

2020 Hospital Homeless Count

On January 27, 2020—the same night of the New York City Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) throughout NYC streets and subways—the Health & Housing Consortium led an independent effort to count the number of people experiencing homelessness who were seeking care or shelter in NYC hospitals. This population is considered the "hidden homeless" because they are missed by the City's estimate.

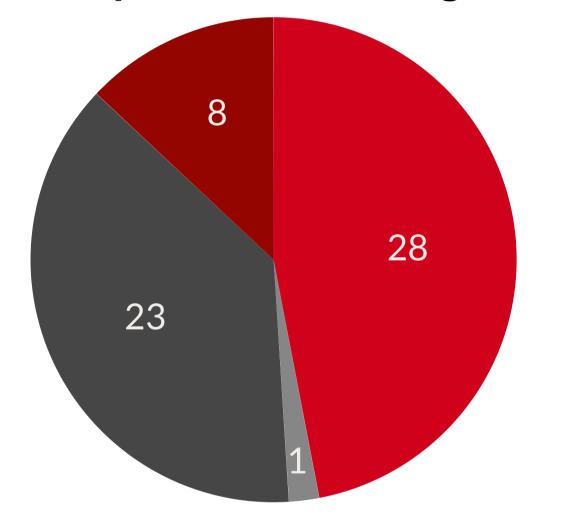
Volunteers surveyed individuals in emergency department (ED) treatment areas and waiting rooms and other non-medical locations such as lobbies and hallways.



individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness counted in NYC hospitals on a single night



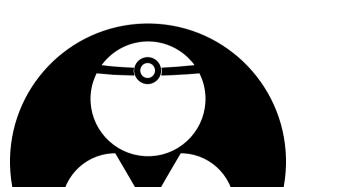
60 individuals responded to a question on what brought them into the hospital that evening:

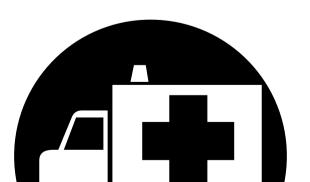


Medical care for myself (47%) Medical care for someone I know (2%)

- Some place to sleep (38%)
- Both medical care + place to sleep (13%)

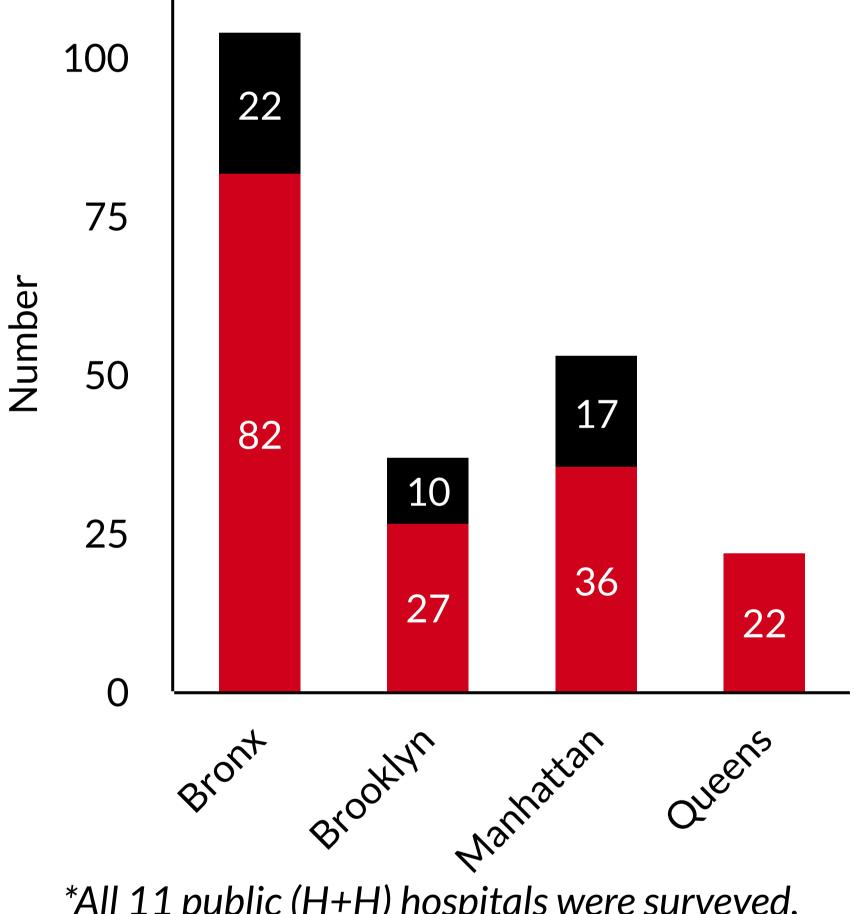
Hospitals serve a large number of patients who experience homelessness. Strengthening the connection between hospitals and homeless outreach would provide additional opportunities to engage these individuals in services and help move them into permanent housing. Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, hospitals are not a safe place for people who do not need emergency care.





 $\geq 10 ED VISITS$

PER YEAR



*All 11 public (H+H) hospitals were surveyed, but only 19 of 40 private hospitals with EDs were surveyed.



NO REGULAR DOCTOR

69%

of respondents reported not having a regular doctor outside of the ED

of respondents reported 10 or more visits to the ED within past year

76%

DAILY ED VISITS

22%

of respondents reported visiting the hospital every day

For the full report, visit https://healthandhousingconsortium.org/hospital-homeless-count/