

Methodology for FL-520 - Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties 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?

- HMIS Data
- Provider survey(s)
- Provider interview(s)
- Observation

2. Were you 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 your HIC or only some?

- All providers gave the required information

4. 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
- Ensured HMIS data was reviewed and complied with data quality standards (e.g., complete and up-to-date demographic data, such as gender)
- Written instructions to providers
- Written instructions to interviewers
- Trained providers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Trained interviewers on the data collection requirements/forms

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)

- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation
- Used survey or statistical experts to support the count
- Compared the counts to other internal data sources and resolved inconsistencies
- Compared the counts to last year's counts and explained the changes

5. Did your approach to collecting PIT counts of sheltered populations differ from your approach to collecting PIT counts of sheltered subpopulations?

No

Sheltered Subpopulation

6. What data source(s) was used to produce the demographic and subpopulation included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count?

- HMIS Data
- Provider survey(s)
- Provider interview(s)
- Observation

7. Were you able to collect information about the demographic and subpopulation characteristics of all sheltered people or only some?

- All sheltered people

8. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality demographic and subpopulation information about 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
- Trained interviewers on the data collection requirements/forms
- Reminded/followed-up with providers about the count to maximize participation
- Used survey or statistical experts to support the count

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- 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

9. What approach was used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count?

- "Night of the count" canvassing (i.e., PIT volunteers canvass entire CoC geography or known locations on the night of the count)
- "Post-night of the count" surveys within 7 days following the PIT count night (e.g., "service-based count" at locations where people who are homeless go for assistance)
- HMIS data from street outreach and/or other providers

9a. How much of your community was canvassed on the night of the count?

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

9b. In areas that were canvassed, did you count all unsheltered people in those areas or a sample of people?

- All people encountered during the count

9a1. Were certain areas within your CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reason to believe there were no unsheltered people in those areas?

Yes

9a2. 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)

9a3. Did you adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for the CoC's entire geography?

No

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

11. What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated total count of homeless people across your sheltered and unsheltered populations?

- 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)
- Other: Search of HMIS

12. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality count of total unsheltered people in 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
- 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

13. Did your approach to collecting the total count of unsheltered people differ from your approach to collecting demographic and subpopulations data about unsheltered people?

No

Unsheltered Subpopulations

14. What approach was used to collect demographic and subpopulation data about unsheltered people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count?

- Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the PIT count

15a. How did you select those people?

- People were not selected randomly, and the selection was driven by practicality or expediency (e.g., people willing and able to complete a survey on the night of the PIT count)

15b. Did you adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for all persons in all projects?

No

- Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the count, but completed at a later date
- Surveys/interviews of people identified within 7 days following the night of the PIT count night who may have been unsheltered on the night of the PIT count (e.g., “service-based” surveys at locations where people who are homeless go for assistance)
- HMIS data from street outreach and/or other providers

15. Were all people who were encountered during canvassing on the night of the count or during post night of the count PIT activities asked to complete a survey/interview?

- A subset of people was surveyed

16. What method(s) were used to obtain the highest quality demographic and subpopulation data on unsheltered people included in your unsheltered subpopulations?

- Reviewed HUD guidance and/or trainings on conducting an unsheltered count
- Written instructions to canvassers
- Trained canvassers on the data collection requirements/forms/process
- 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

17. 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.

17a. Compared to last year, the 2015 sheltered count:

- Decreased

Explain:

The number of people using transitional housing decreased.

17b. Compared to last year, the 2015 unsheltered count:

- Increased

Explain:

We had better weather this year which provided a better count. We have more people who are working with the unsheltered and they participated in the count; thus we were able to find and count (survey) more people this year. There also seems to be an actual increase in the number of homeless people in some areas.

