

Midlands Matters

Let's Make Everyone Count

2019 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT and YOUTH COUNT

MAY 2019



Special Thanks

Special thanks to the media sources, donors, United Way Interns, United Way Communications Staff, and 250+ volunteers who made the 2019 Midlands Point-in-Time Count possible. We wish to thank the following individuals for providing county coordination this year:

Aiken: Lisa Tindal/Bette Ross

Allendale: Juanita Orr

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- Church of God
- Church of the Apostles
- City of Columbia
- City of Columbia Police Department
- Covenant Presbyterian Church
- Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen
- Faith Presbyterian Church
- Keepin' it Real Ministries
- Lighthouse for Life
- Living Springs Lutheran Church
- Lutheran Services Carolinas
- Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc.
- Midlands Central Transit – The Comet
- Morning Glo Internet Café
- Oliver Gospel Mission
- Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
- Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Center
- Pilgrims' Inn
- Renew Our Community (ROC)
- Richland County Public Defenders
- Richland Library
- Salvation Army – York County
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina
- St. John's United Methodist - Grace Kitchen
- St. Luke's Episcopal Church
- St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church
- St. Mary's Catholic Church
- St. Peter Catholic Church
- St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church
- State of South Carolina via the ESG Program
- Transitions
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- United Way of the Midlands
- Washington Street United Methodist Church Soup Cellar
- Women in Philanthropy (WIP)
- Youth Action Board

United Way of the Midlands in Partnership with MACH

The Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH), works to expand capacity to address homelessness within the South Carolina counties of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland and York.

Questions

Any questions about the content of this report can be directed to Andy Pope at apope@uway.org

MACH PIT Report Key Findings

On the night of January 23, 2019, **1,215** people were experiencing homelessness in the Midlands. This represents a **23% decrease** over the last 5 years.

The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (long-term homelessness and living with a severe disability) is **down 6%** since 2017 (first year reported).

A total of 188 Veterans were identified during the PIT; 30 Veterans were unsheltered – a **decrease of 29%** since 2016.

78 families were experiencing homelessness, a **decrease of 12%** since 2017.

81 youths ages 18-24 were identified on the night of the PIT, a **35% increase** since 2016.

The number of total unsheltered individuals is **down 45%** since 2014.

PIT Count

Since 2005, HUD has required applicants for federal homeless assistance grants to count and report the number of people experiencing homelessness in their communities on one night during the last ten days of January.

Homeless Point-in-Time Counts (PIT) across the country are used as a primary data source to inform federal funding for programs and services to end homelessness and to track progress against established goals.

Purpose

Knowing what homelessness in our area looks like from a data standpoint is important. MACH's data, year-round, and through the PIT Count, is critical to understanding how we are doing and how we can better serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The purpose of this report is to better understand the Midland's homeless population count. This report is not meant to replace the State's report (expected end of July 2019). MACH's PIT numbers and more will be represented in the Statewide report.

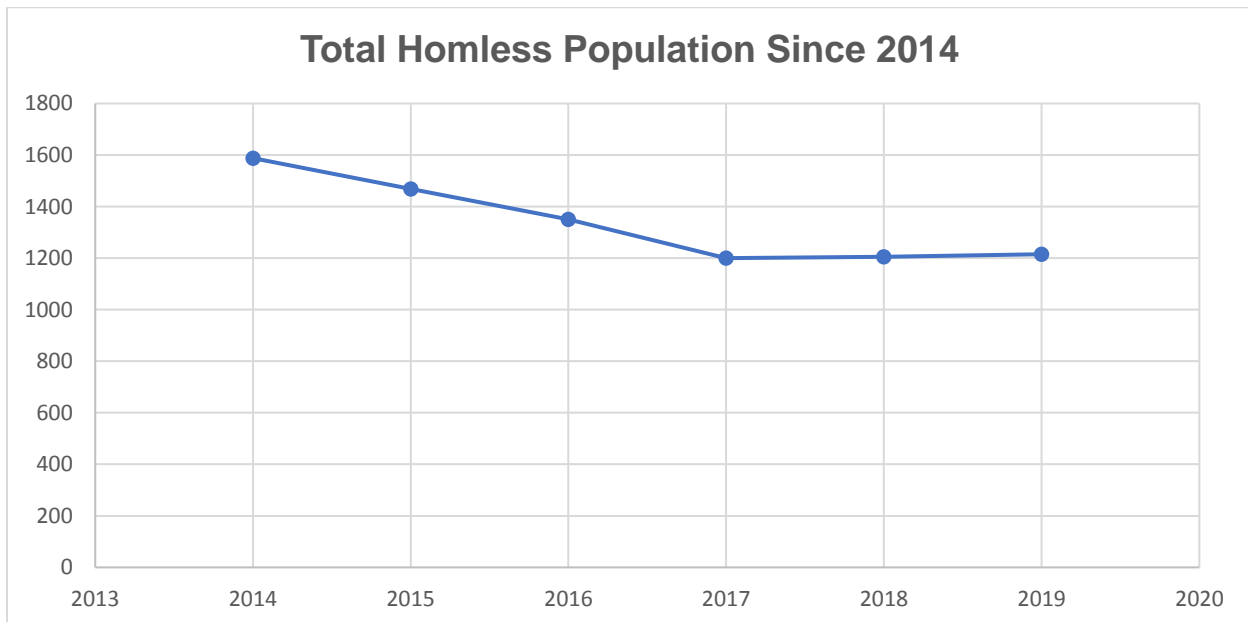
MACH 2019 Total PIT Count Numbers

In the 13 counties throughout the Midlands, 1,215 people were experiencing homelessness on the night of Jan 23, 2019: 619 in emergency shelter, 304 in transitional housing and 292 unsheltered. This represents an overall growth of 1% in persons experiencing homelessness since 2018.

Total Population

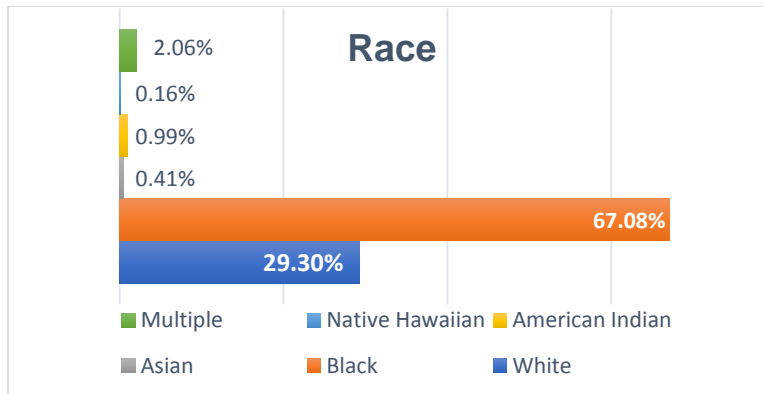
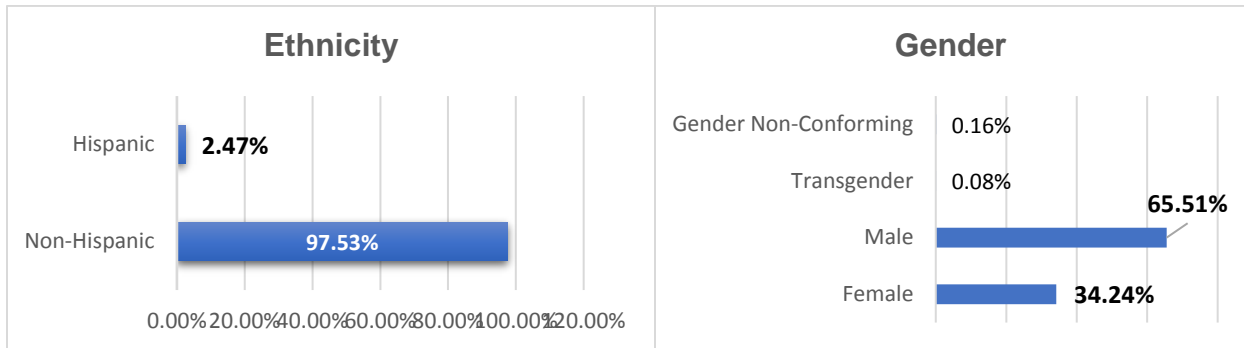
Population	Number of Persons
Sheltered	
Adults in Families	85
Children in Families	133
Adult Individuals	647
Unaccompanied Youth	56
Households w/only children	2
Unsheltered	
Adults in Families	10
Children in Families	7
Adult Individuals	250
Unaccompanied Youth	25
Households w/only children	0
Total Persons	1215

Over the last 5 years there has been a 23% decrease in the total homeless population counted during the PIT, as illustrated in the graph below.



Demographic Data for the Total Numbers

The population experiencing the most homelessness were mostly Black male individuals. The graphs below provide more detail about the race, gender, and ethnicity of those who provided an answer to these questions on the PIT survey. Additionally, only 2.47% of the respondents identified as being of Hispanic ethnicity. See below for the full breakdown of ethnicity data.



Sheltered Count

Throughout the Midlands, 923 people were in a homeless shelter or transitional housing project on the night of the 2019 PIT count. Emergency Shelters accounted for 619 people, while transitional housing accounted for 304. This is an overall decrease of 8% from last year: a 14% decrease in emergency shelter and an 8% increase in people staying in transitional housing.

Families in emergency shelter decreased 12% to 93, and the number of families in transitional housing was 125, a decrease of 6%.

Households with no dependent children accounted for 57% of the total sheltered population, (2018 was 62% a decrease of 5%) and there were 177 individuals or 14% in transitional housing (an increase of 3%). See the table below for a comparison of how the various sheltered populations changed from 2018 to 2019 PIT Counts.

Percent Change by Population Type

*Total Persons

Population	Percent Change from 2018-2019
Individuals ES	-14%
Individuals TH	22%
Families ES	-12%
Families TH	-6%
Children ES	-13%
Children TH	5%

Population by ES and TH

Population	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Total
Total People	619	304	923
Individuals	526	177	703
Families	93	125	218
Children	0	2	2

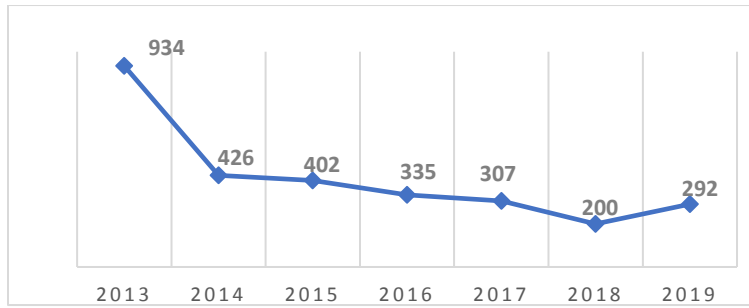
Unsheltered Count

On the night of the count, 292 people were experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The population most represented were Black males, over the age of 24. Of the clear majority, 88% or 258 individuals were over the age of 24, 9% were persons 18-24 and 2% were children under 18. Overall, unsheltered homelessness was 31% higher this year.

Unsheltered Population

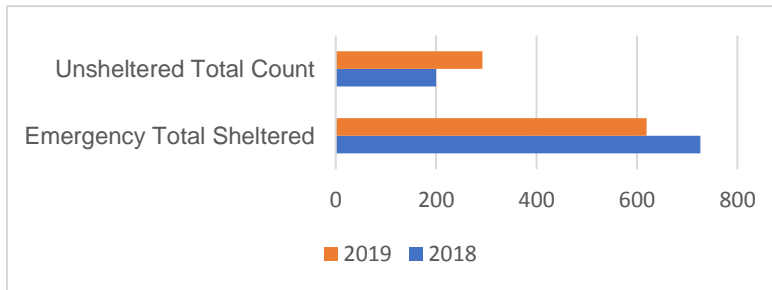
Total Persons	292
Individuals	275
Families	17

Unsheltered Homeless Population since 2011



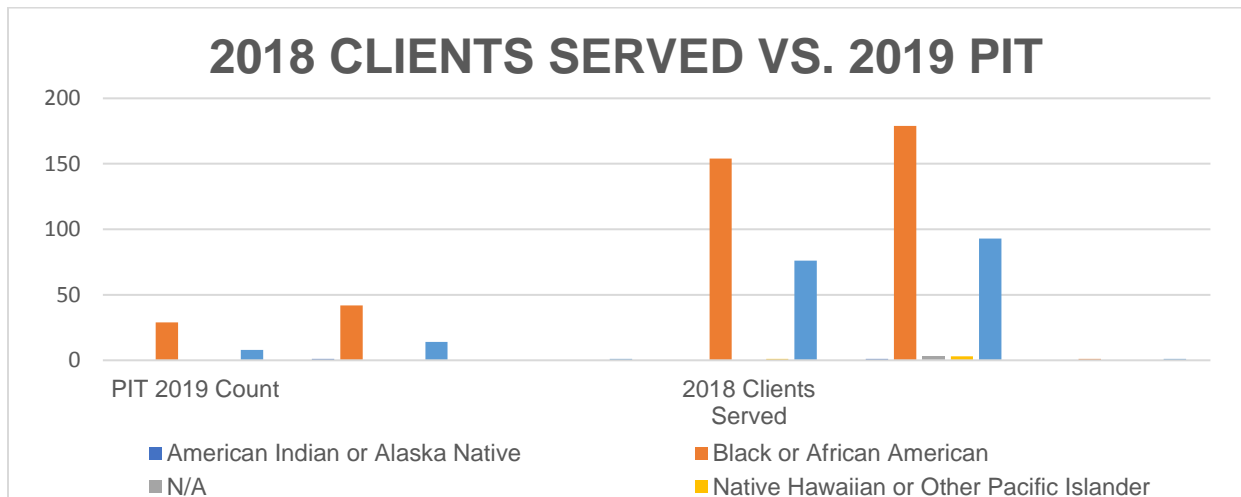
The table below details the change in the unsheltered homelessness between last year and the current year PIT Count.

Unsheltered Count & Shelter Counts 2018-2019

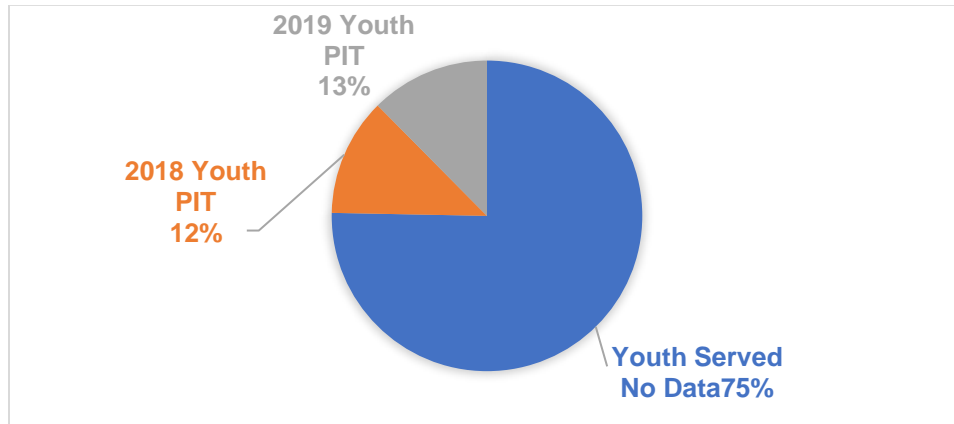


Youth Count

Throughout the Midlands, 81 youth, ages 18-24 were counted during the PIT count. However, a client served report shows 491 unduplicated youth received services or housing across the Midlands CoC from January to December 2018. This indicated that the youth captured on the PIT is 84% below the number of known youths experiencing homelessness or at a high risk for homelessness that sought services in 2018.

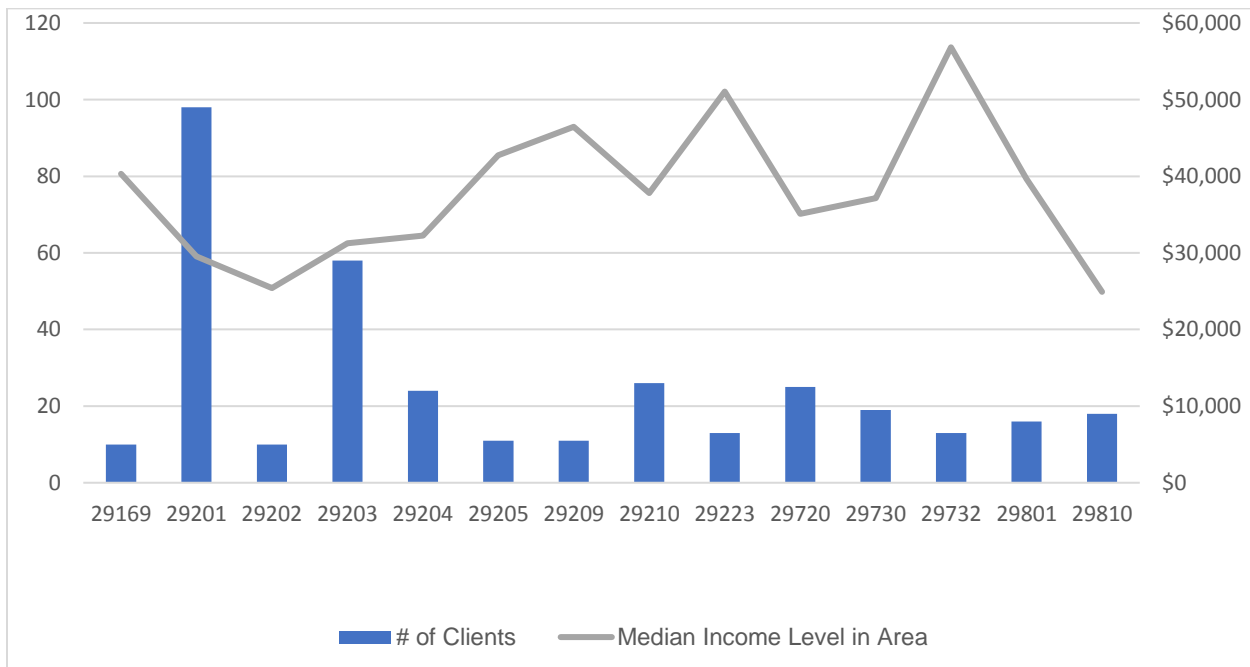


This chart represents the amount of information on youth we were not successful in collecting during the 2019 PIT Count.



Zip Codes

This year, the PIT survey included a question regarding those experiencing homelessness to provide us with the zip code of their last permanent address. Below are those findings, of zip codes reported by 10 or more clients, along with the median income level in those areas.



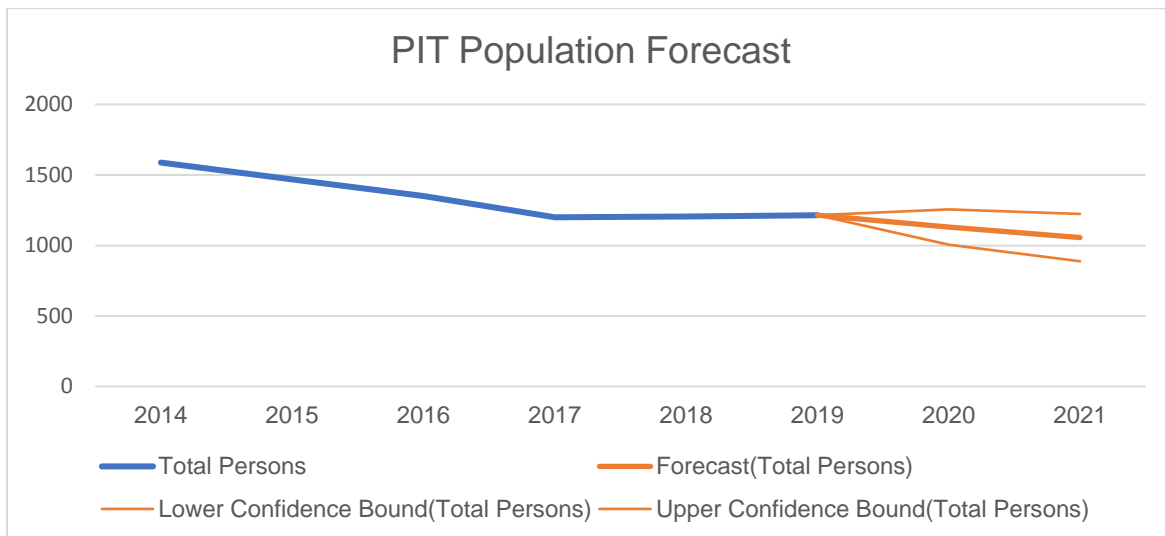
Point-in-Time Count Numbers by County

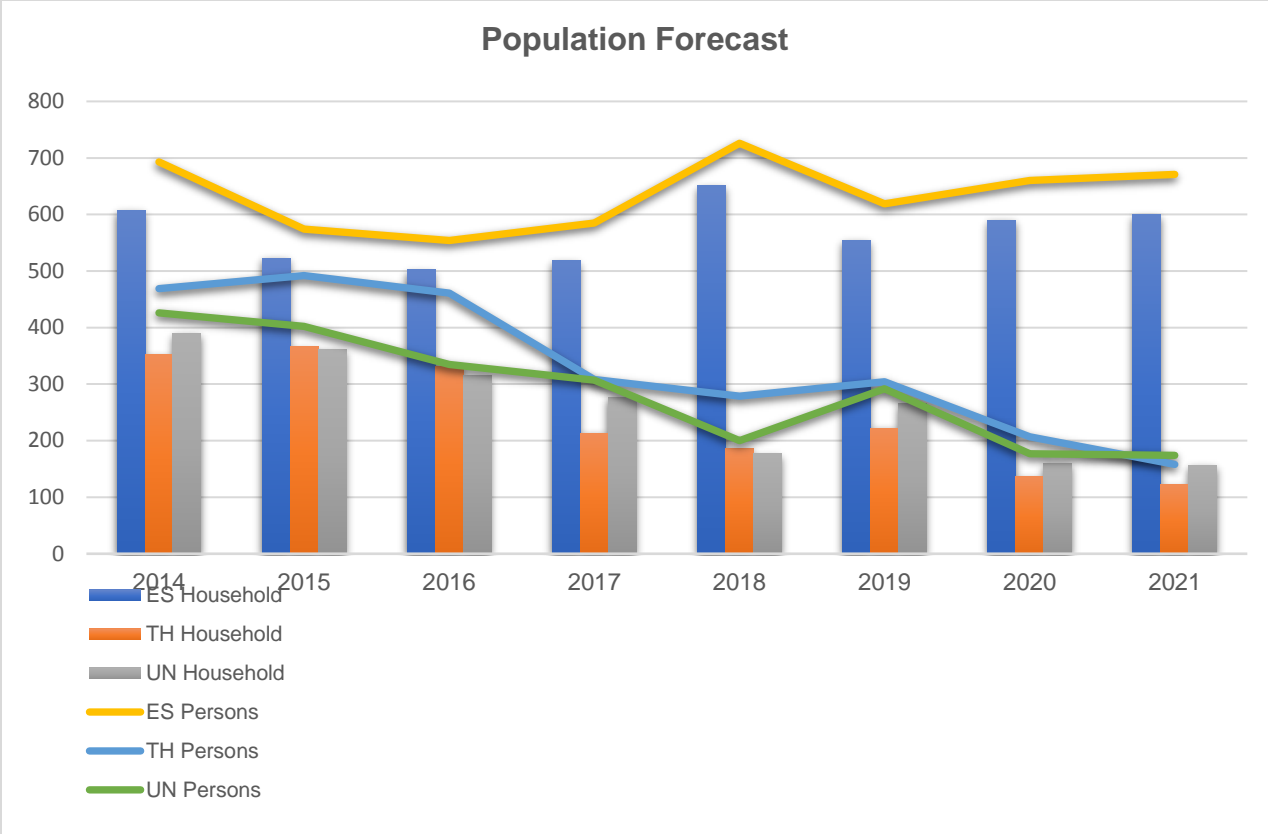
*This total is representative of forms with enough data to be entered, and after deduplication. Not of all forms collected.

County	PIT Survey Totals
Aiken	43
Allendale	24
Barnwell	11
Lancaster	27
Lexington	89
Orangeburg	4
Richland	830
York	124
Unknown/Children	63
Total	1215

Homelessness Projections 2020-2021

Policymakers and planners use projections to gauge future demand for food, water, energy, and services, and to forecast future demographic characteristics. Population projections can alert policymakers to major trends that may affect economic development and help craft policies that can be adapted for various projection scenarios. Based on the last 5 years of PIT counts, below are some projections for the 2020 & 2021 PIT counts. The forecasted data was calculated using the Excel forecasting functions. This function uses a process called triple exponential smoothing (ETS) to take existing or historical data sets to make predictions based on the patterns present.





Forecast 2020-2021
Population: Sheltered and Unsheltered Count

Population	2020	2021
Total Households ES	590	600
Total Households TH	136	122
Total Number of Households	886	878
Total Households UN	160	156
Total Persons ES	660	671
Total Persons TH	207	122
Total Persons UN	177	174
Total Number of Persons	1,044	1,003