

Methodology for CO-504 - Colorado Springs/El Paso 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	84%
Provider-level surveys	7%
Client-level surveys	9%
Observation	0%
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?

- Complete census count

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)

Sheltered Subpopulation

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

- HMIS Data
- Provider-level surveys

- Client-level surveys

5. Was the CoC able to collect information about the demographic and subpopulation characteristics of all sheltered people or only some?

- All sheltered people

6. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below.

- Change in participation of programs serving general homeless populations (e.g., singles, families)
- Change in emergency shelter capacity
- Change in transitional housing capacity

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

We had an increase in Winter Shelter beds, Emergency Shelter and vouchers. The HIC shows an increase in the Winter Shelter (24 beds combined) and Emergency Shelter beds (13 beds) and churches and vouchers (48 beds).

The Transitional Housing population increased greatly with children under the age of 18 even though the Household counts went down, which shows we had larger households. The HIC also shows that the TBRA program had 23 Units that were under development last year out of their total of 30 and that program had 26 of their units filled this year. Two TH programs serving Unaccompanied (Ithaka and Mesa House) are no longer requiring homelessness, but are instead being used as a transition opportunity for those coming out of Jail/Prison/Hospital/Foster Care, and therefore are no longer being counted in PIT/HIC.

In the SuperNOFA Transitional Housing programs rank lower, and communities are asked to begin re-allocating TH programs because it is no longer the best use of funding. In our community Salvation Army had two TH programs that ranked low and one that was given up for re-allocation. We do still have other TH programs that are still working really well for our community.

Anecdotally - we hear that people see an increase in homeless in Colorado Springs since marijuana has been legalized. Also, we are hearing that people are moving here because of the ease of Medicaid enrollment.

Unsheltered Population

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

- "Night of the count" - known locations

- Service-based count

7a. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reason to believe there were no unsheltered people in those areas?

No

7c. In areas that were canvassed, did the CoC count all unsheltered people in those areas or a sample of people?

- All people encountered during the count

8. 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

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- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)

Unsheltered Subpopulations

9. What approach(es) 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
- 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)

10. 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?

- All people encountered were surveyed

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)

12. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below

- Change in PIT count methodology
- More volunteers for PIT count
- Change in awareness of PIT count and relevant resources

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

The community is gaining more awareness of the importance of the PIT count for unsheltered persons in our community. For the past two years we have had great participation from the Homeless Outreach Team police officers, an SSVF Veteran Outreach worker, and others in the community towards mapping the main "hang-out" locations for those experiencing homelessness - to include tent camps. This also included increased participation from the City of Manitou Springs and the City of Fountain, to include Police Officers, community agencies, and outreach workers.

Our community does have a by-name list of Veterans through extensive outreach for the Veteran population. The people working on this list have been a part of the PIT process to ensure those Veterans were surveyed.

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