# Methodology for NY-523 - Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs/Saratoga, Washington, Warren, Hamilton 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
- Blitz count of persons in shelters (i.e., count occurred at same time to avoid double counting)

## 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

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

  - 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.**

  - Increased or improved PIT count training

  - Weather

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

Two reasons that best explain the overall net increase of 26 sheltered persons are (1) Increased or improved PIT count training and (2) weather.

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.

Weather: On the night of the count there was heavy rain and the temperature dropped to a recorded low of -12 degrees.  Due to below freezing temperatures the NYS Code Blue Executive Order was in effect.  Code Blue requires local counties to shelter all persons/households regardless of sanctions or other eligibility requirements that would otherwise be a barrier for shelter.

## 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" - 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?**

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 unique client identifiers (not PII)

- Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., canvassing of different areas occurred at same time to avoid double counting)

## 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

**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?**

- A subset of people was 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 unique client identifiers (not PII)

- Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., sheltered and unsheltered counts occurred at same time to avoid double counting)

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

**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**

- Increased or improved PIT count training

- Weather

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

**10a. How did the CoC select those people?**

- People were not selected randomly, and the selection was driven by practicality or expediency (e.g., people willing and able to complete a survey on the night of the PIT count)

**10b. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for all persons in all projects?**

Yes

two reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 16 persons) in the unsheltered count from last year\\\\'s count are (1) increased or improved PIT count training and (2) weather

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

Weather: A large  increase in  the number of persons utilizing shelter on the night of the count could be directly related to the weather on the night of the count.  The temperature that night was below 32 degrees and a Code blue was in effect.

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