

Methodology for NY-606 - Rockland County 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	40%
Provider-level surveys	60%
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
- Provider-level surveys

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.

- Increased or improved PIT count training
- Change in emergency shelter capacity

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

2020-The two reasons best explaining the change (net decrease of 18 persons) in the sheltered count from 2019 to 2020 include the positive impact of Coordinated Entry and increased or improved PIT count training.

Impact of Coordinated Entry: Rockland County has developed a robust Coordinated Entry system focusing on rapidly and effectively housing the most vulnerable households. The CE system has strengthened communication and relationships across program types, and has empowered street outreach programs to more rapidly make appropriate referrals and increase the number of vulnerable persons sheltered. The community continues to see the positive impact of CE, including shorter lengths of shelter stay, more appropriate placements within PH and improved housing stability.

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

2019-Two reasons that best explain the change (a net increase of 9 persons) in the sheltered count from last year's count are increased or improved PIT count training and change in emergency shelter capacity.

Increased or improved PIT count training: This year there was improved training. The Collaborative Applicant, in coordination with the HMIS lead, facilitated increased training opportunities for the the community on PIT requirements and HMIS data clean up. 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.

Change in emergency shelter capacity: Additional beds were available via the Warming Station this year increasing shelter capacity. This increase in capacity allowed for an increase in number of persons who were able to be connected with shelter resources.

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)

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- "Night of the count" - known locations

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)

- 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?

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

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
- Change in emergency shelter capacity
- Change in rapid re-housing capacity

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

2020-This year the CoC identified 29 additional unsheltered individuals. Each year the CoC strives to improve outreach for the unsheltered PIT count. This year the CoC ensured there were more agencies/programs participating within the count. This increase in boots on the ground volunteers led to a more appropriate canvassing; which led to an increase in the count of street homeless. There was also a decrease in the number of persons in emergency shelter on the night of the count. This may be explained by a decrease in persons sheltered by DSS in hotels/motels on the this night.

2019-Three reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 7 persons) in the unsheltered count from last year's count are a change increased or improved PIT count training, emergency shelter capacity, and change in rapid re-housing capacity.

Increased or improved PIT count training: This year additional volunteers were trained more effectively to ensure de-duplication and appropriate interviewing techniques. In addition, the Collaborative Applicant facilitated regional unsheltered PIT Lead Agency meetings to ensure that the lead agency, Helping Hands and the Rockland County Department of Social Services was prepared to train volunteers. This improved training led to a more accurate and complete count.

Change in emergency shelter capacity: Additional beds were available via the Warming Station this year increasing shelter capacity. This increase in capacity allowed for an increase in number of persons who were able to be connected with shelter resources.

Change in rapid re-housing capacity: This year additional rapid rehousing capacity became available within the community. This led to the utilization of 29 additional rapid rehousing beds; allowing those in shelter to be quickly housed. Housing those in shelter allowed shelter beds and resources to be available to the most vulnerable; those who were living on the street.

