

Methodology for OH-504 - Youngstown/Mahoning County CoC

Sheltered Population Total

1. What data source(s) was used to produce the total number of people included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? Please indicate the percentage of the PIT count derived from each of the sources. (If a source was not used, please enter zero).

HMIS Data	90%
Provider-level surveys	0%
Client-level surveys	9%
Observation	1%
Other	0%
Total	100%

2. Was the CoC able to collect information about the number of people being sheltered on the night of the count from all emergency shelters, Safe Havens, and transitional housing projects listed on the HIC or only some? listed on your HIC or only some?

- Non-random sample and extrapolation

3. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the total number of people included in 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)

Sheltered Subpopulation

4. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose the three reasons you believe best explains these changes from the drop-down list below

- Change in availability of affordable housing

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- Other:

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

During this year's sheltered point in time, we have seen more people experiencing homelessness than in previous years. In February 2023, a new shelter opened serving families.

The Public Housing Authority in the geographic area closed public housing units and chose not to replace the units, causing less available affordable housing. During this change, the families in the closing properties were moved to other public housing units and the wait list was closed for at least six months while this transition occurred.

The large emergency shelter in our geographic area opened a new building with a larger capacity and they were consistently at or near capacity through the last six months. This shelter's data is not included during this year's count, due to a change in their database.

Unsheltered Population

5. What approach(es) was used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count? (select all that apply)

- "Night of the count" - known locations only

5b. How did the CoC select the areas that were included for canvassing?

- An effort was made to use local knowledge (such as outreach workers and other local expertise) locations (e.g., areas with known concentrations of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness)
- Data from prior PIT counts

6. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reason to believe there were no unsheltered people in those areas based on prior knowledge/experience?

- Yes

7. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to areas within the CoC geography that were not canvassed but where unsheltered people might have been on the night of the PIT count?

- No

8. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because of concerns related to safety?

- No

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- Change in economic conditions (employment rate, etc.)

Change in shelter data capacity

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9. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the total count of people in the unsheltered population? (Check all that apply)

- 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)

Unsheltered Subpopulations

10. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explain these changes from the drop down list below. Please also provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit).

- Change in implementing the PIT count (Select all that apply)

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

During this year's count we relied more on the street outreach team, they were able to make contact with people that were outside of the areas that were designated for the count. The team also met with people at dining halls, since they frequent them they know the staff and were more comfortable talking with people to determine if they are experiencing homelessness and where the persons was staying. The street outreach team has seen an increase in people staying in the vehicles and was able to talk to those people during the count, something that would be difficult during a volunteer to determine if someone was actually staying in their care or not.

We have also steadily been seeing an increase with persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness in our geographic area.

- Change in volunteers for PIT count (e.g., increase or decrease in volunteers overall, increase or decrease in volunteers with prior experience, included volunteers from law enforcement in implementation but did not in prior year)

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors and how these changes affected PIT count implementation

We relied more on the streets outreach team to make contact with people they are currently working with and to target areas that are aware of people staying unsheltered, we have seen an increase in people staying in their vehicles.

