

## Q37 Describe the scope and cause(s) of homelessness in Jefferson County.

Answered: 98 Skipped: 103

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Poverty, lack of affordable housing	6/24/2025 2:08 PM
2	Homelessness has become an alternative way to live for those suffering with mental health issues and lack of job skills	6/24/2025 12:02 PM
3	I would think a lack of education supporting trauma would be part of it.	6/24/2025 10:49 AM
4	Mental illness is a major cause of homelessness. When a person can't get help they need, they are not healthy enough to find more sources of support.	6/24/2025 10:19 AM
5	Jefferson County has a significant homelessness issue, with estimates ranging from 1,150 to nearly 3,000 people experiencing homelessness, including children, families, veterans, and many chronically homeless individuals. Key Causes: Poverty and rising housing costs Lack of affordable and emergency housing Mental health and substance use disorders Youth aging out of foster care and family instability Historic racial and economic inequalities Impacts: Disrupted education for children Poor physical and mental health outcomes Long-term cycles of instability for chronically homeless individuals Solutions Needed: More affordable and supportive housing Expanded mental health and addiction services Stronger social safety nets and community investment	6/24/2025 10:10 AM
6	Addiction, joblessness	6/23/2025 8:12 PM
7	Idk	6/23/2025 3:36 PM
8	Mental illness, high rents and rental standards	6/23/2025 10:25 AM
9	N/A	6/23/2025 9:33 AM
10	Extensive	6/23/2025 9:29 AM
11	IDK	6/23/2025 9:20 AM
12	Substance abuse, mental health illnesses, medical needs they can no longer afford and large debts, past criminal history preventing access to jobs	6/23/2025 9:11 AM
13	I don't know	6/18/2025 10:00 AM
14	Homelessness can be witnessed everywhere in this county. There are individuals on main Birmingham streets, along highways, roads, interstate ramps, including areas considered more affluent. It is a pervasive & tragic trend needing attention. Many don't realize that families as well as individuals may be impacted by homelessness	6/17/2025 7:56 PM
15	Many are two paychecks away or a job loss away from homelessness. Most of our homeless are those suffering from unmet mental health challenges and those that have aged out of foster care and do not have a place to go.	6/8/2025 5:00 PM
16	Lack of affordable housing and transportation to jobs. The changes in job positions and small businesses closing.	6/7/2025 9:33 AM
17	Cost	6/6/2025 3:03 PM
18	Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Educational Disparities	6/6/2025 12:39 PM
19	Mental health and drug/alcohol issues.	6/6/2025 11:58 AM
20	Na	6/6/2025 12:45 AM
21	THE HOMELESS RATE SEEMS TO BE INCREASING IN THE YOUNGER GENERATION	6/5/2025 5:17 PM

# State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

22	IDK	6/5/2025 2:33 PM
23	mental illness, unemployment, and housing affordability	6/5/2025 2:17 PM
24	Lack of affordable housing	6/5/2025 1:29 PM
25	BLACK PEOPLE	6/5/2025 11:32 AM
26	Growing	6/5/2025 10:20 AM
27	.	6/5/2025 10:07 AM
28	mental health	6/5/2025 10:05 AM
29	IDK	6/5/2025 8:49 AM
30	Loss of job, medical condition, addictions	6/5/2025 8:30 AM
31	Idk	6/4/2025 8:55 PM
32	Drug misuse and mental health	6/4/2025 12:38 PM
33	Jobs, mental illness	6/4/2025 11:39 AM
34	unemployment/no transportation/limited or no-income/single parent home with multiple children residing in the home/lack of or no family support to help families strive for success, etc	6/4/2025 9:35 AM
35	NA	6/4/2025 8:45 AM
36	there is a pretty significant homeless population, causes are probably primarily mental health struggles and addiction	6/3/2025 11:42 AM
37	Mental health issues	6/3/2025 9:50 AM
38	Unsure	6/2/2025 4:19 PM
39	mental illness, no help for them, lost their home and car, lots of reasons	6/2/2025 1:46 PM
40	Drug use, poverty, mental health needs not being met	6/2/2025 1:28 PM
41	Drugs and mental health	6/2/2025 1:28 PM
42	Mental illness	6/2/2025 10:23 AM
43	Idk	6/2/2025 9:35 AM
44	causes are mental health, substance use and affordability	6/1/2025 11:45 PM
45	Idk	5/30/2025 10:08 AM
46	Poverty Lack of mental health services Lack of affordable housing	5/30/2025 5:03 AM
47	IDK	5/29/2025 9:27 PM
48	Unaddressed mental health issues	5/29/2025 12:51 PM
49	IDK	5/28/2025 4:26 PM
50	Unsure.	5/28/2025 3:56 PM
51	It has increased and seems to be getting worse. Lack of resources for homeless. More social workers. More counseling. More certified group homes. More help for homeless Veterans.	5/28/2025 3:06 PM
52	Rent is too high, not enough job training programs.	5/28/2025 2:39 PM
53	Unclear	5/28/2025 2:19 PM
54	NA	5/28/2025 1:43 PM
55	Lack of income to meet the high rental costs	5/27/2025 8:40 PM
56	There is probably more than I am aware of. I am currently seeing less than I did a few years ago in areas like Southside, but I am not sure if they have been "relocated" or not.	5/27/2025 3:53 PM
57	Mental illness	5/27/2025 1:40 PM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

58	Low wages and job benefits, lack of public transportation in areas outside of the city limits of Birmingham, lack of affordable childcare, lack of financial education, and lack of affordable housing are the main causes of homelessness in Jefferson County.	5/27/2025 8:55 AM
59	Prevalent	5/24/2025 1:18 PM
60	Mental illness	5/23/2025 6:32 PM
61	Na	5/23/2025 1:55 PM
62	Lack of affordable housing, employment, education, Desire to be unhoused	5/23/2025 12:46 PM
63	large population of homelessness, caused by mental health issues and/or substance abuse	5/23/2025 11:51 AM
64	It is a major issue that this county continues to deal with.	5/23/2025 10:23 AM
65	Increasing	5/22/2025 6:54 PM
66	It is extensive. I see many people along bridges or in areas deep off of the interstate.	5/22/2025 6:20 PM
67	See response in 36	5/22/2025 4:48 PM
68	not sure	5/22/2025 3:50 PM
69	Homelessness presents in different ways, many people in Jefferson County are not "visibly" homeless, but may be living in cars or couch surfing. Causes: poverty, domestic violence, unemployment, eviction.	5/22/2025 3:46 PM
70	Unsure	5/22/2025 1:43 PM
71	Lack of available funding	5/22/2025 11:47 AM
72	IDK	5/22/2025 11:29 AM
73	higher rent and mortgage rates	5/22/2025 11:16 AM
74	Idk	5/22/2025 10:29 AM
75	Mental health Sometimes families don't know how to get their assistance that they are in need of	5/22/2025 10:29 AM
76	IDK	5/22/2025 10:16 AM
77	Drugs	5/22/2025 9:28 AM
78	Mental health and lack of child care	5/22/2025 9:26 AM
79	unsure	5/22/2025 8:58 AM
80	It is a problem.	5/22/2025 8:57 AM
81	Mental Health issues	5/22/2025 8:27 AM
82	IDK	5/21/2025 10:40 AM
83	Alcohol/drugs, poor health causing one to lose their job	5/20/2025 1:56 PM
84	Drugs and alcohol abuse and untreated mental health conditions.	5/20/2025 10:09 AM
85	I don't know	5/20/2025 10:07 AM
86	idk	5/20/2025 9:13 AM
87	Idk	5/20/2025 4:23 AM
88	IDK	5/19/2025 4:00 PM
89	IDK	5/19/2025 1:34 PM
90	Mental Health	5/19/2025 11:55 AM
91	Not enough emergency shelters for women with children; not enough transitional housing; One Roof is unresponsive to helping - they are a "facade" - they don't help.	5/19/2025 10:53 AM
92	I think homelessness is a problem in Jefferson County	5/19/2025 10:42 AM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

93	addiction and mental health needs are primary factors but also the need for affordable housing close to employment opportunities. I can't describe the scope.	5/19/2025 10:18 AM
94	drug use, lack of mental health care resources	5/19/2025 10:15 AM
95	Getting worse by the day. People can't afford to rent or buy. Transportation is an issue as well.	5/19/2025 10:01 AM
96	Mental illness	5/19/2025 9:10 AM
97	A lot is caused by mental illness and substance use. I see a lot of homelessness in Birmingham.	5/19/2025 9:08 AM
98	Homelessness is high in Jefferson County. You see it all over the city and under the overpasses and around the shelters.	5/19/2025 8:56 AM