2018
Point-in-Time Count
for the
District of Columbia Continuum of Care

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The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness;
Policy & Programs Team
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Presentation Overview

- Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Review
- PIT Results:
  - Population Totals
  - Changes Over Time
  - Demographics
  - Experiences and Characteristics
  - Sub Populations
- Count of Formerly Homeless Persons
The Point-in-Time Count or “PIT Count” creates a snapshot of the scope and scale of homelessness in the District at a single point in time.

Required of every community that receives federal homelessness assistance funds from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Community Partnership (TCP) has coordinated and conducted the count on behalf of the District of Columbia Continuum of Care since 2001.

PIT Data is used locally to plan programs, allocate funding, track progress toward goals outlined in Homeward D.C., and better meet the needs of our homeless neighbors.

HUD provides a few guidelines for conducting a PIT Count, but every community develops its own methodology for implementation.
WHO is Counted?

**HUD requirement:** A complete count of HUD-defined “literally homeless” families and individuals:

- **Literally homeless:**
  1. **Unsheltered** (i.e. persons “on the street”);
  2. **Staying in Emergency Shelter** (severe weather, low barrier or temporary); or
  3. **Staying in Transitional Housing** facilities.

  *Note: 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.*

- **Household types:**
  - **Family:**
    - A group of persons residing together with familial ties and a designated “Head of Household”
  - **Single:**
    - Unaccompanied (single) Adults (18 and older)
    - Unaccompanied (single) Minors (17 and under)
WHEN are People Counted?

**HUD requirement:** Within a single 24 hour period, typically at night, within the last 10 days in 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.
TCP’s PIT Methodology is reported on extensively during the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding competition, 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.

**SHELTERED PERSONS** – in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.

- TCP collects information from every program operating in the District, regardless of its funding source(s) through:
  - **HMIS data**: Some 90 percent of PIT information comes from programs that enter into the District’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
  - **Tallies and surveys**: Agencies that do not enter into the HMIS use the PIT Count survey to collect data on each person or family in their programs, in some cases limited information is provided, but every program provides at least a tally of the total number of persons served.

**UNSHELTERED PERSONS** – staying “on the streets”

- The unsheltered component is conducted through a coordinated effort between TCP, District and Federal government agencies, professional outreach teams and volunteers:
  - **One-night street survey**: Volunteers and outreach teams canvass the District in a coordinated way and survey individuals sleeping on the streets that night.
  - **Meal Programs & Drop-in Centers**: The day after the street survey, meal programs and drop-in centers administer the survey to those engaged services during that time. This is an attempt to capture individuals missed the night before.
2018 PIT Count Findings:

Population Totals
On January 24th, 6,904 people were experiencing homelessness in the District of Columbia, about 1 person out of every 100 District residents.

**UNSHELTERED:** 600 Persons
- 599 Single Adults
- 1 Unaccompanied Minor
- No Families

**EMERGENCY SHELTER:** 5,095 Persons
- 2,467 Single Adults
- 5 Unaccompanied Minors
- 1,010 Adults in Families
- 1,613 Children in Families

**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:** 1,209 Persons
- 695 Single Adults
- 3 Unaccompanied Minors
- 200 Adults in Families
- 311 Children in Families
Overall, there has been a **7.6% decrease** in people who are experiencing homelessness in the District from 2017 to 2018.

The number of families has **decreased by 20.8%**.

However, there has been an **increase of 5.2%** in single person households.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Type</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Persons</td>
<td>6,904</td>
<td>7,473</td>
<td>-7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singles</td>
<td>3,770</td>
<td>3,583</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Adults</td>
<td>3,761</td>
<td>3,578</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Minors</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Units</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>1,166</td>
<td>-20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members</td>
<td>3,134</td>
<td>3,890</td>
<td>-19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults in Families</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>1,609</td>
<td>-24.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in Families</td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>2,281</td>
<td>-15.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 PIT Findings: Totals By Year

PIT Count Totals For Single and Family Households, 2014 – 2018
2018 PIT Count Findings:

Demographics
Demographics: Age

**Singles:**
- Median Age: 51 years old
- Oldest Adult: 89 years old
- Unaccompanied Minors: All between the ages 13 – 17

**Families:**
- Median Age (Adults): 29 years old
- Oldest Adult: 83 years old
- Median Age of Children in Families: 5 years old
Demographics: Race & Ethnicity

- PIT data shows that persons who are African Americans are disproportionately affected by the drivers of homelessness in the District.
- 88.4% of adults who are experiencing homelessness are Black/African American, yet only 47.7% of District residents are Black/African American.
- Additionally, 6.3% of single adults and 3.1% of adults in families identify as Hispanic or Latino.

Race* of Single Adults and Adults in Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race*</th>
<th>Single Adults</th>
<th>Adults in Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>85.6%</td>
<td>97.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Islander/Hawaiian Native</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaskan Native</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Race categories are single-race only, persons who selected multiple races are counted in the “Multiple Races” category.

† https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/DC
Demographics: Gender

- Men make up 72.1% and women make up 26.8% of all single adults. Additionally, 0.7% are trans female (FTM)*, 0.2% are trans male (FTM)*, and the remaining 0.2% are gender non-conforming.

- Women make up the greatest share of all adults in family households, at 78.5% and make up 92.6% of family heads of household.

*Includes those persons who self-identified as trans MTF and FTM or those who choose to select a different gender assigned to them at birth from their current gender identity. Others may be counted in “Male” or “Female” if they did not specifically identify as trans or did not provide information about the gender assigned to them at birth.
## Disabilities and Health Conditions: By Household Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disabling Conditions</th>
<th>Single Adults</th>
<th>Adults in Families</th>
<th>Total (All Adults)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)*</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Mental Illness (SMI)*</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dual Diagnosis (subset living with both CSA &amp; SMI)</strong></td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Health Problem</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Disability</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disability</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* CSA & SMI are not mutually-exclusive and include those with both (Dual Diagnosis).
## Disabilities and Health Conditions: By Gender (Singles)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disabling Conditions</th>
<th>Single Women †</th>
<th>Single Men †</th>
<th>Total Singles †</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Substance Abuse (CSA)*</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Mental Illness (SMI)*</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dual Diagnosis (subset living with both CSA &amp; SMI)</em></td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Health Problem</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Disability</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disability</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* CSA & SMI are not mutually-exclusive and include those with both (Dual Diagnosis).
† Single Women, Men, and Total Singles are adults only and do not include unaccompanied minors.
2018 PIT Count Findings: Experiences & Characteristics
## Lifetime Experiences:
### By Household Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experiences &amp; Characteristics</th>
<th>Single Adults</th>
<th>Adults in Families</th>
<th>Total (All Adults)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence (DV) History</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Homeless Due to DV (subset of those w/ DV History)</em></td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formerly resided in Institutional Setting*</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Became homeless at discharge from Institutional Setting (subset of those formerly residing Institutional Settings)</em></td>
<td>60.6%</td>
<td>59.1%</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formerly in Foster Care</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Military Veteran</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Female Veterans (subset of veterans who are female)</em></td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Homeless</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited English Proficiency</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Institutional settings include: foster care, juvenile justice, and adult justice systems; residential detox/rehabilitation; residential mental health institutions; and long-term hospital stays.
† Chronically homeless includes those persons who have been experiencing homelessness for a year or more in total, either continuous or 4 episodes in the past 3 years, AND have a disabling condition.
### Lifetime Experiences: By Gender (Singles)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experiences &amp; Characteristics</th>
<th>Single Women‡</th>
<th>Single Men‡</th>
<th>Total (Singles)‡</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence (DV) History</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless Due to DV (subset of those w/ DV History)</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formerly resided in Institutional Setting*</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Became homeless at discharge from Institutional Setting (subset of those formerly residing Institutional Settings)</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>60.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formerly in Foster Care</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Military Veteran</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronically Homeless†</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited English Proficiency</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Institutional settings include: foster care, juvenile justice, and adult justice systems; residential detox/rehabilitation; residential mental health institutions; and long-term hospital stays.

† Chronically homeless includes those persons who have been experiencing homelessness for a year or more in total, either continuous or 4 episodes in the past 3 years, AND have a disabiling condition.

‡ Single Women, Men, and Totals are adults only and do not include unaccompanied minors.
### Income: Benefits and Employment

#### Income & Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Single Adults</th>
<th>Adults in Families</th>
<th>Total (All Adults)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receives Income</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>80.2%</td>
<td>77.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Primary Source of Income*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Income</th>
<th>Single Adults</th>
<th>Adults in Families</th>
<th>Total (All Adults)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension/Retirement, including SS</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI/SSDI/Disability/VA Disability</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANF/Public Assistance/WIC</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Primary Source of Income is out of total number of people receiving some type of income.
2018 PIT Count Findings:

Sub-Populations
Families

• Count of families in ES and TH **down by 21 percent** from last year, and **down 38 percent** from peak in 2016 (after year round access was implemented)

• Families experiencing **chronic homelessness is down 53 percent** from 2017 alone

• Inflow into the system has normalized due to year-round access and prevention resources

• Exits are happening in greater numbers and more quickly than in previous years – 520 families exited ES to some type of permanent destination between PIT 2017 and 2018
Singles

• Count of unaccompanied individuals ("singles") is up 5% and number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness is up 8% from 2017

• Increase is despite CAHP system housing some 1200 singles between PIT 2017 and 2018

• Inflow continues to be a challenge – analysis being conducted to understand extent to which people are newly entering, episodically experiencing homelessness, or returning to shelter after being housed.

• Low barrier shelter model, right to shelter during winter intended to ensure health and safety for District residents, but lack of similar support regionally means District sees at least some inflow from surrounding counties and beyond
Veterans

• Between PIT 2014 and PIT 2018 the District saw a 25% decrease in homelessness among veterans due to increased housing resources and tireless efforts of the District’s CAHP teams to place veterans into permanent housing.

• Despite the net decrease since 2014, there was a 7% increase since last year.

• Even with a slight increase, the District’s CAHP efforts housed 449 veterans in the past year.

• Increase is due to the high level of inflow; 120 new veterans, on average, access services in the District every month.

• Additional efforts to improve data on this population (i.e., ensuring the system identifies every Veteran) may have also contributed to this year’s increase.
Youth

“Youth” refers to:
- Unaccompanied (single) transitional age youth (TAY), 18 to 24 years old;
- Unaccompanied (single) minors, 17 years old and younger without a parent or guardian;
- Families with a TAY head of household; or
- Families with a minor head of household – note: no minor headed households were counted in 2018.

Count of Youth increased by 36 percent from 2017.
- PIT count has historically not been as accurate a tool for unaccompanied youth, who often opt out of the adult shelter system, choosing to couch surf or otherwise remain more hidden from the public eye.
- New programmatic resources for youth mean more youth are now accessing available services, and therefore being counted as HUD-defined “literally homeless” (and thus captured in the PIT).
Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless Persons
Formerly Homeless Persons

• Another component of the PIT Count is a count of formerly homeless persons.
• Individuals must be residing in PSH, RRH, and other permanent housing to be counted; this is not a count of everyone that has exited the Continuum.
Permanent Housing 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Units for Single Households</th>
<th>Units for Family Households</th>
<th>Beds in Family Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)</td>
<td>3,235</td>
<td>1,346</td>
<td>5,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Rehousing (RRH)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1,711</td>
<td>5,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Permanent Housing</td>
<td>1,515</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>2,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,830</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,018</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,043</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Thanks!

**Partners:**

Capitol Hill United Methodist Church  
DC Department of Human Services (DHS)  
DC Interagency Council on Homelessness (DCICH)  
Executive Office of the Mayor, Muriel Bowser  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Pathways to Housing  
Strong John Thomson Elementary School

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Maureen Jais-Mick  
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