

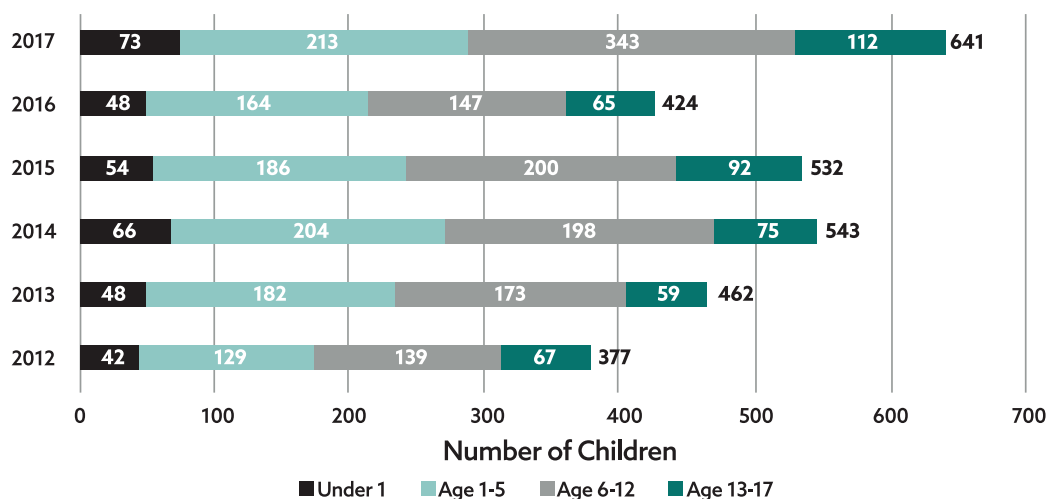
Children Experiencing Homelessness Presenting in Shelters in Tarrant County



Center for Transforming Lives
From Poverty to Possibility

- Nationally, approximately **one in three** people who experienced sheltered homelessness in 2017 were in families with children.¹
- According to the 2018 Point in Time Count data from the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, **one in five persons** (21%) in emergency shelter were under age 18.²
- According to the Tarrant County Annual Homeless Assessment Report, among families experiencing homelessness during 2017, **3 out of five** persons in families using emergency shelters were children.³
 - Among these children, **one out of ten children** were less than a year old (11.4%) and **four out of ten children** were less than 6 years old (44.6%).³
 - Between 2012-2017, 44-50% of children in shelter were under the age of 6 years (Figure 1).³

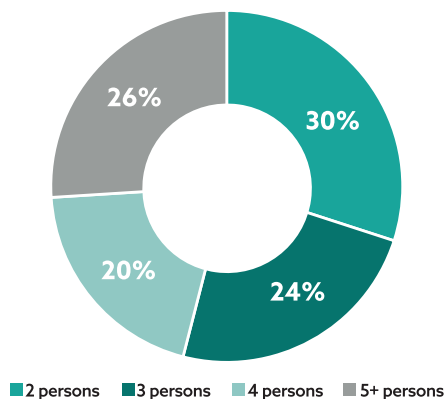
Figure 1. Age of Child in Emergency Shelters by Year



Data Source: Continuum of Care TX-601 Tarrant County/Ft. Worth Annual Homeless Assessment Reports, 2012-2017

- In 2017, among families experiencing homelessness in shelter, 70.3% of persons were family sizes of 3 people or more. Similar proportions were reported for years 2012-2017 (ranging 63%-78%). In 2017, over a quarter (26.6%) were in family sizes of 5 people or more (Figure 2).³
- Young children represent almost half of the children presenting in the shelter system in Tarrant County.
- Young children experiencing homelessness are vulnerable for other adverse childhood experiences, including abuse, neglect, and exposure to violence.⁴

Figure 2. Family Size in Emergency Shelters, 2017



1. US Department of Housing and Urban Development (2018). 2017 AHAR: Part 2 - Estimates of Homelessness in the U.S. Retrieved from <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2017-AHAR-Part-2-Section-3.pdf>
 2. Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (2018). 2018 State of the Homeless Report. Retrieved from <https://ahomewithhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/2018-SoHo-Report-FINAL.pdf>
 3. Continuum of Care TX-601 Tarrant County/Ft. Worth Annual Homeless Assessment Report, 2017.
 4. Dong, M. et al. (2005). Childhood residential mobility and multiple health risks during adolescence and adulthood: the hidden role of adverse childhood experiences. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, 159 (12):1104-10.