

# Methodology

## Sheltered Population

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

- HMIS
- Interviews with sheltered homeless people during the PIT count
- Interviews with provider staff
- Distribution/collection of PIT forms to 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 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 providers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation
- Compared the counts to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies
- Compared the counts to last year's counts and explained the changes

### 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?**

- HMIS
- Interviews with sheltered homeless people during the PIT count
- Interviews with provider staff
- Distribution/collection of PIT forms to 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 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 providers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation
- Compared the counts to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies
- Compared the counts to last year's counts and explained the changes

## Unsheltered Population

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

- Public places count with interviews of unsheltered homeless people at a later date
- 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

#### 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

### 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
- 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?

- No specific approach was used

**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
- Developed maps and/or used Geographic Information System (GIS) tools to support the count
- Reminded/followed-up with canvassers about the count to maximize participation
- Included formerly homeless people to support the count
- Compared the count to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies
- Compared the count to last year's count and explained the changes

**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 of unsheltered homeless people at a later date
- HMIS

**20. How much of your community was canvassed for the unsheltered subpopulations count?**

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

**20a. 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)

**20b. Did you adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for the CoC's entire geography?**

No

**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

**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
- 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?**

- No specific approach was used

**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
- Developed maps and/or used Geographic Information System (GIS) tools to support the count
- Reminded/followed-up with canvassers about the count to maximize participation
- Included formerly homeless people to support the count
- Compared the count to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies
- Compared the count to last year's count and explained the changes

## 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 2013 sheltered count:**

- Decreased

**Explain:**

Agencies serving youth through Health and Human Services grants lost funding last year, causing the youth to find alternative housing and not meeting the definition of homelessness (ie couch surfing).

**25b. Compared to last year, the 2013 sheltered count**

- Decreased

**Explain:**

Last year, there was an increase of 75 VASH vouchers and the housing of 31 chronically homeless individuals within the 100k homes campaign.