

## Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties

	2016 HMIS	2016 Estimated Total Count	2017 HMIS	2017 Estimated Total Count	% Change
<b>Genesee County</b>	104	165	201	298	+80.61%
<b>Orleans County</b>	35	229	252	272	+18.7%
<b>Wyoming County</b>	-	39	-	47	+20.51%

Table 1: Total homelessness in the last 2 years

### Point in Time

		Households with Adults + Kids	Adult Only Households	Children-Only Households	Total
<b>2017</b>	Households	8	50	0	58
	<b>Total People</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>2018</b>	Households	11	59	0	70
	<b>Total People</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93</b>

Table 2: Point in Time Data for GOW counties, 2017-2018

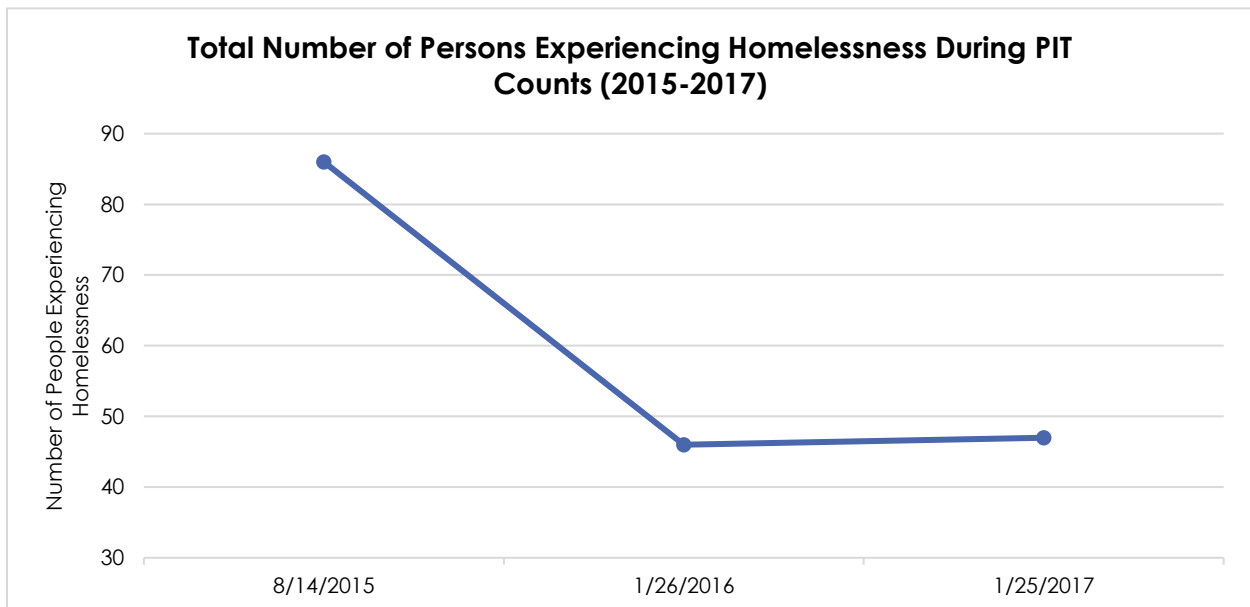


Figure 1: Homelessness at Point-in-Time counts in the last 3 years

At least once per year, service providers in each county collect data on the number of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations at that point in time. The goal of this is to estimate how many people are experiencing homelessness in the reporting area

at a given time. This data for the GOW counties does not include any unsheltered individuals. At the FY 2017 Point in Time Count on January 25, 2017, 47 individuals were counted as experiencing homelessness in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties. The decrease between the 2015 and 2016 counts can likely be explained by the time of year the counts were done as summer months usually see more reports of homelessness. The consistency between 2016 and 2017's PIT counts shows a more accurate depiction of homelessness during winter in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.

Compared to the PIT count in January 2016, GOW saw an increase in the number of veterans were seeking services with that percentage rising from 43% to 64%. This is likely due to Genesee county's two veteran-specific providers, Eagle Star and Liberty Hall, that serve people from other counties in addition to GOW. As veterans are primarily adult males, the data reflects increases in reported adults (over age 24) and males, and when compared to the 2016 PIT count. This is also true for the increase in the number of households because the total includes individuals as their own household.

	8/14/2015	1/26/2016	1/25/2017
<b>Total Number of Persons</b>	86	46	47
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	49	17	40

Table 3: Number of Households Compared with Number of Persons Experiencing Homelessness at GOW Point in Time Counts (2015-2017)

	8/14/2015	1/26/2016	1/25/2017
<b>Number of Persons (under age 18)</b>	26	27	6
<b>Number of Persons (18-24)</b>	1	1	2
<b>Number of Persons (over 24)</b>	59	18	34
<b>Number of Persons with Missing/Invalid DOB</b>	0	0	5

Table 4: Age Breakdown of People Experiencing Homelessness at GOW Point in Time Counts (2015-2017)

Gender (Adults and Children)	8/14/2015	1/26/2016	1/25/2017
<b>Female</b>	27	21	8
<b>Male</b>	60	25	39
<b>Transgender</b>	0	0	0

Table 5: Gender Breakdown of People Experiencing Homelessness at GOW Point in Time Counts (2015-2017)

Race (Adults and Children)	8/14/2015	1/26/2016	1/25/2017
<b>White</b>	35	22	35
<b>Black</b>	47	24	12
<b>Asian</b>	0	0	0
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	0	0	0
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</b>	1	0	0
<b>Multiple Races</b>	3	0	0

Table 6: Racial Breakdown of People Experiencing Homelessness at GOW Point in Time Counts (2015-2017)

Ethnicity (Adults and Children)	8/14/2015	1/26/2016	1/25/2017
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	78	41	46
Hispanic/Latino	8	5	1

Table7: Ethnicity Breakdown of People Experiencing Homelessness at GOW Point in Time Counts (2015-2017)

## Poverty Rates

On average, 13.2% of the population in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties are experiencing poverty. With poverty being a leading cause of homelessness, these statistics allow us to look at the groups who may be experiencing homelessness in addition to groups who may need preventative actions before homelessness occurs.

	Percent of Population Experiencing Poverty
Genesee	12.5%
Orleans	15.6%
Wyoming	11.5%

Table 8: Percentages of the population experiencing poverty in GOW counties according to data from the US Census Bureau

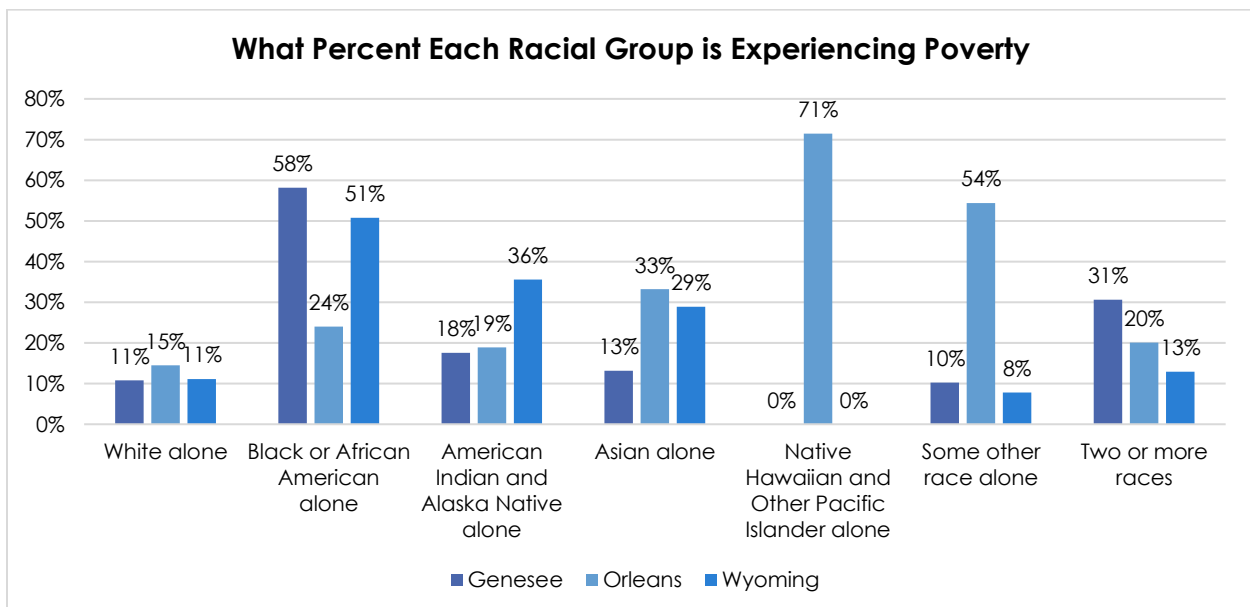


Figure 2: Poverty rates of racial groups in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties based on data from the US Census Bureau

Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties each are made up of populations that are more than 90% white. Even though other individual races make up less than 5% of the total population, oftentimes 20-50% of people in those racial groups are experiencing poverty as shown in Figure 2.

In general, the white population is least affected by poverty in the GOW counties. These numbers indicate that a disproportionate number of people of color are affected by poverty and will likely experience homelessness at a higher rate than people who are white.

## Conclusion: Policy Recommendations

Homelessness continues to be a persistent social problem, despite the slight decrease in the number of people who experienced it in the CoC service area. We recommend the following:

- Tenant-based targeted interventions that make housing affordable, such as an increase in the Department of Social Service shelter allowance to match HUD Fair Market Rent
- The state should adopt and fully fund the Home Stability Support initiative
- The state should adopt a policy that requires any funding they provide for the provision of housing for those experiencing homelessness utilize Coordinated Entry in order to make these units available to those who are currently without housing
- More Housing Choice Vouchers need to be made available to HUD
- An increase in the number of one bedroom and single-room occupancy units available for low-income individuals
- All Public Housing Authorities need to adopt a homeless preference based upon the HUD definition of "homeless"
- Better discharge planning by the Department of Corrections, or a rapid rehousing program funded by the department to keep the formerly incarcerated from immediately entering the homelessness system
- Efforts to assist female single parent households afford housing, particularly mothers of very small children
- Engaging in all efforts to eliminate institutional racism, such that all people have equal and equitable access to the social and economic institutions that lead to the acquisition of wealth and financial resources

The solution to homelessness is a home.