

# Homelessness in Virginia

## Virginia Housing Commission

Affordable Housing, Real Estate Law and  
Mortgages Committee

October 29, 2019



Partners for Better Communities

DHCD is committed to creating safe, affordable and prosperous communities to live, work and do business in Virginia.



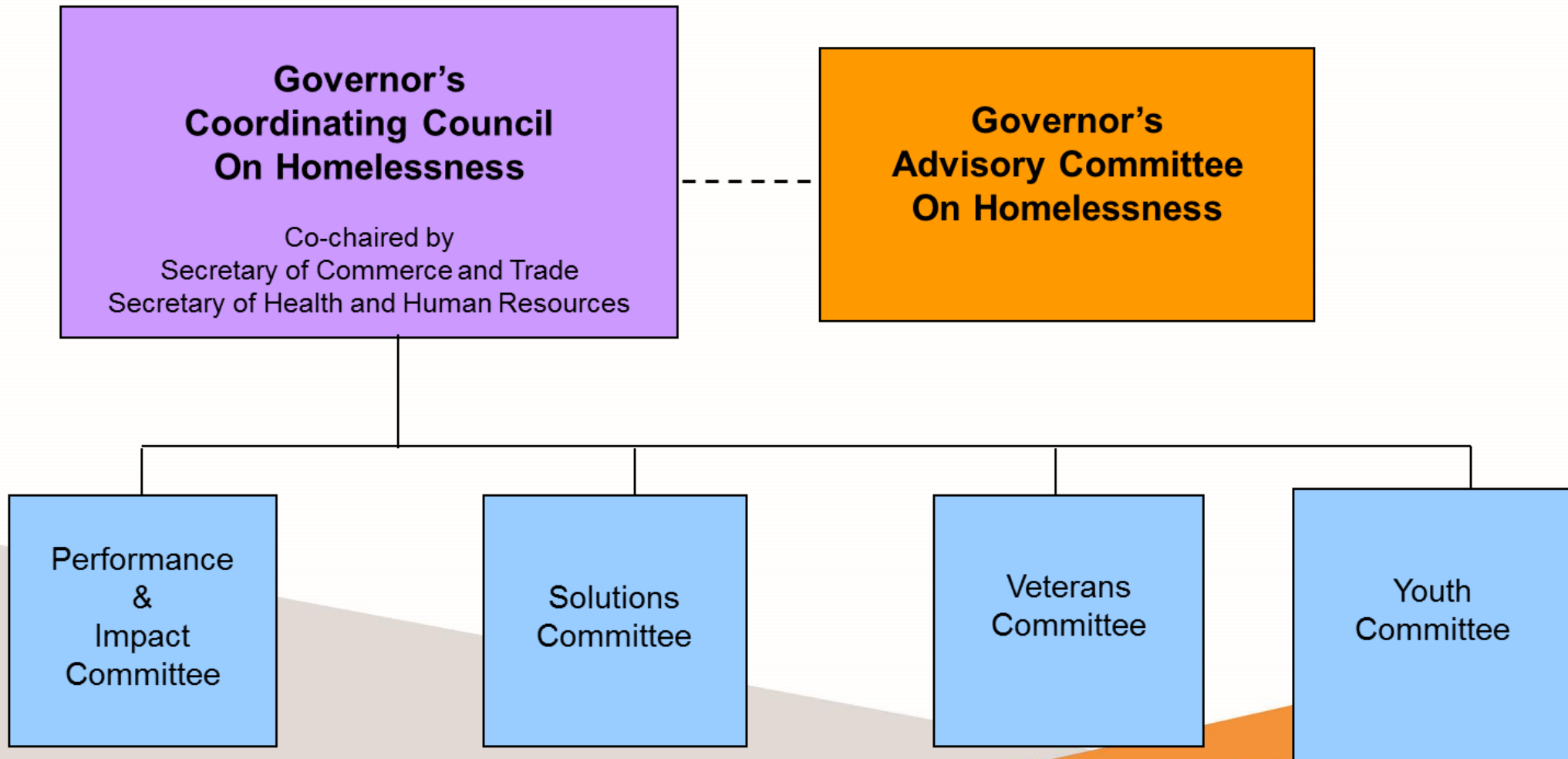
## DHCD Divisions:

- Building and Fire Regulations
- Community Development
- GO Virginia and Economic Development
- Housing
  - Production and Preservation
  - Homeless and Special Needs Housing

## Goals:

- To reduce the length of homelessness
- To reduce the number of new cases of homelessness
- To reduce the number of individuals returning to homelessness

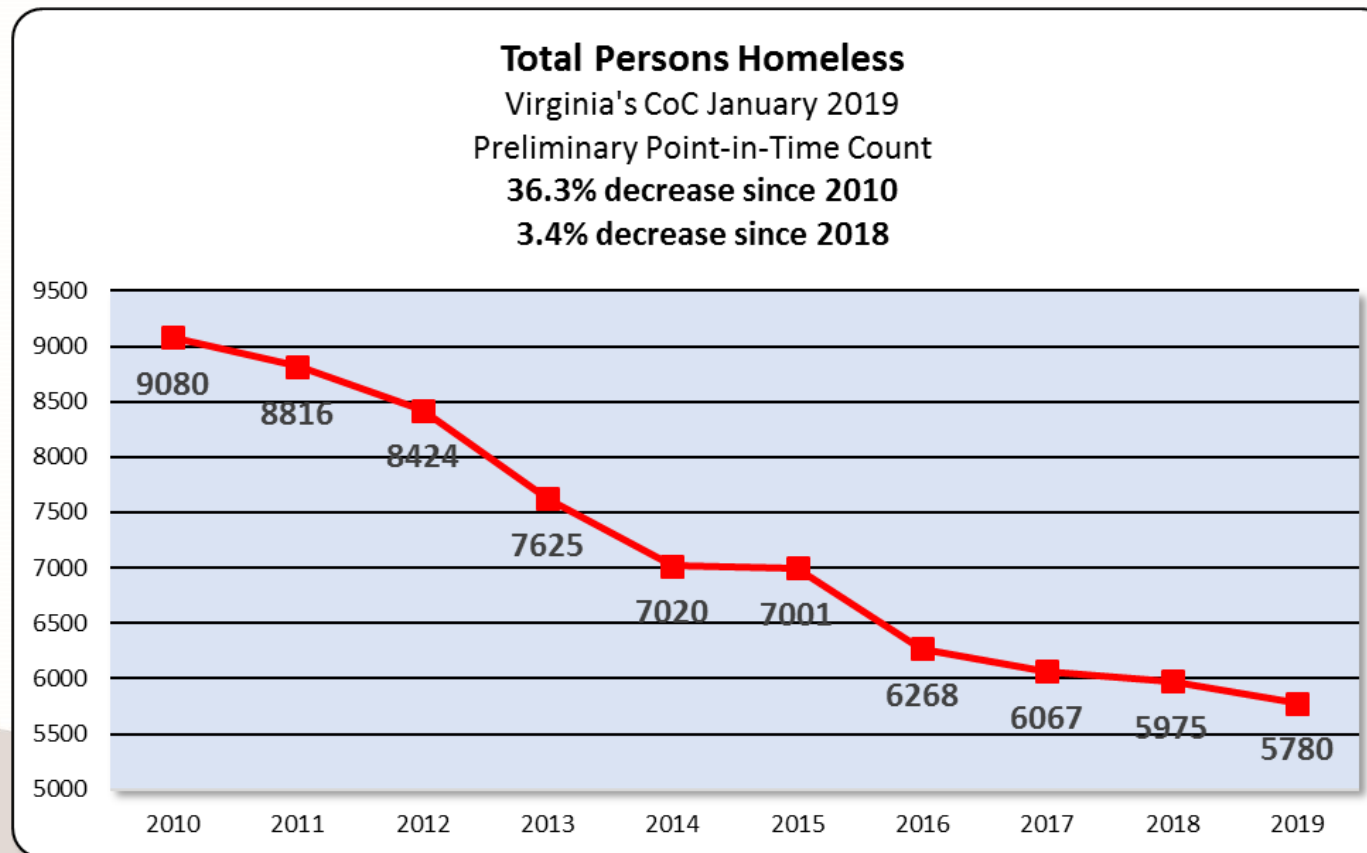
# Governor's Initiative on Homelessness



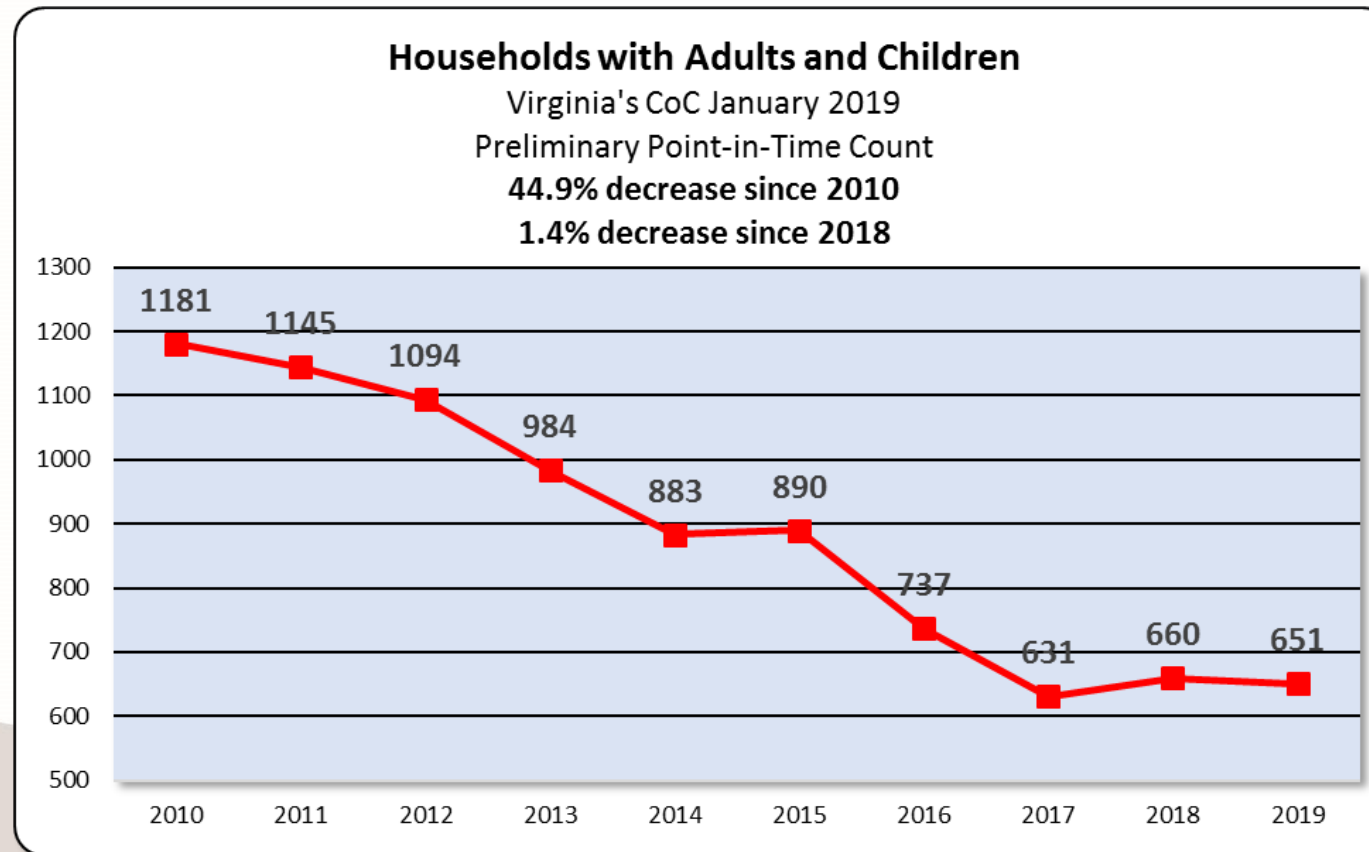


# **Virginia Homelessness Trends 2010-2019**

## Total Homeless Persons



## Households with Adults and Children:





# Statewide Data Merge

**Purpose:** To provide accurate, timely data on homelessness enabling policy makers to make informed policy and funding decisions

## Special Populations

- Youth
- Serious Mental Illness
- Substance Use Disorders
- Older Adults
- Veterans

# Executive Order 25

Establishes Governor Northam's affordable housing priorities to address Virginia's unmet housing needs

- Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing
- Reduce the rate of evictions across the Commonwealth
- Address the shortage of quality affordable housing

# Housing Efforts in the Commonwealth

**Governor's  
Coordinating  
Council on  
Homelessness  
(Chronically  
Homeless)**

**Housing &  
Supportive  
Services  
(DOJ – I/DD)**

**Housing  
the  
Seriously  
Mentally Ill**



Permanent Supportive Housing

## Homeless Services Funding Virginia 2019-2020

Funding Services	Type	Amount
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Federal – HUD	\$2,885,391
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV (HOPWA)	Federal – HUD	\$1,087,223
General Funds—Homeless Assistance	State	\$8,331,784
General Funds—Homeless Prevention	State	\$3,969,000
State Housing Trust Fund: Homeless Reduction Grants	State	\$1,260,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$17,533,398</b>

# Virginia Housing Trust Fund

- FY 2019 Increase from \$5.5 million to \$11 million
- Increase in Homeless Reduction Grants Pool which is up to 20% of HTF - \$1.4 million
- Increase allowed 16 additional Homeless Reduction Grants funded and 7 additional affordable housing construction projects



# Reducing Evictions in the Commonwealth

- Impact of legislation passed in 2019
- Assess current services; needs of cities with high eviction rates
- Data
- Best practices
  - Prevention and Diversion
- Further recommendations to complement efforts

**Erik C. Johnston, Director**

**DHCD**

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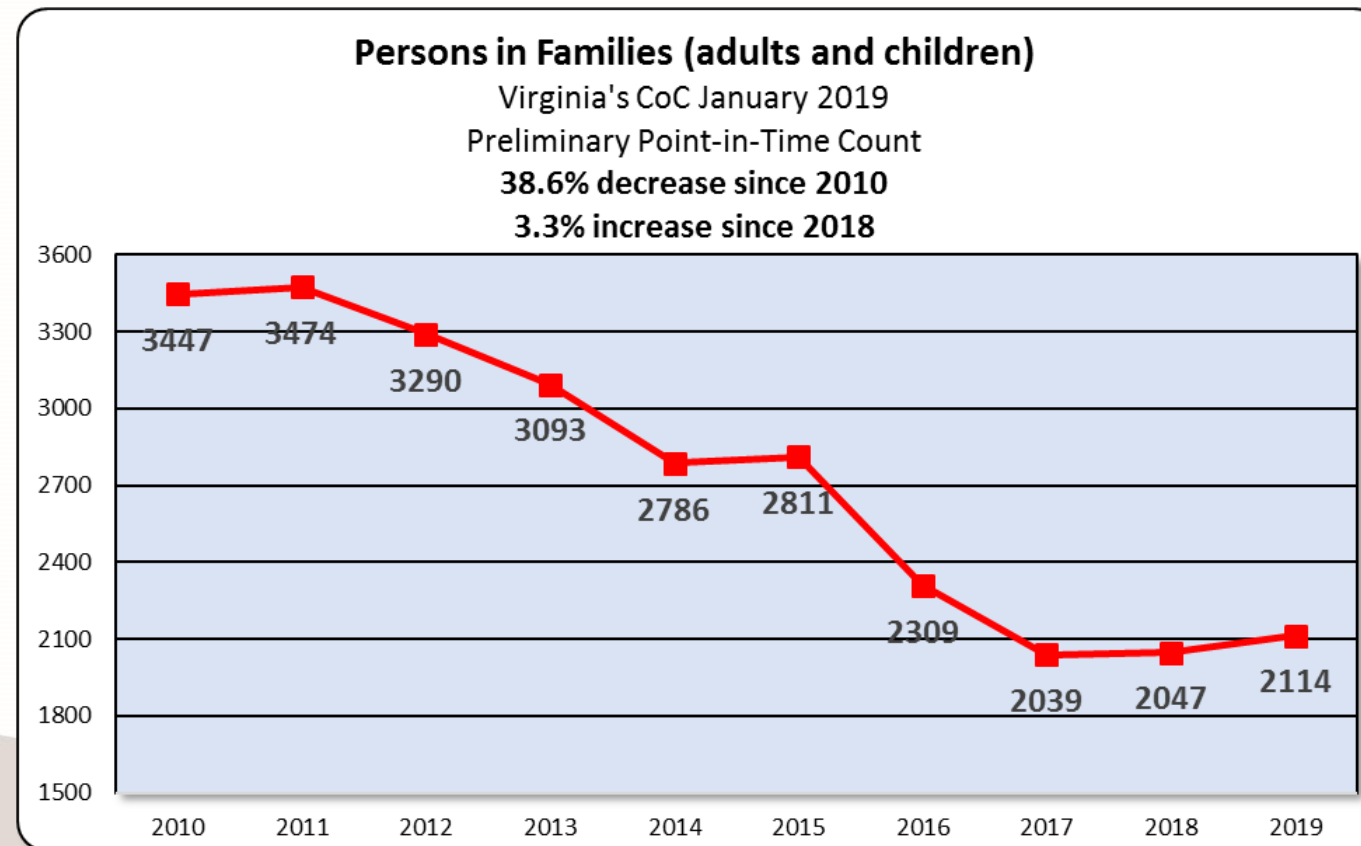
**Pamela Kestner, Deputy Director, Housing Division**

**DHCD**

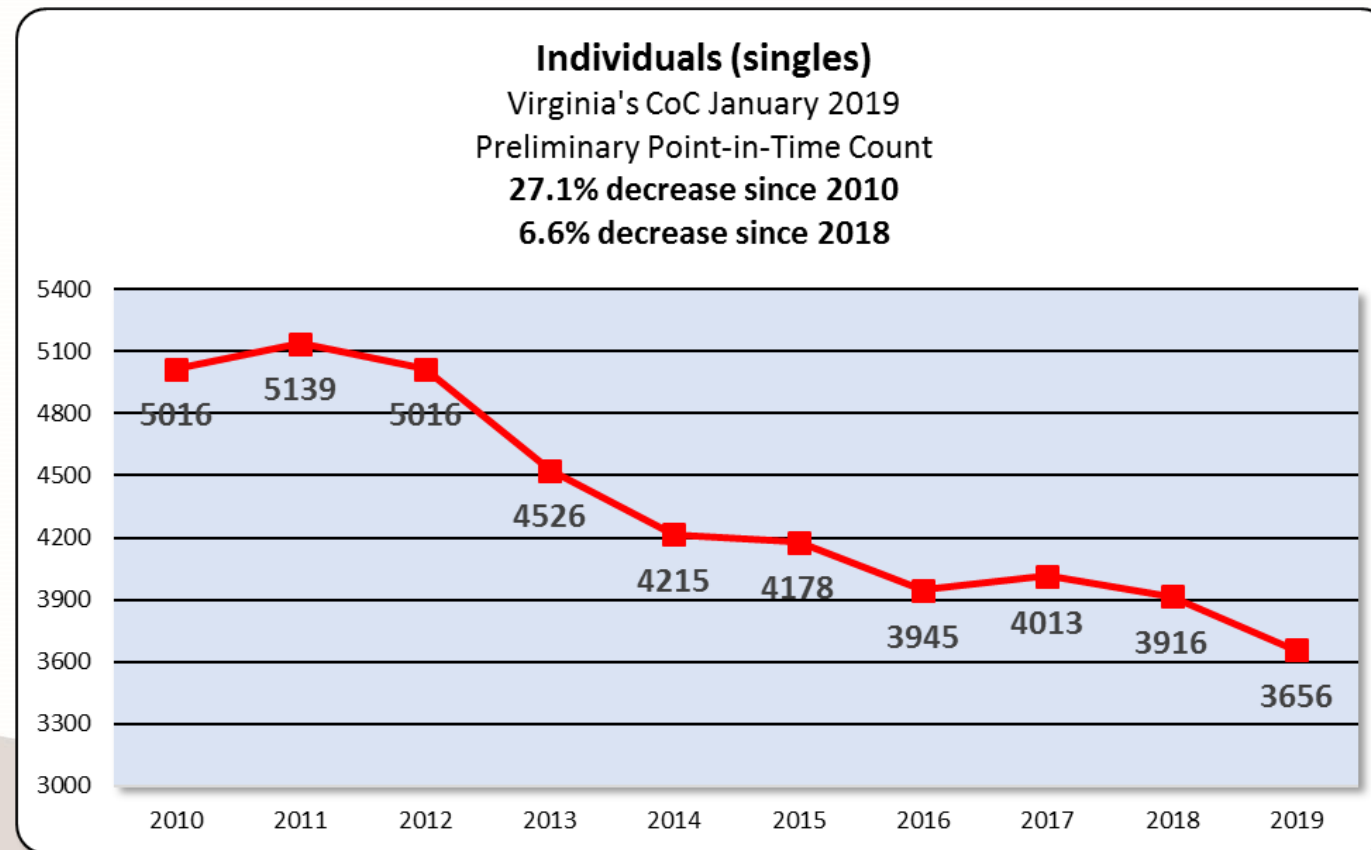
**[Pamela.Kestner@dhcd.Virginia.gov](mailto:Pamela.Kestner@dhcd.Virginia.gov)**

# Additional Data Charts

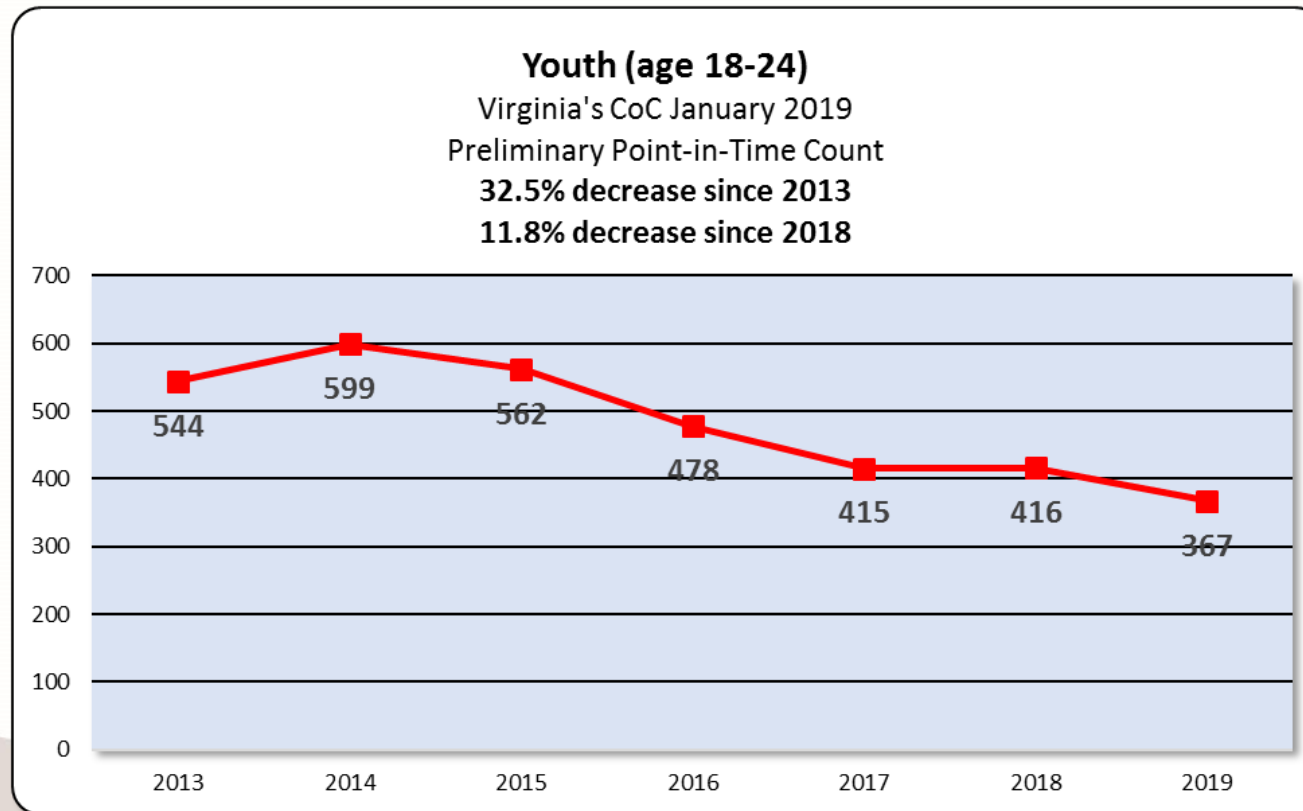
## Total Persons in Households w/ Adults and Children (Families)



## Total Persons in Households without Children (singles)

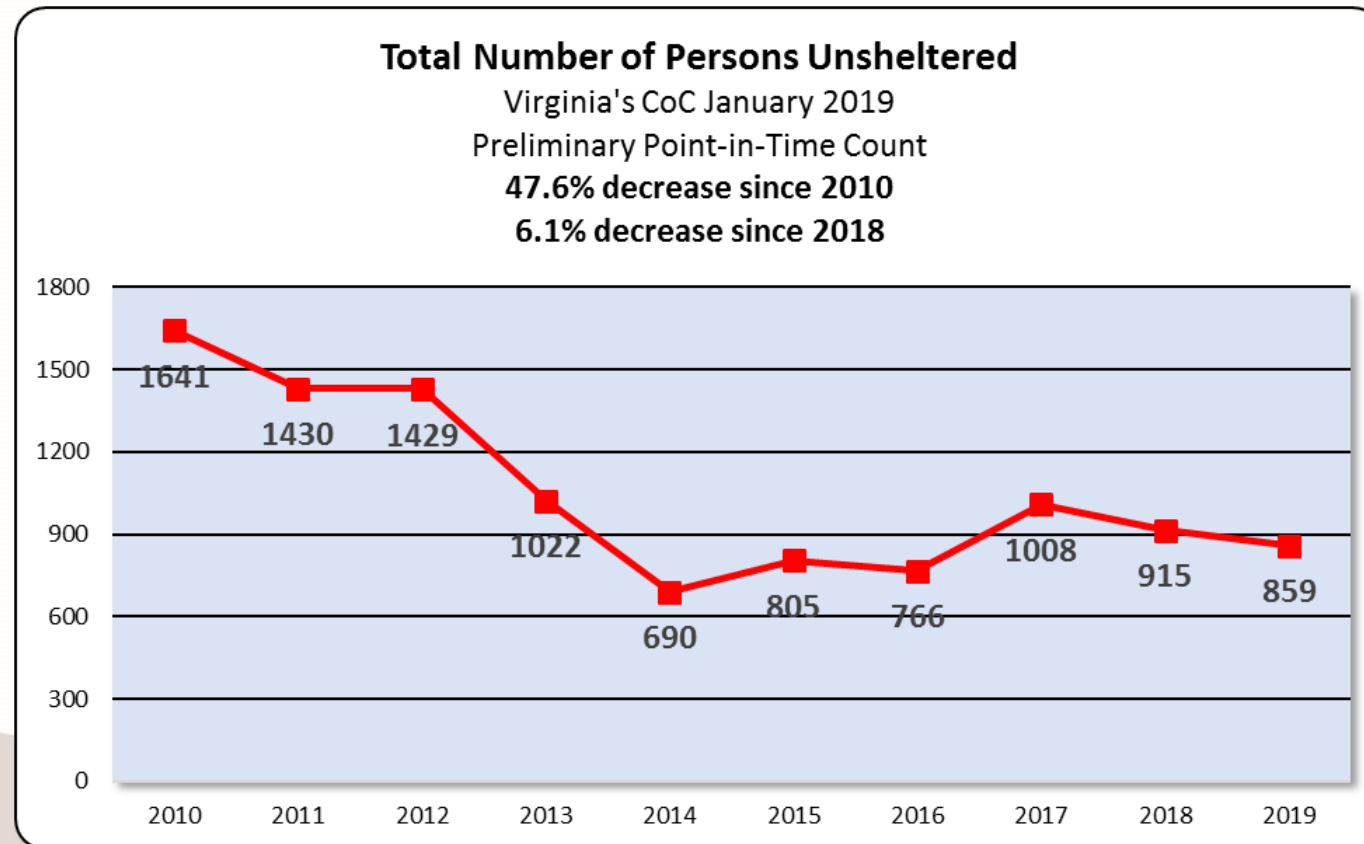


## Total Homeless Youth (18-24)

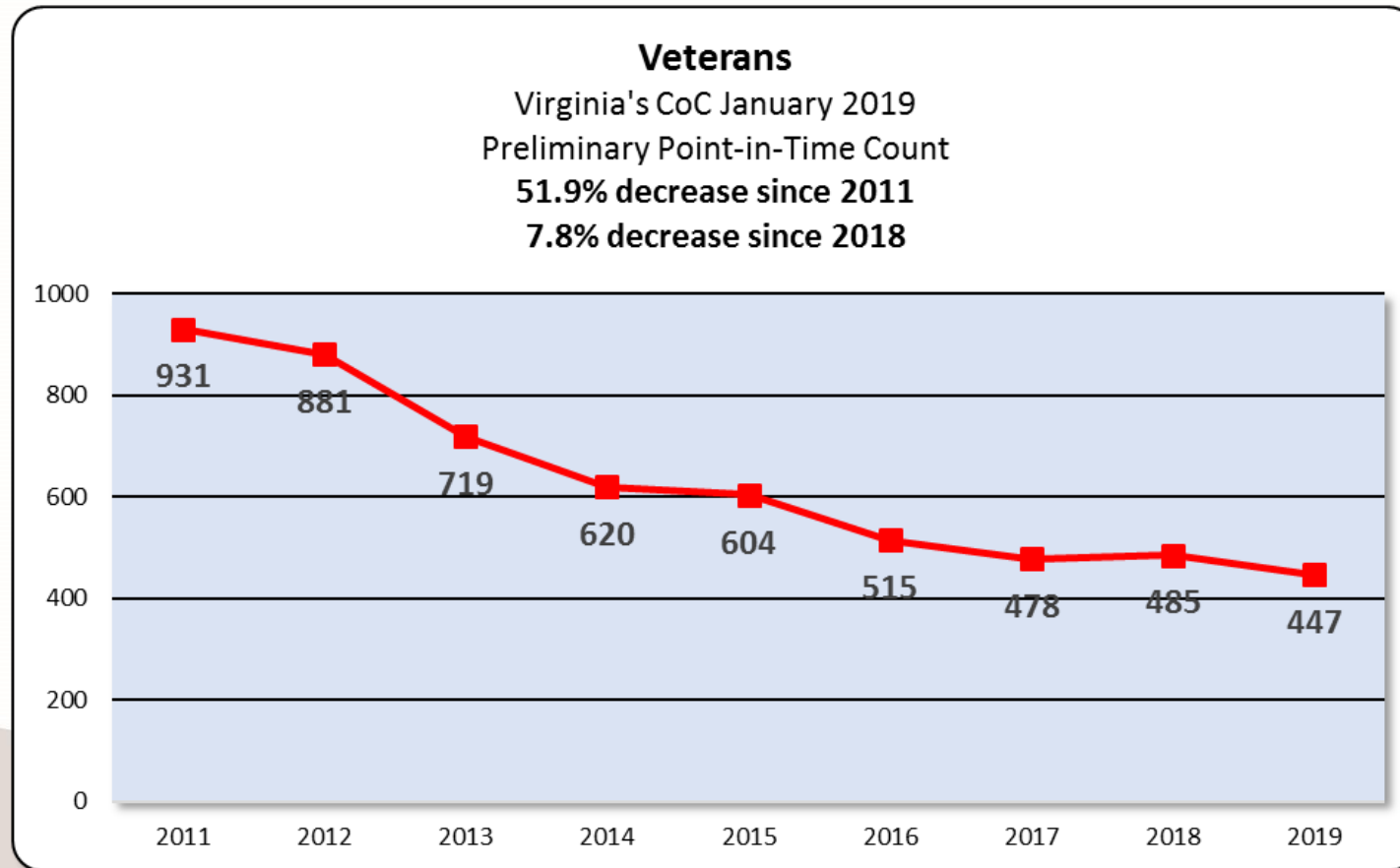




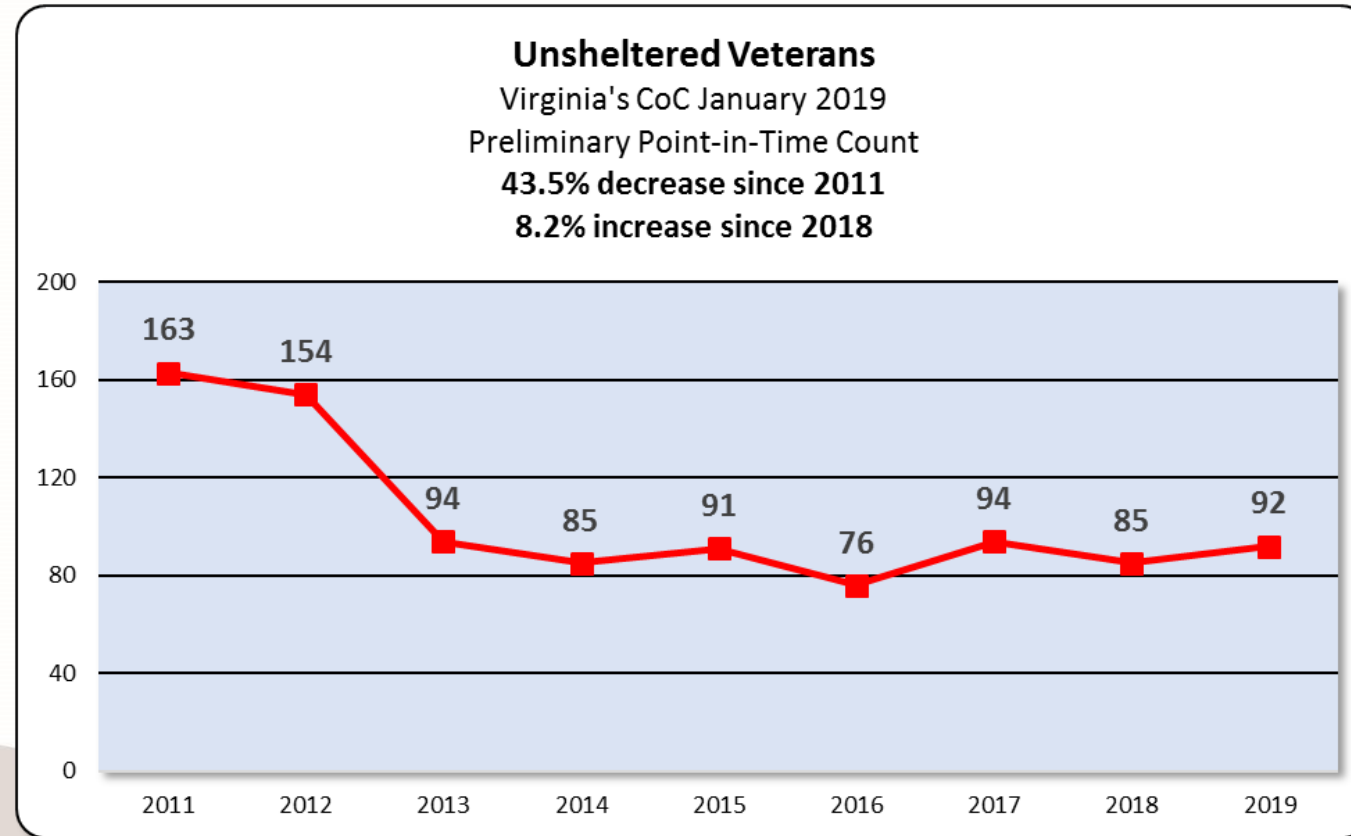
## Total Unsheltered Persons



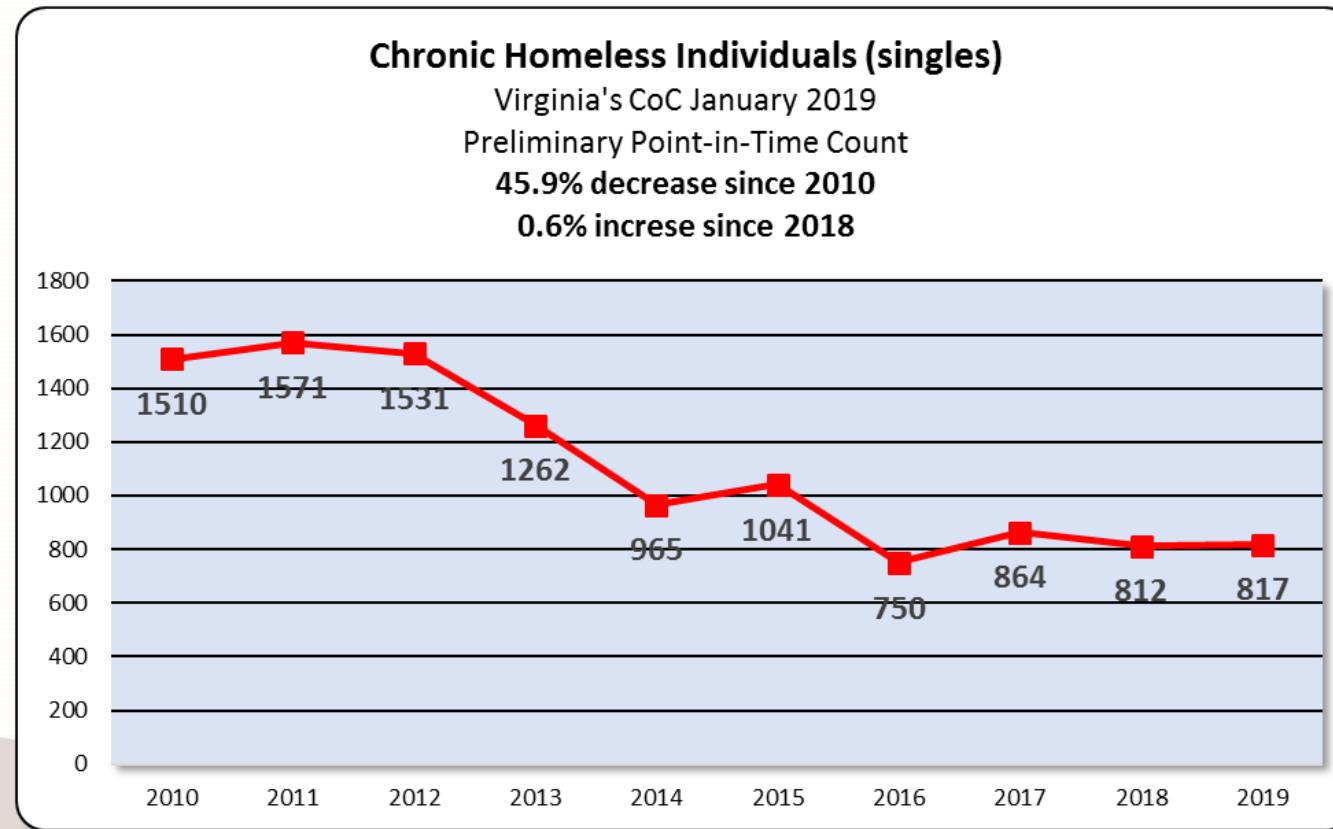
## Veterans



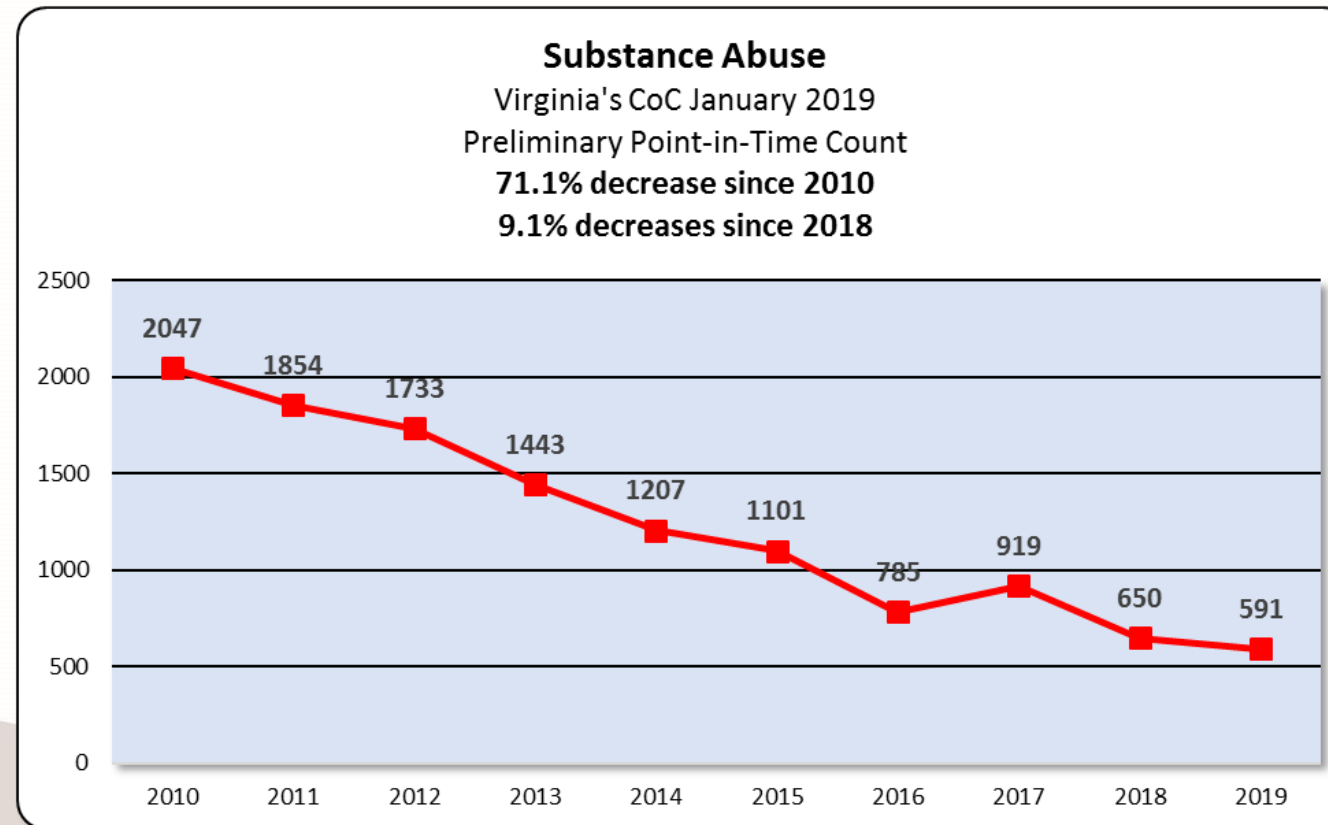
## Unsheltered Veterans



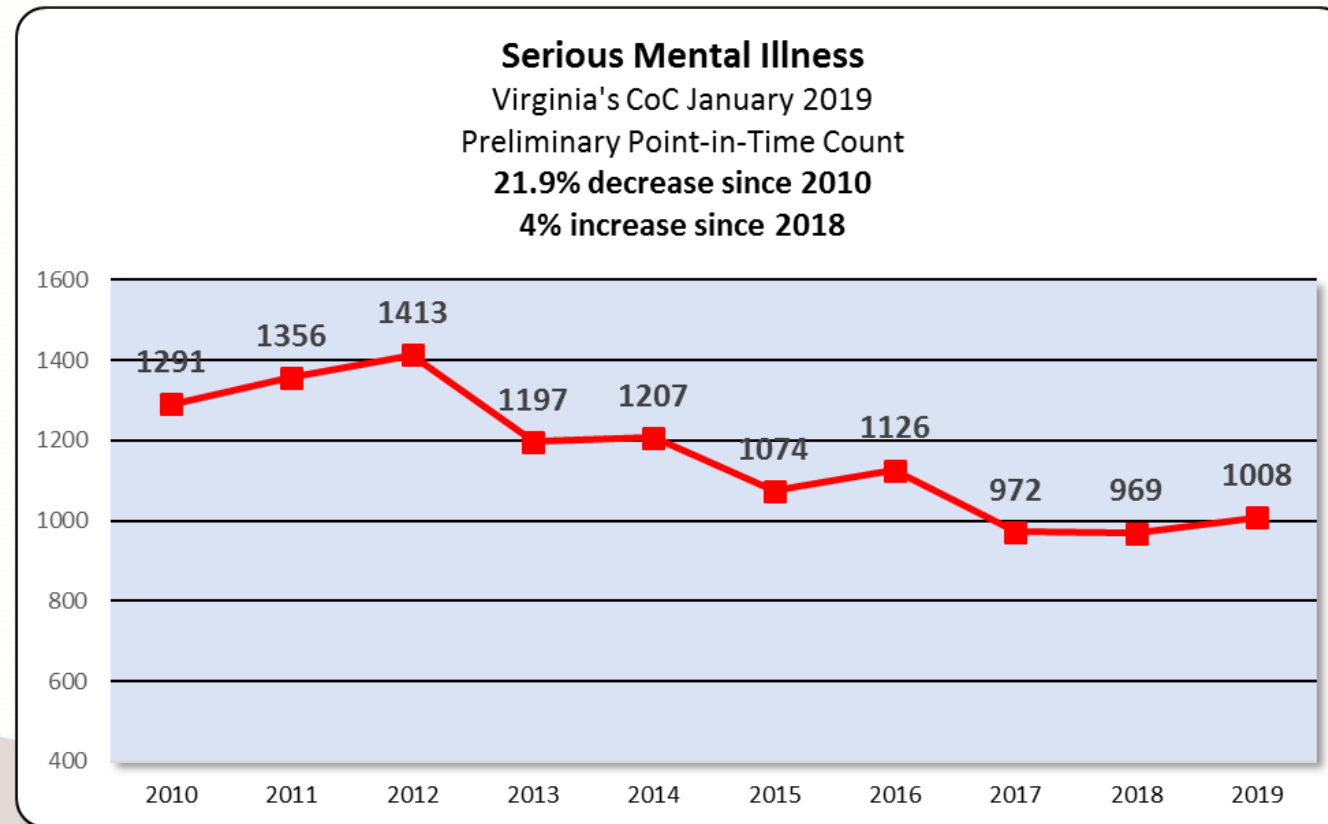
## Chronically Homeless Singles



## Chronic Substance Abuse



## Serious Mental Illness





## Victims of Domestic Violence

