



The Point-In-Time Count (PIT) is a one-day snapshot that captures the characteristics and situations of people living here without a home. The PIT Count includes both sheltered individuals (emergency shelters or transitional housing) and unsheltered individuals (those sleeping outside or living in places that are not meant for human habitation).

The annual PIT Count happens the last Friday in January, and is carried out by volunteers who interview people using a standard survey form that asks people where they slept the night before, where their last residence was located, what may have contributed to their loss of housing, and what disabilities the individual may have. It also asks how long the individual has been homeless, age and demographics, and whether the person is a veteran and/or a survivor of domestic violence. In 2017, 219 volunteers participated in the count, comparable in number to the 214 volunteers in 2016 and significantly higher than the number in 2015, which was less than 100.

Like all surveys, the PIT Count has limitations. Results from the Count are influenced by the weather, by availability of overflow shelter beds, by the number of volunteers, and by the level of engagement of the people we are interviewing. Comparisons from year to year should be done with those limitations in mind.

Individuals

Total # Persons Counted	#	%
All Persons Total	1321	100%
Sheltered	817	62%
Unsheltered	504	38%

The HUD definition of "sheltered" includes ONLY shelters or transitional housing that report in HMIS.

	Historical Data (For Trends)				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total	1303	1464	1283	1762	1321
Sheltered*	1183	1171	944	1268	817
Unsheltered	120	293	339	494	504

Race	#	% of Total Persons Counted	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	40	3%	18	1%	22	2%
Asian	27	2%	23	2%	4	0.3%
Black/African Americans	220	17%	152	12%	68	5%
Multi-Racial	189	14%	173	13%	16	1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	67	5%	48	4%	19	1%
Unknown	111	8%	10	1%	101	8%
White	667	50%	393	30%	274	21%
	1321		817		504	

Age	#	% of Total Persons Counted	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Under 18	269	20%	258	20%	11	1%
18-25 yr. old	127	10%	75	6%	52	4%
26-35 yr. old	232	18%	136	10%	96	7%
36-45 yr. old	240	18%	123	9%	117	9%
46-55 yr. old	246	19%	129	10%	117	9%
56-65 yr. old	143	11%	82	6%	61	5%
66+	30	2%	13	1%	17	1%
Not Reported	34	3%	1	0%	33	2%
	1321		817		504	

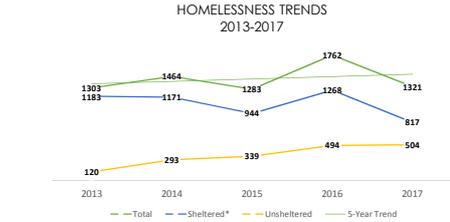
Gender	#	% of Total Persons Counted	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Female	515	39%	364	28%	151	11%
Male	755	57%	449	34%	306	23%
Refused	50	4%	4	0%	46	3%
Transgender	1	0%	0	0%	1	0%
	1321		817		504	

Where People Stayed the Night Before the Count	#	% of total Persons Counted	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Abandoned Building	20	2%	0	0%	20	2%
Emergency Shelter	577	44%	577	44%	0	0%
Other	71	5%	0	0%	71	5%
Out of Doors (street, tent, etc)	296	22%	0	0%	296	22%
Structure Lacking Basic Amenities	22	2%	0	0%	22	2%
Transitional Housing	240	18%	240	18%	0	0%
Vehicle	95	7%	0	0%	95	7%
	1321		817		504	

Targeted Populations	#	% of Total Persons Counted	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Chronically* Homeless Persons	276	20.9%	21	2%	255	19%
Victims of Domestic Violence	183	14%	51	4%	132	10%
Veterans	134	10%	49	4%	85	6%
Unaccompanied Youth & Young Adults**	84	6%	44	3%	40	3%

* HUD defines chronic homelessness as a person who has a disabling condition AND has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, OR has had at least four homeless episodes totaling one year or more in the past three years.

** The County started doing a targeted youth and young adult count in 2015.



* "Sheltered" includes emergency shelter and transitional housing. With the exception of 2016, the sheltered count has generally declined due to the planned conversion of transitional housing to permanent housing. The increase in 2016 was the result of one-time additional City of Tacoma funds to emergency shelters to operate extra overflow beds through the entire winter season.

	Historical Data (For Trends)				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chronically* Homeless Persons	136	217	213	420	276
Victims of Domestic Violence	157	177	244	487	183
Veterans	93	162	138	190	134
Unaccompanied Youth & Young Adults**	N/A	NA	89	90	84

Self-Reported Disabilities	Reported Disabilities		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	#	% of Total Reported Disabilities	#	% of Total Reported Disabilities	#	% of Total Reported Disabilities
Mental Illness	311	31%	106	11%	205	20%
Physical Disability	226	22%	72	7%	154	15%
Chronic Health Condition	191	19%	43	4%	148	15%
Substance Use	180	18%	16	2%	164	16%
Developmental Disability	95	9%	20	2%	75	7%
HIV/AIDS	3	0.3%	0	0%	3	0.3%

Individuals may offer multiple responses



2017 Point-In-Time Count Results January 27, 2017

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Households						
Total Household Types Counted	#	%	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Total Households	959	100%	520	54%	439	46%
Households without Children	827	86%	395	41%	432	45%
Households with Children	132	14%	125	13%	7	1%

	Historical Data (For Trends)				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Households	539	801	757	1053	827
Households without Children	539	801	757	1053	827
Households with Children	228	196	154	232	132

Household Income & Employment	#	% of Total Responses	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Declared Income	706	82%	427	50%	279	32%
Declared Employment	154	18%	119	14%	35	4%
	860		546		314	

Not every person surveyed answered this question

Last Reported Zipcode	#	% of Total Responses	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Bonney Lake	8	1%	4	1%	4	1%
Buckley	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
Carbonado	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
Dupont	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
Eatonville	2	0.3%	0	0%	2	0.3%
File	5	0.7%	2	0.3%	3	0.4%
Gig Harbor	2	0.3%	2	0.3%	0	0%
Graham	6	0.8%	3	0.4%	3	0.4%
Joint Base Lewis McChord	2	0.3%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
Lakewood	69	10%	51	7%	18	3%
Milton	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
Orling	2	0.3%	2	0.3%	0	0%
Parkland	58	8%	32	5%	26	4%
Puyallup	24	3%	7	1%	17	2%
Roy	2	0.3%	1	0.1%	1	0%
South Hill	17	2.4%	15	2%	2	0.3%
Spanaway	19	2.7%	11	2%	8	1%
Sumner	6	0.8%	2	0.3%	4	1%
Tacoma	313	44%	224	32%	89	13%
University Place	20	3%	14	2%	6	1%
Vaughn	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
Wauna	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0%
King County	52	7%	43	6%	9	1%
Out of State	53	7%	20	3%	33	5%
Out of Pierce and King Counties	42	6%	33	5%	9	1%
* Indicates Overlapping Zip codes	708		473		235	

Not every person surveyed answered this question

Income Sources	#	% of Total Responses	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
			#	%	#	%
Public Assistance	633	63%	446	45%	187	19%
None	119	12%	2	0.2%	117	12%
Social Security	92	9%	0	0%	92	9%
Employed Full-time at Low-wage Job	40	4%	31	3%	9	1%
Part-time Work	40	4%	12	1%	28	3%
Veteran Administration Benefits	25	3%	3	0.3%	22	2%
Relatives, Partners or Friends	20	2%	0	0%	20	2%
Child Support	14	1%	11	1%	3	0.3%
Unemployment Insurance	5	1%	1	0.1%	4	0.4%
Refused	5	1%	1	0.1%	4	0.4%
Don't Know	3	0.3%	0	0%	3	0.3%
L&I Worker's Compensation	2	0.2%	0	0%	2	0.2%
	998					

Households may offer multiple responses

Circumstances That Contributed to Homelessness by Household	#	% of Total responses
Job Loss/Lack of Job Skills/Other Economic Reasons	279	24%
Displacement/Last Living Situation/Eviction	238	20%
Family Crisis/ Break-up	140	12%
Alcohol/Substance Abuse	115	10%
Illness/Health Problems/Medical Costs	115	10%
Mental Illness	91	8%
Domestic Violence	77	7%
Transient on the Road	34	3%
Discharged from an Institution	28	2%
Language Barrier	12	1%
Out of Home Youth	10	1%
Don't Know	8	1%
Aged out of Foster Care	7	1%
Refused	5	0.4%
Lack of Child Care	2	0.2%
Conviction	1	0.1%

Households may offer multiple responses