

District of Columbia 2016 Point in Time Enumeration

The Community Partnership
Policy & Programs Team
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What is Point in Time?

- **HUD-required, annual count of homeless persons in a given jurisdiction.**
 - The Community Partnership (TCP) has conducted the count on behalf of the District of Columbia since 2001.
- **Persons counted may choose to respond to a needs assessment survey that provides insight in to the make-up of the homeless population and helps determine where gaps exist the homeless services Continuum of Care.**
 - TCP and our partners in District government use PIT survey information to track changes in system over time and use it to plan for the future.



HUD requirement: Who is counted?

HUD requires a count of four populations:

- Unsheltered persons (i.e. persons “on the street”),
- persons in Emergency Shelter (severe weather, low barrier or temporary),
- persons in Transitional Housing facilities, and
 - HUD refers to these three categories collectively as the “literally homeless.”
 - This **does not** include persons who are “doubled-up” or who are temporarily residing in institutional settings, i.e. hospitals, jails, treatment facilities, foster care, etc.
- persons living in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) or Rapid Rehousing (RRH).
 - HUD refers to this category as the “formerly homeless.”
 - Must be in PSH or RRH to be counted; this is not a count of everyone that has exited the Continuum.



HUD requirement: When are people counted?

HUD requires that Point in Time be conducted:

- Within a single 24 hour period, generally overnight
- This single day must be within the last seven days of the month of January
 - These requirements are the same for Continuums nationwide, regardless of climate.
 - Doing the count in the winter helps CoCs understand utilization of all of their Continuum's resources, including shelter space that is only available during the winter months.



HUD requirement: How are persons counted?

- Per HUD, methods for counting must be statistically acceptable.
 - HUD will seek to verify data that appears to be inaccurate or that looks to be under- or over-reported.
- TCP's PIT Methodology is reported on extensively during the "SuperNOFA," the District's annual application for the renewal of HUD funds; HUD's scoring of our methodology can account for about a fifth of the application's score.



HUD requirement: How are people counted?

- Agencies conducting PIT must report to HUD the number of programs, if any, that do NOT report information as a part of PIT.
 - In 2016, there were no programs operating in the District that did not report at least a count of persons served to TCP for the purposes of PIT.
- TCP collects information from every program operating in the District, regardless of its funding source(s).
 - Some 90% of PIT information was submitted to TCP by programs that enter information on persons served in their programs in HMIS. Strategic use of the HMIS for the purposes of Point in Time ensures that the District's count is comprehensive, unduplicated, and that the results accurately reflect the size and scope of the city's homeless population on a given day.
 - Agencies that do not use the HMIS submit information on paper surveys or via phone interviews, through surveys conducted with consumers in their respective programs, or through direct outreach efforts. (this includes de-identified information from VAWA programs).
 - The unsheltered count is conducted through a coordinated effort between TCP and District and Federal government agencies, professional outreach agencies and volunteers; data from daily rounds, meal programs, drop in centers & public libraries were also included.



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Point in Time Results

- **8,350** persons experiencing homelessness were counted during PIT 2016 including:
 - **318 persons who were unsheltered**, i.e. living on the street or places not meant for habitation
 - All persons were unaccompanied, no persons in families were found to be unsheltered at PIT
 - **6,259 persons in Emergency Shelters**
 - 2,594 unaccompanied individuals
 - 3,665 people in 1,136 families); and
 - **1,773 persons in Transitional Housing**
 - 771 unaccompanied individuals
 - 1,002 people in 355 families
- The number of persons experiencing homelessness at PIT **increased by 14.4%** from the 2015 PIT count.
 - The number of unaccompanied homeless individuals counted **decreased by 3.8 percent** from last year, but the number of families increased **by 31.8 percent**.



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Point in Time Results

- The increase in the number of families is primarily due to housing affordability challenges in the District, and increased demand for stable housing assistance that is brought to bear on the homelessness system.
- Also impacting PIT was the District's implementation of year-round access to family shelter that began in 2015. In past years, family shelter placements had largely been limited to the District's Hypothermia season (November through March). From **April to October 2015, 425 families were placed** as a result of the new policy, as compared to 12 placements made from April to October 2014.
- As a result of the move to year-round access, the District experienced higher family shelter occupancy during PIT 2016, though year round access to shelter allowed many families to receive the homeless services they needed before the Hypothermia season began.
- Although family shelter occupancy was higher throughout the winter, a new District-funded prevention program helped more than 1,100 families avoid homelessness during Hypothermia 2016 and led to an overall decrease in the number of families placed in District shelters during Hypothermia 2016 as compared to 2015.

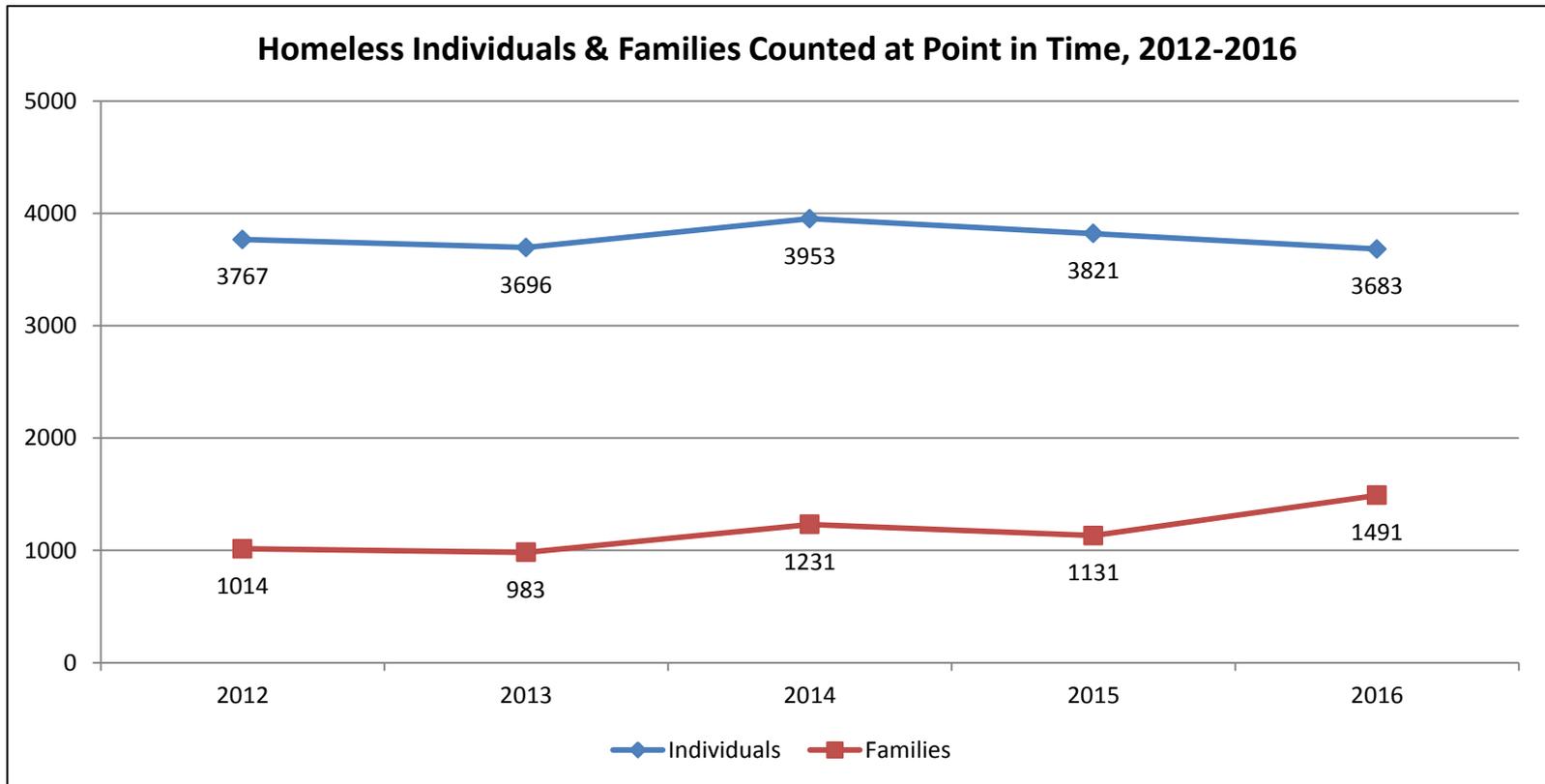


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Point in Time Results

PIT COUNT BY CATEGORY			
Category	2016	2015	% Change
Total Number Counted	8,350	7,298	+14.4%
Total Number of Individuals	3,683	3,821	-3.8%
Total Number of Families	1,491	1,131	+31.8%
Total of Persons in Families	4,667	3,477	+34.2%
Total Adults in Families	1,945	1,428	+36.2%
Total Children in Families	2,722	2,049	+32.8%

Homeless Population Over Time





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Subpopulations & Disabilities

DISABILITIES & SUBPOPULATIONS			
	Unaccompanied Single Persons	Adults in Families	TOTAL (All Adults)
Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)	28.3%	1.9%	19.2%
Severe Mental Illness (SMI)	26.5%	8.9%	20.4%
Dual Diagnosis (CSA & SMI)	15.9%	0.9%	10.7%
Chronic Health Problem	14.3%	2.5%	10.8%
Living With HIV/AIDS	2.7%	0.6%	2.1%
Physical Disability	23.4%	2.8%	17.4%
Domestic Violence (DV) History	15.8%	19.6%	16.9%
Homeless Due to DV	3.6%	9.6%	5.7%
Limited English Proficiency	9.7%	5.3%	8.5%
U.S. Military Veterans	10.2%	0.8%	7.3%



Chronic Homelessness

- The HUD definition of chronic homelessness was refined in 2015 to include the following:
 - **Any youth, adult, or person within a family with a disabling condition who:**
 - *has been continuously homeless for a year or more, OR*
 - *has been homeless four times within the past three years where the combined occasions of homelessness total a length of time of at least one year.*
- At PIT 2016, there were **1,501 unaccompanied single persons and 42 families who met the federal definition of chronic homelessness**, a reduction of 5.7 percent and 36 percent respectively since 2015
 - NOTE: that the overall population of persons experiencing chronic homelessness decreased by seven (7) percent when looking at individuals and families collectively).
- The decrease is primarily due to the work of the CAHP process which has helped to streamline connections to housing for some of the District's most vulnerable residents.



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Homeless Youth Counted

The Homeless Services CoC defines youth as persons aged 0 to 24 years; therefore, the count of homeless youths will not be equal to the count of homeless minor children (homeless persons aged 0 to 17 years).

- **10 unaccompanied minors** were counted in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing
- **2,722 children in families** were counted in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing

There were no minor children or families with children unsheltered during PIT.



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Median Age

- The median age of unaccompanied homeless persons was **52 years**.
- The median age among adults in homeless families was **27 years**.



Income & Employment

- At PIT, **57.3 percent of single persons and 21.1 percent of adults in families** reported that they were not receiving income of any kind
- At PIT, **20.1 percent of single persons and 27.1 percent of adults in families** reported that they were employed at the time of the survey.
- For unaccompanied individuals, employment was the most commonly reported source of income, while Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) was the most commonly reported source of income among adults in families.
- While the employment rates reported by both singles and adults in families were similar to PIT 2015, the rate of singles reporting that they had no income was 5% lower in 2016 than 2015, but the rate of adults in families reporting that they had no income was 7% higher year to year.



Veteran Status

Of those who participated in Point in Time,
**350 persons reported having served in the
United States Armed Forces**

A decrease of 14% from the 2015 count



Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid Rehousing

- At PIT, **4,901 formerly homeless unaccompanied single men and women** were in permanent, permanent supportive housing or rapid rehousing.
 - This is an 11% increase among formerly homeless individuals since PIT 2015
- At PIT, **2,994 adults and 4,522 children in 2,347 formerly homeless families.**
 - This is a 16% increase among formerly homeless families from last year's Point in Time
- The table below details the number of single persons and persons in families housed through permanent or permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing programs at PIT 2016.

	Number of Unaccompanied Individuals	Number of Family Households
Permanent Housing	1,426	295
Permanent Supportive Housing	3,153	939
Rapid Rehousing	322	1,113



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