



Definition of Terms

Data Source

The **Unsheltered Homeless Count** identifies a de-duplicated total number of persons experiencing homelessness in a place not meant for habitation. This includes staying on the streets, in tents, cars or trucks, and abandoned buildings.

The **Non-HMIS Count** identifies a de-duplicated total number of persons experiencing homelessness in dedicated homeless programs that do not participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This includes programs without Federal Funding or Victim Service Providers, who are prohibited from entering data into HMIS.

The **HMIS Count** identifies a de-duplicated total number of persons experiencing homelessness in dedicated homeless programs that participate in HMIS. This includes programs funded by HUD, the VA, and other Federal Partners.

Program Type

Emergency Shelter (ES) provides temporary housing for individuals or families experiencing homelessness for a period of 90 days or less (ideally). These services are fundamentally temporary, even if length of stays vary.

Transitional Housing (TH) provides housing crisis residential services with longer stays and other requirements. TH projects can be identified if a client has to sign a lease, sublease or occupancy agreement of at least 1 month that was renewable for up to 24 months. Clients may be asked to or required to engage in services or classes to keep their spot.

Permanent Housing

- **Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)** provides time-limited rental assistance and housing stabilization services to move households experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible.

Programs include CoC-funded & ESG-funded rapid re-housing programs, VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) rapid re-housing programs, HUD-funded Rapid Re-Housing Demonstration programs, and other publicly or privately funded rapid re-housing programs.

- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** provides rental assistance and housing stabilization services without a time limit to move households experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible and maintain it for as long as possible.

Programs include CoC-funded Permanent Supportive Housing programs, HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) programs

- **Other Permanent Housing (OPH)** provides rental assistance without a time limit to move households experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible and maintain it for as long as possible.

Programs include Public Housing Authority's Emergency Housing Vouchers programs

Only report clients who are actively enrolled in the RRH or PSH program (including those only receiving services) **and** residing in permanent housing on the night of the PIT count.

For the Bed Inventory count, permanent housing (RRH, PSH) beds and units are equal to the number of beds and units occupied by program participants on the night of the count. Only count inventory if clients have moved in by PIT night.

Households

1. ***Households with Adults and Children (Families)***: at least one adult and one child under 18 are present on the night of the count.
2. ***Households without Children***: single adults, adult couples without children, adults with adult children, and adults whose children are not present with them on the night of the count.
3. ***Households of Only Children***: every person is aged 17 or younger. This includes unaccompanied children under 18, adolescent parents and their children, adolescent siblings, or other household configurations composed only of children.

Beds and Units

Beds are the beds, cots, bunks, cribs, or other sleeping areas that are dedicated to persons experiencing homelessness.

- ***Overflow beds*** are likely temporary beds that can be moved such as collapsible cots or cribs. More details below.
- ***Double beds*** should be considered 1 bed if empty or filled with only 1 person on PIT night. If 2 people sleep in a bed, count it as 2 beds.

Units are rooms, wings, floors, or buildings that house one or more households. Units will have a door.

- ***Units for Adults and Children (Families)*** are separate rooms, units, or buildings that each house one family.
- ***Units for Adults*** are separate rooms, floors, or buildings that house one or more adults. Units are commonly used to separate adults by gender. A large congregate setting would be counted as 1 unit.

Dedicated Beds are beds that are reserved for clients based on experience. These beds must be filled by the specified population unless no one experiencing homelessness can be found within the program's service area.

- ***Beds dedicated to Veterans*** are beds that are reserved for homeless veterans (and their families, if applicable). These beds must be filled by veterans unless there are no homeless veterans within the program's service area.
- ***Beds dedicated to Youth*** are beds that are reserved for homeless youth up to age 24. These beds must be filled by youth unless there are no homeless youth within the program's service area.
- ***Beds dedicated to Chronically Homeless persons*** are beds that are reserved for persons qualifying under HUD's Chronic Homeless definition. [See full definition below.] Beds dedicated to Chronically Homeless persons must have a means of verification for eligibility.
- ***Any combination of Veterans, Chronically Homeless, or Youth populations.***

Overflow Beds are beds that are temporarily available on an ad hoc basis, including but not limited to temperature-based beds. If beds are available for multiple non-sequential dates per year. Physically, these are likely temporary beds that can be moved around such as collapsible cots or cribs.

Seasonal Beds are beds that are available night after night for an entire season. There is only one start date and one end date per year for these beds. (These can be easily confused with local language for ad hoc beds because of HUD's specific definition of seasonal.)



Survivors of Domestic Violence

Adults who are currently experiencing homelessness because they are fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. This excludes persons who have previously survived domestic violence but are not experiencing homelessness because of fleeing the perpetrator of violence.

Chronically Homeless

A homeless individual (adult or youth) or a homeless family with a Head of Household (adult or youth) who:

1. Has a disabling condition (serious mental disorder, substance use disorder, developmental disability, PTSD, cognitive impairments from brain injury, chronic physical illness or physical disability) [see *Disabling Conditions section below*]
AND
2. Has been homeless and living in a place not meant for human habitation or an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless on those occasions totals at least 12 months

A chronically homeless household includes at least one adult member or minor Heads of Household who is chronically homeless.

When one household member qualifies as chronically homeless, **all members** of that household are automatically considered chronically homeless. (For example, if one adult in a two-adult household is identified as chronically homeless, both adults should be counted as chronically homeless.)

Disabling Condition

A disabling condition in reference to chronic homelessness is defined by HUD as a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions. A disabling condition limits an individual's ability to work or maintain stable housing.

Youth

A homeless individual ages 18-24 years old or children under 17 years old. Clients may present in any Household type.

NOTE: HUD defines homelessness differently than the Department of Education.

Victim Service Providers (VSPs)

A private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide direct services to survivors and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. VSPs do not participate in HMIS due to a federal VAWA Act prohibition.

