

# Methodology for NY-507 - Schenectady City & 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	75%
Provider-level surveys	25%
Client-level surveys	0%
Observation	0%
Other	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

## 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

Point In Time Methodology for NY-507 - Schenectady City & County CoC

- Provider-level surveys

**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.**

- Impact of coordinated entry
- Other:

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

The reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 163 persons) in the sheltered count from last year's count are: (1) Impact of Coordinated Entry, (2) Change in capacity due to COVID-19, (3) Other: Eviction Moratoriums.

Impact of Coordinated Entry: With funding through the CoC, Schenectady 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 directly into permanent housing. The community continues to see the positive impact of CE, including more appropriate placements within PH and improved housing stability.

Change in capacity due to COVID-19: As a result of COVID-19, some shelters decompressed in order to meet federal and state social distancing requirements. As such, there was less capacity to provide shelter than in years past.

Other, Eviction Moratoriums: On the night of the count, there were two eviction moratoriums in place: the federal CDC Eviction Moratorium and the NYS Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act. This reduced the need for emergency shelter as residents are remaining in rental properties, even if they have not been able to pay rent. Providers believe this is the primary reason for the reduced sheltered count this year.

## **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)**

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

Point In Time Methodology for NY-507 - Schenectady City & County CoC

Eviction Moratoriums

- 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?**

**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?**

- N/A

**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
- Impact of coordinated entry
- Other: Eviction Moratorium

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



The reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 5 persons) in the unsheltered count from last year's count are: (1) Increased or Improved PIT count training, (2) Impact of Coordinated Entry, and (3) Other: Eviction Moratoriums.

Increased or improved PIT count training: This year volunteers were trained more effectively to ensure de-duplication. In addition, the Collaborative Applicant facilitated phone meetings which included the unsheltered PIT Lead Agencies hosting homeless events to ensure a more accurate and complete count.

Impact of Coordinated Entry: With funding through the CoC, Schenectady has developed a robust Coordinated Entry system focusing on rapidly and effectively housing the most vulnerable households – including those who experience unsheltered homelessness. The CE system has strengthened communication and relationships across program types, and has empowered street outreach programs to more rapidly make appropriate referrals directly into permanent housing. The community continues to see the positive impact of CE, including more appropriate placements within PH and improved housing stability.

Other, Eviction Moratoriums: On the night of the count, there were two eviction moratoriums in place: the federal CDC Eviction Moratorium and the NYS Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act. This reduced homelessness in the community as residents are remaining in rental properties, even if they have not been able to pay rent. Providers believe this is the primary reason for the reduced homelessness count year.





Point In Time Methodology for NY-507 - Schenectady City & County CoC









