

# Homeless Sex Offender Electronic Monitoring

**Tens of thousands of sex offenders report no address to their state registries, leaving law enforcement and the public in the dark.**

Homeless and transient sex offenders are at a high risk of recidivism, and other homeless people face high rates of sexual victimization. Law enforcement needs more tools to address this gap.<sup>1</sup>

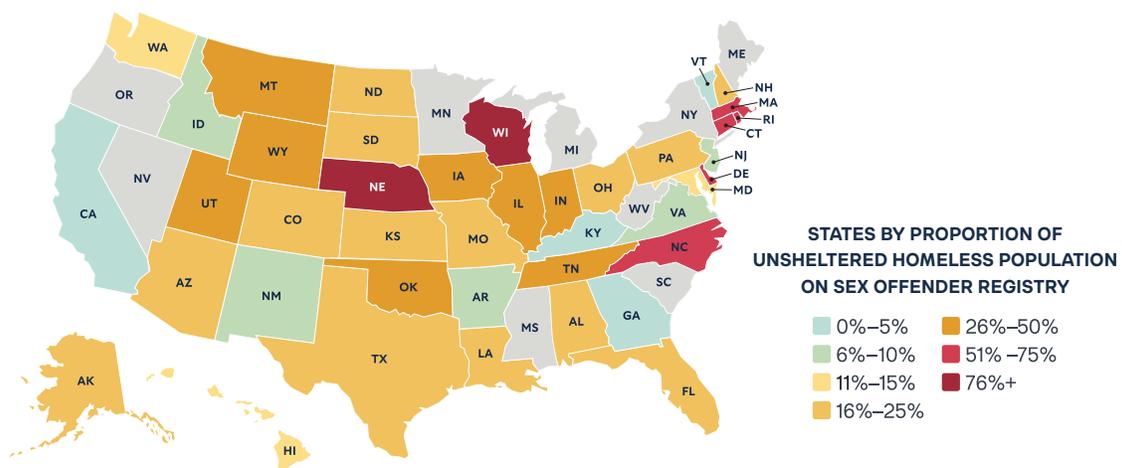
The Cicero Institute's report on unsheltered homeless subpopulations finds that:

Homeless sex offenders constitute **nearly one-tenth** of the total unsheltered homeless population.



If offenders whose address is **"unknown"** are included, this figure **rises to 13%**.

The results of this study indicate that **more than 10% of unsheltered homeless populations are registered sex offenders in at least 32 states**, and **more than 50% are registered sex offenders in at least eight states**.<sup>2</sup>



Given the strong association of unsheltered homelessness with drug use and mental illness, the prevalence of sex offenders within this population poses a severe threat to public safety, particularly towards vulnerable individuals.<sup>3</sup>

## THE SOLUTION

Placing sex offenders who fail to report a verified address under electronic monitoring will hold all sex offenders to the same accountability standard and reduce recidivism.



**Electronic monitoring deters reoffending and empowers law enforcement to respond more effectively when deterrence fails, elevating public safety.**

## WHY IT MATTERS

Electronic monitoring has been shown to reduce both violent and non-violent recidivism among general male offender populations.<sup>4</sup> When applied to sex offenders in particular, electronic monitoring significantly reduces new arrest rates and increases attendance of mandatory therapy, supporting rehabilitation efforts to the benefit of both the offender and the community.<sup>5</sup>

## THE BOTTOM LINE:

**Electronic monitoring is a proven method to reduce recidivism without imposing excessive burdens on recipients, serving a positive purpose in promoting public safety and holding all sex offenders to the same accountability standards.**

### SOURCES:

1. <https://ciceroinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/RSO-Drivers-of-Homelessness-Report-5-5-2025.pdf>
2. Ibid.

3. <https://capolicylab.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Health-Conditions-Among-Unsheltered-Adults-in-the-US.pdf>
4. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/17488958231188414>
5. <https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/238481.pdf>