



New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

City of Albuquerque 2007 Point-in-Time Homeless Count Final Report April 2007

The 2007 Point-in-Time (PIT) count was conducted for the night of January 24, 2007. The Albuquerque Continuum of Care Steering Committee planned and conducted the count. The PIT count involved two separate counts: a count of the sheltered population and a count of the unsheltered population on the night of January 24, 2007. The sheltered population includes people staying in emergency and transitional housing. The unsheltered population includes people who slept in a car, movie theater, park, public space, street or alley, tent, abandoned building, under a bridge, the foothills/mountains or the bosque.

The following chart provides a summary of the results of our 2007 PIT count:

2007 Point-in-Time Count				
Estimated Number of Homeless Persons by Household Type & Shelter				
	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total
# of Households with Children	24	100	23	147
# of persons in households with children	71	312	72	455
# of households without dependent children	402	204	165	771
# of persons in households without children	402	204	215	821
Total Persons	473	516	287	1276

Methodology

To conduct the 2007 sheltered PIT count, the NMCEH mailed out a survey in late January to all emergency and transitional housing providers in Albuquerque. The survey asked providers to report how many people stayed in the agencies' shelter(s) or transitional housing program(s) the night of January 24th. The survey also asked agencies to report on the number of beds available and who the agency serves (i.e. single individuals, women with children, teenagers). Details from the

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bed inventory portion of the shelter survey are in Exhibit 1 of the 2007 Continuum of Care application. Steering Committee members followed up with every agency that received a survey to ensure that the staff received the survey, understood how to fill it out and that someone would complete and return it.

To conduct the 2007 unsheltered PIT count, the Steering Committee planned and conducted a services-based count, which involved interviewing people as they accessed homeless services. Volunteers and staff conducted a short, 3 question survey with people who accessed homeless services between January 24th and January 31st. The survey asked: 1) for information that would help us create a unique identifier, allowing us to eliminate duplicates during our data analysis 2) where the person stayed the night of January 24th, allowing us to determine if that person was an unsheltered homeless person that night 3) if anyone else had asked him/her these questions. Volunteers and staff also conducted a longer survey with a sample of respondents. The results of this longer survey allowed us to calculate average household size for the unsheltered homeless population.

People who accessed the following services were interviewed by volunteers: St. Martin's Hospitality Center, Healthcare for the Homeless, Noon Day soup kitchen and First United Methodist soup kitchen. Volunteers were assigned shifts at these agencies depending on what day/time the agency saw the most people. Staff at Cuidando los Ninos, Goodwill and Resources, Inc. conducted the survey with client they spoke with the week of January 24-31, 2007. In addition, outreach teams from St. Martins, Healthcare for the Homeless, the Dept. of Health, NM Aids Services, First Nation and the Veterans' Outreach Program also interviewed clients that they met between January 24- 31, 2007.

Comparing 2007 PIT count results to previous PIT counts

The methodology utilized for the 2007 PIT count in Albuquerque differed from previous counts and therefore it is not appropriate to draw conclusions about the success or failure of homeless programs based on longitudinal differences. Prior PIT counts were conducted by counting all individuals who are observed to be outside of housing on a specific night. The primary disadvantage of this method is that it does not provide specific information on where people actually slept. The methodology utilized this year involved interviewing persons who accessed homeless services. The advantage of this method is that a greater level of detailed information was collected. The disadvantage is that people who do not access services were not counted. To mitigate this problem, outreach teams were included as service providers. It was assumed that these teams would be able to reach individuals who do not, on their own, access services. However, the resources available to conduct the count were limited and as a result outreach efforts were not as extensive as we would have liked.

Results from the 2007 Sheltered PIT Count

Eighty-three percent of emergency shelter providers and 85% of transitional housing providers completed and returned a shelter survey. **There were 989 sheltered homeless people in Albuquerque the night of January 24, 2007;** 473 people stayed in an emergency shelter and 516 people stayed in a transitional housing program.

Results from the 2007 Unsheltered PIT Count

With the service-based count, we counted 1625 unduplicated persons in 855 households that accessed non-shelter services at a single point-in-time. An additional, 111 persons declined to answer the survey and 16 persons failed to respond to the minimum required data elements. Based

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on their answer to the survey, the housing status of persons was determined to be one of the following: unsheltered; at-risk of homelessness; not homeless; or sheltered.

Unsheltered

The number of persons who were unsheltered on the night of January 24, 2007 but subsequently accessed non-shelter services was 287 representing approximately 189 households. An unsheltered person responded that they had spent the night in one of the following locations: bosque, car, foothills/mountains, movie theater, park, public space, street or alley, tent, under a bridge, abandoned building, don't know, or was homeless, but won't say where.

Sheltered

The number of persons accessing non-shelter services that spent the night of January 24, 2007 in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program was 653. The total number of sheltered persons counted in shelters on the night of January 24, 2007 was 989. Persons who utilize shelter services are the largest category of persons who also utilize non-shelter services.

At-risk of Homelessness

There were 366 persons in 214 households that were at risk of becoming homeless. These individuals indicated that they had spent the night in the following locations: foster care, friend/relative's house, in a home since foreclosed, hospital, jail/prison, juvenile detention center, motel, an apartment since evicted, or other.

Not Homeless

A number of individuals who accessed non-shelter services were not homeless. However, by virtue of the fact that they were accessing services they may find maintaining that housing to be difficult and thus could be categorized as precariously housed. The average household size of those who were housed was 3.5 which is significantly larger than other categories of homeless households (1.6 unsheltered; 1.8 at risk, 2.3 sheltered). There were 102 households that accessed non-shelter services comprising an estimated 319 persons. These persons resided in public housing, apartment they rent, apartment rented for them, house they own, house they rent, or permanent supportive housing.

2007 Point-in-Time Count Number of Persons Accessing Non-Shelter Services in Albuquerque Between January 24-31, 2007		
Housing Status	Total Households	Total Persons
Unsheltered	188	287
At risk	214	366
Not homeless	102	319
Sheltered	351	653
Total	855	1625
Declined	N/A	111
Non-response	N/A	16

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