District of Columbia 2013 Point in Time Enumeration

The Community Partnership
For The Prevention
of Homelessness

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What is Point in Time?

- **HUD-required, annual count of homeless persons in a given jurisdiction**
  - *The Community Partnership (TCP) has conducted the count on behalf of the District since 2001*

- **Persons counted may choose to respond to a needs assessment survey that provides insight in to the make-up of the homeless population and helps determine where gaps exist in a Continuum**
  - *TCP and our partners in District government use PIT survey information to track changes in system over time and use it to plan for the future*

HUD requirement: Who is counted?

HUD requires a count of four populations:

- unsheltered persons (i.e. persons "on the street"),

- persons in emergency shelter (low barrier or temporary)

- persons in transitional housing facilities
  - *HUD refers to these three categories collectively as the "literally homeless"*

  - ***DOES NOT*** *include persons who are "doubled-up" or who are temporarily residing in institutional settings, i.e. hospitals, jails, treatment facilities, foster care, etc.*

- persons living in permanent supportive housing
  - *HUD refers to this category as the "formerly homeless"*

  - *Must be in PSH to be counted; this is not a count of everyone that has exited the Continuum*

HUD requirement: When are they counted?

HUD requires the Point in Time be conducted:

- Within a single 24 hour period, generally overnight
- The night must be within the last seven days of the month of January
  - *These requirements are the same for Continuums nationwide, regardless of climate*

  - *Doing the count in winter helps CoCs understand utilization of all of their Continuum's resources, including shelter space that is only available during the winter months*

HUD requirement:
How are persons counted?

- Methods for counting must be "statistically acceptable," not "guesstimates"
  - *HUD will seek to verify data that appears to be inaccurate or that looks to be under- or over-reported*

- TCP's PIT Methodology is reported on extensively during the "SuperNOFA," the District's annual application for HUD funds; HUD's scoring of our methodology accounts for about a fifth of the application's score

HUD requirement:
How are persons counted?

- CoCs must report the number of programs, if any, that do NOT report information as a part of PIT

- TCP collects information from every program operating in the District, regardless of its funding source(s)

  - *Most shelter and housing programs submit their consumer roster and survey information via the HMIS*

  - *Agencies that do not use the HMIS submit info. on paper surveys or via phone interviews (this includes de-identified information from VAWA programs)*

  - *Unsheltered count was done with a coordinated nighttime effort involving city outreach agencies and nearly 200 volunteers; data from daily rounds, meal programs & drop in centers were also included*

Point in Time Results

- Literally homeless persons: 6,859
    - *Total count is **down 1.4** percent from 2012*
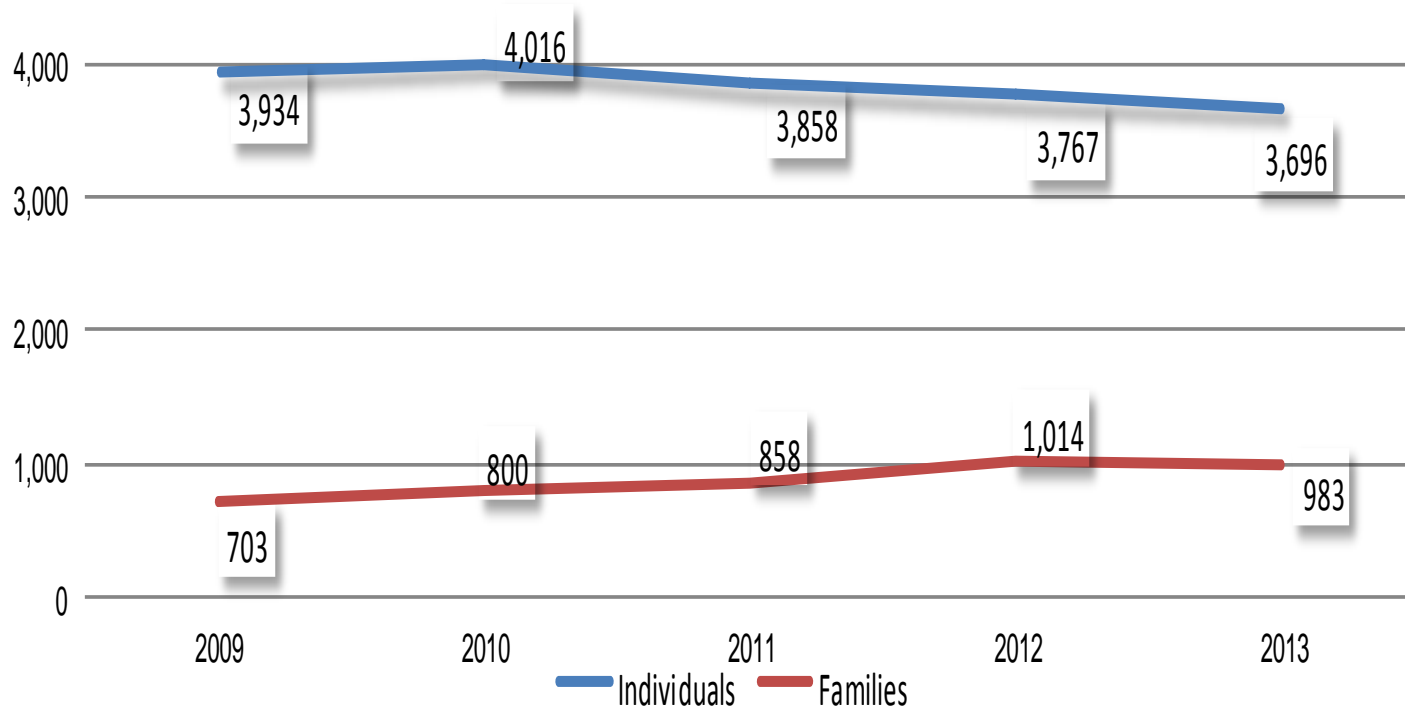   - *Significant changes in categories that make up the count*

	2011	2012*	2013	+/- Change (2012 – 2013)
Unsheltered Persons	305	679	512	-167
Single Persons in Emergency Shelter	2,636	2,166	2,459	+293
Single Persons in Transitional Housing	917	922	725	-197
Families in Emergency Shelter	326	511	464	-47
Families in Transitional Housing	532	503	519	+16

*A Hypothermia Alert was not in effect on the night of the 2012 PIT count. Hypothermia Alerts occur when the actual or forecasted temperature is 32 degrees or below; additional shelter spaces are open when this occurs.

Homeless Population Over Time

Homeless Individuals & Families Counted at Point in Time, 2009 - 2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Individuals	3,934	4,016	3,858	3,767	3,696
Families	703	800	858	1,014	983

Subpopulations & Disabilities

Subpopulations		
	Single Adults	Adults in Families
Limited English Proficiency	7.8%	2.5%
U.S. Military Veterans	15.3%	2.1%
Domestic Violence History	10.2%	31.4%
Chronically Homeless	66.7%	16.2%

Disabilities		
	Single Adults	Adults in Families
Chronic Substance Abuse	30.1%	7.9%
Severe Mental Illness	27.9%	11.1%
Chronic Health Problem	12.1%	3.2%
Living w/ HIV/AIDS	1.8%	1.0%
Physical Disability	23.0%	5.9%

Single Adults and Adults in Families Counted

- The median age of single adults was 51 years; and

- The median age among adults in homeless families was 28.

These figures are consistent with the 2012 count.

Homeless Youth Counted

The Homeless Services CoC defines youth as persons aged 0 to 24 years; therefore, the count of homeless youths will not be equal to the count of homeless minor children (homeless persons aged 0 to 17 years).

- 2478 youths were counted in shelter and transitional housing; of that count:
  - 604 were Adult-Youths (persons aged 18 to 24);
  - 6 were unaccompanied minors. This is down from 13 counted during PIT 2012 and 26 counted in 2011; and
  - 1,868 minors in families were residing with their parents in family shelter and transitional programs; this is similar to the 1,880 counted during the 2012 enumeration.

There were no unsheltered minor children or unsheltered families.

Income & Employment

- 20 percent of singles and 25 percent of adults in families report that they were employed as of Point in Time

- Employment income or SSI/SSDI are the most common primary income source for single homeless persons; TANF is the most common among adults in homeless families

- 45 percent of singles and 18 percent of adults in families reported that they had no income of any kind

Factors Affecting the Count

- The Hypothermia alert was in effect beginning at 7PM on the night of the count; the alert was not in effect when the 2012 count was conducted. As such, the number of single persons in emergency shelter was higher as there were a greater number of beds available.

- Greater investments in prevention and rapid rehousing kept the emergency shelter population lower (as compared to 2012) for most of the Hypothermia season. The lower number of families using motels in 2013 is the primary reason for the overall decrease in the PIT count from 2012.

Permanent Supportive Housing

- 3,690 formerly homeless individuals and 983 formerly homeless families were counted in the District's Permanent Supportive Housing Inventory during PIT 2013

- The count of single men and women in PSH has increased by 21 percent and the number of families has increased by 9 percent

- But for these dedicated PSH resources for persons with disabling conditions, many of these formerly homeless persons would likely still be in shelter

Rapid Rehousing

- While not counted at PIT, Rapid Re-Housing has played an integral role in stabilizing the housing situation of many singles and families that were once in the shelter system, thereby reducing the homeless population

- A TCP analysis of Rapid Re-Housing found two-thirds of Rapid Re-Housing participants exit RRH to permanent destinations, and that 91 percent of persons who exit RRH programs to permanent destinations have remained housed to date

Contact Information

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