

Methodology for FL-511 - Pensacola/Escambia, Santa Rosa Counties CoC

Sheltered Population

1. What data source(s) was used to produce PIT counts of the sheltered population?

- Observation (e.g., manual counts of people in each required reporting category)
- HMIS
- Interviews with sheltered homeless people during the PIT count
- Interviews with provider staff

2. Were you able to collect the required information from all emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing providers or did you collect data from a subset of these providers?

- All providers gave the required information

3. Once the universe of providers was identified, did you collect the required information from all sheltered persons within those providers or did you collect the information from a subset of sheltered people?

- All sheltered people within those programs

4. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the sheltered population?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

5. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality count of your sheltered population?

- Reviewed HUD guidance and/or trainings on conducting a PIT count
- Written instructions to providers
- Written instructions to interviewers
- Trained interviewers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Pilot tested the data collection forms and process prior to the PIT count
- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation

- Compared the counts to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies

6. Did your approach to collecting PIT counts of sheltered populations differ from your approach to collecting PIT counts of sheltered subpopulations?

No

Sheltered Subpopulation

7. What data source(s) was used to produce PIT counts of the sheltered population?

- Observation (e.g., manual counts of people in each required reporting category)
- HMIS
- Interviews with sheltered homeless people during the PIT count
- Interviews with provider staff

8. Were you able to collect the required information from all emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing providers or did you collect data from a subset of these providers?

- All providers gave the required information

9. Once the universe of providers was identified, did you collect the required information from all sheltered persons within those providers or did you collect the information from a subset of sheltered people?

- All sheltered people within those programs

10. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the sheltered population?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

11. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality count of your sheltered population?

- Reviewed HUD guidance and/or trainings on conducting a PIT count
- Written instructions to providers
- Written instructions to interviewers
- Trained interviewers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Pilot tested the data collection forms and process prior to the PIT count

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- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation
- Compared the counts to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies

Unsheltered Population

12. What method was used to count the unsheltered population during the PIT count?

- Public places count with interviews on the night of the PIT count
- HMIS

13. How much of your community was canvassed for the unsheltered population count?

- A subset of areas (e.g., known locations or specific neighborhoods, blocks, census tracts, or other geographies) within my community was canvassed

14. Once your geography was identified for the count, did you collect the required information from all persons encountered during the unsheltered count or a sample of persons?

- All people encountered during the count

15. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the unsheltered population?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

16. What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated count across your sheltered and unsheltered population?

13a. How did you select the areas for canvassing?

- Areas were not selected randomly, but an effort was made to use local knowledge to target known locations (e.g., areas with known concentrations of unsheltered homeless people)

13b. Did you adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for the CoC's entire geography?

No

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

17. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality count of your unsheltered population?

- Reviewed HUD guidance and/or trainings on conducting an unsheltered count
- Written instructions to canvassers
- Trained canvassers on the data collection requirements/forms/process
- Pilot tested the data collection process prior to the PIT count
- Reminded/followed-up with canvassers about the count to maximize participation
- Compared the count to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies

18. Did your approach to collecting PIT counts of unsheltered populations differ from your approach to collecting PIT counts of unsheltered subpopulations?

No

Unsheltered Subpopulations

19. What method was used to count the unsheltered subpopulations during the PIT count?

- Public places count with interviews on the night of the PIT count

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22. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the unsheltered subpopulations?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)

21. Once your geography was identified for the count, did you collect the required information from all persons encountered during the unsheltered count or a sample of persons?

- All people encountered during the count

- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

23. What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated count across your sheltered and unsheltered subpopulation?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

24. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality count of your unsheltered sub population?

- Reviewed HUD guidance and/or trainings on conducting an unsheltered count
- Written instructions to canvassers
- Trained canvassers on the data collection requirements/forms/process
- Pilot tested the data collection process prior to the PIT count
- Reminded/followed-up with canvassers about the count to maximize participation
- Compared the count to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies

Annual Comparison

25. When compared to last year, please indicate whether the sheltered and unsheltered count increased, decreased, or stayed the same. Describe the specific factors that may have resulted in the increase, decrease, or no change.

25a. Compared to last year, the 2015 sheltered count:

- Increased

Explain:

Due to the polar vortex temperatures were much colder this year than last and dropped down to freezing on the night of the PIT. Due to this restrictions were lifted at local emergency shelters and they allowed more people to stay increasing the count.

25b. Compared to last year, the 2015 sheltered count:

- Decreased

Explain:

Due to the polar vortex and freezing temperatures most unsheltered persons either sought local shelters for a "bad weather night" in which they could stay inside even if they had used their allotted days at that shelter. In addition those who did stay outside may have tried to find unoccupied homes or other places not meant for habitation to stay which led to lower counts in the camps.

