

Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



In This Issue...

- 1.National County Government Month - Why I Work for Thurston County
- 2.Thurston County Board of County Commissioners Proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month
- 3.2024 Point-in-Time Count Homeless Census Preliminary Data Released
- 4.Attend the April 18 Panel on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Racial Justice & Belonging: A Community Conversation with Local Leaders
- 5.Child Passenger Car Seat Safety Checks Available on May 3

#1 - National County Government Month - Why I Work for Thurston County



Thurston County is continuing our celebration of [National County Government Month \(NCGM\)](#) this April!

To celebrate NCGM, we interviewed several Thurston County employees, asking them "Why do you work for Thurston County?" Every week this April, we highlight several staff members where they share why they work for Thurston County.

This week, we interviewed Candi, who works as a Licensing and Recording Specialist for the Thurston County Auditor's Office, and Jason, who works as a Code Compliance Coordinator for the Community Planning and Development Department. Watch the

#2 - Thurston County Board of County Commissioners Proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month



On April 2, the Board of County Commissioners proclaimed the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. This proclamation urges all residents to actively participate in the care, well-being, and protection of the children in our community. Speakers from Thurston County Public Health and Social Services, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Family Education and Support Services, Monarch, and Providence St. Peter Hospital shared information about their work in prevention of child abuse in Thurston County.

Watch the proclamation on the [Thurston County YouTube Channel](#).

#3 - 2024 Point-in-Time Count Homeless Census Preliminary Data Released

2024

Thurston County Point in Time Count Preliminary Data Report



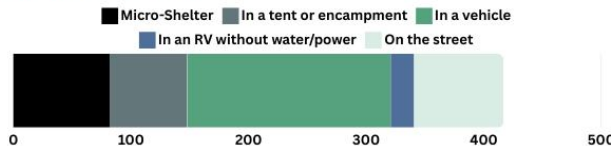
The Point in Time Count (PIT) is an effort to determine how many people are experiencing homelessness nationwide. The 2024 annual census was conducted through a survey to collect data through outreach, events, and direct service providers. A full report will be released in August 2024. Please note this data is preliminary and is still undergoing a verification process in partnership with the Department of Commerce.



Overview of Unsheltered Individuals*

*This data does not include those in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Doubled-up/Couch Surfing.

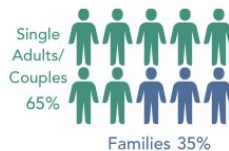
Where people slept



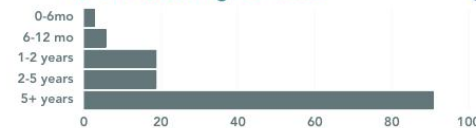
Where people come from



Households

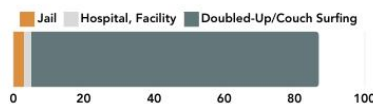


How long did you live in Thurston before becoming homeless?

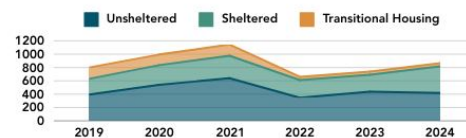


Where else did people sleep?*

**These individuals are not included in the totals, as they do not meet HUD's definition of homelessness for the PIT count.



PIT Counts



Thurston County Public Health and Social Services released preliminary data for the 2024 Point-in-Time Count Homeless Census (PIT). This [preliminary data report](#) shares the number of Thurston County residents experiencing unsheltered homelessness, staying in shelters, or transitional housing programs at a single point in time – January 25, 2024.

This year, 864 people experiencing homelessness were counted in Thurston County on the night of Thursday, January 25, 2024. There were 47 people in transitional housing, 400 people in emergency shelters, and 417 people staying in encampments, RVs or other vehicles, small structures, doorways, or in other places not meant for human habitation. The total count in 2024 increased by about 120 people experiencing homelessness when compared to the 2023 data.

Eight events were held to conduct PIT surveys and share resources. The events focused on different sub-populations: seniors, adults, youth, and young adults. Survival gear was distributed such as blankets, winter gloves, hand warmers, rechargeable headlamps, duffle bags, hygiene kits, socks, and other winter clothing. The events offered attendees connection to services, food, haircuts, foot care, and veterinary care.

[Read the full news release](#) on the Thurston County website.

#4 - Attend the April 18 Panel on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Racial Justice & Belonging: A Community Conversation with Local Leaders

***Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Racial Justice & Belonging:
A Community Conversation with Local Leaders***
What jurisdictions are doing to create a more equitable Thurston County

April 18, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Thurston County Board Meeting Room
3000 Pacific Avenue, S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501
In-person & On Zoom**

FREE PUBLIC EVENT

Join the [League of Women Voters of Thurston County](#), the [Asian Pacific Islander Coalition of Washington State](#), and the [Hispanic Roundtable](#) for a lively and informative panel presentation and conversation. The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners declared racism a crisis in 2021. Learn what Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County jurisdictions are doing to address barriers to racial equity, inclusion and belonging throughout Thurston County.

The panel will be held on April 18, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in-person and on Zoom. The in-person location is at the Atrium in the Thurston County Board Room (Room 110), 3000 Pacific Ave. SE, Olympia 98501.

Panelists include:

- City of Lacey: Commission on Equity Commissioners Annie Clay, Chair; Cliff Brown, Past Chair; Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager
- City of Olympia: Tobi Hill-Meyer, Social Justice and Equity Programs Manager; Keli Drake, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Coordinator; Olivia Salazar de Breau, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Specialist Parks, Arts, and Recreation
- City of Tumwater: Mayor Debbie Sullivan, and District 6 representative to the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Cabinet
- Thurston County: Devi Ogden, Racial Equity Program Manager; Patrick O'Connor, Public Defense Director; Jennifer Freiheit, Assistant Director of Public Health and Social Services
- Moderator: Bill Fishburn, President of the Hispanic Roundtable and IT Project Management Office Manager WA State Department of Public Health

Seating is limited, please register at www.lwvthurston.org.

**#5 - Child Passenger Safety Car Seat Checks Available
on May 3**

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

CAR SEAT CHECKS

More than
half of car
seats are not used
or installed
correctly!

DATE: May 3, 2024

TIME: 11:00-2:00 pm

WHERE: Child Care Action Council,
3729 Griffin Lane SE, Olympia 98501

COST: Free

Brought to you by:



SKTC is a program of CCAC and sponsored by TCMO



The [Child Care Action Council](#), [Target Zero](#), and [Safe Kids Thurston County](#) are hosting a Child Passenger Safety event on Friday, May 3, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at 3729 Griffin Lane SE, Olympia 98501.

Certified car seat technicians will be available to review your car seat installation, provide advice, and demonstrate how to correctly install them. This event is free to the public.



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Subscribe to the Friday Five

Stay current on upcoming public hearings, meetings, and work sessions by bookmarking the [Board of County Commissioners' master calendar](#)! Please call the Board of County Commissioners office at (360) 786-5440 if you're having problems viewing the calendar.

Thurstoncountywa.gov



Thurston County | 3000 Pacific Ave SE, 2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW,
Olympia, WA 98501

[Unsubscribe smedia@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:unsubscribe_smedia@co.thurston.wa.us)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent byanna@thurstoncounty.ccsend.compowered by



Try email marketing for free today!