# Methodology for NY-608 - Kingston/Ulster 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%** |
| **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 unique client identifiers (not PII)

- 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. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose the three reasons you believe best explains these changes from the drop-down list below**

- Impact of coordinated entry

- Change in homelessness prevention capacity

- Change in capacity due to COVID-19

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

The reasons that best explain the change (a net decrease of 6 persons) in the sheltered count from last year\\\'s count are: (1) Impact of Coordinated Entry, (2) Change in homeless prevention capacity, (3) Emergency shelters returned to full capacity with COVID restrictions lifted.

Impact of Coordinated Entry: The CoC 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 homeless prevention capacity: the CoC saw an increase in homeless prevention capacity due to ESG-CV funding. ESG-CV funds were allocated to increase motel outreach staffing that assisted in connecting households in overflow motel beds to permanent housing.  ESG-CV funds also provided rental assistance and case management services that connected households at imminent risk of homelessness facing eviction so they maintained their housing and avoided entering the emergency system.

## Unsheltered Population

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

- "Night of the count" - census

   **5a1. Did you cover the entire geography of your CoC during the night of the count?**

      **5a1a. What were the reasons you were unable to cover the entire geography (select all th**

**6. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reaso there were no unsheltered people in those areas based on prior knowledge/experience?**

- No

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

   - No

**8. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because of concerns relate and safety?**

   - No

   - 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)

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

## Unsheltered Subpopulations

**10. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explain these changes from the drop down list below. Please also provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit).**

   - Change in implementing the PIT count (Select all that apply)

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


- Change in PIT count training (e.g., more/less training options or online training)

- Change in volunteers for PIT count (e.g., increase or decrease in volunteers overall, increase or decrease in volunteers with prior experience, included volunteers from law enforcement in implementation but did not in prior year)

- Counted in fewer or more areas of jurisdiction

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors and how these changes affected PIT count implementation

There were three factors that resulted in an increase of 28 persons in the unsheltered count. (1) Change in PIT Count training,(2) Change in Volunteers, and (3) more areas of the jurisdiction were counted.

- Change in capacity (e.g., increase or decrease in beds/units available, more or less funding available type, more staff in prevention programs, fewer beds available due to COVID-19 social distancing proto

Challenges in finding units to marry with vouchers continues to present an issue in addressing hom

- Change in participation of partners and programs (e.g., increased PIT count participation from progra youth or other populations, change in participation of programs due to COVID-19 restrictions)

Two additional SUD agencies conducted events at a drop in center and had peer advocates survey locations of homeless resulting in an increase of unsheltered persons.

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

There were three factors that resulted in an increase of 28 persons in the unsheltered count. (1) Change in Implementing the PIT Count, (2) Change in Capacity, and (3) Change in Participation of Partners and Programs.

Change in Implementing the PIT Count: This year volunteers were trained more effectively to ensure de-duplication and successful interview techniques. The Collaborative Applicant (CA) facilitated training for PIT Lead Agencies that coordinated the count to ensure a more accurate and complete count. Separate Training for volunteers that were hosting outreach events provided support for advertising, logistics and supplies/give aways. Canvassing team training focused on identifying canvassing teams, identifying known locations, and coordination of teams.

Change in Capacity: Change in capacity also impacted a reported increase in persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This year over the CoC\'s geographic area, there has been a decrease in available units, making it difficult to connect persons experiencing homelessness with housing (even when clients have subsidies in hand). As a result, providers have seen an increase in homelessness.

Change in Participation of Partners and Programs: The addition of the Sheriff\\\\'s ORACLE team and Samadhi provided additional partners that conducted events, had peer volunteers surveying known locations, and increased the areas that were included in the 2023 count. It is believed partnering with these agencies was the primary reason for such a drastic increase in unsheltered homelessness count this year, as it resulted in a much more accurate and complete count of persons previously unidentified.

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Point In Time Methodology for NY-608 - Kingston/Ulster County CoC