



Summary of key findings

Official statistical definition of homelessness (Table 1.CHL)

As part of the Social Street Registry (RSH), Chile defines a person who 1) spends the night in public or private places, who does not have an infrastructure that can be characterised as a dwelling (housing), even if it is precarious (precarious housing implies, at least, walls and ceilings that provide some privacy, allow for sheltering belongings and generate a relatively stable situation); or 2) lacks a fixed, regular and adequate accommodation to spend the night and finds nighttime residence in lodgings managed by public, private or particular entities that function as commercial hostels (paying or not for this service) and that provide temporary shelter.

Latest national estimates of homelessness (Table 2.CHL)

- 20 775 individuals, representing 0.11% of the total population (2023)
- 83% are men, 17% are women
- Flow count, based on the Social Street Registry
- ETHOS Light groups included:
 - ETHOS 1: Living on the streets, in public spaces
 - ETHOS 2: Emergency accommodation (e.g., shelters)
 - ETHOS 3: Accommodation for the homeless (e.g., hostels and women's refuges)
 - ETHOS 4: People in institutions
 - ETHOS 5: People in non-conventional dwellings (e.g., caravans, cars or tents)
 - ETHOS 6: Living temporarily with others in conventional housing (e.g., sofa-surfing)

Legal framework to collect data on homelessness (Table 3.CHL)

There is no legal obligation to collect data on homelessness in Chile.

Homelessness strategy (Table 4.CHL)

- [Barrios Calle Cero Plan](#)

Approaches to collect data on homelessness (Table 5.CHL)

- Social Street Registry: Registry of people experiencing homelessness, as part of the *Social Household Registry* (Table 5.1.CHL).
- National Count of Children and Adolescents in a Street Situation (2018): Count and survey of youth between the ages of 5 and 18 experiencing homelessness who are living alone (Table 5.2.CHL).
- Services capacity daily report: Daily report on care in shelters and housing for homeless people (Table 5.3.CHL).
- Administrative Data Collection: Information systems that record data daily on each homeless program recipient in the country (Table 5.4.CHL).
- National Population Census: National census which incorporates homelessness (Table 5.5.CHL)

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Table 1.CHL. Official statistical definition of homelessness

Homelessness	<p>A person who: 1) spends the night in a public or private space, who doesn't have an infrastructure that can be characterised as a dwelling (housing), even if the latter is precarious (a precarious dwelling has, at least, walls and roofs that provide certain levels of privacy and that allow to store one's belongings and generate a relatively stable situation); or</p> <p>2) lacks fixed, regular, and adequate accommodation to spend the night and finds a night shelter in centres managed by public, private or particular entities that function as commercial hostels (paying or not for this service) and that provide temporary shelter.</p>
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Table 2.CHL. Data on people experiencing homelessness

National data, presented according to [ETHOS Light Typology](#)

Headline estimate of homelessness (Individuals)	% of total population	ETHOS 1 People living rough	ETHOS 2 People in emergency accommodation	ETHOS 3 People in accommodation for the homeless	ETHOS 4 People living in institutions	ETHOS 5 People living in unconventional dwellings	ETHOS 6 People staying with family/friends
20 775 83% men 17% women	0.11%	10 212	5 172	600	4 172 ^(a)	Not included	537

Type of count: Point-in-time Flow

Year: 2023

Included in headline estimate: Children (<18)

Temporary accommodation for: Asylum seekers Refugees Victims/survivors of domestic violence

Note: The headline estimate includes 82 people experiencing homelessness who could not be categorised into ETHOS categories. Only people with a valid identification that certifies their legal status in Chile (RUT) are considered. People in informal settlements are not included in Chile's definition of homelessness.

(a) The estimate in ETHOS 4 corresponds to people living in hospitals or health centres.

Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH), 2023; Ministry of Social Development (2023), Social Street Registry.

Table 3.CHL. Legal framework to collect data on homelessness

Laws that govern data collection on homelessness	<p>National Agreement for Children</p> <p>Law 20379</p>
Legal obligations	<p>There is no legal obligation to collect data on homeless people. However, the National Agreement for Children is composed of a series of legally and administratively-binding guidelines, one of which is to include street children and adolescents (who are with their families) in the Social Household Registry to ensure that official government data cover the magnitude and characterisation of this group. Law 20379 entrusts the Ministry of Social Development and Family (MDSF) with the implementation and administration of the Social Household Registry. The Social Street Registry is a subcategory of the Social Household Registry.</p>

Table 4.CHL. National homelessness strategy

National homelessness strategy in place	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: Barrios Calle Cero Plan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, but regional and/or local strategies exist</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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Table 5.CHL. Approaches to collect data on homelessness

5.1.CHL. Social Street Registry	
Description	
<p>As part of the Social Household Registry (<i>Registro Social de Hogares</i>), the Social Street Registry uses existing data on the places in which people experiencing homelessness are likely to congregate (e.g., overnight shelters, emergency accommodation and/or or public spaces) to enumerate the number of people experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Individuals experiencing homelessness are first located through existing data and street/shelter counts. Once identified, by-name-lists/information management systems are used to monitor and register people experiencing homelessness in the Social Household Registry and record their eligibility for social benefits.</p> <p>The official statistical data on homelessness in Chile are drawn from the results of the Social Street Registry.</p>	
Type of count generated <input type="checkbox"/> Point-in-time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow (period)	Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street counts • Service-based method • By-name-lists/information management systems
Lead authority(ies) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Social Development and Family (MDSF) 	Source(s) of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individuals experiencing homelessness are the direct source of data
Scope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National, but the execution of the registry is carried out at the municipal level 	Depth of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data disaggregated by sex, age, substance abuse, region, chronic illnesses, reason for experiencing homelessness and trajectory
Frequency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly 	
ETHOS Light groups included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 1: Living on the streets, in public spaces <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 2: Emergency accommodation (e.g., shelters) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 3: Accommodation for the homeless (e.g., hostels and women's refuges) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 4: People in institutions <input type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 5: People in non-conventional dwellings (e.g., caravans, cars or tents) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ETHOS 6: Living temporarily with others in conventional housing (e.g., sofa-surfing) <p>Note: Each ETHOS Light group includes one or more sub-categories of living situations. ETHOS Light groups are considered as "included" in the data collection approach if at least one of the sub-categories is counted.</p>	
References <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Street Registry Active transparency platform 	

**5.2.CHL. National Count of Children and Adolescents in a Street Situation****Description**

The National Count of Children and Adolescents in a Street Situation seeks to enumerate the number of people experiencing homelessness alone between the ages of 5 and 18 years old. To determine the geographical points that will be targeted in the count, round tables are organised in each of Chile's 16 regions with public authorities and other institutions to exchange data (based on observations or official data and registries that may indicate where children and adolescents experiencing homelessness are likely to congregate).

Type of count generated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point-in-time <input type="checkbox"/> Flow (period)	Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street count • Administrative data may be used to indicate where the street counts should take place
Lead authority(ies) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Social Development and Family (MDSF) and National Minor's Service (SENAME) • The University Alberto Hurtado was appointed to conduct the counting 	Source(s) of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individuals experiencing homelessness are the direct source of data
Scope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National scope 	Depth of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data disaggregated by key socio-demographic characteristics: region, sex, age, nationality, level of education, etc.
Frequency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular: Carried out in 2018; a previous count was conducted in 2011, but with a different method. 	

ETHOS Light groups included

- ETHOS 1: Living on the streets, in public spaces
- ETHOS 2: Emergency accommodation (e.g., shelters)
- ETHOS 3: Accommodation for the homeless (e.g., hostels and women's refuges)
- ETHOS 4: People in institutions
- ETHOS 5: People in non-conventional dwellings (e.g., caravans, cars or tents)
- ETHOS 6: Living temporarily with others in conventional housing (e.g., sofa-surfing)

Note: Each [ETHOS Light group](#) includes one or more sub-categories of living situations. ETHOS Light groups are considered as "included" in the data collection approach if at least one of the sub-categories is counted.

References

[National Count: Executive Summary](#)

[National Count: Visual Description, Chilean Senate](#)



5.3.CHL. Services Capacity and Occupancy Daily Report

Description

Daily capacity and occupancy report for all services for homeless shelters. Includes data on the number of emergency shelters, transitional housing, and family residence; direct assistance; daily centres and other services. It excludes shelters that do not primarily target people experiencing homelessness (such as shelters for migrants/refugees or pregnant women), as well as motel/hotels, supportive housing and correctional shelters.

Type of count generated

- Point-in-time
- Flow (period)

Methods

- Service-based method

Lead authority(ies)

- Ministry of Social Development and Family (MDSF)

Source(s) of information

- National Service Provider List (NGOs and public organisations)

Scope

- National scope

Depth of data

- Data disaggregated by persons, families, men, women, pregnancy status, seniors, children, and migrant status
- Data disaggregated type of services

Frequency

- Daily

ETHOS Light groups included

No groups directly counted, but provides information on the availability of various types of shelter resources.

Notes

**5.4.CHL. Administrative Data Collection****Description**

The Ministry of Social Development and Family has several computer systems that record daily information on all individuals served in programmes for people experiencing homelessness in the country. These data are processed every six months to produce a population estimation report, especially since in recent years the large number of undocumented people (migrants) are not included in the Social Registry of Street Households. According to this information, a total of 39 939 people were assisted during 2022, of which 6 431 were migrants without identification records.

Type of count generated <input type="checkbox"/> Point-in-time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow (period)	Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative data
Lead authority(ies) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Social Development and Family (MDSF) 	Source(s) of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Service Provider List (NGOs and public organisations)
Scope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National scope 	Depth of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data disaggregated by persons, families, men, women, pregnancy status, seniors, children, and migrant status Data disaggregated by type of services
Frequency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual 	

ETHOS Light groups included

- ETHOS 1: Living on the streets, in public spaces
- ETHOS 2: Emergency accommodation (e.g., shelters)
- ETHOS 3: Accommodation for the homeless (e.g., hostels and women's refuges)
- ETHOS 4: People in institutions
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- ETHOS 6: Living temporarily with others in conventional housing (e.g., sofa-surfing)

Note: Each [ETHOS Light group](#) includes one or more sub-categories of living situations. ETHOS Light groups are considered as "included" in the data collection approach if at least one of the sub-categories is counted.

Notes

**5.5.CHL. National Population Census****Description**

The National Institute of Statistics (INE) of the Ministry of Economy conducts a national population census every 10 years; individuals experiencing homelessness were incorporated in the census in 2017. The next census will be conducted in mid-2024 and will include a special operation to enumerate the population experiencing homelessness, including rough sleepers and people staying in shelters.

Type of count generated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point-in-time <input type="checkbox"/> Flow (period)	Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population census
Lead authority(ies) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute of Statistics (INE) of the Ministry of Economy 	Source(s) of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Population
Scope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National scope 	Depth of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data disaggregated by persons, families, men, women, pregnancy status, seniors, children, and migrant status
Frequency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every 10 years 	

ETHOS Light groups included

- ETHOS 1: Living on the streets, in public spaces
- ETHOS 2: Emergency accommodation (e.g., shelters)
- ETHOS 3: Accommodation for the homeless (e.g., hostels and women's refuges)
- ETHOS 4: People in institutions
- ETHOS 5: People in non-conventional dwellings (e.g., caravans, cars or tents)
- ETHOS 6: Living temporarily with others in conventional housing (e.g., sofa-surfing)

Note: Each [ETHOS Light group](#) includes one or more sub-categories of living situations. ETHOS Light groups are considered as "included" in the data collection approach if at least one of the sub-categories is counted.

Notes

[\[ARCHIVO\] Censo 2017: Personas en situación de calle fueron las primeras en ser encuestadas - Gob.cl \(www.gob.cl\)](#)