

2017 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT RESULTS

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

JUNE 2017



New Mexico Coalition to
End Homelessness

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY

The City of Albuquerque Point-In-Time (PIT) Count is a joint project led by the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness, in partnership with local agencies that provide services or housing to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The purpose of the PIT Count is to try and determine how many people experience homelessness on a given night in Albuquerque, and to learn more about their specific needs. The PIT Count night for this year was January 23, 2017.

Knowing how many people experience homelessness in Albuquerque helps secure funding for homeless service programs, including annual federal funding for long-term solutions like permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and transitional housing. This information is a critical part of the annual application process for the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) grant, which provides almost \$5.8 million dollars in federal funding for programs that serve people experiencing homelessness in the City of Albuquerque. This information also gives our community important data to measure progress toward ending homelessness and to identify potential gaps in service.

The PIT Count has two components: a sheltered count of those staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs and an unsheltered count of those sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (i.e. in a park or their car). Each component has its own methodology.

For the sheltered count, we collected data for people staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs from those programs directly. This information was obtained through an agency-wide report, or through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), which is a database that all federally funded homeless programs are required to use.

For the unsheltered count, in person surveys were conducted at local service sites and through street outreach activities. The survey conducted at service sites and through street outreach asked participants about where they stayed on the night of the PIT Count. The survey also asked participants for demographic information such as veteran status, how many children stayed with them, and additional details that would identify what type of housing program participants might qualify for.

Volunteers and staff from member agencies conducted surveys at Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless, First Nations Community Healthsource, The Rock at NoonDay, St. Martin's Hospitality Center, and the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico. Street Outreach staff from Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless, Goodwill Industries of NM, Molina Healthcare, the NM Veteran's Integration Center, the NM Veteran's Administration, and St. Martin's Hospitality Center canvassed the city to identify and conduct the survey with people who were sleeping under highway underpasses, in encampments, and in parks and alleys on the night of the PIT Count.

This year, we made a special effort to learn more about unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. Title One Homeless Project liaisons at Albuquerque Public Schools conducted the survey with students experiencing homelessness or a housing crisis. New Day Youth and Family Services, Warehouse 508, and the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness also hosted a public event, with youth focused entertainment and food, to engage unaccompanied youth and offer an opportunity to participate in the survey.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT RESULTS

For the purposes of the PIT Count, HUD considers a person to be homeless if (s)he is staying in an emergency shelter, in a transitional housing program, or if (s)he is sleeping outside or in a place not meant for human habitation. This report provides a count of the number of people experiencing homelessness according to HUD's definition on the night of January 23, 2017. The 2017 PIT Count data is provided in the charts below. We use similar methodologies for both the 2015 and 2017 counts, so comparison of the two different counts is reasonable.

For 2017, we counted 1318 people who reported experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, which is an increase of 31 people over the 2015 PIT Count. For the 2015 count, 1287 people reported experiencing homelessness on the night of the count.

For 2017, we counted 379 people who self-reported as chronically homeless, which is an increase of 119 people over the 2015 PIT Count. We counted 39 more people that self-reported as chronically homeless who were sheltered and 80 more people that self-report as chronically homeless who were unsheltered in 2017.

One possible reason that the PIT Count for both people experiencing homelessness and people experiencing chronic homelessness was higher in 2017 is, of course, that homelessness and chronic homelessness have increased in our community over the last two years. There are other factors that are also important to consider when comparing the PIT Counts. Each year, we improve our PIT Count process. A stronger PIT Count process means that we are likely to count more people. Improvements to this year's PIT count included:

- Emergency shelters and transitional housing programs have expanded their use of HMIS over the past two years, which allows us to collect more accurate data, when compared to data collected through agency-wide surveys.
- HUD provided additional guidance on defining chronic homelessness in 2016, which allowed us to include more specific questions about length of homelessness and disability in HMIS, agency-wide surveys, and the in-person survey. These specific questions provided a more accurate count of those experiencing chronic homelessness in our community.

- Homeless service providers in Albuquerque continue to improve street outreach methods and systems within our geographical area. Street outreach staff now have real time knowledge of the most likely locations to find people who are unsheltered. In 2015, we utilized the assistance of both homeless service providers and public volunteers to conduct the survey during street outreach. For the 2017 count, street outreach surveying was planned and implemented by only staff who were experienced in street outreach.
- Based on the recommendations of street outreach staff, outreach activities moved from two 4-hour early morning shifts in 2015 to three 8-hour day time shifts in 2017. The temperature during street outreach for the 2017 count was an average of 55 degrees, while the early morning shifts for the 2015 count had an average temperature of 26 degrees. The increased knowledge within the Albuquerque CoC about where unsheltered individuals were likely to be, along with extended day-time hours and higher temperatures, increased the number of individuals that we came into contact with and surveyed during street outreach for the 2017 count. This year, we counted 384 unsheltered people, compared to 2015, when we counted 183 people.
- Historically, unsheltered populations report chronic homelessness at a much higher rate than sheltered populations. The significant increase in unsheltered people identified during the 2017 PIT Count impacted the number of people who reported as chronically homeless.

In addition to a stronger PIT Count methodology, there were 374 people staying at the Steelbridge Winter Only Shelter on the night of the count in 2017. This is an increase from the PIT Count in 2015, when 290 people stayed in the Winter Only Shelter. This 23% increase may be a result of more people being aware of and/or willing to use the Winter Only Shelter in 2017 instead of sleeping outside. It is much easier to locate and survey people staying in shelters than people residing outside.

Ultimately, it is difficult to say which of these factors is most relevant. The PIT Count should be considered a minimum estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness on one night in Albuquerque.

It is important to remember that the PIT Count does not provide a complete picture of homelessness in our community. The data does not include people who are doubled up with family or friends in unsafe, overcrowded, or unstable living conditions (including couch surfing) and people who are living in motels. Many people move in and out of homelessness, especially when we use the relatively narrow definition set by HUD for the purposes of the PIT Count. Not everyone we come into contact with agrees to participate in the survey, and it is not likely that we were able to locate everyone staying outside during street outreach activities. Even with these limitations, the PIT Count provides important data for our community that can be used to develop effective strategies for ending homelessness in Albuquerque.

Date of PIT Count: 1/23/2017

Population: Sheltered and Unsheltered Count

Total Households and Persons

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Number of Households	592	182	0	296	1,070
Total Number of Persons	706	228	0	384	1,318
Number of Children (under age 18)	124	50		10	184
Number of Persons (18 to 24)	36	22	0	26	84
Number of Persons (over age 24)	546	156	0	348	1,050

Gender

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Female	212	93	0	107	412
Male	492	133	0	265	890
Transgender	1	1	0	12	14

Ethnicity

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	427	130	0	228	785
Hispanic/Latino	279	98	0	156	533

Race

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	496	177	0	166	839
Black or African-American	52	28	0	26	106
Asian	4	0	0	1	5
American Indian or Alaska Native	105	19	0	170	294
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5	0	0	0	5
Multiple Races	44	4	0	21	69

Persons in Households with at least one Adult and one Child

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	35	21	5	61
Total Number of persons (Adults & Children)	133	65	16	214
Number of Persons (under age 18)	85	44	9	138
Number of Persons (18 - 24)	7	3	1	11
Number of Persons (over age 24)	41	18	6	65

Gender (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	83	46	3	132
Male	50	19	13	82
Transgender	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	75	18	8	101
Hispanic/Latino	58	47	8	113

Race (adults and children)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
White	71	51
Black or African-American	6	9
Asian	1	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	36	5
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0
Multiple Races	18	0

Unsheltered	Total
6	128
5	20
0	1
5	46
0	1
0	18

Persons in Households with only Children

	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
Total Number of Households	32	5
Total Number of children (under age 18)	39	6

Unsheltered	Total
1	38
1	46

Gender (adults and children)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
Female	14	1
Male	25	3
Transgender	0	1

Unsheltered	Total
0	15
1	29
0	1

Ethnicity (adults and children)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	18	4
Hispanic/Latino	21	2

Unsheltered	Total
0	22
1	24

Race (adults and children)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
White	28	6	0	34
Black or African-American	2	0	0	2
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	0	1	8
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	2	0	0	2

Persons in Households without Children

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Number of Households	525	156	0	290	971
Total Number of persons (Adults)	534	157	0	367	1,058
Number of Persons (18 - 24)	29	19	0	25	73
Number of Persons (over age 24)	505	138	0	342	985

Gender (adults and children)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Female	115	46	0	104	265
Male	417	111	0	251	779
Transgender	1	0	0	12	13

Ethnicity (adults and children)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	334	108	0	220	662
Hispanic/Latino	200	49	0	147	396

Race (adults and children)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	397	120	0	160	677
Black or African-American	44	19	0	21	84
Asian	3	0	0	1	4
American Indian or Alaska Native	62	14	0	164	240
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4	0	0	0	4
Multiple Races	24	4	0	21	49

Persons in Veteran Households with at least one Adult and one Child

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	2	1	0	3
Total Number of Persons	8	4	0	12
Total Number of Veterans	2	1	0	3

Gender (veterans only)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
Female	1	1
Male	1	0
Transgender	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0

Unsheltered	Total
0	2
0	1
0	0
0	0

Ethnicity (veterans only)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2	0
Hispanic/Latino	0	1

Unsheltered	Total
0	2
0	1

Race (veterans only)	Sheltered	
	Emergency	Transitional
White	1	1
Black or African- American	0	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Multiple Races	0	0

Unsheltered	Total
0	2
0	0
0	0
0	1
0	0
0	0

Persons in Veteran Households without Children

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Number of Households	49	69	0	41	159
Total Number of Persons	52	70	0	61	183
Total Number of Veterans	50	69	0	41	160

Gender (veterans only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Female	2	8	0	5	15
Male	48	61	0	36	145
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity (veterans only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	37	62	0	27	126
Hispanic/Latino	13	7	0	14	34

Race (veterans only)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	37	50	0	14	101
Black or African-American	6	10	0	3	19
Asian	1	0	0	0	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	7	0	20	31
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	2	2	0	4	8

Total Veteran Households and Persons

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Number of Households	51	70	0	41	162
Total Number of Persons	60	74	0	61	195
Total Number of Veterans	52	70	0	41	163

Gender

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Female	3	9	0	5	17
Male	49	61	0	36	146
Transgender (male to female)	0	0	0	0	0
Transgender (female to male)	0	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	39	62	0	27	128
Hispanic/Latino	13	8	0	14	35

Race

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	38	51	0	14	103
Black or African-American	6	10	0	3	19
Asian	1	0	0	0	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	7	0	20	32
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	2	2	0	4	8

Unaccompanied Youth Households

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Total Number of unaccompanied youth households	56	23	0	26	105
Total number of unaccompanied youth	57	24	0	26	107
Number of unaccompanied children (under age 18)	32	6	0	1	39
Number of unaccompanied young adults (age 18 to 24)	25	18	0	25	68

Gender (unaccompanied youth)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Female	16	9	0	10	35
Male	40	13	0	13	66
Transgender	1	1	0	3	5
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	1	0	0	1

Ethnicity (unaccompanied youth)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	25	14	0	12	51
Hispanic/Latino	32	10	0	14	56

Race (unaccompanied youth)	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	47	21	0	14	82
Black or African-American	5	2	0	2	9
Asian	0	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	1	0	8	10
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	4	0	0	2	6

Parenting Youth Households

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total number of parenting youth households	5	3	0	8
Total number of persons in parenting youth households	13	7	0	20
Number of parenting youth (youth parents only)	5	3	0	8
Number of parenting youth (under age 18)	0	0	0	0
Number of parenting youth (age 18 to 24)	5	3	0	8
Number of children with parenting youth (children under age 18 with parents under age 25)	8	4	0	12

Gender (parenting youth)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Female	5	3	0	8
Male	0	0	0	0
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity (parenting youth)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3	1	0	4
Hispanic/Latino	2	2	0	4

Race (parenting youth)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
White	2	2	0	4
Black or African-American	1	0	0	1
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	1	0	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	1	0	0	1

Other Homeless Subpopulations

	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	200	78	0	141	419
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	180	65	0	136	381
Adults with HIV/AIDS	4	0	0	2	6
Victims of Domestic Violence	117	47	0	104	268