

Methodology for NY-501 - Elmira/Steuben, Allegany, Livingston, Chemung, Schuyler Counties CoC

Sheltered Population Total

1. What data source(s) was used to produce the total number of people included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? Please indicate the percentage of the PIT count derived from each of the sources. (If a source was not used, please enter zero).

HMIS Data	75%
Provider-level surveys	25%
Client-level surveys	0%
Observation	0%
Other	0%
Total	100%

2. Was the CoC able to collect information about the number of people being sheltered on the night of the count from all emergency shelters, Safe Havens, and transitional housing projects listed on the HIC or only some? listed on your HIC or only some?

- Complete census count

3. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the total number of people included in the sheltered population?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number

Sheltered Subpopulation

4. What data source(s) was used to produce the demographic and subpopulation data included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? (select all that were used)

- HMIS Data

5. Was the CoC able to collect information about the demographic and subpopulation characteristics of all sheltered people or only some?

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- All sheltered people

6. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below.

- Change in emergency shelter capacity
- Change in transitional housing capacity
- Change in permanent supportive housing capacity

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

The reason that best explains the change (a net increase of 20 persons) in the sheltered count from last year's count is increased or improved PIT count training, change in awareness of PIT count and relevant resources, and change in emergency beds, Permanent Supportive Housing beds and transitional housing.

Increased or improved PIT count training: This year, in coordination with the Collaborative Applicant and the HMIS Lead, the community was trained on PIT requirements and was provided training on HMIS data clean up to ensure PIT data quality. The CA also provided additional one-on-one technical assistance to agencies that are not within the HMIS on how to collect data and complete required forms. This improved training led to a more accurate and complete count.

Unsheltered Population

7. What approach(es) was used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count. (select all that were used)

- "Night of the count" - complete census
- "Night of the count" - known locations

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7a. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reason to believe there were no unsheltered people in those areas?

Yes

7b. How did the CoC select the areas that were included for canvassing?

- Areas were not selected randomly, but an effort was made to use local knowledge to target known locations (e.g., areas with known concentrations of unsheltered homeless people)

7b1. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for areas within the CoC geography that were not canvassed but where unsheltered people might have been on the night of the PIT count?

No

7c. In areas that were canvassed, did the CoC count all unsheltered people in those areas or a sample of people?

- All people encountered during the count

8. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the total count of people in the unsheltered population? (Check all that apply)

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)

- Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

Unsheltered Subpopulations

9. What approach(es) was used to collect demographic and subpopulation data about unsheltered people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count?

- Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the PIT count
- Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the count, but completed at a later date
- Surveys/interviews of people identified within 7 days following the night of the PIT count night who may have been unsheltered on the night of the PIT count (e.g., "service-based" surveys at locations where people who are homeless go for assistance)

10. Were all people who were encountered during canvassing on the night of the count or during post night of the count PIT activities asked to complete a survey/interview?

- All people encountered were surveyed

11. What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated total count of homeless people across your sheltered and unsheltered populations?

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number

12. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below

- Change in PIT count methodology
- Change in emergency shelter capacity
- Change in permanent supportive housing capacity

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

- HMIS data from street outreach and/or other providers

two reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 18 persons) in the unsheltered count from last year's count are increased or improved PIT count training and change in awareness of PIT count and relevant resources. There was also a change in emergency beds.

Increased or improved PIT count training: This year additional volunteers were trained more effectively to ensure deduplication and appropriate interviewing techniques. In addition, the Collaborative Applicant facilitated regional unsheltered PIT Lead Agency meetings to ensure that the lead agency, was prepared to train volunteers. This improved training led to a more accurate and complete count.

Change in awareness of PIT count: During this year's regional unsheltered PIT Lead Agency meetings, the Collaborative Applicant facilitated discussion on how to engage additional service partners (i.e. food pantries) to participate in the unsheltered PIT. Increasing awareness of the PIT count led to a more accurate and complete count.

