HUD Unsheltered PIT Count Standards

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Overview of Presentation

• Provide overview of the direction HUD is going with PIT counts
• Discuss new PIT count methodology standards
• Highlight the guidance related to youth
• Review youth-specific requirements for PIT count
Where HUD is Going with PIT Counts
Evolving PIT Count Expectations

HUD has required PIT counts for years

2 main areas of focus with PIT over time:
   1. Improve count accuracy
   2. Expand data collected

The PIT count has limits

HUD is striving to balance accuracy of information with scope of information
Updated Guidance on PIT Count Methodology

Purpose of updated guidance on PIT count methodology:
• Shift from suggestions to standards
• Improve guidance

Goal of Standards: Balance accuracy with practical implementation limitations

Contents of the Guide:
1. Introduction – including overview of the 14 standards
2. Choosing the Right PIT Count Methodology
3. Planning Your PIT Count
4. Executing the Sheltered Count
5. Executing the Unsheltered Count – including guidance on subpopulations like youth
6. After the PIT Count
New PIT Count
Methodology
Standards
Standard 1: CoCs are responsible for planning and conducting, at least biennially, a PIT count of homeless persons within the geographic area that meets HUD’s requirements.
Standard 11: CoCs must be able to verify that the unsheltered homeless people identified in the count are unsheltered on the night designated for the count, as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 the Homeless Definition Final Rule:

“An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.”
The Unsheltered Standards

**Standard 9:** CoCs must account for and report on all unsheltered homeless people residing in the CoC’s geography through a **census (complete coverage)** or one or more **sampling** and extrapolation methods that are consistent with HUD standards and guidance. HUD will evaluate the nature and basis for estimation and extrapolation of CoCs’ unsheltered count in the **annual CoC Program Competition.**
Standard 10: CoCs may exclude geographic areas where the CoC has determined that there are no unsheltered homeless people, including areas that are uninhabitable (e.g., deserts). CoCs must document the criteria and decision-making process used to identify and exclude specific geographic areas.
What the New Guidance Says about Youth
Youth in the Updated Guidance

Incorporate youth in the planning process

- Raise awareness of barriers to counting homeless youth, including
  - Conflicting youth definitions
  - Youth homeless are different than adults
  - Youth often don’t want to be found
  - Youth don’t consider themselves homeless

Suggest promising practices to improve how youth are counted during the PIT count
Youth in the Updated Guidance

Suggest promising practices to improve how youth are counted during the PIT count

• Collaborate with local school district homeless liaisons
• Recruit currently or formerly homeless youth to assist with the count
• Engage organizations serving homeless youth
• Identify locations where homeless youth congregate
• Hold magnet events
• Use social media to raise awareness and outreach
• Identify a lead homeless youth PIT count coordinator
• Provide services, food, and incentives to youth being counted
• Survey locations during multiple times throughout the day of the count
Youth-specific PIT Count Requirements
Collection and Reporting
Youth in the PIT Count: 2014

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<th>Unsheltered</th>
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<td>Number of children in multi-child households</td>
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Children and youth in households with at least one adult and one child (accompanied)

Unaccompanied youth (ages 18-24)

Unaccompanied children (under 18) and children presenting together but not with adults
Resources

• Up to date information regarding the McKinney-Vento Act programs, including a copy of the McKinney-Act amended by the HEARTH Act, the ESG interim rule, the CoC interim rule, and TA materials can be found at http://www.onecpd.info

• Notification of the availability of future information will be released via OneCPD’s Mailing List. To join the OneCPD mailing list, go https://www.onecpd.info/mailinglist and click on the programs for which you would like more information
Questions

Submit Questions to HUD’s Exchange’s Ask-a-Question at:

https://www.onecpd.info/get-assistance/my-question/

Please note: Due to the high volume of questions, please read the regulations and the training materials provided prior to submitting your question to Ask-a-Question.