



Homeless Outreach Population Estimate

2025 Results



Human Resources
Administration
Department of
Homeless Services

What is the Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE)?

- HOPE is an estimate of the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and sleeping in public places such as streets, parks, and subways on a single night during the last week of January.
- Fulfills the “point-in-time” survey of unsheltered individuals, as required for every odd year by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Conducted annually since 2005, using the same sampling methodology:
 - High Density areas: all areas of the city where individuals experiencing homelessness are known to stay, based on prior years’ data and observations from outreach staff. Results from these areas are *counted*.
 - Low Density areas: a random sample of areas in the rest of the city. Results from these areas are *extrapolated* to estimate the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in areas not surveyed.

HOPE 2025 Survey Approach

HOPE 2025 replicated a hybrid model for operations, expanding our volunteer base and maintaining complementary outreach coverage.

- HOPE 2025 deployed 1,249 volunteers from 19 sites, up from 1,181 last year.
- Outreach provider staff covered End-of-Line subway stations and areas around 9 other sites, including a small number of areas that were canvassed on a follow-up night.

Most aspects of the operation—including the sampling methodology, virtual training methods, the survey questionnaire, and the use of the HOPE app and online dashboard for data collection—remained unchanged.

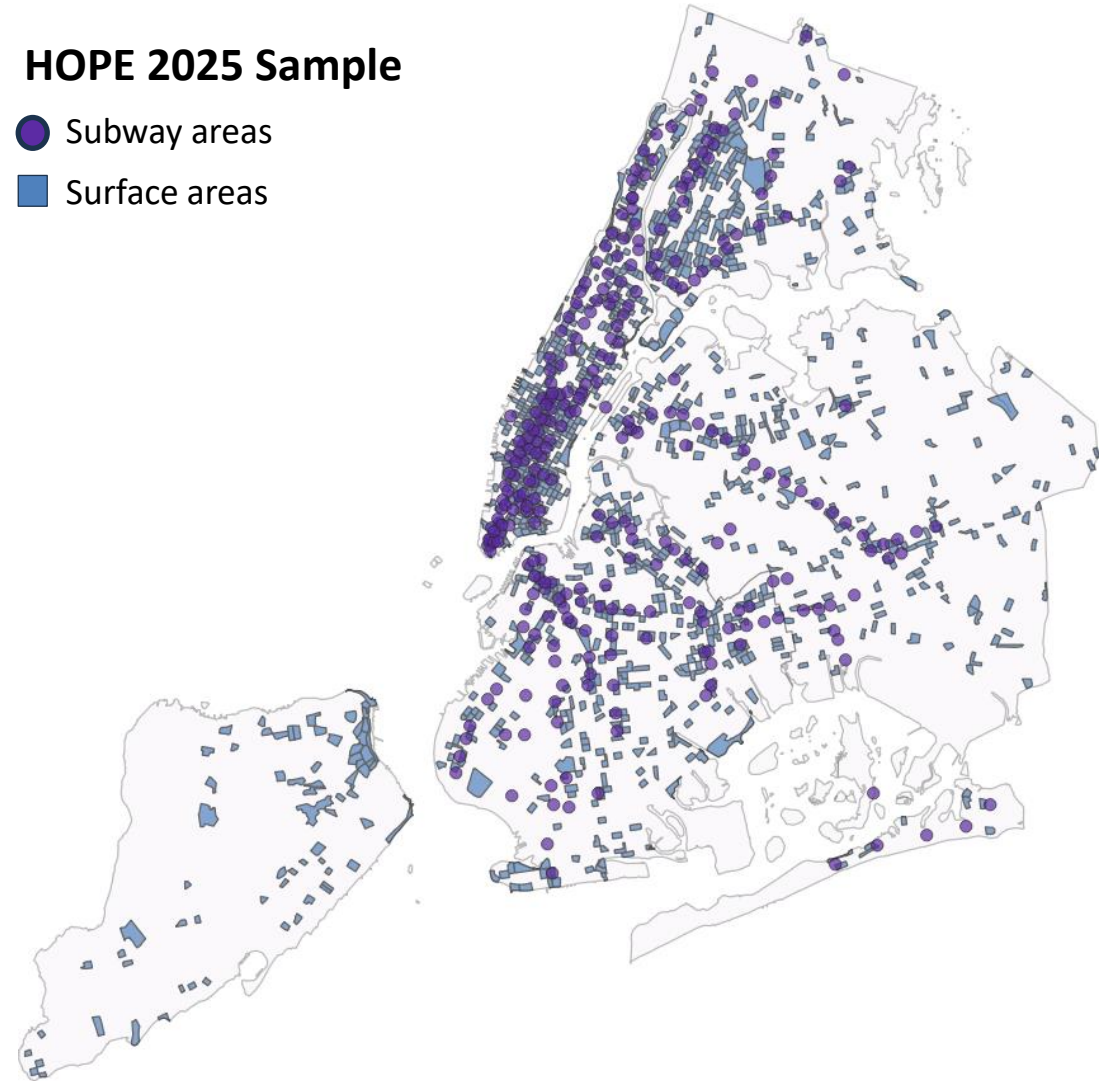
Overall Results from HOPE 2025

A total estimate of 4,504 individuals experienced unsheltered homelessness on the night of January 28th, 2025.

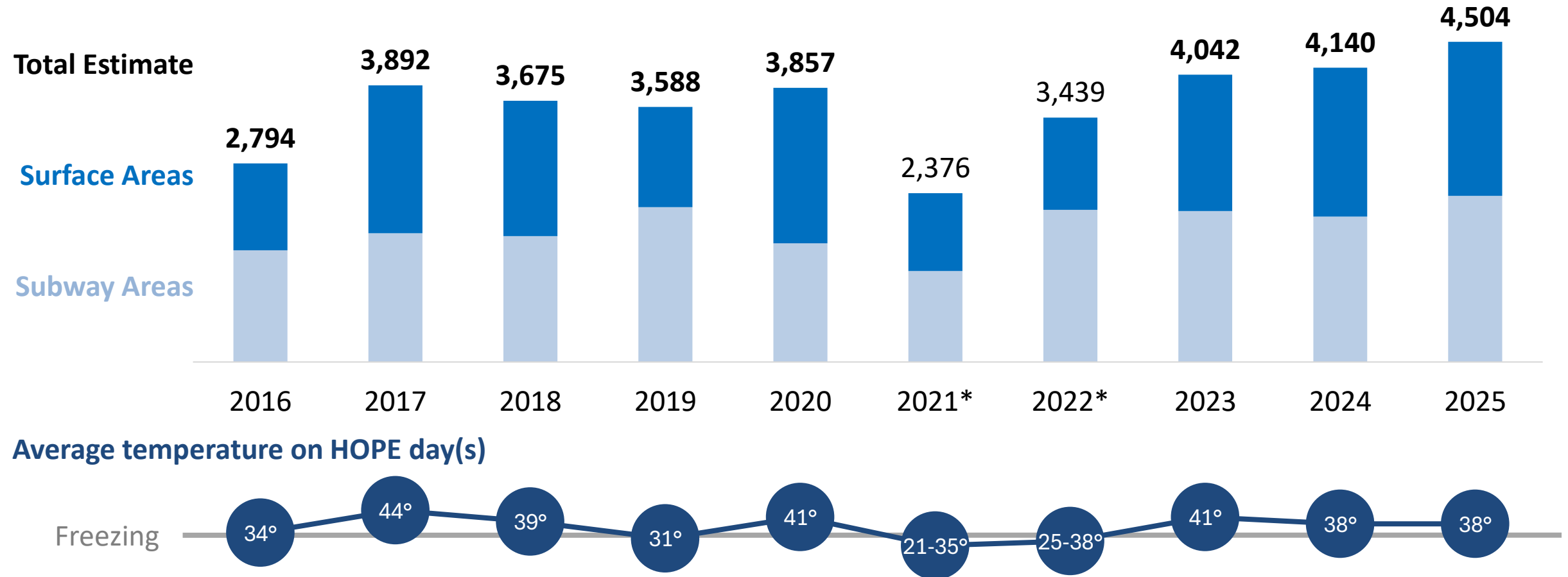
- This total represents an increase of 364 individuals (+9%) from HOPE 2024.
- This is the third consecutive year in which the total has exceeded 4,000. Over the last three years, the weather during the week of HOPE has been relatively mild.
- Unsheltered homelessness in subways increased by nearly 300 and made up more than half of the overall estimate. Across surface areas, the Bronx recorded the highest proportional increase from last year.

HOPE 2025 Sample

- Subway areas
- Surface areas

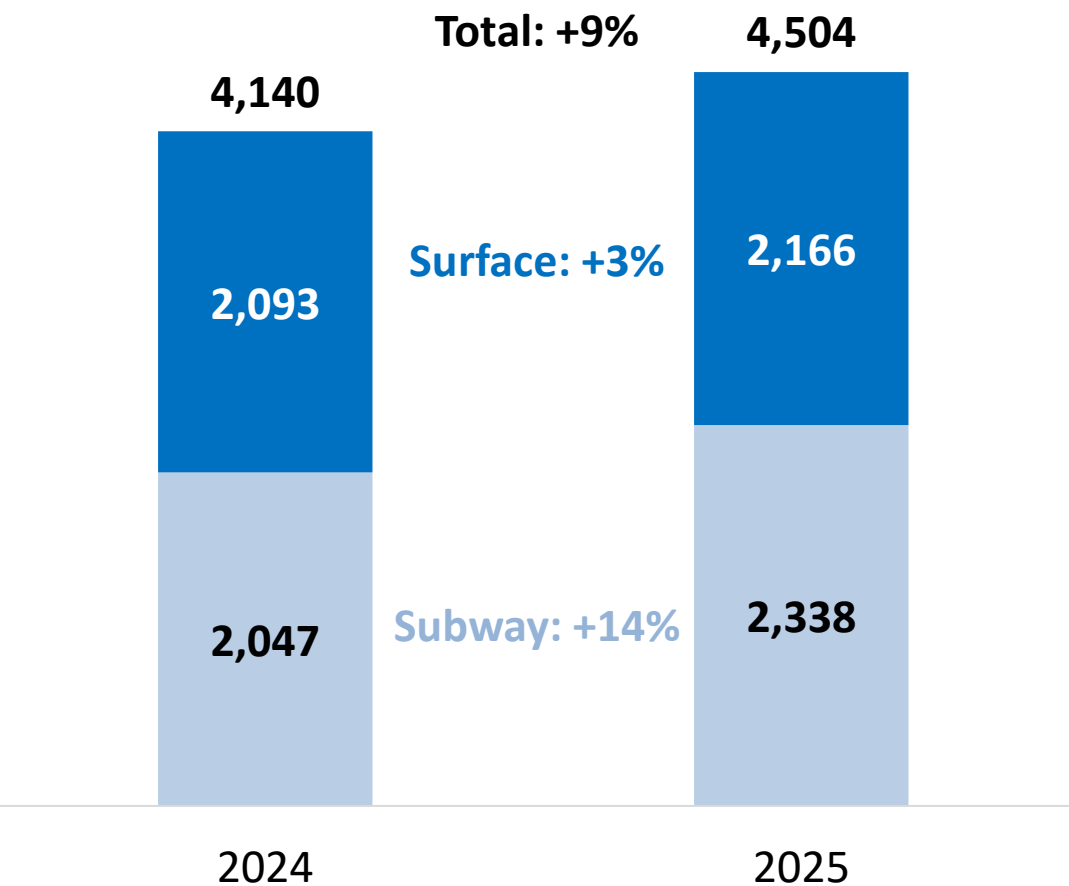


HOPE Estimates, 2016-2025



Change in HOPE Estimates, 2024-2025

Change in HOPE Estimates,
by Surface and Subway Areas



Change in HOPE Estimates,
by Borough (Surface Areas)

