

What is the Point-in-Time Count?

The Vermont Statewide Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is an unduplicated count of persons experiencing homelessness in both unsheltered and sheltered (in a homeless program) places on a single night.

The PIT Count allows local communities and state policy makers to understand current problems of homelessness, target limited funding to appropriate housing and services, and track progress.

As stipulated in the HEARTH/McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the PIT Count also allows us in securing funding from HUD Continuum of Care & Emergency Solutions Programs, HHS Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs, Veterans Affairs Homeless Programs, and others.

Everyone Counts! It is critical that we get an accurate count of all people experiencing homelessness in Vermont. In order to count people only once, we need to collect some personal information as a unique identifier. Specifically, name and birth date of an individual. Exception: For survivors of domestic violence and persons with HIV/AIDS do not provide initials or day/month of birth, only year of birth (if possible).

When to Conduct the Count?

UNSHELTERED **nighttime** count is conducted:

6:00PM (Tuesday, January 28th) to
6:00AM (Wednesday, January 29th)

Where is the household currently staying?

UNSHELTERED **daytime** count is conducted:

6:00AM to 6:00PM (Wednesday, January 29th)

Ask: "Where did you stay last night?"

SHELTERED **homeless bed** count includes:

6:00PM (Tuesday, January 28th) to
6:00AM (Wednesday, January 29th)

Which homeless program did they stay in?

*shelter, transitional housing for the homeless, motel voucher program, other.

Completing the Questionnaire

LOCATION OF HOMELESSNESS

If a household stayed at location that is not listed, please check "Other" and describe.

HOUSING NEEDS

Tips for answering Questions A-D:

A) A self-assessment of person's needs, unless conducted during the SHELTERED count where information may be on file.

B) *See definition for Literal Homelessness.

C) If the number of episodes of chronic homelessness is four or more, the individual has experienced chronic homelessness.

D) Determines last permanent residence. Please only provide the Town/City & State.

PLACES of LITERAL HOMELESSNESS

A household lacks decent, safe shelter or sufficient resources to pay for a place to stay.

1. **Places not meant for human habitation:** streets, vehicles, tents, shed, condemned or abandoned buildings, campgrounds, tent cities, airport, bus station, etc.
2. **Emergency Shelter:** domestic violence shelter/safe home; overflow, seasonal, warming shelter; Basic Center Youth bed (not foster care); VA per diem; AHS Emergency Motel voucher; motel/hotel paid by charitable agency.



Please note: *Unique identifying information will remain completely confidential. Data is guarded with strict security/privacy policies.*

Participation in the count will not affect the quality/quantity of services or eligibility of the household receiving services or housing.

IMPORTANT

SEND ALL COMPLETED PIT SURVEYS TO YOUR LOCAL COORDINATOR BY February 5, 2014.

How to include YOUTH in the 2014 Point-in-Time Count?

HUD continues to include youth ages 18-24 in the 2014 homeless count.

Communities are strongly encouraged to coordinate with local **homeless education liaisons** and **Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) service providers**, as well as any service organizations that assist homeless children and youth, to get a comprehensive count.

Many homeless children and youth do not use homeless residential services, and thus, may not appear in databases; while others may be in unsheltered locations that are difficult to find during street counts. It may be helpful to recruit current or formerly homeless children and youth to assist in conducting the count, as they may be able to identify areas where homeless children and youth congregate, as well as assist in conducting interviews.

SCHOOLS: When counting homeless children, the entire household (adults and other children) needs to be included in the survey as a:

- “Household with at least one adult and one child”
or
- “Household with ONLY children”

2014 Vermont Statewide Point-in-Time Count of Homelessness

USER’S GUIDE



A collaborative effort of the:

- AmeriCorps*VISTA
- Chittenden Homeless Alliance
- City of Burlington - CEDO
- Data Remedies
- Good Samaritan Haven
- U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs
- Vermont 211 (United Ways of VT)
- VT Agency of Education
- VT Agency of Human Services
- VT Coalition of Runaway/Homeless Youth Programs
- VT Coalition to End Homelessness
- VT Housing Finance Agency
- VT Network Against Domestic/Sexual Violence
- VT State Housing Authority

Who Can I Contact with Questions?

AGENCY: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT PHONE: _____

Get counted in the annual Vermont count of people who are homeless and help keep resources in our community! If you are homeless on the night of Tuesday, January 28th, please call 2-1-1.

For more information:

