

2017 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT RESULTS

BALANCE OF STATE

JULY 2017



New Mexico Coalition to
End Homelessness

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY

The Balance of State 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 to determine how many people experience homelessness on a given night across the state in New Mexico with the exception of Albuquerque, and to learn more about their specific needs. The PIT Count night for this year was January 24, 2017. The PIT Count for Albuquerque, which took place on January 23, 2017, is also available for review.

Knowing how many people experience homelessness in New Mexico 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 federal funding for programs that serve people experiencing homelessness in New Mexico. 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.

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 24, 2017. The 2017/2015 comparative PIT Count data is provided in the chart below. A second chart is provided which breaks out data by county.

For 2017, we counted 1,186 people who reported experiencing homelessness on the night of the count, which is an increase of 145 people over the 2015 PIT Count. For the 2015 count, 1,041 people reported experiencing homelessness on the night of the count.

For 2017, we counted 222 people who self-reported as chronically homeless, which is a decrease of 203 people over the 2015 PIT Count. We counted 150 more people that self-reported as homeless in 2017 than who self-reported in 2015.

The PIT Count does not necessarily reflect the exact number of people experiencing homelessness in the state of New Mexico, but rather is a snapshot or best attempt of the homeless population counted on the night of January 24th.

Populations	2017 PIT Count	2015 PIT Count
Total number of people homeless count (approximate)	1,186	1,041
Number of unsheltered count	421	271
Number chronically homeless people	222	425
Number of homeless children, under 18	92	371
Number of homeless people with children	160	537
Number of veterans	86	92
Number of people in emergency shelters	562	567
Number of people in transitional housing	203	203