering 83 Units
 - Kenolio Apartments (opened 2020) offering 186 Units- providing ongoing vacancies
3. Maui County secured 76 HUD Emergency Housing Voucher program and 10 Stabilization Vouchers. These programs were specific to the homeless population and provided long term rental subsidies for permanent stable housing.
4. In addition to on-going state and federal funded programs, the Count of Maui increased funding for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing to \$3,000,000.

Maui Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) Summary

Maui's emergency NCS data has been aggregated and is provided in Tables 27, 28, and 29. Table 27 provides a summary of all households and persons.

- Tables 28 and 29 provide data by family and individual household type.
- Length of stay (LOS) can be interpreted as the number of hotel nights that have been made available based on hotel entry data provided in the NCS dataset
- On the night of January 22, 2024 there were **2,328 households or 5,245 total people** in NCS Non Congregate shelter.

Discussion

There are many resources that are currently in place to support this group of 2,328 households that were counted on the night of January 22, 2024. Resources include several housing projects led by both the government and nonprofit sectors to meet the critical demands for housing. The housing crisis we had before August 08, 2023 was compounded in so many ways. The journey to increase housing inventory in the wake of this disaster has been a bumpy road, to say the least. The sheer devastation of our loss left our island in a state of uncertainty some would describe as darkness. But the strength and resilience of our community shines even brighter. In fact, we are standing at the site of one housing response that has been carefully designed and thoughtfully built thanks to the unwavering support of our community. Ohana Hope Village is completely funded through private donations, community labor, and community members rolling up their sleeves, 'Ohana Hope Village and many other projects just like this offers hope and healing to our devastated community.

Community Actions to Address Homelessness

The BTG Maui local chapter - Maui Homeless Alliance joins with our other BTG local chapters to support the following community actions to address homelessness.

1. BUILD, ACQUIRE, AND PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

We continue to dedicate ourselves to increasing the supply of housing — especially deeply affordable housing for those whose incomes fall at or below 30% of Area Median Income. We will continue to advocate for the prioritization of funding to support the purchase, building, and development of affordable housing

2. INCREASE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAMS

It is critical to prevent the loss of housing among people who are living in permanent supportive housing. For chronically homeless individuals (those with a disability and long history of homelessness), stable housing and supportive services are the foundation for stability. Permanent supportive housing programs are project-based, clustered, or scattered site permanent housing linked with supportive services that help residents sustain housing. This housing program is the right intervention for persons with the deepest needs where they may remain in this program indefinitely with temporary or long-term rental assistance and/or supportive services.

3. MAINTAIN RAPID RE-HOUSING (RRH) & LONG-TERM RENT SUBSIDY PROGRAMS

Rapid re-housing is an intervention designed to help individuals and families exit homelessness quickly and return to permanent housing by providing three core program activities including housing identification, time-limited financial assistance, and housing-based case management services.

In 2021, the U.S Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) released two hundred fourteen (76) new Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) on Maui. In 2023 HUD released 10 Stabilization Vouchers on Maui. It is critical for these types of long-term rent subsidies to continue along with an increase in affordable rental housing units.

4. EXPAND HOMELESS PREVENTION & DIVERSION STRATEGIES

We must strengthen practices and increase system capacity to divert families from entering homelessness. Homeless prevention resources are critical to assist households who may need assistance. With an unknown period of economic recovery, many households will continue to need access to rent, mortgage, and utility assistance including arrears, and short-term and medium-term rent assistance.

5. EXPAND AND ENHANCE STREET OUTREACH

Individuals experiencing homelessness are at greater risk of exposure to a variety of infectious diseases. Street Outreach staff are often the only connection to high-risk persons living in encampments or places not meant for human habitation across the island.