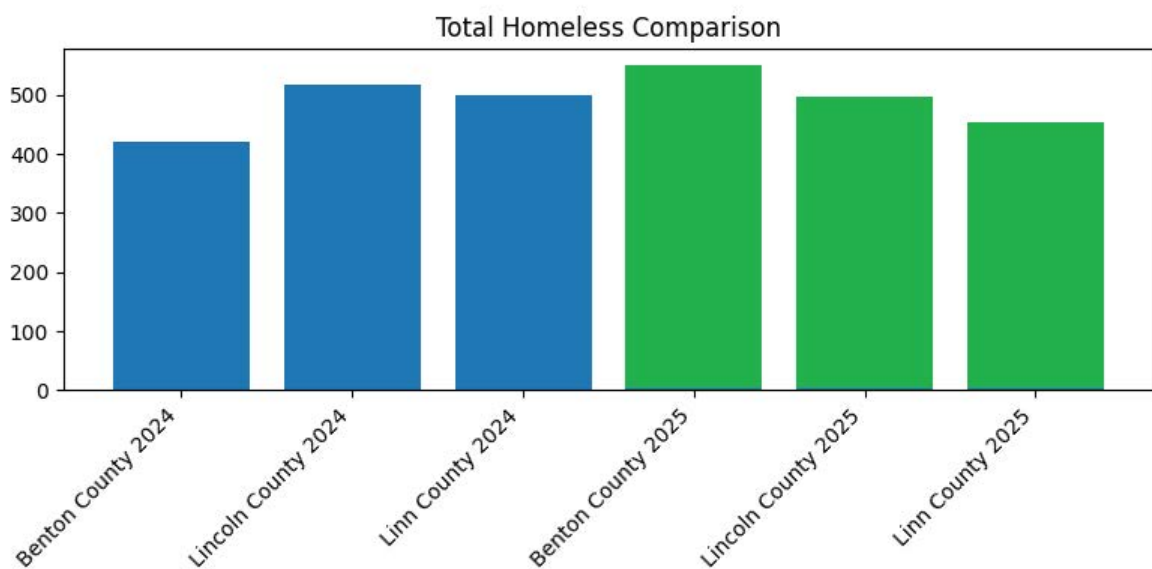
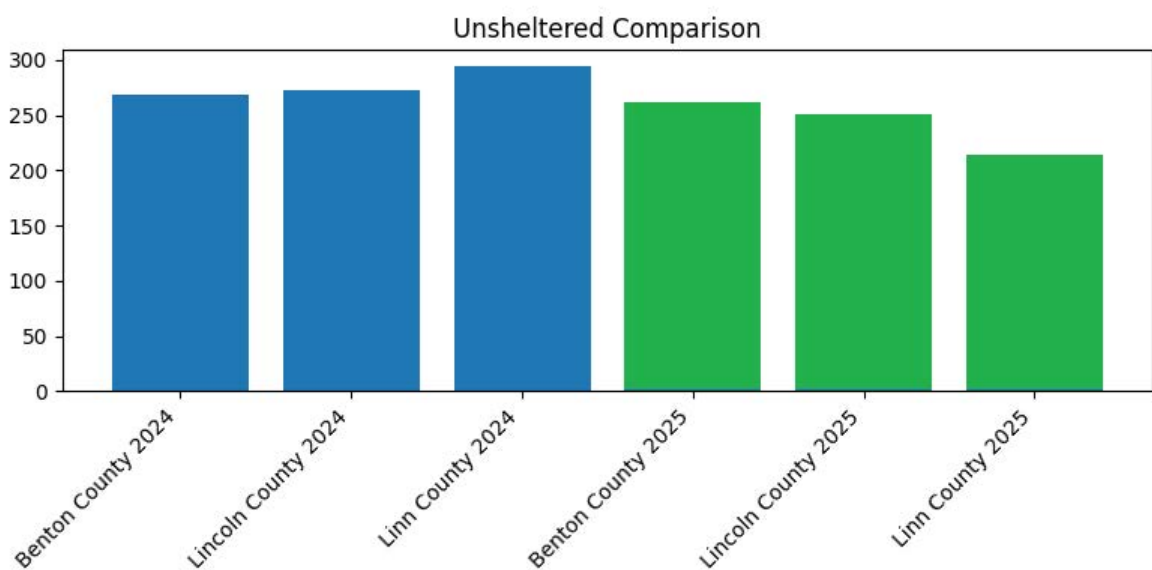
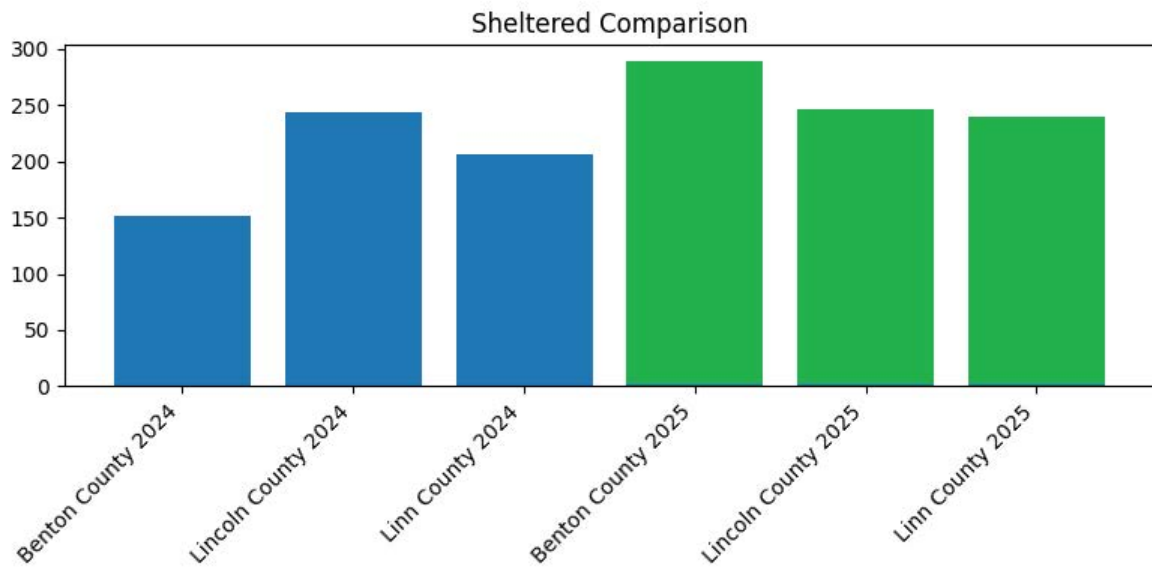


Homelessness Analysis PIT Report

Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties 2024 vs 2025

Prepared for Local Leaders



Benton County

Sheltered: ↑ from 152 to 289 (+137)

Unsheltered: ↓ slightly from 268 to 261 (-7)

Total Homeless: ↑ from 420 to 550 (+130)

Households:

Adult Only: ↑ from 400 to 444

Families: ↑ from 10 to 11

Youth: ↓ from 17 to 5

Linn County

Sheltered: ↑ from 206 to 240 (+34)

Unsheltered: ↓ from 294 to 214 (-80)

Total Homeless: ↓ from 500 to 454 (-46)

Households:

Adult Only: ↓ from 451 to 412

Families: ↓ from 22 to 14

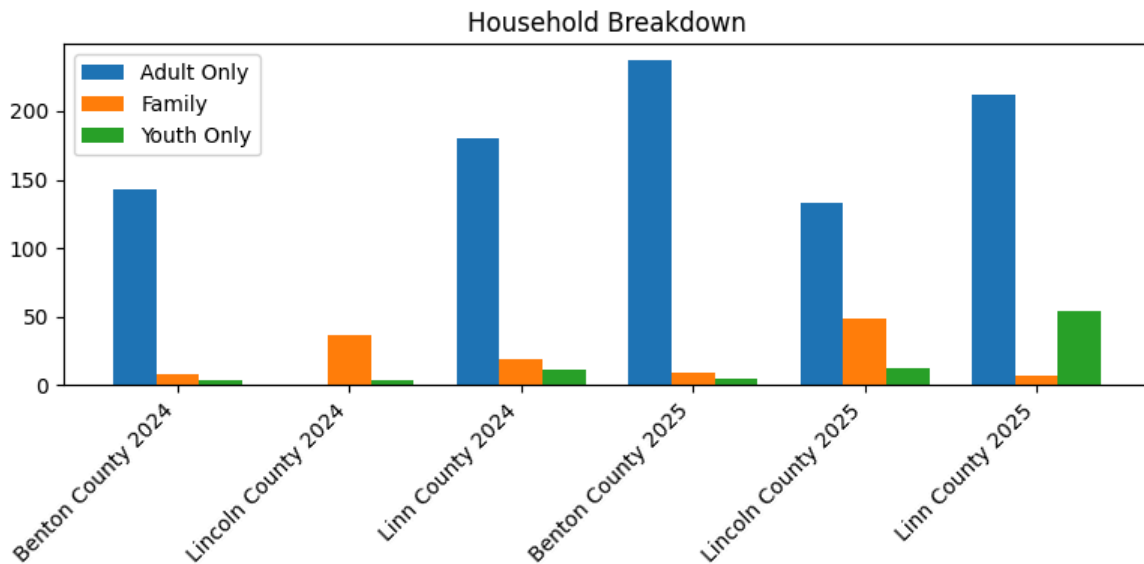
Youth: ↑ from 20 to 55

Lincoln County

Sheltered: ↑ from 244 to 247 (+3)

Unsheltered: ↓ from 273 to 251 (-22)

Total Homeless: ↓ from 517 to 498 (-19)



Adult-Only Households

Benton County: Increased from **400** (2024) to **444** (2025)

Linn County: Decreased from **451** to **412**

Lincoln County: 2025 data shows **270** adult-only households (2024 data unavailable)

Family Households

Benton County: Slight increase from **10** to **11**

Linn County: Decreased from **22** to **14**

Lincoln County: 2025 shows **56** family households

Youth-Only Households

Benton County: Dropped significantly from **17** to **5**

Linn County: Surged from **20** to **55**

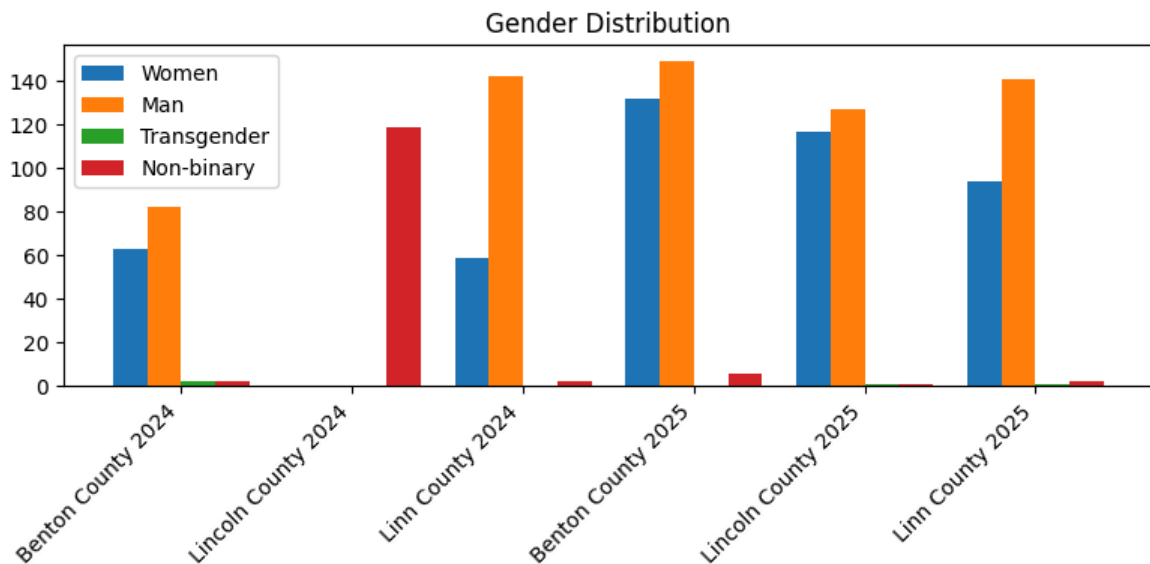
Lincoln County: 2025 shows **137** youth-only households

Key Findings

- **Benton County:** The rise in adult-only households and drop in youth-only suggests a shift in service demand toward single adults. Youth services may be underutilized or underreported.
- **Linn County:** The sharp increase in youth-only households signals an urgent need for youth-specific housing and support services.
- **Lincoln County:** The 2025 data shows a relatively balanced distribution, with a notable youth-only population that may require targeted outreach and transitional housing.

Recommendations

- **Expand Adult Shelter Capacity:** Especially in Benton County, where adult-only households are rising.
- **Strengthen Youth Services:** Linn and Lincoln Counties should prioritize youth outreach, mental health support, and transitional housing.
- **Support Family Stability:** Family household declines in Linn County suggest a need for family preservation programs and housing assistance.
- **Improve Data Collection:** Lincoln County's missing 2024 breakdown limits trend analysis—consistent data collection is essential for planning.



Women (Girl if Child)

Benton: ↑ from 134 to 192

Lincoln: ↑ from 92 to 233

Linn: ↑ from 152 to 168

This consistent rise suggests increasing service needs for women, especially in Lincoln County.

Men (Boy if Child)

Benton: ↑ from 265 to 326

Lincoln: ↑ from 213 to 257

Linn: ↓ from 330 to 280

Men remain the largest group, though Linn saw a slight decline.

Transgender

Benton: Stable at 2

Lincoln: ↑ from 0 to 4

Linn: ↑ from 0 to 2

Though numbers are small, increases highlight the importance of inclusive services.

Non-binary

Benton: ↑ from 3 to 6

Lincoln: ↑ from 1 to 2

Linn: ↓ from 4 to 2

Fluctuations suggest varying visibility and access to services.

Key Findings

- **Women:** Rising counts across all counties, especially in Lincoln, indicate growing demand for gender-specific services.
- **Men:** Still the largest demographic, requiring sustained support.
- **Transgender & Non-binary:** Though smaller in number, their presence is increasing, underscoring the need for inclusive and affirming environments.

Recommendations

For Women:

- Expand trauma-informed shelters and transitional housing.
- Increase access to childcare, healthcare, and domestic violence support.

For Men:

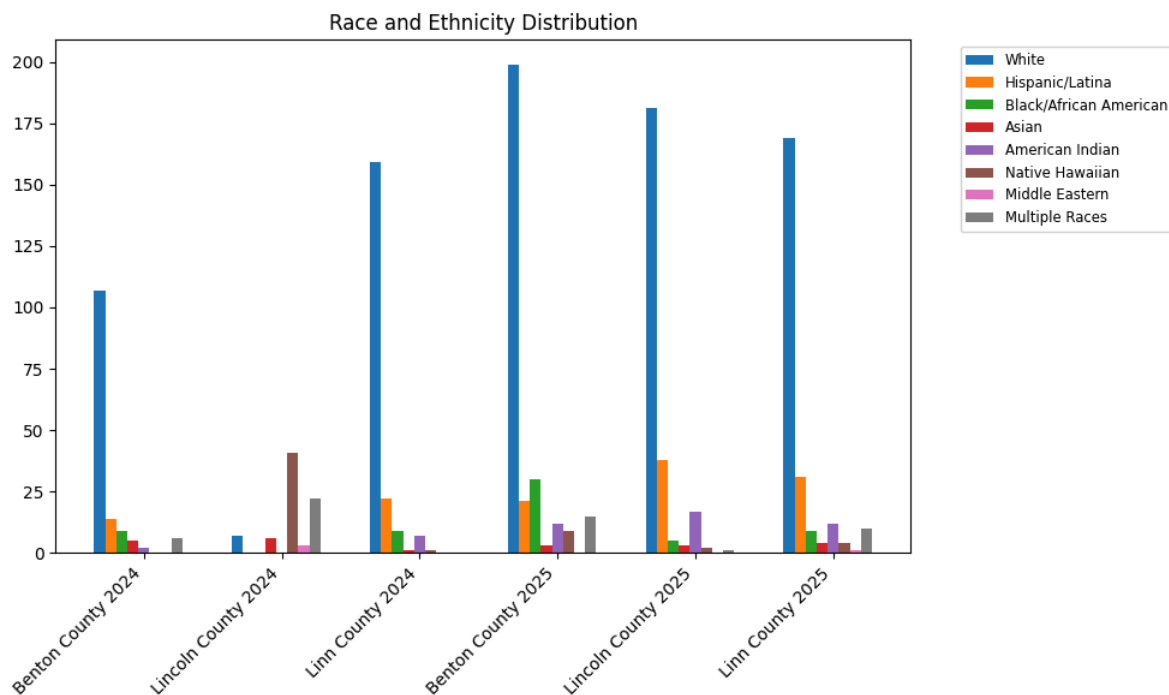
- Maintain shelter capacity and enhance employment readiness programs.
- Provide mental health and substance use support tailored to male populations.

For Transgender & Non-binary Individuals:

- Develop inclusive housing policies and staff training.
- Partner with LGBTQ+ organizations for outreach and culturally competent care.
- Ensure privacy, safety, and dignity in shelter environments.

Cross-Cutting:

- Improve data collection on gender identity to better track trends.
- Foster community engagement to reduce stigma and increase service utilization.



Benton County

White: ↑ from 294 to 390

Black/African American: ↑ from 20 to 35

Hispanic/Latina/e/o: ↑ from 28 to 38

American Indian/Alaska Native: ↑ from 13 to 35

Lincoln County

White: ↑ from 156 to 343

Black/African American: ↑ from 3 to 11

Hispanic/Latina/e/o: ↑ from 23 to 86

American Indian/Alaska Native: ↑ from 17 to 32

Linn County

White: ↓ slightly from 371 to 361

Black/African American: ↓ from 12 to 11

Hispanic/Latina/e/o: ↓ from 43 to 31

American Indian/Alaska Native: ↑ from 17 to 27

Key Findings

- White individuals remain the largest demographic across all counties, with notable increases in Benton and Lincoln.
- Hispanic/Latina/e/o populations surged in Lincoln County, more than tripling, indicating a critical rise in service needs.
- Black/African American and American Indian/Alaska Native groups showed moderate growth in Benton and Lincoln, suggesting emerging needs.
- Linn County saw slight declines in most minority groups, but an increase in American Indian representation.

Recommendations

Culturally Responsive Outreach:

- Develop bilingual and culturally tailored outreach programs, especially for the growing Hispanic/Latina/e/o population in Lincoln County.
- Engage community leaders and cultural liaisons to build trust and improve service uptake.

Equitable Service Planning:

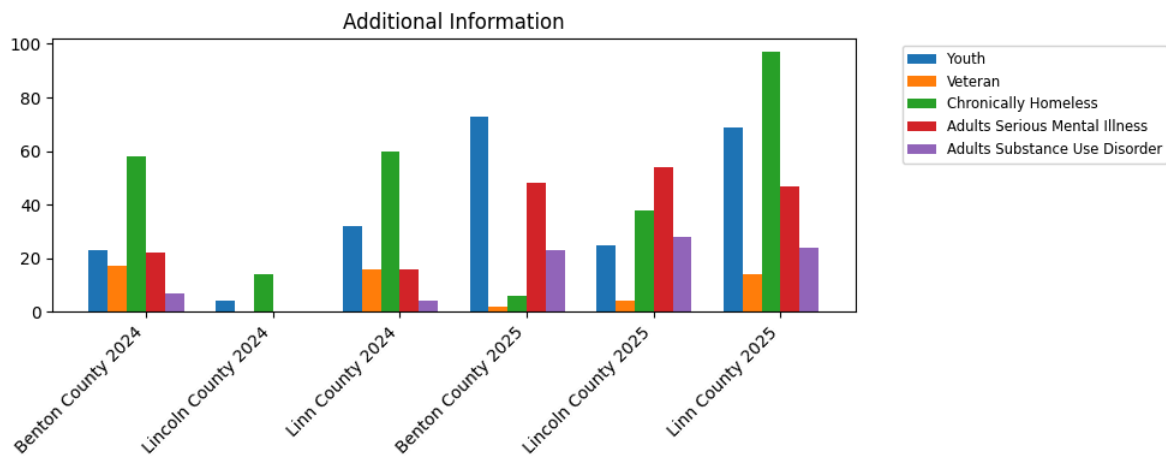
- Ensure shelters and support services are inclusive and accessible to racial and ethnic minorities.
- Train staff in cultural competency and trauma-informed care.

Targeted Support for Minority Groups:

- Create specialized programs for American Indian, Black, and Asian individuals, addressing historical and systemic barriers.
- Partner with tribal organizations and culturally specific nonprofits for holistic support.

Data-Informed Interventions:

- Use demographic trends to guide funding allocations and program development.
- Monitor changes annually to adapt strategies and ensure equity in service delivery.



Youth

Benton: ↑ from 40 to 92

Lincoln: ↑ from 67 to 149

Linn: ↑ from 49 to 88

This consistent rise across all counties signals an urgent need for youth-specific services.

Veterans

Benton: ↓ from 38 to 17

Lincoln: ↓ from 73 to 14

Linn: ↓ from 40 to 27

Declines may reflect improved housing placements or underreporting; continued outreach is essential.

Chronically Homeless

Benton: ↓ from 176 to 151

Lincoln: ↑ from 31 to 101

Linn: Slight ↓ from 181 to 178

Lincoln's sharp increase suggests a need for long-term housing and case management

Adults with Serious Mental Illness

Benton: ↑ from 98 to 148

Lincoln: ↑ from 49 to 96

Linn: ↑ from 102 to 105

Mental health needs are rising, especially in Benton and Lincoln.

Adults with Substance Use Disorder

Benton: ↑ from 67 to 75

Lincoln: ↑ from 28 to 51

Linn: ↑ from 58 to 63

Substance use support services must be expanded across all counties.

Adults with HIV/AIDS

Benton: ↑ from 7 to 14

Lincoln: ↑ from 0 to 10

Linn: ↓ from 15 to 9

Healthcare access and stigma reduction are key for this population.

Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence

Benton: ↑ from 40 to 82

Lincoln: ↑ from 25 to 33

Linn: ↓ from 50 to 41

Benton's increase highlights the need for trauma-informed care and safe housing.

Key Findings

- **Youth and Mental Health:** Rising numbers across all counties indicate growing vulnerability among young people and those with mental illness.
- **Veterans and Chronic Homelessness:** Mixed trends suggest targeted interventions are needed, especially in Lincoln.
- **Substance Use and Domestic Violence:** Increases point to the need for integrated support services.

Recommendations

Youth Services:

- Expand youth shelters, education programs, and mental health support.
- Partner with schools and youth organizations for early intervention.

Veteran Outreach:

- Strengthen partnerships with VA and veteran housing programs.
- Provide trauma-informed care and peer support networks.

Chronic Homelessness:

- Invest in permanent supportive housing and intensive case management.
- Use coordinated entry systems to prioritize chronic cases.

Mental Health & Substance Use:

- Increase access to behavioral health services and detox programs.
- Integrate housing with healthcare and recovery support.

HIV/AIDS Support:

- Ensure access to medical care, housing, and stigma-free environments.
- Collaborate with public health departments for outreach.

Domestic Violence Survivors:

- Provide safe shelters, legal aid, and trauma counseling.
- Train staff in trauma-informed practices and confidentiality.

Cross-sectional Analysis and Key Findings

A cross-sectional analysis of PIT data from Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties reveals several shared and emerging regional trends. All three counties experienced increases in sheltered homelessness and reductions in unsheltered counts, suggesting some success in emergency housing efforts. However, youth homelessness surged, particularly in Linn County, pointing to widespread gaps in transitional housing and youth outreach services.

Rising numbers of individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders across all counties highlight the urgent need for integrated behavioral health support. Additionally, the presence of transgender and non-binary individuals—though small—continues to grow, emphasizing the importance of inclusive and affirming services. Chronic homelessness rose sharply in Lincoln County, while remaining stable or slightly declining elsewhere, indicating persistent systemic barriers to long-term housing.

These trends likely stem from shared regional challenges such as economic instability, housing shortages, and uneven access to services. To address these issues, we recommend:

- Expanding shelter capacity and transitional housing across all counties.
- Investing in regional behavioral health infrastructure, including mobile crisis units and substance use recovery programs.
- Strengthening youth-specific services, including education, employment support, and trauma-informed care.
- Implementing inclusive policies and staff training to support gender-diverse populations.
- Coordinating chronic homelessness interventions, such as permanent supportive housing and intensive case management.

Additional Cross-sectional Information:

- Sheltered counts are tightly linked to gender and race demographics, suggesting that increases in shelter access may disproportionately benefit certain groups.
- Unsheltered youth and individuals with diverse gender identities show strong correlations, indicating potential gaps in inclusive outreach and youth-specific services.
- Race-based correlations with total homelessness highlight systemic disparities that may require culturally responsive interventions.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Detailed insights based on the PIT data trends...

Conclusion:

The 2024–2025 PIT data across Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties reveals significant shifts in homelessness demographics and service needs. Notable trends include:

- Rising youth homelessness, especially in Linn and Lincoln, indicating gaps in transitional housing and youth outreach.
- Increased adult-only households in Benton, suggesting a growing need for single adult shelter capacity.
- Declining veteran counts, possibly due to improved housing placements or underreporting, but still requiring sustained outreach.
- Surges in mental illness and substance use disorders, particularly in Benton and Lincoln, pointing to urgent behavioral health service expansion.
- Gender diversity is modestly increasing, with more individuals identifying as transgender and non-binary, highlighting the need for inclusive and affirming services.
- Chronic homelessness rose sharply in Lincoln, suggesting systemic barriers to long-term housing stability.
- These changes may stem from economic pressures, housing shortages, service accessibility, and evolving community dynamics. To address these challenges, we recommend:
 - Expanding shelter capacity, especially for youth and single adults.
 - Investing in mental health and substance use treatment, integrated with housing support.
 - Enhancing inclusive policies and staff training to support gender-diverse populations.
 - Strengthening partnerships with veteran services and outreach programs.
 - Prioritizing permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals.

By aligning resources with these trends, local governments can make informed, impactful decisions to reduce homelessness and improve community well-being.