

2014 Point-In-Time Housing Survey

Pinellas County
Florida

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2014 Pinellas County Point-in-Time Count

Executive Summary

The primary goal of a Point-in-Time (PIT) count of homeless individuals is to obtain an accurate as possible estimate of the number of homeless individuals in the community on a given night. United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that local Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct an annual count of “sheltered” homeless persons (individuals in emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens). “Unsheltered” individuals, those found to be staying in “places not meant for human habitation” (e.g., parks, bus shelters, cars, etc.), must be counted every other (odd numbered) year (HUD, 2012). The 2014 Pinellas County Point in Time study sought to accurately count both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals. Pinellas chose Thursday, January 23th, 2014 on which to conduct this year’s count which asked respondents where they stayed on the night of Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014.

The data comprising the homeless Point-in-Time count are derived from a number of discrete sources, which, when combined, give a community a picture of how many homeless reside there on a given night. This Executive Summary presents overall results across each data source. Results from each individual data source are presented after the Executive Summary in individual sections dedicated to each data source’s results.

Definitions of Homelessness and the Point-In-Time

Discussions about the Point-In-Time count as well as homelessness in general must begin with determining exactly who falls into this category. Various definitional parameters exist at all levels of government; even among different agencies at the same level such as United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Veteran’s Administration. The disparity in definitions presents immediate complications as localities work to develop effective homeless policies. Further complicating matters is the fact that many of these agencies provide funding to local communities to provide homeless services; funding which is limited to those considered homeless under their specific definitions.

Hence, the question “how many homeless reside in Pinellas County” can result in a myriad of responses, all of which can be correct. The Point-In-Time is no exception as the results of the count must be reported at the federal level to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) using its definition and at the state level to the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) using its definition.

Neither definition included those individuals and families who were considered to be at-risk of becoming homeless: those who were living in the residence of another due to the inability to obtain their own permanent housing (often referred to as the “doubled-up” population) and

individuals or families residing in hotels that were paid for by any other means outside of public or charitable funds. However, in order to provide local stakeholders with critical information for accurately assessing resource needs and deployment, these populations are included in the Pinellas County definition which guided the 2014 Point-In-Time count (PIT). Using these parameters, Pinellas County counted 5,887 people as homeless; 2,526 (42.9%) were known to be children (see Table 1).

Table 1: Total Homeless Count Pinellas County	
Adults	3,222
Children	2,526
Missing/No Response/Refused	139
Total	5,887

The HUD definition for 2014 considers only those who are literally without housing as homeless. This includes “unsheltered” individuals or families, as well as those who are in a homeless shelter, transitional housing, safe haven or hotel (if the hotel is paid for by a public or charitable organization). Individuals who were homeless immediately prior to entering an institutional setting such as a hospital or detention facility were not classified as homeless for HUD purposes. Similarly, individuals and families fleeing a domestic violence situation and who are without housing resources were also not deemed homeless according to the 2014 HUD definition. Under this definition, Pinellas County had a total of **3,391** homeless persons, **735** (22%) of which were children under 18 years of age (see Table 2, below). Although the state of Florida and HUD defined homelessness in different ways in previous years, in 2014 they each defined homelessness the same way, and thus the numbers submitted to each match precisely (see Table 2, below).

Table 2: Total Homeless Count Reported to HUD and State		
	Reported To	
	HUD	DCF
Adults	2,656	2,656
Children	735	735
Total	3,391	3,391

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless

Overall, homeless are divided into two general categories: unsheltered and sheltered. Individuals and families who are “on the street” are defined as unsheltered. Table 3 presents the information on the number of individual who were identified as homeless during the 2014 PIT count using the broader Pinellas County definition. Results indicated that there were 1,178 unsheltered individuals on the night of the PIT, including 29 children (7%) and 1,105 adults.

Sheltered homeless individuals include those living in Safe Havens, emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, hotels or motels paid for by charitable organizations, as well as those doubled up living with friends or family if they were to be evicted in the next 14 days and did not have resources to obtain a new place. With regard to sheltered individuals, 4,709 were identified that included 2,497 (53%) children and 2,117 adults (see Table 3). Unfortunately, information on age was missing for 139 individuals; thus they could not be classified as adults or children and are listed separately in Table 3.

Table 3: Total Number of Individuals Identified as Homeless				
	Adults	Children	Age Data Missing	Total
Unsheltered	1,105	29	44	1,178
Sheltered	2,117	2,497	95	4,709
Total	3,222	2,526	139	5,887

Demographic Characteristics

The following charts compare age, gender, race, and ethnicity among the unsheltered and sheltered adult populations (where this information was available). **Summary demographics are limited to adults as this was the most complete data available.** Age distributions were very similar for the unsheltered and sheltered populations (see Figure 1). The most common age groups in the sheltered and unsheltered individuals were ages 50 to 59 years old and 40 to 49 years old.

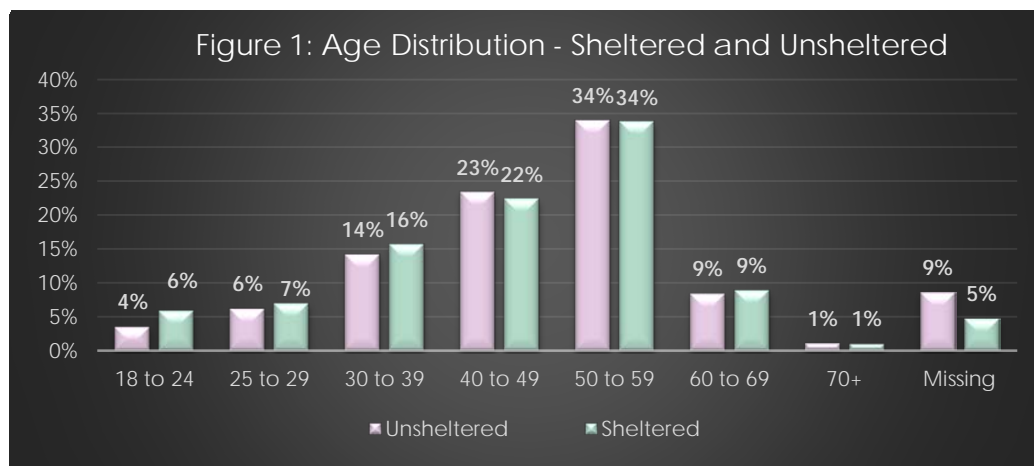
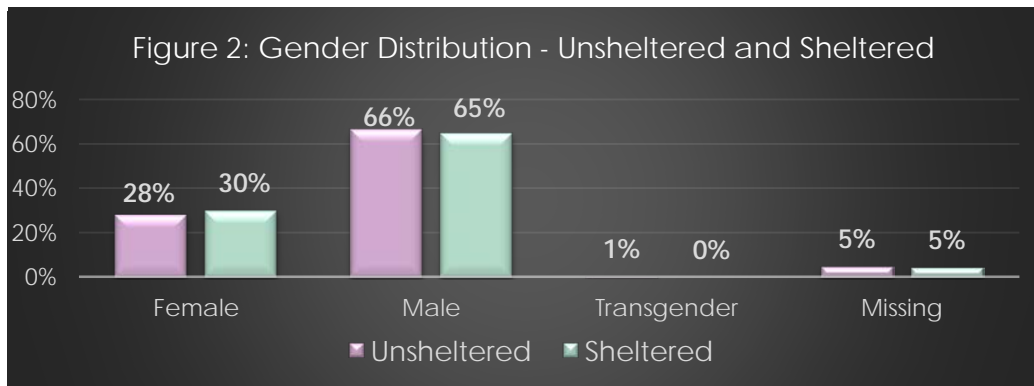
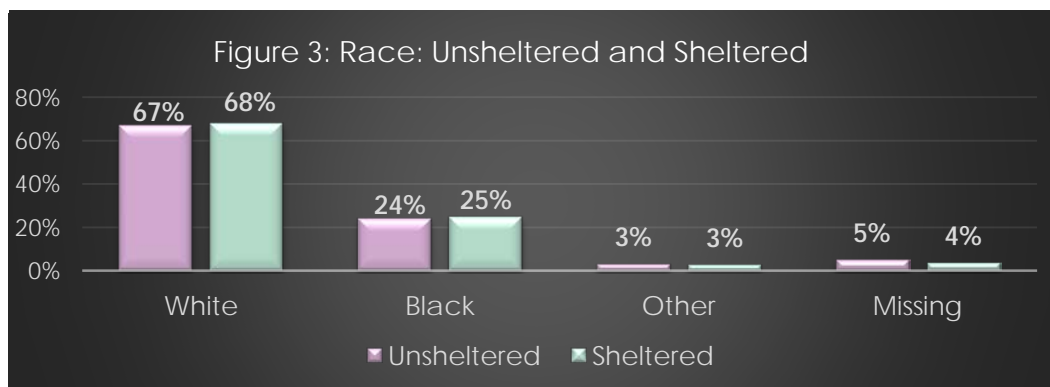


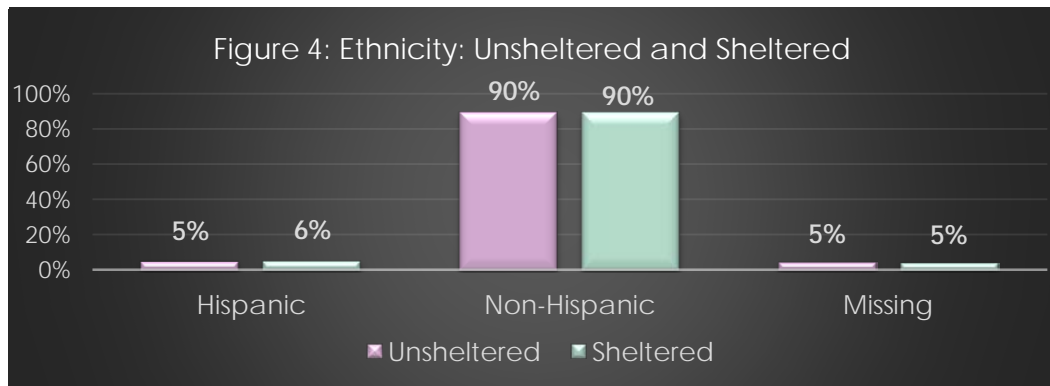
Figure 2 depicts the gender distribution between the unsheltered and sheltered populations. Males comprised the majority of both sheltered (65%) and unsheltered (66%) individuals.



Results for race and ethnicity are presented in Figures 3 and 4. The racial composition of the sheltered and unsheltered populations was similar. White individuals comprised 67% of the unsheltered sample, and they made up 68% of the sheltered individuals. Although Black individuals only comprised 24% of the unsheltered and 25% of the sheltered sample, they were clearly overrepresented when compared to their proportion in the overall county population (11%). Conversely, White homeless were underrepresented when compared to their population in the County (84%) (Census Bureau, 2010).



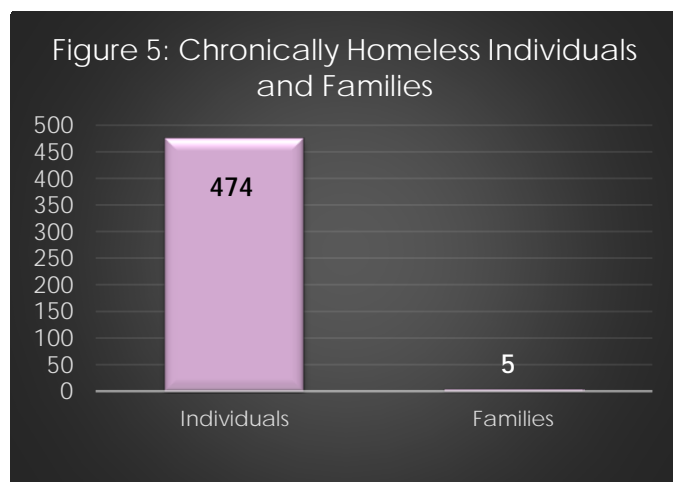
As indicated in Figure 4 the percentage of respondents who reported being of Hispanic ethnicity was similar for both the sheltered (6%) and unsheltered (5%) populations. Homelessness for this population was slightly lower than the overall County population (8%) (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010).



Special Populations

Another goal of the PIT is to determine the extent of homelessness among specific HUD defined subpopulations such as veterans, chronically homeless, persons living with HIV/AIDS, severely mentally ill, foster care, and those with disabilities. Detailed information regarding all of the defined subpopulations can be found in the later sections of this report that report results from each individual data set. This summary provides summary information on the number of these individuals across all of the individual data sets.

Results from the 2014 Pinellas County PIT count revealed that there were **474 chronically homeless individuals and five chronically homeless families** on the night of January 22nd, 2014 (see Figure 5). This small number of chronically homeless families should be interpreted with caution due to the low numbers of families who participated in the PIT.



A significant number of homeless individuals who participated in the PIT count **reported having a disabling condition, including 390 unsheltered individuals and 661 sheltered individuals** (see Figure 6).

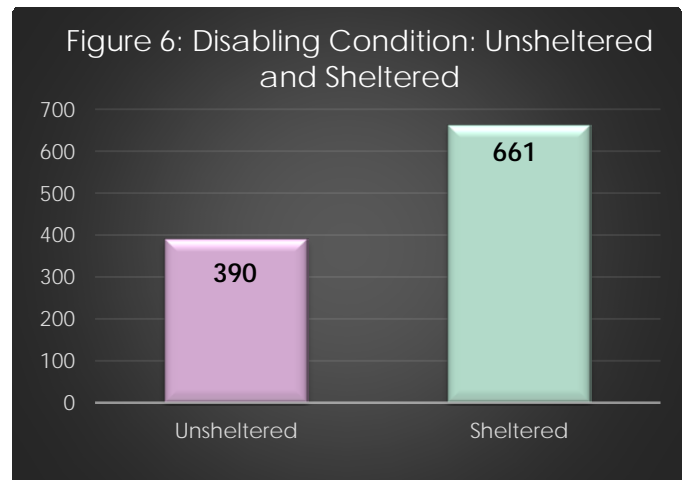
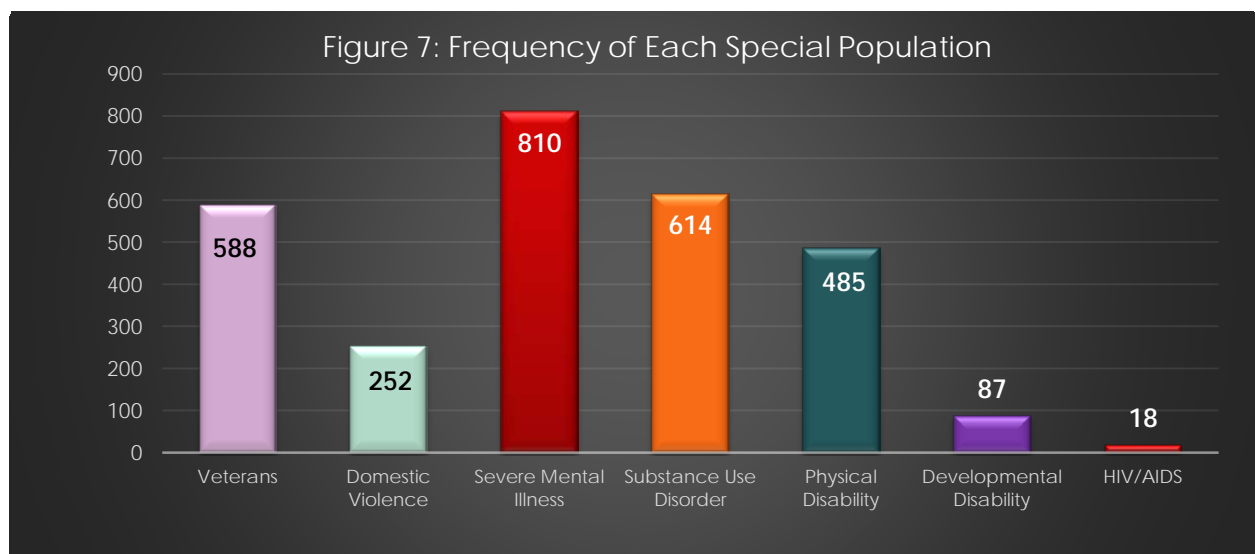


Figure 7 presents information on the overall number of individuals who met each of the specific special population categories. The 2014 Pinellas PIT count identified a total of 588 homeless Veterans and 252 homeless victims of domestic violence. Regarding disabilities among the homeless population, 810 individuals had a serious mental illness, 614 had a substance use disorder, 485 had a physical disability, 87 had a developmental disability, and 18 had HIV/AIDS.



Conclusions and Recommendations

Using the inclusive definition, the Pinellas County PIT was able to document nearly 6,000 homeless individuals, 42% of which were children. Basic demographic differences between the homeless adult population that utilized shelters and the unsheltered adults appeared minimal.

Introduction

The Facets of Homelessness

Homelessness is an issue that is neither static nor singular in its nature. It is precisely this fluidity that makes determining exactly how many homeless reside in a community at any given time a daunting task. There are those who fit the common perception of homeless; individuals seen living “on the street”. However in addition to this group of literally homeless, a continuum of housing statuses exists under the umbrella of what is counted and reported on as part of the point-in-time study. A discussion about homelessness must begin with determining exactly who falls into this category and often complicating the matter are the varied definitional parameters which exist among the different levels of government, e.g., federal, state and local; but also among the various agencies at each level, e.g., Veterans Administration (VA) and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and United States Department of Education (DOE). Hence, the question “how many homeless reside in the community” can result in a myriad of responses, all of which can be correct. The HUD definition used for 2014 considers only those who are literally without housing as homeless. This includes individuals or families sleeping in public or private spaces not traditionally meant for human habitation such as parks, cars, bus stations, etc., as well as those who are in a homeless shelter, transitional housing, safe haven or hotel (if the hotel is paid for by a public or charitable organization). Individuals who were homeless immediately prior to entering an institutional setting such as a hospital or detention facility were not classified by HUD as homeless. Similarly, individuals and families fleeing a domestic violence situation and who are without housing resources were also not deemed homeless according to the 2014 HUD definition. This definition used by HUD is identical to the one used by the state of Florida for 2014.

Neither the HUD nor the state definition included those individuals and families who were considered to be at-risk of becoming homeless; or those who were living in the residence of another due to the inability to obtain their own permanent housing for economic reasons (often referred to as the “doubled-up” population). Individuals or families residing in hotels that were paid for by any other means outside of public or charitable funds were also included in this at-risk category and are not currently defined by HUD as being homeless (see housing matrix in methodology section of this report for more detailed information). However, to provide local stakeholders with critical information to accurately assess resource need and deployment these populations are included in the Pinellas County definition which guided the 2014 Point-In-Time count (PIT).

An additional layer complicating the conversation about homelessness is that nested within the living situations described above, there exists a range of different experiences with homelessness, frequently described as **transitionally homeless**, **episodically homeless** and **chronically homeless** (Kuhn & Culhane, 1998). These nuances are critical because individuals may not appear in the Point-In-Time count if their time spent as homeless did not coincide with the time the count was conducted; therefore the study cannot accurately assess how many individuals experienced homelessness in the community; only those who were homeless at the selected time. Secondly,

research has consistently documented that there is a broad variance in how each of these groups responds to and utilizes a community's resources resulting in a profound impact on the success of policies related to alleviating homelessness (Kuhn and Culhane, 1998).

Transitionally Homeless – Persons who become homeless due to an incident. Examples include job loss, loss of housing due to disaster such as a fire, eviction, divorce or abandonment.

Episodically Homeless – People who move in and out of homeless episodes, usually in short time frames

Chronically Homeless – People who become homeless and stay in that condition for extended periods of time.

This study found that the largest group of homeless, the transitionally homeless, were found to be homeless for only a short period of time before they were able to move into a stable housing situation. While they were the largest group, they tended to use the fewest shelter days. This population was also shown to be the lowest risk for recidivism into homelessness. In addition, Kuhn and Culhane (1998) found this group tended to be the youngest of the three categories, had the smallest portion of non-Whites and were the least likely to suffer from mental illness and substance abuse. In contrast, the chronically homeless was the smallest group, but they tended to use the shelters most consistently and for the longest period of time (they consumed about half of the total shelter days in the study); in addition, they were generally older, non-White and exhibited high rates of mental illness and substance abuse. This group also tended to use shelters while avoiding engaging in other social services. In between fell the episodically homeless which were similar to the chronically homeless in terms of mental health and substance abuse issues, but tended to be younger in age than the chronically homeless.

The primary goal of the 2014 Point-in-Time count of homeless individuals in Pinellas County was to obtain an accurate as possible estimate of the number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in the community on a given night. HUD requires that local Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct an annual count of “sheltered” homeless persons located in emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens on a determined night. “Unsheltered” individuals, or those found to be staying in “places not meant for human habitation” (e.g., parks, bus shelters, cars, etc.) must be counted every other (odd numbered) year (HUD, 2012). Pinellas chose Thursday, January 23rd, 2014 on which to conduct this year's count which asked respondents where they stayed on the night of Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014. The street count is a community's primary means for gaining knowledge about homeless persons who may not be utilizing public services; it can also provide geographic information about where the street homeless are residing in a particular region and alert to potential service gaps in the continuum. **The fact that it is cross-sectional, or a “snapshot” of the status of the homeless population at a**

selected time, means that it may miss some of those who fall into the episodically homeless categories because they might have obtained housing during the time the count was conducted. Similarly, these methods will not likely capture a portion of the transitional population who experienced homelessness at some point during the year after the PIT was conducted in January, but were able to obtain and maintain permanent housing before the next count.

Coordinating and deploying resources to conduct a study of this magnitude is a colossal effort that requires the cooperation of local government agencies, providers and citizens. Questions frequently arise about why time and energy is spent to count this often hidden population to which the public is often unsympathetic. The response is that information obtained during point-in-time counting informs both the obvious: communities are required to provide this information to United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in their annual Continuum of Care (CoC) application in order to demonstrate the need for resources; and for less visible, yet critical, reasons such as raising public awareness, assessing specific needs of the homeless, developing effective public policies and benchmarking progress toward ending homelessness. Surveys completed by homeless individuals provide information concerning demographics, living arrangements, education, employment status, and several other key factors intended to inform these efforts. This report presents the results derived from the 2014 point-in-time data collection effort.

Point-In-Time Methodology

The primary goal of the 2014 Point-in-Time count of homeless individuals in Pinellas County was to obtain an accurate as possible estimate of the number of **sheltered and unsheltered** homeless individuals in the community **on a given night**. HUD requires that local Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct an **annual** count of “sheltered” homeless persons located in emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens on a determined night. “Unsheltered” individuals, or those found to be staying in “places not meant for human habitation” (e.g., parks, bus shelters, cars, etc.) must be counted every **other** (odd numbered) year (HUD, 2012). Despite these relaxed reporting requirements, Pinellas County elected to conduct both the sheltered and unsheltered count in 2014 for data consistency/comparison purposes. Pinellas chose **Thursday, January 23rd, 2014** to conduct this year’s count which asked respondents where they stayed on the night of **Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014**. The collected data produced a cross section, or “snapshot,” of the status of the homeless in Pinellas County.

The following contains the definitions by which the determination of homelessness is based, the details of the process used by Pinellas to conduct the count, and the challenges faced during the implementation of the study. This section concludes with a series of recommendations for improvements, the only goal of which is to strengthen the implementation and produce the most accurate count possible.

Definitions and Housing Matrix

Literally Homeless

At the time the 2014 count was conducted, individuals and families who met one of the following conditions were considered to be **literally homeless**:

- ✚ Individuals and families “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus/train station, airport, or camp ground” (CPD-13-011); these individuals are further classified as **unsheltered** homeless;
- ✚ Individuals or families “living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements, including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals. This includes persons residing in Safe Haven provider programs” (CPD-13-011); these individuals are further classified as **sheltered** homeless;

- ✚ Fleeing a Domestic Violence Situation with no other residence, resources or support network;
- ✚ Individuals who were sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for habitation (cars, park, street, etc.) immediately prior to entering a jail or institution.

Imminent Risk of Homelessness

The local point-in-time count is not limited to those currently residing on the street or in shelters. For County reporting purposes, the census is also responsible for gauging the extent that individuals are either at ***“imminent risk”*** of becoming homeless due to persistently unstable housing situations.

Imminent Risk:

- ✚ Individuals and families who are being evicted within **14 days** from their primary nighttime residence; **AND**
- ✚ No subsequent residence has been identified; **AND**
- ✚ The household lacks resources or support needed to obtain other permanent housing.

Homeless Subpopulations

Continuums of Care (CoCs) are required to report the number of sheltered and unsheltered persons in a range of defined subpopulations (HUD, 2012). These subpopulations consist of specialized groups within the overall homeless population and include chronically homeless (individuals and families); adults with a serious mental illness, substance user disorder, or HIV/AIDS; Veterans; and adult victims of domestic violence. The definitions and procedures as defined by HUD (Appendix B, CPD 03-011) are as follows:

Chronically Homeless Individual: An adult individual (persons 18 years or older) who:

- A. Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; **and**
- B. Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years; **and**
- C. Can be diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability.

Notes:

- A. Persons under the age of 18 are not counted as chronically homeless.
- B. For purposes of the PIT, persons living in transitional housing at the time of the PIT count should not be included in this subpopulation category.

- C. Persons with the disabling conditions identified above must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (e.g., “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).

Chronically Homeless Family: A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria for a chronically homeless individual, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

Disability: An individual with one or more of the following conditions:

- A. A physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that:
 - (1) Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration;
 - (2) Substantially impedes the individual's ability to live independently; and
 - (3) Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions.
- B. A developmental disability, as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002); or
- C. The disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or any condition arising from the etiologic agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV).

Adults living with HIV/AIDS: This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have been diagnosed with AIDS and/or have tested positive for HIV.

Adults with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI): This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults with a severe and persistent mental illness or emotional impairment that seriously limits a person's ability to live independently. Adults with SMI must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (e.g., “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).

Adults with a Substance Use Disorder: This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults with a substance abuse problem (alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or both). Adults with a substance use disorder must also meet the qualifications identified in the term for “disability” (e.g., “is expected to be long-continuing or indefinite duration”).

Veteran: This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty.

Victims of Domestic Violence: This subpopulation category of the PIT includes adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Youth: Persons under age 25.

Components of the Point-In Time Count

The data comprising the homeless Point-in-Time count are derived from a number of discrete sources, which, when combined, give a community a picture of how many homeless reside there on a given night. The primary components consist of the sheltered and unsheltered count (see figure 8). Pinellas County utilizes the unduplicated count method recommended by HUD to develop the census of homeless (HUD, 2012). An unduplicated count essentially translates into physically counting and surveying each individual homeless person who is encountered during the street count, or captured in one of the local data collection systems during the window of time covered by the PIT. De-duplication is completed through the analysis process by systematically comparing each data source providing identifiable data at the individual level to remove those who appear more than one time. While minimized as much as possible, some duplication may be present in situations where individual identifiers are missing or only aggregate data are reported as part of the count (e.g., domestic violence shelters who do not report individual information to HMIS).

Figure 8: Components of the Point-In-Time



When most individuals think of the Point-In-Time census, the street count is likely what comes to mind as it is often considered the most visible aspect of the census and the piece designed to count those who are literally homeless and “on the street.” The remaining sources contributing to the homeless count gather information on individuals who on the night of the count were either in shelters; received other homeless services (e.g., soup kitchen); called into 211 Tampa Bay Cares, Inc. and identified themselves as homeless; residing in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before being incarcerated at the Pinellas County Jail; students who identified themselves as homeless to the Pinellas County School District; lived in a hotel/motel paid for by charitable organizations, federal, state or local government programs for low-income individuals; or participated in VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF; see figure 9).

Figure 9: Components of the Point-In-Time Count



The Street Survey Data File

The Street Survey data file is based on the paper surveys completed in the 2014 street PIT count. This includes persons who were surveyed the day of the street count, as well as persons who were surveyed in cold shelters and soup kitchens on January 23rd. Two weekend survey and counts were also conducted at two public meal sites on Jan. 24th and Jan. 26th. The 2014 survey was based on a design developed by Applied Survey Research (ASR). ASR has done extensive development and testing of homeless street surveys for many counties in California and instruments they have developed are considered a best practice by HUD.

To minimize missing information, each question included options for survey-takers to denote those participants who refused to answer, offered an answer that was not an option on the survey, or did not know the answer to a particular inquiry. This was done so that, regardless of the participant response, every question on the survey was completed. Despite extensive efforts undertaken by the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board (HLB) to minimize missing data in the 2014 PIT count, many of the data sets used in the count are not under control of HLB and thus included varying amounts of missing data.

Volunteers and Training

Volunteers were recruited from across the ranks of the community to administer the surveys. Over 400 volunteer applications were received. Participants included, but were not limited to interested citizens, students from area universities, persons who formerly homeless and service provider staff. Volunteers were recruited from those who participated in previous years and through the Homeless Leadership Board website. All volunteers underwent specialized training, including role play, in order to learn the 2014 Pinellas PIT count procedures.

Survey trainings were held throughout Pinellas during the early part of the month of January 2014. Trainings were conducted at various locations throughout the county and scheduled over a wide range of times so volunteers could attend a convenient session. All volunteers were required to attend one of the approximately hour -long sessions where volunteer safety and the survey were reviewed. All volunteers also received a step-by-step handbook and were encouraged to practice administering the survey prior to being deployed.

Volunteer Deployment

Pinellas County land area covers 280 square miles and the logistics of covering this expanse with available resources are challenging. For the purpose of the PIT count, the County was divided into North, Mid and South regions. Thursday, January 23rd, 2014 was selected for the primary date of the count. A central coordination site was selected for each region of the county and at least one staff member from each agency served as the regional coordinator whose primary duties consisted of deploying teams of volunteer surveyors (equipped with surveys and incentives), to locations where homeless persons may be encountered. In addition, the site coordinator(s) were

responsible for collecting completed surveys from volunteer teams returning to the coordination site and reviewing the surveys turned in by volunteers to ensure all questions were completed.

To direct volunteer deployment, the homeless research team utilized a spreadsheet which contained information regarding locations where homeless people were found which had been collected during previous counts. The homeless outreach teams played crucial roles in bringing their experience and knowledge with the homeless in their respective areas of the County in order to pinpoint locations where homeless adults, families with children, and unaccompanied youth could be found. These outreach teams were from the cities of Tarpon Springs, Clearwater, Pinellas Park, and St. Petersburg, and they were joined by outreach teams from the Sheriff's Office and the Family Resources Street Safe Program. Law enforcement assisted with counting individuals during the 2013 count, but they did not administer surveys. For the 2014 PIT count, law enforcement officers assisted with survey administration, and they were responsible for canvassing remote areas such as the woods in order to maximize volunteer safety.

Tampa Bay Information Network (TBIN) Sheltered Data File

This data file represents individuals who stayed in sheltered or homeless housing on the day of the 2014 PIT count. HUD and the state consider as homeless any individual/family residing in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or Safe Havens since these are not permanent housing arrangements. The TBIN sheltered count data file contains information on individuals who, on the night of the count, were living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (e.g., congregate shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, and any hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations, federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals). Most of the individual-level data in this file are extracted from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This group includes domestic violence shelters and transitional housing, shelters for runaway and homeless youth under 25 years of age, and housing or shelter arrangements made available by the Pinellas County and St. Petersburg Housing Authorities.

TBIN Service Provider Data File

This data file represents individuals who received other services often used by those who are homeless, such as soup kitchens, drop-in centers, etc. on the day of the 2014 PIT count.

Street Survey Partial Survey Data File

This data file represents street surveys that were deemed partial/incomplete. These paper surveys were missing identifiable information (e.g., First name, Last name, DOB, SSN) that prevented the individuals from being located in TBIN, but they had at least one survey question answered. Due to HUD's HMIS quality checks on the HMIS database, these clients were not

entered into the HMIS system. As reported in greater detail later, 134 of the 356 partial surveys were completed by individuals classified as homeless.

211 PIT Count Data File

This data file represents individuals who called into 211 on the day/night of the count and identified themselves as homeless.

Jail Data File

The jail count is comprised of individuals residing in the Pinellas County Jail on the night of January 22nd, 2014 who either reported an address of “transient” at booking or were arrested while living on the street or in a place which falls under the definition of not being meant for human habitation (see literally homeless definition above) prior to entering the facility. If the respondent was on the street and gave the address of an emergency shelter (even an inaccurate or fictitious address), that person is not considered to be unsheltered. It should be noted that much of this information is self-reported and there is speculation that a percentage of detainees may be falsely reporting a shelter as their last known address; however, it is unknown the extent to which this speculation is accurate. For purposes of the HUD and state reports nobody in the jail data set was classified as homeless; however, individuals meeting the criteria outlined at the beginning of this paragraph were classified as homeless for this County report.

The 2014 jail count consistently provided demographic data on some variables, such as gender and race. Variables less consistently reported included the city, state and zip code of where the detainee usually stayed, as well as veteran status. Again, this may be due to the self-report nature of the data collection. The inclusion of race, gender, location and veteran status allowed for more detailed reporting to be completed for the unsheltered count.

SurveyMonkey Data File

Some homeless service providers do not participate in TBIN and do not consequently report data into the County’s HMIS system. In order to count the individuals served by these agencies on the night of the 2014 PIT, providers were asked to complete a SurveyMonkey questionnaire. Unfortunately, the questionnaire was not appropriately designed to meet the HUD and state reporting requirements. Consequently, these providers were sent and asked to complete a copy of the HUD reporting template, minus the items dealing with special populations. The resulting data file includes aggregate data from each of the five responding programs indicating how many homeless individuals and families each program served on the night of the count.

Pinellas County Schools Data File

The school count consists of those students who responded that they were homeless or “doubled up” (individuals or families who are sharing permanent housing) in a survey conducted by the Pinellas County School System in August 2013 around the beginning of the school year. Homeless students can also come to the attention of the school’s Homeless Emergency Assistance Team (H.E.A.T) specialists at any time during a school year. To use this data, the point-in-time analysis team collaborates with the school’s research and accountability department to obtain a count of homeless students at the time of the January census. Unfortunately, because much of the data from the school system was from August 2013, one cannot be certain that every student identified as homeless at that time was still homeless on the date of the PIT survey, January 22, 2014.

Hotel / Motel Data File

The hotel / motel data file represents individuals who, on the night of the 2014 PIT count, stayed in hotels or motels that were paid for by charitable organizations, federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Data File

This data file represents individuals who were served by the Veterans Administration’s Supportive Services for Veteran Families program on the day of the 2014 PIT count. Although these individuals are not supposed to be included in the 2014 HUD and state homeless reports, they were included here in the more comprehensive Pinellas County report.

Data Collection, Analysis, and Quality Control Procedures

All unsheltered surveys were collected from the various administration points and forwarded by the Homeless Leadership Board to 211 Tampa Bay Cares (211 TBC), which is the lead HMIS agency, and which was responsible for sorting the surveys and entering survey data.

After 211 TBC received the surveys, a combined effort from the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) and 211 TBC staff sorted through all the surveys separating them into three categories: Named surveys, Partial surveys, and Blank surveys. A named survey was considered any survey that documented the client’s (the person who was interviewed) first and last name- regardless if the survey was only partially completed. A partial survey was considered any survey that was completed (nearly in full or in part), but did not contain a client’s name. A Blank survey was considered a survey where the client refused to participate in the survey, and was marked accordingly by the interviewer. A room with several tables was set up so that the letters A-Z, the

word "Blank", and the word "Partial" were all fixed to a table. Each named survey was placed in a pile in front of the letter corresponding to the first letter of the client's last name, and each partial or blank survey was placed in its designated pile.

After all the surveys were placed in their designated piles, the JWB and 211 TBC staff organized each pile of named surveys into alphabetical order (e.g., The "A" pile was organized from Aa-Az, and so on). Then each pile was looked through to identify duplicate surveys. These surveys were stapled together with survey with the most information stapled on top. Then the JWB and 211 TBC staff counted all the surveys in each pile twice (any stapled surveys were counted as 1 survey) and summed the total number of named, partial, and blank surveys to get the initial count of surveys received. After this information was determined we put all the surveys into piles of 100 surveys and strapped them together for easy distribution to data entry staff at 211 TBC.

The Data entry staff at 211 TBC started data entry with the named surveys. Each staff member would sign out a packet of 100, and enter the information into the HMIS system (aka TBIN). The information was entered exactly as it appeared on each survey and according to the *Coding Guide* 211 TBC created. A formal, complete audit was done on 10-15 surveys per packet. In addition, special reports were built to monitor real-time data entry progress and data for congruency. All identified errors were given to each data entry staff when they came to return their completed packet and sign out a new packet. All the data errors were confirmed to be corrected before the data entry staff could sign out a new packet.

Once all the named surveys were entered into TBIN accurately, 211 TBC began to enter the partial surveys. The Partial survey data entry process required that the Data Entry Staff search for any Personal Identifiable information on the survey in TBIN; if they could locate a client record and confirm that the survey belonged to that client they would enter the information into TBIN as it appeared on the survey. If they could not locate a client record or confirm that the survey belonged to that client in TBIN, the full survey data was entered into a spreadsheet. A formal, complete audit was done on 10-15 surveys per packet. In addition, special reports were built to monitor real-time data entry progress and data for congruency. All identified errors were given to each data entry staff when they came to return their completed packet and sign out a new packet. All the data errors were confirmed to be corrected before the data entry staff could sign out a new packet.

Once all the Partial surveys were entered into the appropriate database (i.e., TBIN or the Spreadsheet), 211 TBC had completed the data entry for PIT. 211 TBC provided the aggregate counts of the Named survey, Partial survey, and Blank survey data to the JWB. 211 TBC also provided the Partial survey spreadsheet, PIT report generated from TBIN, and all the physical surveys to the JWB.

Data from the school count were then compared to those in the sheltered and unsheltered databases. The school count does not include 97 students who were also present in the sheltered TBIN database. Data were subsequently analyzed, with results from each data set presented separately below. The Pinellas County Housing Survey yielded data that permitted a

more in-depth analysis concerning a range of subjects associated with homelessness. A detailed analysis of these data is presented in addition to counts and demographic data from other components of the count.

De-Duplication Procedures

TBIN data are configured in such a way that one individual can be represented in one or more data files multiple times. For instance, an individual can stay in an emergency shelter and also go to a soup kitchen on the same day. To obtain the most accurate count of the number of homeless individuals, the data sets needed to be de-duplicated so that each person was only counted once.

Ten separate data sets were utilized in analysis and reporting of the 2014 Pinellas PIT count. A de-duplication procedure was collaboratively developed by the authors with appropriate stakeholders whereby each of the ten data sets was ranked according to the extent to which it would be desirable to retain or remove cases when repeated across multiple files. Table 4 below identifies each data file, its rank order for use in the de-duplication process, and its sample size before and after de-duplication. An example may help illustrate the procedures. Suppose that Joe Blow appeared in data files ranked 1, 3, and 5. According to these procedures, we would keep Joe's record preserved in the lowest ranked data file (#1), and we would remove his information from the lower ranked data files (#s 3 and 5). One unfortunate methodological challenge encountered in the 2014 Pinellas PIT process was that all data sets were not provided upfront before analyses began. As analyses were completed, stakeholders repeatedly introduced new data sets that had to be de-duplicated and reanalyzed, which was a very inefficient analytical process. **To increase efficiency of the data analysis and reporting processed, all steps should be taken in future PIT counts to ensure that all data sets are provided before analyses and de-duplication procedures commence.**

Table 4: Data Sets, Sample Sizes, and Ranks Used in De-duplication Procedures			
Data File	Rank Order ^a	Sample Sizes	
		Before De-Duplication	After De-Duplication
Street Survey Data File ^b	1	1,415	1,408
TBIN Sheltered Data File	2	1,773	1,457
TBIN Service Provider Data File	3	191	63
Street Survey Partial Survey Data File ^b	4	356	356
211 PIT Count Data File	5	29	25
Jail Data File	6	419	419
SurveyMonkey Data File	7	263 ^c	263 ^c
Pinellas County Schools Data File	8	398	302
Hotel / Motel Data File	9	108	52
SSFV Data File	10	14	11
Total	--	4,966	4,356

- Rank order was used to determine from which data file(s) to remove duplicated cases. When a person's data were included in more than one set, it was preserved in the data file with highest rank order file and removed from the others.
- This includes homeless and housed survey respondents and is based on the number of survey respondents as opposed to the number of individuals in their households.
- Data were only reported in aggregate, so no de-duplication could occur.

Disability Coding Procedures

Several data files provided information on individuals' various disabilities. Both HUD and the state require disability information to be reported, although they have slightly different reporting formats. The following table identifies how each disability variable in the various data files was mapped onto the HUD (Table 5) and DCF (Table 6) disability categories. For example, "mental illness," "depression," and "PTSD" on the survey were counted in the HUD report as "severely mentally ill."

Table 5. HUD PIT Report Disability Mapping					
		2014 HUD Disability Categories			
		Severely Mentally Ill	Chronic Substance Abuse	HIV/AIDS	Domestic Violence Victims (Optional)
"Disabilities" Listed in PIT Data Files	Physical ^a				
	Physical/Medical ^a				
	Chronic Health Problem ^a				
	Hearing/Visually Impaired ^a				
	Developmental Disability ^a				
	Mental Illness	X			
	Depression	X			
	PTSD	X			
	Alcohol		X		
	Drugs		X		
	AIDS			X	
	Domestic Violence				X

- These disabilities are not included in the report to HUD; thus they do not map onto disability categories.

Table 6. DCF PIT Report Disability Mapping						
		2014 DCF Disability Categories				
		Physical	Developmental	Mental Health	Drug or Alcohol Addiction	HIV/AIDS
"Disabilities" Listed in PIT Data Files	Physical	X				
	Physical/Medical	X				
	Chronic Health Problem	X				
	Hearing/Visually Impaired	X				
	Developmental Disability		X			
	Mental Illness			X		
	Depression			X		
	PTSD			X		
	Alcohol				X	
	Drugs				X	
	AIDS					X
	Domestic Violence ^a					

- a. DCF PIT reporting does not involve domestic violence; thus it does not map onto a disability category.

Point-In-Time Results

Total Homeless Count

Table 7 depicts the total number of homeless individuals counted as part of the 2014 Point-in-Time count using the inclusive definition of homelessness that includes individuals and families who were considered to be at-risk of becoming homeless. Results are presented separately for each data file that contributed to the count. Results indicate that a **total of 5,887 individuals were identified as homeless, including 3,222 adults, 2,526 children, and 139 with missing age data.**

Table 7: TOTAL HOMELESS COUNT ACROSS DATA FILES						
Data File	Number Adults (n = 3,222)		Number Children (n = 2,526)		Number Missing Age (n = 139)	
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Cold Night Shelters	0	661	0	0	0	0
Street Survey	565	352	110	6	14	7
TBIN Sheltered	853	0	166	0	0	0
TBIN Service Provider	0	63	0	0	0	0
Street Survey Partial Surveys	12	4	11	0	81	37
211 PIT Count	0	25	0	0	0	0
Jail Data	419	0	0	0	0	0
SurveyMonkey Data	91	0	173	0	0	0
Pinellas County Schools Data	115	0	2,003	23	0	0
Hotel / Motel Data	51	0	34	0	0	0
SSVF Data	11	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (N = 5,887)	2,117	1,105	2,497	29	95	44

Street Survey Data File Results

Locations Where Street Surveys Were Conducted

The following tables (8 – 10, below) describe the location where street surveys were conducted during the PIT count. Table 8 indicates that most of the surveys were completed in the South region of the County, followed by the North and Mid-County regions.

Table 8: Areas Where Street Surveys Completed			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
North County	231	19.0%	20.1%
Mid County	300	24.7%	26.1%
South County	620	51.0%	53.9%
Missing	65	5.3%	--
Total	1,216	100%	100%

Table 9 provides some additional information regarding the types of sites where the street surveys were completed, with results broken out by respondent housing status. Overall, surveys were most commonly completed in what were coded as “Other” sites (n = 496; 40.8%), followed by meal sites (n = 255; 21.0%) and the street (n = 207; 17.0%). This information can be used to optimally allocate future PIT count volunteers to the areas where most of the homeless individuals were located.

Table 9: Location of Completed Street Surveys, by Respondent Housing Status						
	Housed		Homeless		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Other	108	50.2%	388	38.8%	496	40.8%
Meal Site	39	18.1%	216	21.6%	255	21.0%
Street	27	12.6%	180	18.0%	207	17.0%
Blank	14	6.5%	102	10.2%	116	9.5%
Public Building	25	11.6%	89	8.9%	114	9.4%
Camp	2	0.9%	26	2.6%	28	2.3%
Total	215	100%	1,001	100%	1,216	100%

Table 10 identifies the city in which the street surveys were completed, with results reported separately by respondent housing status. Overall, most surveys were completed in St. Petersburg (n = 632; 52.0%), Clearwater (n = 175; 14.4%), or Pinellas Park (n = 154; 12.7%).

Table 10: City Where Street Surveys Were Completed						
	Housed		Homeless		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Unknown	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Blank	10	4.7%	46	4.6%	56	4.6%
Clearwater	28	13.0%	147	14.7%	175	14.4%
Clearwater Beach	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	2	0.2%
Kenneth City	0	0.0%	8	0.8%	8	0.7%
Largo	6	2.8%	33	3.3%	39	3.2%
Lealman	1	0.5%	58	5.8%	59	4.9%
Madeira Beach	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Palm Harbor	0	0.0%	6	0.6%	6	0.5%
Pinellas Park	25	11.6%	129	12.9%	154	12.7%
Seminole	2	0.9%	5	0.5%	7	0.6%
St. Augustine ^a	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
St. Petersburg	130	60.5%	502	50.1%	632	52.0%
St. Petersburg Beach	0	0.0%	3	0.3%	3	0.2%
Tarpon Springs	10	4.7%	57	5.7%	67	5.5%
Treasure Island	1	0.5%	4	0.4%	5	0.4%
Total	215	100%	1,001	100%	1,216	100%

a. This is assumed to be a data entry error since all surveys should have been conducted in Pinellas County.

Identifying the Homeless Street Survey Respondents

Table 11 depicts the results of what is considered the “heart” of the PIT count for the unsheltered population. The question asks “Where did you sleep on **Wednesday night, January 22nd, 2014?**” Responses to this question are critical in order to accurately classify whether a respondent is classified as homeless for federal and state reporting, as well as for obtaining an overall count for local purposes. “N” refers to the actual number of respondents in the category.

Table 11: Street Survey, 'Where did you sleep on Wednesday night, January 22, 2014?

	Housed Respondents ^a		Homeless Respondents ^a		Total Respondents ^a	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Emergency Shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	0	0.0%	418	41.8%	418	34.4%
Place not meant for human habitation ^b	0	0.0%	359	35.9%	359	29.5%
Transitional housing for homeless persons, including homeless youth	0	0.0%	83	8.3%	83	6.8%
Safe Harbor	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
Safe Haven ^c	0	0.0%	5	0.5%	5	0.4%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher ^d	99	46.0%	27	2.7%	126	10.4%
Stayed with friends ^d	41	19.1%	66	6.6%	107	8.8%
Stayed with family ^d	31	14.4%	30	3.0%	61	5.0%
Rental by client, no housing subsidy ^d	6	2.8%	10	1.0%	16	1.3%
Rental by client with other non-VASH housing subsidy ^d	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	2	0.2%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons ^d	14	6.5%	0	0.0%	14	1.2%
Substance abuse treatment facility	7	3.3%	0	0.0%	7	0.6%
Foster care	4	1.9%	0	0.0%	4	0.3%
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	4	1.9%	0	0.0%	4	0.3%
Hospital, non-psychiatric	3	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.2%
Mental health facility	2	0.9%	0	0.0%	2	0.2%
Missing / Blank	4	1.9%	0	0.0%	4	0.3%
Don't Know	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Refused	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	215	100%	1,001	100%	1,216	100%

a. This represents the number of respondents rather than the total number of individuals in their households.

b. Street, woods, park, car, other vehicle, outside, abandoned building, garage, bus station, airport, campground, etc.

c. All Safe Haven residents were classified as homeless according to the HUD 2014 definition.

d. These individuals were classified as homeless or housed based on their responses to the follow-up questions probing whether they will be evicted in the next 14 days and if they have resources needed to obtain a new place.

Table 11 presents the number of respondents who were classified into each of the Housed and Homeless categories. A total of 1,001 street survey respondents reported being in a situation classified as homeless on the night of January 22nd, 2014, compared to 215 individuals who reported being housed. Among homeless respondents (n = 1,001), the largest portion reported that they had spent the previous night in an emergency shelter (n = 418; 41.8%), followed by those who indicated that they stayed on the street (n = 359; 35.9%) or in transitional housing programs (n = 83; 8.3%).

As described in the Methods section, several lodging circumstances place individuals at “imminent risk” of becoming homeless, depending on whether the individual: 1) will be evicted in the next 14 days, and 2) has resources for obtaining alternative housing arrangements. Such situations include staying with friends or family, in a hotel or motel paid for without a voucher, in permanent housing for formerly homeless persons, or in a rental property with or without a housing subsidy. Individuals who reported being in these housing arrangements were specifically provided with a series of follow-up questions about whether they were being evicted within two weeks and if so, whether they had funds to obtain new housing. These questions provide the information needed to assess what portion of this group is at imminent risk of homelessness.

Individuals meeting these “imminent risk criteria” were classified as homeless for this County report.

Tables 12 and 13 show the distribution of responses to these questions, and the number of individuals who were classified as homeless versus housed is identified in Table 11. As previously stated, the question, “Where did you stay last night?” and the accompanying follow-up questions serve to classify housing status, determine risk of homelessness for individuals who responded that they were housed, and provide an accurate overall count of who is literally homeless to meet federal and state reporting requirements. These are critical pieces of information that must be contained in all street surveys; without it the usefulness of the survey itself is greatly diminished. It is with the goal of improving the accuracy of this group of questions as well as the survey as a whole that the following data quality concerns are addressed:

- Four surveys collected during the “street” count did not indicate where the individual slept on the designated night of Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014;
- Responses to the series of follow-up questions designed to determine whether a respondent is at imminent risk of homelessness were frequently missing (see Tables 12 and 13);
- All questions on the street survey contained various proportions of missing data (see tables throughout this report);

Table 12: Street Survey, Are you or those living with you being evicted or forced to leave in the next 14 days?

		N	Percent
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	Yes	31	24.6%
	No	8	6.3%
	NA	39	31.0%
	Don't Know	1	0.8%
	Missing	47	37.3%
	Total	126	100%
Staying or living in a <u>friend's</u> room, apartment or house	Yes	75	70.1%
	No	18	16.8%
	Don't Know	4	3.7%
	NA	2	1.9%
	Missing	8	7.5%
	Total	107	100%
Staying or living in a <u>family</u> member's room, apartment or house	Yes	32	52.5%
	No	16	26.2%
	Don't Know	3	4.9%
	NA	3	4.9%
	Missing	6	9.8%
	Refused	1	1.6%
	Total	61	100%
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	Yes	10	62.5%
	No	4	25.0%
	Don't Know	1	6.3%
	Missing	1	6.3%
	Total	16	100%
Rental by client, with other non-VASH housing subsidy	Don't Know	2	100%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons	NA	14	100%

Note. Individuals residing in these places were classified as homeless if they indicated that they did not have resources to obtain a new residence.

Table 13: Street Survey, Will you have a place to stay and money to support you at a new place? (among those who stated they were being forced to leave)

	Yes	No	Don't Know	Missing	N
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	2	27	2	0	31
Staying or living in a <u>friend's</u> room, apartment or house	2	66	3	4	75
Staying or living in a <u>family</u> member's room, apartment or house	0	30	1	1	32
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	0	10	0	0	10

Note. Individuals were classified as homeless if they reported not having resources to obtain a new residence.

Demographic Characteristics of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

The following sections describe demographic information for survey respondents identified as homeless. It is important to note that **information presented in this section is limited to the individuals who responded to the survey, and does not include the demographic characteristics of their entire household.** Although the street survey asked if respondents lived with other adults, the demographic characteristics of the latter were not queried. Despite this, the street survey did include questions that asked about the demographics of respondents' children, if any. That information is presented in a later section focusing on the children. The demographic information presented immediately below is based on only the individuals who completed the survey and were identified as homeless.

Age

Table 14 presents the age distribution for all street survey respondents identified as homeless. Respondents' ages ranged from 16 to 81, with an average of 46.2 and a standard deviation of 12.0. Table 15 condenses this information into a manageable number of age groups. The age data indicate that the largest group of respondents were between the ages of 50 to 59 (37.6%), 40 to 49 (24.9%), or 30 to 39 (15.2%).

Age	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
16	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
17	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
18	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0.3%	0.3%	2	0.2%	0.2%
19	2	0.6%	0.6%	4	0.6%	0.6%	6	0.6%	0.6%
20	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.8%	0.8%	5	0.5%	0.5%
21	3	0.8%	0.9%	14	2.2%	2.2%	17	1.7%	1.7%
22	2	0.6%	0.6%	5	0.8%	0.8%	7	0.7%	0.7%
23	2	0.6%	0.6%	5	0.8%	0.8%	7	0.7%	0.7%
24	2	0.6%	0.6%	6	0.9%	1.0%	8	0.8%	0.8%
25	3	0.8%	0.9%	8	1.2%	1.3%	11	1.1%	1.1%
26	2	0.6%	0.6%	9	1.4%	1.4%	11	1.1%	1.1%
27	4	1.1%	1.1%	8	1.2%	1.3%	12	1.2%	1.2%
28	4	1.1%	1.1%	7	1.1%	1.1%	11	1.1%	1.1%
29	10	2.8%	2.8%	12	1.9%	1.9%	22	2.2%	2.2%
30	5	1.4%	1.4%	9	1.4%	1.4%	14	1.4%	1.4%
31	3	0.8%	0.9%	8	1.2%	1.3%	11	1.1%	1.1%
32	8	2.2%	2.3%	12	1.9%	1.9%	20	2.0%	2.0%
33	4	1.1%	1.1%	14	2.2%	2.2%	18	1.8%	1.8%
34	2	0.6%	0.6%	7	1.1%	1.1%	9	0.9%	0.9%
35	8	2.2%	2.3%	8	1.2%	1.3%	16	1.6%	1.6%
36	5	1.4%	1.4%	8	1.2%	1.3%	13	1.3%	1.3%
37	6	1.7%	1.7%	12	1.9%	1.9%	18	1.8%	1.8%
38	5	1.4%	1.4%	10	1.6%	1.6%	15	1.5%	1.5%
39	5	1.4%	1.4%	10	1.6%	1.6%	15	1.5%	1.5%
40	5	1.4%	1.4%	14	2.2%	2.2%	19	1.9%	1.9%

Table 14: Age Distribution of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
Age	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
41	5	1.4%	1.4%	6	0.9%	1.0%	11	1.1%	1.1%
42	11	3.1%	3.1%	17	2.6%	2.7%	28	2.8%	2.9%
43	13	3.6%	3.7%	9	1.4%	1.4%	22	2.2%	2.2%
44	4	1.1%	1.1%	13	2.0%	2.1%	17	1.7%	1.7%
45	7	1.9%	2.0%	13	2.0%	2.1%	20	2.0%	2.0%
46	9	2.5%	2.6%	21	3.3%	3.3%	30	3.0%	3.1%
47	7	1.9%	2.0%	11	1.7%	1.8%	18	1.8%	1.8%
48	18	5.0%	5.1%	22	3.4%	3.5%	40	4.0%	4.1%
49	16	4.5%	4.5%	23	3.6%	3.7%	39	3.9%	4.0%
50	10	2.8%	2.8%	21	3.3%	3.3%	31	3.1%	3.2%
51	20	5.6%	5.7%	32	5.0%	5.1%	52	5.2%	5.3%
52	16	4.5%	4.5%	29	4.5%	4.6%	45	4.5%	4.6%
53	14	3.9%	4.0%	27	4.2%	4.3%	41	4.1%	4.2%
54	10	2.8%	2.8%	33	5.1%	5.3%	43	4.3%	4.4%
55	17	4.7%	4.8%	28	4.4%	4.5%	45	4.5%	4.6%
56	15	4.2%	4.3%	20	3.1%	3.2%	35	3.5%	3.6%
57	8	2.2%	2.3%	13	2.0%	2.1%	21	2.1%	2.1%
58	16	4.5%	4.5%	12	1.9%	1.9%	28	2.8%	2.9%
59	9	2.5%	2.6%	18	2.8%	2.9%	27	2.7%	2.8%
60	5	1.4%	1.4%	10	1.6%	1.6%	15	1.5%	1.5%
61	6	1.7%	1.7%	13	2.0%	2.1%	19	1.9%	1.9%
62	8	2.2%	2.3%	6	0.9%	1.0%	14	1.4%	1.4%
63	2	0.6%	0.6%	3	0.5%	0.5%	5	0.5%	0.5%
64	4	1.1%	1.1%	8	1.2%	1.3%	12	1.2%	1.2%
65	4	1.1%	1.1%	3	0.5%	0.5%	7	0.7%	0.7%
66	1	0.3%	0.3%	6	0.9%	1.0%	7	0.7%	0.7%
67	1	0.3%	0.3%	1	0.2%	0.2%	2	0.2%	0.2%
68	0	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.6%	0.6%	4	0.4%	0.4%
69	1	0.3%	0.3%	1	0.2%	0.2%	2	0.2%	0.2%
70	1	0.3%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.1%	0.1%
72	1	0.3%	0.3%	1	0.2%	0.2%	2	0.2%	0.2%
73	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0.3%	0.3%	2	0.2%	0.2%
75	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
76	2	0.6%	0.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0.2%	0.2%
77	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
78	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
81	1	0.3%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.1%	0.1%
Missing	7	1.9%	--	14	2.2%	--	21	2.1%	--
Total	359	100%	100%	642	100%	100%	1,001	100%	100%

Table 15: Age Group Distribution of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
Age	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
16 to 17	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0.3%	0.3%	4	0.4%	0.4%
18 to 24	11	3.1%	3.1%	41	6.4%	6.5%	52	5.2%	5.3%
25 to 29	23	6.4%	6.5%	44	6.9%	7.0%	67	6.7%	6.8%
30 to 39	51	14.2%	14.5%	98	15.3%	15.6%	149	14.9%	15.2%
40 to 49	95	26.5%	27.0%	149	23.2%	23.7%	244	24.4%	24.9%
50 to 59	135	37.6%	38.4%	233	36.3%	37.1%	368	36.8%	37.6%
60 to 69	32	8.9%	9.1%	55	8.6%	8.8%	87	8.7%	8.9%
70 to 79	4	1.1%	1.1%	6	0.9%	1.0%	10	1.0%	1.0%
80 to 81	1	0.3%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.1%	0.1%
Missing	7	1.9%	--	14	2.2%	--	21	2.1%	--
Total	359	100%	100%	642	100%	100%	1,001	100%	100%

Gender

As shown in most surveys of the homeless individuals, males (77.3%) comprised the largest portion of survey respondents identified as homeless. The street survey count also included one individual who identified as transgendered from male to female (see Table 16).

Table 16: Gender of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
Female	61	17.0%	17.0%	164	25.5%	25.8%	225	22.5%	22.6%
Male	296	82.5%	82.7%	472	73.5%	74.2%	768	76.7%	77.3%
Transgender Male to Female	1	0.3%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.1%	0.1%
Don't Know	0	0.0%	--	1	0.2%	--	1	0.1%	--
Refused	0	0.0%	--	2	0.3%	--	2	0.2%	--
Missing	1	0.3%	--	3	0.5%	--	4	0.4%	--
Total	359	100%	100%	642	100%	100%	1,001	100%	100%

Race/Ethnicity

Street survey respondents who classified themselves as White comprised the largest portion of those reported as homeless at 67.7%. This was followed by African-American at 28.3% and all other races reporting very small percentages to make up the remainder. The overwhelming

majority (96.1%) of street survey respondents identified as homeless reported that they were not of Hispanic descent (see Tables 17 and 18).

Table 17: Race of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0.3%	0.3%	5	0.8%	0.8%	6	0.6%	0.6%
Asian	1	0.3%	0.3%	2	0.3%	0.3%	3	0.3%	0.3%
Black or African American	88	24.5%	24.8%	191	29.8%	30.2%	279	27.9%	28.3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.2%	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.1%
Other	4	1.1%	1.1%	6	0.9%	0.9%	10	1.0%	1.0%
White	253	70.5%	71.3%	415	64.6%	65.7%	668	66.7%	67.7%
Multiple Races	8	2.2%	2.3%	12	1.9%	1.9%	20	2.0%	2.0%
Missing	4	1.1%	--	10	1.6%	--	14	1.4%	--
Total	359	100%	100%	642	100%	100%	1,001	100%	100%

Table 18: Ethnicity of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
	Unsheltered			Sheltered			Total Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
Hispanic/Latino	12	3.3%	3.4%	26	4.0%	4.1%	38	3.8%	3.9%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	339	94.4%	96.6%	604	94.1%	95.9%	943	94.2%	96.1%
Don't Know	3	0.8%	--	3	0.5%	--	6	0.6%	--
Refused	1	0.3%	--	4	0.6%	--	5	0.5%	--
Missing	4	1.1%	--	5	0.8%	--	9	0.9%	--
Total	359	100%	100%	642	100%	100%	1,001	100%	100%

Household Structure

Several street survey questions were designed to describe the composition of respondents' households. One item asked respondents, "Are you living with anyone now?" If they responded yes, a follow-up question asked with whom they were living. Tables 19 and 20 below present these findings. Most respondents reported that they lived alone (81.6%). Of those who indicated living with others, a spouse/partner (6.8%) or friends (5.1%) were most commonly reported.

Table 19: Street Survey, Are you living with anyone now?

	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	177	17.7%	18.4%
No	786	78.5%	81.6%
Missing	25	2.5%	--
Don't Know	6	0.6%	--
Not Applicable	3	0.3%	--
Refused	4	0.4%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Table 20: Street Survey, With Whom Are You Living?

	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Living Alone	786	78.5%	83.1%
Friends	48	4.8%	5.1%
Other	9	0.9%	1.0%
Other Family	22	2.2%	2.3%
Parent / Guardian	17	1.7%	1.8%
Spouse or Partner	64	6.4%	6.8%
Not Applicable	4	0.4%	--
Refused	1	0.1%	--
Missing	50	5.0%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

The household structure of the homeless population is critical for both state and federal reporting purposes as well as local planning. HUD requires data to be reported for three basic household structures: 1) adult-only households, 2) adult with child households, and 3) child-only households. Each respondent's household structure was determined from the survey items querying whether respondents lived with anyone, the respondent's age, and the ages of other household members. This information sheds light on issues such as what proportion of the homeless population are single individuals. Results contained in Table 21 indicate that the vast majority of homeless street survey respondents reported being single adult households (95.3%). Few respondents indicated having households with children (4.5%) or single child households (0.2%).

Table 21: Household Structure of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Adult Only Households			
One Adults Without Children	920	91.9%	93.9%
Two Adults Without Children	14	1.4%	1.4%
Adult With Child Households			
One Adult With Children	41	4.1%	4.2%
Two Adults With Children	3	0.3%	0.3%
Child Only Households			
One Child Without Adults	2	0.2%	0.2%
Multiple Children Without Adults	0	0.0%	0.0%
Missing	21	2.1%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Homeless families with children have traditionally been difficult to capture during the PIT count; therefore, it is commonly accepted that this figure is likely an undercount and not an accurate reflection of the number of local families with children experiencing homelessness at any time. Whether improved canvassing for families on the day of the count will yield results is unclear. Despite this, the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board made special efforts to canvass families in the 2014 PIT count.

Homelessness and Pinellas County Residency

The following analyses are restricted to the street survey respondents identified as homeless. The street survey includes additional questions designed to shed light on precisely where in Pinellas County individuals reside before and during their homelessness. The first of these questions asks respondents to indicate the ZIP code of their last permanent residence. Table 22 presents these ZIP codes for respondents identified as homeless, with results presented separately for Pinellas versus non-Pinellas ZIP codes. Fifty-five percent of respondents provided a Pinellas County ZIP code.

Table 22: ZIP Code of Last Permanent Housing Address for Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
Pinellas County ZIP Codes (n = 553)	N	% All ZIP Codes	% Pinellas ZIP codes
33701	117	11.7%	21.2%
33702	11	1.1%	2.0%
33703	9	0.9%	1.6%
33704	7	0.7%	1.3%
33705	54	5.4%	9.8%
33706	5	0.5%	0.9%
33707	6	0.6%	1.1%
33708	3	0.3%	0.5%
33709	18	1.8%	3.3%
33710	9	0.9%	1.6%
33711	25	2.5%	4.5%
33712	40	4.0%	7.2%
33713	27	2.7%	4.9%
33714	31	3.1%	5.6%
33715	1	0.1%	0.2%
33716	4	0.4%	0.7%
33755	34	3.4%	6.1%
33756	37	3.7%	6.7%
33759	1	0.1%	0.2%
33760	14	1.4%	2.5%
33762	10	1.0%	1.8%
33764	2	0.2%	0.4%
33765	3	0.3%	0.5%
33767	1	0.1%	0.2%
33770	8	0.8%	1.4%
33771	12	1.2%	2.2%
33772	2	0.2%	0.4%

Table 22: ZIP Code of Last Permanent Housing Address for Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

33773	2	0.2%	0.4%
33774	1	0.1%	0.2%
33776	3	0.3%	0.5%
33777	6	0.6%	1.1%
33778	2	0.2%	0.4%
33781	19	1.9%	3.4%
33782	2	0.2%	0.4%
33784	2	0.2%	0.4%
34684	1	0.1%	0.2%
34688	1	0.1%	0.2%
34689	16	1.6%	2.9%
34695	2	0.2%	0.4%
34698	5	0.5%	0.9%
Non-Pinellas County ZIP codes (n = 448)			
Invalid	29	2.9%	--
Missing	268	26.8%	--
0 to 09999	13	1.3%	--
10000 to 19999	9	0.9%	--
20000 to 29999	5	0.5%	--
30036	1	0.1%	--
30058	1	0.1%	--
30117	2	0.2%	--
30301	1	0.1%	--
30340	1	0.1%	--
30711	1	0.1%	--
31302	1	0.1%	--
31902	1	0.1%	--
32046	1	0.1%	--
32068	1	0.1%	--
32105	1	0.1%	--
32114	1	0.1%	--
32160	1	0.1%	--
32209	1	0.1%	--
32304	1	0.1%	--
32504	1	0.1%	--
32601	1	0.1%	--
32655	1	0.1%	--
32707	1	0.1%	--
32935	1	0.1%	--
33075	1	0.1%	--
33076	1	0.1%	--
33404	1	0.1%	--
33455	1	0.1%	--
33564	1	0.1%	--
33601	1	0.1%	--
33602	2	0.2%	--
33603	2	0.2%	--

Table 22: ZIP Code of Last Permanent Housing Address for Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

33604	3	0.3%	--
33609	1	0.1%	--
33610	1	0.1%	--
33614	3	0.3%	--
33615	1	0.1%	--
33619	2	0.2%	--
33718	1	0.1%	--
33750	1	0.1%	--
33753	1	0.1%	--
33768	1	0.1%	--
33801	2	0.2%	--
33810	1	0.1%	--
33898	1	0.1%	--
33972	1	0.1%	--
34142	1	0.1%	--
34205	2	0.2%	--
34230	1	0.1%	--
34232	1	0.1%	--
34248	1	0.1%	--
34287	1	0.1%	--
34462	1	0.1%	--
34471	1	0.1%	--
34610	1	0.1%	--
34639	1	0.1%	--
34652	2	0.2%	--
34653	1	0.1%	--
34654	1	0.1%	--
34667	3	0.3%	--
34677	2	0.2%	--
34683	2	0.2%	--
34687	1	0.1%	--
34690	1	0.1%	--
34741	1	0.1%	--
34989	1	0.1%	--
36049	1	0.1%	--
3705	1	0.1%	--
37064	1	0.1%	--
37421	1	0.1%	--
37555	1	0.1%	--
37921	2	0.2%	--
37924	1	0.1%	--
38126	1	0.1%	--
38880	1	0.1%	--
39696	1	0.1%	--
40000 to 49999	17	1.7%	--
50000 to 59999	2	0.2%	--
60000 to 69999	3	0.3%	--
70000 to 79999	6	0.6%	--

Table 22: ZIP Code of Last Permanent Housing Address for Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
80000 to 89999	5	0.5%	--
90000 to 99999	3	0.3%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Another question asked respondents, “How long have you been homeless in this County this time?” Responses are reported in Table 23 below. Respondents most typically indicated that they had been homeless in Pinellas County for one year or longer (n = 460; 46.7%), followed by between 3 and 12 months (n = 203; 20.6%), or between 1 and 3 months (n = 177; 18.0%).

There is often a persistent notion that a significant portion of Pinellas County’s homeless population seasonally come from other locations due to the mild weather. Results from the 2014 street survey dispel this notion, as over 46% of the homeless respondents stated that they had been in Pinellas for one year or longer (see Table 23).

Table 23: Street Survey, How long have you been homeless in this County this time?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
1 week or less	56	5.6%	5.7%
More than one week but less than 1 month	77	7.7%	7.8%
1 to 3 months	177	17.7%	18.0%
More than 3 months, less than 1 year	203	20.3%	20.6%
1 year or longer	460	46.0%	46.7%
Don't know	9	0.9%	0.9%
Refused	4	0.4%	0.4%
Missing	15	1.5%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

The next question on the survey asked respondents, “What city do you mainly stay in?” Responses are reported in Table 24 below. The vast majority of respondents indicated that they mainly stayed in St. Petersburg (n = 600; 61.2%) or Clearwater (n = 191; 19.5%). These results again underscore the local, and not seasonal, nature of the Pinellas County homeless population.

Table 24: Street Survey, What city do you mainly stay in?

	N	Percent	Valid Percent	# Unsheltered	# Sheltered
Clearwater	191	19.1%	19.5%	59	132
Dunedin	1	0.1%	0.1%	0	1
Largo	30	3.0%	3.1%	13	17
Lealman	24	2.4%	2.4%	16	8
Palm Harbor	12	1.2%	1.2%	5	7
Pinellas Park	29	2.9%	3.0%	15	14
Refused	1	0.1%	0.1%	0	1
St. Petersburg	600	59.9%	61.2%	204	396
St. Pete Beach	21	2.1%	2.1%	13	8
Tarpon Springs	25	2.5%	2.5%	15	10
Don't Know	2	0.2%	--	1	1
Missing	18	1.8%	--	2	16
Outside of Pinellas County					
Pasco County	7	0.7%	0.7%	2	5
Tampa	20	2.0%	2.0%	6	14
Out of State	3	0.3%	0.3%	1	2
Other	17	1.7%	1.7%	7	10
Total	1,001	100%	100%	359	642

A separate street survey question asked respondents to indicate, "How long were you living in Pinellas County before you became homeless?" Responses are reported in Table 25 below. The vast majority of respondents indicated that they lived in Pinellas County for more than one year (n = 740; 76.3%), underscoring the extensive local nature of the Pinellas County homeless population. A sizable group (n = 104; 10.4%) reported living in Pinellas County for one week or less before becoming homeless, providing some support to the notion that there is a fairly large group of individuals experiencing homelessness seasonally in Pinellas County.

Table 25: Street Survey, How long were you living in Pinellas County before you became homeless?

	N	Percent	Valid Percent
1 week or less	104	10.4%	10.7%
More than one week but less than 1 month	23	2.3%	2.4%
1 to 3 months	44	4.4%	4.5%
More than 3 months, less than 1 year	59	5.9%	6.1%
More than 1 year	740	74.0%	76.3%
Don't know	8	0.8%	--
Refused	5	0.5%	--
Missing	18	1.8%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Episodes and History of Homelessness

In addition to providing information necessary to determine the number of chronic homeless, information about individuals' previous episodes of homelessness provides critical insight to the episodic nature of homelessness. Findings indicated that slightly more than 50% of respondents were experiencing their first or second episode of homelessness, followed by 21.1% who reported between three and six episodes. Twenty-six percent reported that they had either been homeless more than six times in the past three years or homeless for the entire three- year duration. The answer was missing for 21 respondents, and the data collector indicated this information was not applicable in one instance (see Table 26).

Table 26: Street Survey, Including this time, how many times in the last 3 years have you been homeless?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
One Time	331	33.1%	34.6%
2 Times	171	17.1%	17.8%
3 Times	101	10.1%	10.5%
4 Times	54	5.4%	5.6%
5 Times	32	3.2%	3.3%
6 Times	16	1.6%	1.7%
More Than 6 Times	62	6.2%	6.5%
Entire 3 years	191	19.1%	19.9%
Refused	7	0.7%	--
Don't Know	14	1.4%	--
Not Applicable	1	0.1%	--
Missing	21	2.1%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

The street survey also asks respondents to share what circumstances made them lose their housing (Table 27). Over half (52.5%) reported the primary reason they lost their housing was due to economic reasons. Importantly, respondents only reported the primary reason. Many individuals likely had numerous reasons, but the survey directed them to choose the primary one.

Table 27: Street Survey, What caused you to lose your permanent housing?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Not enough income, lost job, financial problems	516	51.5%	52.5%
Foreclosure	11	1.1%	1.1%
Eviction	40	4.0%	4.1%
Family Problem	73	7.3%	7.4%
Alcohol or drug problems	89	8.9%	9.1%
Mental health or emotional problems	20	2.0%	2.0%
Medical	84	8.4%	8.5%
Criminal History/arrest/Incarceration	54	5.4%	5.5%
Left to escape abuse	18	1.8%	1.8%
Natural Disasters	16	1.6%	1.6%
Other	55	5.5%	5.6%
Don't know	4	0.4%	0.4%
Refused	3	0.3%	0.3%
Missing	18	1.8%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Special Populations

HUD-defined special homeless populations include veterans, chronically homeless (families and individuals), victims of domestic violence, and persons living with HIV/AIDS, serious mental illnesses, or substance use disorders. HUD reporting requires the number of individuals in each of these special population categories to be reported in the annual Point-in-Time count.

Veterans

Included in the veterans count are individuals who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called to active duty. The street survey asked whether the respondent served in the United States Armed Forces, and it further probed which military branch and war zones, if applicable. Results from the 2014 PIT indicated that nearly 17 percent of the homeless street survey respondents reported that they were veterans (see Table 28). Of the 162 Veterans, only 3 (1.9%) reported being female.

Table 28: Veteran Status of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	162	16.2%	16.9%
No	798	79.7%	83.1%
Refused	9	0.9%	--
Not Applicable	15	1.5%	--
Missing	17	1.7%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

Table 29 presents the military branch of homeless street survey respondents who reported veteran status. Over half (50.7%) of valid responses indicated that the respondent was in the Army, followed by Navy (26.3%), Air Force (9.9%), and Marines (9.2%).

Table 29: Military Branch of Veteran Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Air Force	15	9.3%	9.9%
Army	77	47.5%	50.7%
Coast Guard	1	0.6%	0.7%
Marines	14	8.6%	9.2%
National Guard	5	3.1%	3.3%
Navy	40	24.7%	26.3%
Not Applicable	3	1.9%	--
Refused	1	0.6%	--
Missing	6	3.7%	--
Total	162	100%	100%

Table 30 presents the war zones for those respondents who reported being homeless and veterans. Vietnam (37.8%), Persian Gulf (18.3%), Afghanistan (13.4%), and “Other” (13.4%) were the most commonly identified war zones.

Table 30: War Zone of Veteran Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Afghanistan	11	6.8%	13.4%
Europe	4	2.5%	4.9%
Korea	5	3.1%	6.1%
Laos and Cambodia	2	1.2%	2.4%
North Africa	2	1.2%	2.4%
Other	11	6.8%	13.4%
Persian Gulf	15	9.3%	18.3%
South China Sea	1	0.6%	1.2%
Vietnam	31	19.1%	37.8%
Refused	3	1.9%	--
Not Applicable	65	40.1%	--
Blank	8	4.9%	--
Don't Know	4	2.5%	--
Total	162	100%	100%

Foster Care History

Youth may become homeless when they leave foster or institutional care (including running away, aging out, or being discharged). Pinellas’ 2014 street survey asked respondents if they had ever been in foster care. Table 31 shows that 12.9% of homeless street survey respondents reported a history of foster care regardless of their age at the time of the survey.

Table 31: Street Survey, Were you ever in foster care?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	120	12.0%	12.9%
No	813	81.2%	87.1%
Don't Know	19	1.9%	--
Refused	5	0.5%	--
Not Applicable	4	0.4%	--
Missing	40	4.0%	--
Total	1,001	100%	100%

While the vast majority of the population did not report a history of foster care, a much larger portion of the young adults surveyed did report having spent at least some of their youth in the

foster care system. Table 32 indicates that 22.0% of the homeless street survey respondents between 18 and 24 years of age reported having been in foster care, compared to nearly 13% of the entire sample. It is widely agreed that youth experiencing homelessness have been consistently undercounted because they are often not connected to services or shelters (Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, 2010). As a result, The Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board took extra steps to count youth in the 2014 PIT count.

Table 32: Foster Care History of 18-24 Year Old Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	11	21.6%	22.0%
No	39	76.5%	78.0%
Missing	1	2.0%	--
Total	51	100%	100%

Disabilities

The presence of disabilities among individuals experiencing homelessness is common. Results from the 2014 PIT confirmed that Pinellas County is no exception, with 74.3% of the homeless reporting the presence of at least one disabling condition (see Table 33).

Table 33: Disabling Condition among Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Yes	744	74.3%
No	257	25.7%
Total	1,001	100%

Table 34 (below) shows the distribution of the nature of the disabilities reported by homeless individuals completing the street survey. Respondents were encouraged to report each of their disabilities. However, from these data it is difficult to determine the nature and extent of co-occurring disorders. For example, a participant could report mental health problem and also respond that they have a depression diagnosis and/or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Hence, it is important to remember that since one respondent can report multiple disabilities, an individual can be represented in one or more of the categories listed in Table 34.

Table 34: Are you currently experiencing any of the following that limit your ability to work or take care of yourself?		
	N	Percent
Serious Mental Illness	522	52.1%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	203	20.3%
Depression Diagnosis	369	36.9%
Substance Use Disorder	354	35.4%
Physical Disability	477	47.7%
Hearing/Visually Impaired	14	1.4%
Chronic Health Condition	293	29.3%
Developmental Disability	85	8.5%
AIDS/HIV Related Illness	17	1.7%
Victim of Domestic Violence	44	4.4%

Note: An individual can have multiple disabilities.

Within the disabilities, HUD requires COCs to provide additional reporting on specific subgroups. These include individuals who are severely mentally ill, care involved in chronic substance abuse, persons who have been victims of domestic violence and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The following tables (35-38) show the data for individuals who responded that they had these specific disabilities.

Table 35: Severely Mentally Ill Adult Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	522	52.1%
No	479	47.9%
Total	1,001	100%

Table 36: Chronic Substance Abuse among Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	354	35.4%
No	647	64.6%
Total	1,001	100%

Table 37: Domestic Violence among Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	44	4.4%
No	957	95.6%
Total	1,001	100%

Table 38: Persons with HIV/AIDS among Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	17	1.7%
No	984	98.3%
Total	1,001	100%

Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

To determine whether each unsheltered survey participant qualifies as a chronically homeless individual, information must be collected to determine whether they have a disabling condition (diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, chronic physical illness or disability; or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions); has been continually homeless for a year or more; or has had at least four separate episodes of

homelessness in the past three years. To be considered a chronically homeless family, one *adult* member of the household must meet the conditions mentioned above. Among street survey respondents who reported chronic homelessness, over 99% were individuals as opposed to families (see Table 39 below). Also indicated in Table 39 is the finding that 38.5% of homeless individuals were classified as chronically homeless (355 out of 922), compared to only 5.2% of identified children (3 out of 58).

Table 39: Chronically Homeless among Street Survey Respondents				
	Yes		No	
	N	Percent	N	Percent
Individuals	355	99.2%	567	91.2%
Families	3	0.8%	55	8.8%

Children of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

The street survey included questions designed to gather the demographic information of those respondents who had children, if any. Due to space constraints, the survey could only accommodate information for up to three children. Although survey administrators were trained to utilize an additional sheet of paper to write down information on children when there were more than three in the household, this procedure was a bit cumbersome and required attaching the additional sheet of paper to the actual survey. Consequently, the demographic information below is an underestimate of the number of children in families identified as homeless. Results from the street survey located 114 children of respondents identified as homeless (see Table 40). Of these, 65 (57.0%) were living in emergency shelters, 16 (14.0%) were in hotels or motels paid for without emergency shelter vouchers, and 15 (13.2%) were staying with family. Only four children (3.5%) were identified as living in a place not meant for habitation. Youth under the age of 18 were likely undercounted in the street survey count, as these data relied entirely on an adults' willingness to report children living with them in these circumstances.

Table 40: Children of Street Survey Respondents by Homeless Location		
	N	Percent
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	65	57.0%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	16	14.0%
Stayed with family	15	13.2%
Transitional housing for homeless persons, including homeless youth	7	6.1%
Stayed with friends	4	3.5%
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	3	2.6%
Place Not Meant for Habitation	4	3.5%
Total	114	100%

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Tables 41 and 42 present the age and age group distributions for street survey respondents' children identified as homeless. First, note that age data were missing for 27 cases (23.7%). Of those with valid age data, ages ranged from 0 to 17, with a mean of 7.0 and a standard deviation of 4.7. The age data indicate that the largest group of children for whom age is known were between the ages of 0 and 4 (35.6%), followed by 5 to 8 (28.7%), 9 to 12 (21.8%), and 13 to 17 (13.8%). Age was unknown for 27 children.

Table 41: Age Distribution of Street Survey Respondents' Children Identified as Homeless			
Age	N	Percent	Valid Percent
0	3	2.6%	3.4%
1	6	5.3%	6.9%
2	13	11.4%	14.9%
3	7	6.1%	8.0%
4	2	1.8%	2.3%
5	6	5.3%	6.9%
6	6	5.3%	6.9%
7	4	3.5%	4.6%
8	9	7.9%	10.3%
9	3	2.6%	3.4%
10	4	3.5%	4.6%
11	9	7.9%	10.3%
12	3	2.6%	3.4%
13	3	2.6%	3.4%
14	3	2.6%	3.4%
15	2	1.8%	2.3%
16	2	1.8%	2.3%
17	2	1.8%	2.3%
Not specified, under 18	27	23.7%	--
Total	114	100%	100%

Table 42: Age Group Distribution of Street Survey Respondents' Children Identified as Homeless			
Age	N	Percent	Valid Percent
0 to 4	31	27.2%	35.6%
5 to 8	25	21.9%	28.7%
9 to 12	19	16.7%	21.8%
13 to 17	12	10.5%	13.8%
Not specified, under 18	27	23.7%	--
Total	114	100%	100%

Gender

As with the other child variables, there was some missing data (20.2%) for the variables indicating child gender. Results indicated that females (52.7%) comprised the slight majority of survey respondents' children identified as homeless (see Table 43). Interestingly, "other" gender was indicated for one child.

Table 43: Gender of Street Survey Respondents' Children Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Female	48	42.1%	52.7%
Male	42	36.8%	46.2%
"Other"	1	0.9%	1.1%
Missing	23	20.2%	--
Total	114	100%	100%

School Enrollment

The street survey also included items to ask if respondents' children, if any, were attending school. According to parents' responses, the vast majority (70.1%) of their children were attending school (see Table 44). Importantly, some children were below age for public school enrollment.

Table 44: School Enrollment of Street Survey Respondents' Children Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	61	53.5%	70.1%
No	26	22.8%	29.9%
Missing	27	23.7%	--
Total	114	100%	100%

TBIN Sheltered Data File Results

This data file represents individuals who stayed in sheltered or homeless housing on the day of the 2014 PIT count. HUD and the state consider as homeless any individual/family residing in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or Safe Havens, since these are not permanent housing arrangements. The TBIN sheltered data file contains information on individuals who, on the night of the count, were living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide a temporary living arrangement (e.g., congregate shelters, shelters for runaway and homeless youth under 18 years of age, domestic violence shelters, transitional housing, and any hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations, federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals). This group includes the Pinellas County Housing Authority and the St. Petersburg Housing Authority. The information contained in the following group of tables is derived from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database for Pinellas County. Overall, 1,619 individuals were residing in local shelters on the night of Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014, including 166 children and 1,453 adults (see Table 45, below).

Table 45: Sheltered TBIN Adult Count by Shelter Type						
	Children		Adults		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Emergency Shelter	135	81.3%	895	61.6%	1,030	63.6%
Transitional Housing	31	18.7%	523	36.0%	554	34.2%
Safe Haven	0	0%	35	2.4%	35	2.1%
Total	166	100%	1,453	100%	1,619	100%

Results in Table 46 indicated that the largest number of people were served by emergency shelters (n = 1,030), followed by transitional housing programs (n = 554) and Safe Havens (n = 35). The largest emergency shelter program on the night of the PIT count was Pinellas Safe Harbor, which served 391 individuals, followed by Pinellas Hope (n = 204) and the Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Emergency Shelter (n = 113). The Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) was also the largest transitional housing program on the night of the count, serving 149 individuals. The second largest transitional housing program was Catholic Charities' Pinellas Hope Phase II (n = 91) and St. Vincent de Paul Center of Hope (n = 80). Only 35 individuals were housed in Safe Havens on the night of the count.

Table 46: Sheltered TBIN Count by Shelter Type and Provider			
		N	Percent
Emergency Shelter	Catholic Charities, Pinellas Hope	204	19.8%
	Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Emergency Shelter	113	11.0%
	Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Homeless Outreach, Housing	24	2.3%
	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Pinellas Safe Harbor	391	38.0%
	Pinellas Hope, Medical Respite Services	6	0.6%
	Religious Community Services (RCS) Grace House	77	7.5%
	Salvation Army St. Petersburg Emergency Shelter	20	1.9%
	St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Beacon House Transitional Shelter	12	1.2%
	St. Vincent de Paul, Night-Time Shelter	27	2.6%
	St. Vincent de Paul, Family Shelter Program	50	4.9%
	WestCare, Turning Point Inebriate Intervention Center	56	5.4%
	YWCA Family Village Emergency Housing Program	50	4.9%
	Total	1,030	100.0%
Transitional Housing	ALPHA House Transitional Living Program	13	2.3%
	Boley Centers Homeless Supported Housing Program, The Oaks Apartments	11	2.0%
	Boley Centers, Jerry Howe Transitional Apartments	11	2.0%
	Brookwood Florida-Central Transitional Housing	9	1.6%
	Catholic Charities, Pinellas Hope Phase II	91	16.4%
	Christian Recovery Centers, The Faith House	32	5.8%
	Homeless Emergency Project (HEP) Transitional Housing	149	26.9%
	Salvation Army St. Petersburg Transitional Housing	60	10.8%
	Salvation Army, Clearwater Transitional Living Center	7	1.3%
	St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Women's Residence	19	3.4%
	St. Vincent de Paul Center of Hope, Transitional Housing	80	14.4%
	WestCare - The Mustard Seed Inn	60	10.8%
	YWCA Family Village Transitional Housing Program	12	2.2%
	Total	554	100%
Safe Haven	Boley Centers Mid-County Safe Haven (Morningside)	16	45.7%
	Boley Centers Permanent Supportive Housing, Safe Haven Apartments	19	54.3%
	Total	35	100%

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Table 47 below depicts the age group distribution of the TBIN sheltered sample. The total of 1,619 individuals represented 166 children and 1,453 adults. Ages ranged from 0 to 84, with an average of 42.5 and a standard deviation of 16.8. Among children, the largest age group was those aged 0 to 4 (n = 69); among adults, individuals aged 50 to 59 were the largest group (n = 546).

Table 47: Age distribution of TBIN Sheltered Individuals		
	N	Percent
Children (n = 166)		
0 to 4	69	4.3%
5 to 8	38	2.3%
9 to 12	31	1.9%
13 to 17	28	1.7%
Adults (n = 1,453)		
18 to 24	85	5.3%
25 to 29	91	6.3%
30 to 39	235	16.2%
40 to 49	316	21.7%
50 to 59	546	37.6%
60 to 69	169	11.6%
70 to 79	9	0.6%
80 to 89	2	0.1%
Missing	0	0.0%
Total	1,619	100%

Gender

Table 48 presents information on gender separately for children and adults. Although males comprised the slight majority (51.2%) of sheltered children, among adults, male gender was more common (74.5%).

Table 48: Gender of TBIN Sheltered Individuals				
	Children		Adults	
	N	Percent	N	Percent
Female	81	48.8%	369	25.4%
Male	85	51.2%	1,083	74.5%
Transgender Male to Female	0	0%	1	0.1%
Total	166	100%	1,453	100%

Race and Ethnicity

Table 49 presents the racial composition of TBIN shelter users. White individuals comprised the largest racial group among both the adult (73.7%) and child (48.5%) sheltered populations. African Americans were the second largest group among the adult (23.5%) and child (44.2%) clients.

Table 49: Primary Race of TBIN Sheltered Individuals						
	Children			Adults		
	N	Percent	Valid Percent	N	Percent	Valid Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	0.6%	0.6%	11	0.8%	0.8%
Asian	0	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.3%	0.3%
Black or African American	73	44.0%	44.2%	341	23.5%	23.5%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	0.1%	0.1%
White	80	48.2%	48.5%	1,067	73.4%	73.7%
Other	10	6.0%	6.1%	21	1.4%	1.5%
Other Multi-Racial	1	0.6%	0.6%	2	0.1%	0.1%
Don't Know	0	0.0%	--	2	0.1%	--
Refused	1	0.6%	--	3	0.2%	--
Total	166	100%	100%	1,453	100%	100%

Ethnicity findings are presented in Table 50. Hispanic individuals comprised a bigger proportion of the children (15.4%) than the adults (6.1%).

Table 50: Ethnicity of TBIN Sheltered Individuals						
	Children			Adults		
	N	Percent	Valid Percent	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Hispanic/Latino	25	15.1%	15.4%	88	6.1%	6.1%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	137	82.5%	84.6%	1,350	92.9%	93.9%
Don't Know	4	2.4%	--	14	1.0%	--
Refused	0	0.0%	--	1	0.1%	--
Total	166	100%	100%	1,453	100%	100%

History of Homelessness

The TBIN sheltered data file also includes information on the number of times each individual has been homeless in the past three years. Table 51 presents results separately for adults and children. Results indicate that few of these individuals have been homeless for two years or more.

Table 51: TBIN Sheltered, Including this time, how many times in the last 3 years have you been homeless?						
	Children			Adults		
	N	Percent	Valid Percent	N	Percent	Valid Percent
First time homeless	63	38.0%	61.8%	225	15.5%	33.5%
2 to 3 times	35	21.1%	34.3%	258	17.8%	38.4%
Chronic, 4 or more times	4	2.4%	3.9%	181	12.5%	26.9%
Long term, 2 years of more	0	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.6%	1.2%
Refused	0	0.0%	--	18	1.2%	--
Don't Know	8	4.8%	--	119	8.2%	--
Not Applicable	3	1.8%	--	4	0.3%	--
Missing	53	31.9%	--	639	44.0%	--
Total	166	100%	100%	1,453	100%	100%

Special Populations

Veterans

Table 52 presents information on the TBIN sheltered adults veteran status. Veterans made up 25.1% of the sheltered adults, a larger proportion than the 17% observed among street survey respondents.

Table 52: Veteran Status of TBIN Sheltered Adults			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	364	25.1%	25.1%
No	1,085	74.7%	74.9%
Refused	1	0.1%	--
Don't Know	3	0.2%	--
Total	1,453	100%	100%

Victims of Domestic Violence

A limited amount of special population information is collected by the shelters and provided to TBIN. Information is collected regarding clients' domestic violence history and the presence of disabilities. The portion of the sheltered population that reported having been a victim of domestic violence in the past was fairly small among adults (14.6%) and children (2.2%); however, this result must be viewed with caution, as there was missing data for this variable for 120 children and 759 adults (see Table 53). It should also be noted that this figure does not include those clients who were residing in the area's domestic violence shelters on the night of the count. This population is included in the non-TBIN shelter section.

Table 53: Domestic Violence among TBIN Sheltered Individuals						
	Children			Adults		
	N	Percent	Valid Percent	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	1	0.6%	2.2%	100	6.9%	14.6%
No	45	27.1%	97.8%	587	40.4%	85.4%
Don't Know	0	0.0%	--	6	0.4%	--
Not Applicable	0	0.0%	--	1	0.1%	--
Missing	120	72.3%	--	759	52.2%	--
Total	166	100%	100%	1,453	100%	100%

Disabilities

The sheltered count also provides some information about the portion of clients using shelters on the night of the PIT who reported having a disability. Results indicated that over a third (35.1%) who spent the night in the shelter reported that they had a disability (see Table 54). Table 55 indicated that most shelter users who did report a disability indicated that it was a mental health issue, followed by alcohol and drug abuse. It is important to remember that one client can report multiple disabilities, therefore, an individual can be represented in one or more of the categories listed in the table.

Table 54: TBIN Sheltered Adults with one or more Disabilities		
	N	Percent
Yes	510	35.1%
No	903	62.1%
Don't Know	31	2.1%
Missing	3	0.2%
Refused	6	0.4%
Total	1,453	100%

Table 55: Type of Disability among TBIN Sheltered Adults		
	N	Percent
Any Substance Use Disorder	236	16.2%
Alcohol Use Disorder	155	10.7%
Drug Use Disorder	114	7.8%
Both Alcohol and Drug Use Disorder	69	4.7%
Mental Health Problem	238	16.4%
Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders	136	9.4%
HIV/AIDS	1	0.1%

Note. Individuals can have multiple disabilities. Percentages represent the percent of sheltered adults having each specific disability.

TBIN Service Provider Data File Results

The TBIN Service Provider data file provides information on adults who received other homeless services such as soup kitchens, drop-in centers, etc. on the day of the 2014 PIT count. Table 56 shows how many individuals were served by each of these service providers on the day of the Point-In-Time count. The largest group of individuals (n = 53; 84.1%) was served by the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen in South Pinellas. **It is important to note that a large number of providers of street feedings and soup kitchens are not currently entering into the TBIN system; most are faith based, and were covered as extensively as possible in the street count and survey.**

Table 56: Number of Individuals Served by TBIN Service Providers on Day of PIT Count		
	N	Percent
Daystar Life Center St. Petersburg, Basic Needs Assistance	7	11.1%
Pinellas County Health and Human Services, Mobile Medical Van	2	3.2%
Pinellas Opportunity Council, Emergency Financial Assistance, St. Petersburg	1	1.6%
St. Vincent de Paul, Soup Kitchen (South County)	53	84.1%
Total	63	100%

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Tables 57 and 58 present the age and age group distributions for the 63 individuals included in this data set. The sample ranged from 21 to 65 years of age, with an average of 49.0 and a standard deviation of 10.4. The largest age groups include individuals aged 50 to 59 (46.0%) and 40 to 49 (25.4%).

Table 57: Age Distribution of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
Age	N	Percent
21	1	1.6
24	1	1.6
25	1	1.6
27	1	1.6
31	1	1.6
32	1	1.6
33	1	1.6
37	2	3.2

Table 57: Age Distribution of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
Age	N	Percent
39	1	1.6
41	3	4.8
42	2	3.2
43	1	1.6
44	2	3.2
45	1	1.6
46	1	1.6
47	1	1.6
48	2	3.2
49	3	4.8
50	5	7.9
52	7	11.1
53	4	6.3
54	4	6.3
55	2	3.2
57	2	3.2
58	2	3.2
59	3	4.8
60	1	1.6
62	1	1.6
63	3	4.8
64	1	1.6
65	2	3.2
63	3	4.8
64	1	1.6
65	2	3.2
Total	63	100%

Table 58: Age Group Distribution of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
Age	N	Percent
18 to 24	2	3.2%
25 to 29	2	3.2%
30 to 39	6	9.5%
40 to 49	16	25.4%
50 to 59	29	46.0%
60 to 69	8	12.7%
70 to 79	0	0.0%
80 to 89	0	0.0%
Missing	0	0.0%
Total	63	100%

Gender

Table 59 presents information on the gender of individuals receiving TBIN services on the day of the count. The vast majority of individuals receiving these services were male (88.9%).

Table 59: Gender of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
	N	Percent
Female	7	11.1%
Male	56	88.9%
Total	63	100%

Race and Ethnicity

Tables 60 and 61 present information on the primary race and ethnicity of individuals receiving TBIN services on the day of the count. With regard to race, the largest groups were White (58.7%) or African American (38.1%). Only one respondent (1.6%) reported being Hispanic.

Table 60: Primary Race of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
	N	Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	1.6%
Asian	1	1.6%
Black or African American	24	38.1%
White	37	58.7%
Total	63	100%

Table 61: Ethnicity of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Hispanic/Latino	1	1.6%	1.6%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	61	96.8%	98.4%
Don't Know	1	1.6%	--
Total	63	100%	100%

History of Homelessness

The TBIN service provider data file also includes a variable to indicate the number of separate times that service recipients were homeless in the past three years. Data were missing for 17 (27.0%) of the individuals on this item. As indicated in Table 62, TBIN service recipients most commonly reported being homeless either 2 to 3 times (51.3%) or 4 or more times (33.3%) in the past three years.

Table 62: TBIN Sheltered: Including this time, how many times in the last 3 years have you been homeless?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
First time homeless	6	9.5%	15.4%
2 to 3 times	20	31.7%	51.3%
Chronic, 4 or more times	13	20.6%	33.3%
Refused	2	3.2%	--
Don't Know	5	7.9%	--
Missing	17	27.0%	--
Total	63	100%	100%

Special Populations

Veterans

Information concerning individuals' veteran status is included in Tables 63. Results indicate that only 9 individuals (14.3%) reported being a veteran.

Table 63: Veteran Status of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
	N	Percent
Yes	9	14.3%
No	54	85.7%
Total	63	100%

Victims of Domestic Violence

Table 64 presents information on the number of individuals who reported being victims of domestic violence. Only one individual (4.5%) reported being a victim of domestic violence

Table 64: Domestic Violence Among Individuals Receiving TBIN Services			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	1	1.6%	4.5%
No	21	33.3%	95.5%
Missing	41	65.1%	--
Total	63	100%	100%

Disabilities

The TBIN service provider data file also includes variables to indicate disabilities. As indicated in Table 65, seventeen (27.0%) TBIN service recipients reported having a disability. The disabilities most commonly reported included physical disabilities (12.7%), substance use disorders (12.7%) and mental health problems (11.1%; see Table 66).

Table 65: Disability Status of Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
	N	Percent
Yes	17	27.0%
No	46	73.0%
Total	63	100%

Table 66: Type of Disability among Individuals Receiving TBIN Services		
	N	Percent
Physical Disability	8	12.7%
Medical Disability	1	1.6%
Chronic Health Problems	3	4.8%
Developmental Disability	2	3.2%
Any Mental Health Problem	7	11.1%
Mental Illness	6	9.5%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	2	3.2%
Depression	1	1.6%
Any Substance Use Disorder	8	12.7%
Alcohol Use Disorder	7	11.1%
Drug Use Disorder	3	4.8%
Both Alcohol and Drug Use Disorder	2	3.2%
Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders	4	6.3%

Note: Individuals can have multiple disabilities.

Street Survey Partial Survey Data File Results

This data file represents street surveys that were deemed partial/incomplete. These paper surveys were missing identifiable information (e.g., First name, Last name, DOB, SSN) that prevented the respondent from being located in TBIN, but they had at least one survey question answered. Due to HUD's HMIS quality checks on the HMIS database, these clients were not entered into the system. Accordingly, results from this data file have varying amounts of missing data.

Locations Where Street Surveys Were Conducted

The following tables (67 – 69, below) describe the location where street surveys were conducted during the PIT count. Table 67 indicates that, of the 356 partial surveys gathered and entered, most (54.1%) were completed in the South region of the County, followed by the North and Mid-County regions.

Table 67: Areas Where Partial Street Surveys Were Completed			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
North County	82	23.0%	24.6%
Mid County	71	19.9%	21.3%
South County	180	50.6%	54.1%
Refused	1	0.3%	--
Missing	22	6.2%	--
Total	356	100%	100%

Table 68 below provides some additional information regarding the types of sites where the street surveys were completed, with results broken out by respondent housing status. Overall, surveys were most commonly completed in what were coded as "Other" sites (n = 190; 53.4%), followed by meal sites (n = 69; 19.4%) and the street (n = 39; 11.0%).

Table 68: Location Where Partial Street Surveys Were Completed, by Respondent Housing Status						
	Housed		Homeless		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Other	141	63.5%	49	36.6%	190	53.4%
Meal Site	39	17.6%	30	22.4%	69	19.4%
Street	18	8.1%	21	15.7%	39	11.0%
Public Building	5	2.3%	8	6.0%	13	3.7%
Camp	0	0.0%	3	2.2%	3	0.8%
Refused	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%
Missing	18	8.1%	23	17.2%	41	11.5%
Total	222	100%	134	100%	356	100%

Table 69 identifies the city in which the street surveys were completed, with results reported separately by respondent housing status. Overall, most surveys were completed in St. Petersburg (n = 186; 52.2%) or Clearwater (n = 76; 21.3%).

Table 69: City Where Partial Street Surveys Were Completed						
	Housed		Homeless		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Bay Pines	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.3%
Clearwater	45	20.3%	31	23.1%	76	21.3%
Largo	4	1.8%	3	2.2%	7	2.0%
Lealman	10	4.5%	14	10.4%	24	6.7%
Palm Harbor	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.3%
Pinellas Park	19	8.6%	8	6.0%	27	7.6%
Seminole	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.3%
St. Petersburg	128	57.7%	58	43.3%	186	52.2%
Tarpon Springs	2	0.9%	12	9.0%	14	3.9%
Refused	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%
Blank	13	5.9%	5	3.7%	18	5.1%
Total	222	100%	134	100%	356	100%

Identifying the Homeless Street Survey Respondents

The following table depicts the results of what is considered the “heart” of the PIT count for the unsheltered population. The question asks “where did you sleep on Wednesday night, January 22nd, 2014?” Responses to this question are critical in order to accurately classify where a respondent is classified as homeless for federal and state reporting, as well as for obtaining an overall count for local purposes. “N” refers to the actual number of respondents in the category (see Table 70).

Table 70: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Where did you sleep on Wednesday night, January 22, 2014?

	Housed Respondents ^a		Homeless Respondents ^a		Total Respondents ^a	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Emergency Shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	0	0.0%	44	32.8%	44	12.4%
Place not meant for human habitation ^b	0	0.0%	41	30.6%	41	11.5%
Transitional housing for homeless persons, including homeless youth	0	0.0%	8	6.0%	8	2.2%
Safe Haven ^c	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	1	0.3%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher ^d	43	19.4%	1	0.7%	44	12.4%
Stayed with friends ^d	24	10.8%	11	8.2%	35	9.8%
Stayed with family ^d	33	14.9%	2	1.5%	35	9.8%
Own or Rental by client, no housing subsidy ^d	92	41.4%	1	0.7%	93	26.1%
Rental by client with other non-VASH housing subsidy ^d	0	0.0%	25	18.7%	25	7.0%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons ^d	4	1.8%	0	0.0%	4	1.1%
Substance abuse treatment facility	2	0.9%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	3	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%
Hospital, non-psychiatric	3	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%
Missing / Blank	15	6.8%	0	0.0%	15	4.2%
Refused	3	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%
Total	222	100%	134	100%	356	100%

a. This represents the number of respondents rather than the total number of individuals in their households.

b. Street, woods, park, car, other vehicle, outside, abandoned building, garage, bus station, airport, campground, etc.

c. All Safe Haven residents were classified as homeless according to the HUD 2014 definition.

d. These individuals were classified as homeless or housed based on their responses to the follow-up questions probing whether they will be evicted in the next 14 days and if they have resources needed to obtain a new place.

Table 70 presents the number of respondents who were classified into each of the Housed and Homeless categories. A total of 134 street survey respondents with partial surveys reported being in a situation classified as homeless on the night of January 22nd, 2014, compared to 222 individuals who reported being housed. Among homeless respondents, the largest portion reported that they had spent the previous night in an emergency shelter (n = 44; 32.8%), followed by those who indicated that they stayed on the street (n = 41; 30.6%) or in rental property with a non-VASH housing subsidy (n = 25; 18.7%).

As described in the Methods section, several lodging circumstances place individuals at “imminent risk” of becoming homeless, depending on whether the individual: 1) will be evicted in the next 14 days, and 2) has resources for obtaining alternative housing arrangements. Such situations include staying with friends or family, in a hotel or motel paid for without a voucher, in permanent housing for formerly homeless persons, or in a rental property with or without a housing subsidy. Individuals who reported being in these housing arrangements were specifically

provided with a series of follow-up questions about whether they were being evicted within two weeks and if so, whether they had funds to obtain new housing. These questions provide the information needed to assess what portion of this group is at imminent risk of homelessness.

Individuals meeting these “imminent risk criteria” were classified as homeless for this report.

Tables 71 and 72 show the distribution of responses to these questions, and the number who were classified as homeless versus housed is identified in Table 70. As previously stated, the question, “Where did you stay last night?” and the accompanying follow-up questions serve to classify housing status, determine risk of homelessness for individuals who responded that they were housed and provide an accurate overall count of who is literally homeless to meet federal and state reporting requirements. These are critical pieces of information that must be contained in all street surveys; without it the usefulness of the survey itself is greatly diminished. It is with the goal of improving the accuracy of this group of questions as well as the survey as a whole that the following data quality concerns are addressed:

- Fifteen partial surveys collected during the “street” count did not indicate where the individual slept on the designated night of Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014;
- All questions on the street survey contained various proportions of missing data as documented throughout the report;

Table 71: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Are you or those living with you being evicted or forced to leave in the next 14 days?			
		N	Percent
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	Yes	4	9.1%
	No	39	88.6%
	Don't Know	1	2.3%
	Total	44	100%
Staying or living in a <u>friend's</u> room, apartment or house	Yes	13	37.1%
	No	16	45.7%
	Don't Know	2	5.7%
	Missing	4	11.4%
	Total	35	100%
Staying or living in a <u>family</u> member's room, apartment or house	Yes	9	25.7%
	No	24	68.6%
	Missing	2	5.7%
	Total	35	100%
Own or Rental by client, no housing subsidy	Yes	8	8.6%
	No	79	84.9%
	Missing	6	6.5%
	Total	93	100%
Rental by client, with other non-VASH housing subsidy	Yes	2	8.0%
	No	21	84.0%
	Missing	2	8.0%
	Total	25	100%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons	No	4	100.0%

Table 72: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Will you have a place to stay and money to support you at a new place? (among those who stated they were being forced to leave)

	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Missing	N
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	1	1	2	0	40	44
Staying or living in a <u>friend's</u> room, apartment or house	2	13	0	0	20	35
Staying or living in a <u>family</u> member's room, apartment or house	10	4	0	1	20	35
Own or Rental by client, no housing subsidy	11	1	2	0	79	93
Rental by client, with other non-VASH housing subsidy	3	2	0	0	20	25

Demographic Characteristics of Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

The following sections describe demographic information for survey respondents identified as homeless. It is important to note that **information presented in this section is limited to the individuals who responded to the survey, and does not include the demographic characteristics of the entire household.** Although the street survey asked if respondents lived with other adults, the demographic characteristics of the latter were not queried. Despite this, the street survey did include questions that asked about the demographics of respondents' children, if any. That information is presented in a later section focusing on the children. The demographic information presented immediately below is based on only the individuals who completed the survey and were identified as homeless.

Age

Table 73 presents the age distribution for all street survey respondents identified as homeless. Respondents' age ranged from 20 to 112, with an average of 57.1 and a standard deviation of 28.3. Table 74 condenses this information into a manageable number of age groups. Information on age was missing for 118 out of 134 individuals.

Table 73: Age Distribution of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

Age	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
20	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
29	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
30	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
37	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	2.2%	16.7%	2	1.5%	12.5%
39	1	2.4%	25.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	6.3%
44	1	2.4%	25.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	6.3%
48	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
53	1	2.4%	25.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	6.3%
57	1	2.4%	25.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	6.3%

Table 73: Age Distribution of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
Age	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
62	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
64	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
71	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
108	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	2.2%	16.7%	2	1.5%	12.5%
112	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
Missing	37	90.2%	--	81	87.1%	--	118	88.1%	--
Total	41	100%	100%	93	100%	100%	134	100%	100%

Table 74: Age Group Distribution of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless									
Age	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
18 to 24	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
25 to 29	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
30 to 39	1	2.4%	25.0%	3	3.2%	25.0%	4	3.0%	25.0%
40 to 49	1	2.4%	25.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	2	1.5%	12.5%
50 to 59	2	4.9%	50.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	1.5%	12.5%
60 to 69	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	2.2%	16.7%	2	1.5%	12.5%
70 to 79	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
80 to 89	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
90 to 99	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
100 to 109	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	2.2%	16.7%	2	1.5%	12.5%
110 to 112	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	1.1%	8.3%	1	0.7%	6.3%
Missing	37	90.2%	--	81	87.1%	--	118	88.1%	--
Total	41	100%	100%	93	100%	100%	134	100%	100%

Gender

The majority (55.2%) of the partial street survey respondents identified as homeless were missing information on gender (see Table 75). Of those reporting a valid gender, most were male (71.1%).

Table 75: Gender of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
Female	4	9.8%	18.2%	8	8.6%	32.0%	12	9.0%	26.7%
Male	15	36.6%	68.2%	17	18.3%	68.0%	32	23.9%	71.1%
Transgender Unspecified	1	2.4%	4.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	2.2%
Refused	2	4.9%	--	13	14.0%	--	15	11.2%	--
Missing	19	46.3%	--	55	59.1%	--	74	55.2%	--
Total	41	100%	100%	93	100%	100%	134	100%	100%

Race/Ethnicity

Information concerning race and ethnicity is presented in Tables 76 and 77. As indicated in the tables, 75 out of 134 cases had missing data for these variables. Of those few cases with valid data, most were White (76.7%) and non-Hispanic (97.6%).

Table 76: Race of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
Black or African American	3	7.3%	15.8%	5	5.4%	20.8%	8	6.0%	18.6%
White	14	34.1%	73.7%	19	20.4%	79.2%	33	24.6%	76.7%
Multiple Races	2	4.9%	10.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	1.5%	4.7%
Missing	22	53.7%	--	66	71.0%	--	75	56.0%	--
Refused	0	0.0%	--	3	3.2%	--	16	11.9%	--
Total	41	100%	100%	93	100%	100%	134	100%	100%

Table 77: Ethnicity of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless

	Unsheltered			Sheltered			All Homeless		
	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %	N	%	Valid %
Hispanic/Latino	1	2.4%	5.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	0.7%	2.4%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	18	43.9%	94.7%	22	23.7%	100.0%	40	29.9%	97.6%
Don't Know	1	2.4%	--	0	0.0%	--	1	0.7%	--
Refused	2	4.9%	--	15	16.1%	--	17	12.7%	--
Missing	19	46.3%	--	56	60.2%	--	75	56.0%	--
Total	41	100%	100%	93	100%	100%	134	100%	100%

Household Structure

Several street survey questions were designed to describe the composition of respondents' households. As with the other items in this data set, most information was missing for these

variables. One item asked respondents, "Are you living with anyone now?" If they responded yes, a follow-up question asked with whom they were living. Tables 78 and 79 below present these findings. Only 19 individuals reported living with someone else. Of these, seven reported living with friends, four were with a spouse or partner, five were with other family members, two were living with an "other" person, and one was living with a parent or guardian living with a person classified as "other," and one was living with a parent or guardian.

Table 78: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Are you living with anyone now?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	19	14.2%	21.6%
No	69	51.5%	78.4%
Missing	34	25.4%	--
Refused	12	9.0%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Table 79: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Who are you living with?		
	N	Percent
Friends	7	36.8%
Other	2	10.5%
Other Family	5	26.3%
Parent / Guardian	1	5.3%
Spouse or Partner	4	21.1%
Total	19	100%

Homelessness and Pinellas County Residency

The following analyses are restricted to the partial street survey respondents identified as homeless. The street survey includes additional questions designed to shed light on precisely where in Pinellas County individuals reside before and during the period of time they are experiencing homelessness. The first of these questions asks respondents to indicate the ZIP code of their last permanent residence. Results are presented in Table 80, separated by Pinellas versus non-Pinellas ZIP codes. Over 60% of records did not contain a usable ZIP code.

Table 80: ZIP Code of Last Permanent Housing Address for Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	% All Zip Codes	% Non-Pinellas ZIP Codes
Pinellas County ZIP codes (n = 41)			
33701	8	6.0%	19.5%
33704	1	0.7%	2.4%
33705	1	0.7%	2.4%
33707	1	0.7%	2.4%
33711	3	2.2%	7.3%
33712	1	0.7%	2.4%
33713	5	3.7%	12.2%
33714	4	3.0%	9.8%
33715	1	0.7%	2.4%
33754	1	0.7%	2.4%
33756	2	1.5%	4.9%
33760	2	1.5%	4.9%
33770	1	0.7%	2.4%
33773	1	0.7%	2.4%
33781	4	3.0%	9.8%
34689	2	1.5%	4.9%
34695	1	0.7%	2.4%
34698	2	1.5%	4.9%
Non-Pinellas County ZIP codes (n = 93)			
13340	1	0.7%	--
20001	1	0.7%	--
32344	1	0.7%	--
32703	1	0.7%	--
33401	1	0.7%	--
33603	1	0.7%	--
34653	2	1.5%	--
34683	1	0.7%	--
34691	1	0.7%	--
Invalid	2	1.5%	--
Don't Know	3	2.2%	--
Refused	9	6.7%	--
Missing	69	51.5%	--
Total	134	100%	1005

a. These are Pinellas County ZIP codes.

Another question asked respondents, "How long have you been homeless in this County this time?" Responses are reported in Table 81 below. Of the valid responses, respondents most typically indicated that they had been homeless in Pinellas County for one year or longer (n = 42; 44.2%), followed by between 3 and 12 months (n = 20; 21.1%), or between 1 and 3 months (n = 19; 20.0%).

Table 81: Partial Street Survey Respondents, How long have you been homeless in this County this time?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
1 week or less	6	4.5%	6.3%
More than one week but less than 1 month	8	6.0%	8.4%
1 to 3 months	19	14.2%	20.0%
More than 3 months, less than 1 year	20	14.9%	21.1%
1 year or longer	42	31.3%	44.2%
Don't know	2	1.5%	--
Refused	7	5.2%	--
Missing	30	22.4%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

The next question on the survey asked respondents, "What city do you mainly stay in?" Responses are reported in Table 82 below. The vast majority of valid responses indicated that they mainly stayed in St. Petersburg (n = 45; 47%) or Clearwater (n = 26; 27.1%). These results underscore the local, and not seasonal, nature of the Pinellas County homeless population.

Table 82: Partial Street Survey Respondents, What city do you mainly stay in?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Clearwater	26	19.4%	27.1%
Dunedin	1	0.7%	1.0%
Largo	2	1.5%	2.1%
Lealman	0	0.0%	0.0%
Palm Harbor	4	3.0%	4.2%
Pinellas Park	5	3.7%	5.2%
St. Petersburg	45	33.6%	46.9%
St. Pete Beach	2	1.5%	2.1%
Tarpon Springs	7	5.2%	7.3%
Refused	5	3.7%	--
Don't Know	2	1.5%	--
Missing	31	23.1%	--
Outside of Pinellas County			
Pasco County	1	0.7%	1.0%
Tampa	0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	3	2.2%	3.1%
Out of State	0	0.0%	0.0%
Total	134	100%	100%

A separate street survey question asked respondents, "How long were you living in Pinellas County before you became homeless?" Responses are reported in Table 83 below. The vast majority of valid responses indicated that they lived in Pinellas County for more than one year (n = 68; 74.7%).

Table 83: Partial Street Survey Respondents, How long were you living in Pinellas County before you became homeless?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
1 week or less	9	6.7%	9.9%
More than one week but less than 1 month	1	0.7%	1.1%
1 to 3 months	4	3.0%	4.4%
More than 3 months, less than 1 year	9	6.7%	9.9%
More than 1 year	68	50.7%	74.7%
Don't know	2	1.5%	--
Refused	10	7.5%	--
Missing	31	23.1%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Episodes and History of Homelessness

In addition to providing information necessary to determine the number of chronic homeless, information about individuals' previous episodes of homelessness provides critical insight to the episodic nature of homelessness. Findings indicated that slightly less than 50% of respondents were experiencing their first or second episode of homelessness, followed by 25.8% who reported between homeless for the entire three years (see Table 84).

Table 84: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Including this time, how many times in the last 3 years have you been homeless?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
One Time	29	21.6%	31.2%
2 Times	16	11.9%	17.2%
3 Times	7	5.2%	7.5%
4 Times	6	4.5%	6.5%
5 Times	1	0.7%	1.1%
6 Times	3	2.2%	3.2%
More Than 6 Times	7	5.2%	7.5%
Entire 3 years	24	17.9%	25.8%
Refused	7	5.2%	--
Don't Know	3	2.2%	--
Not Applicable	0	0.0%	--
Missing	31	23.1%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

The street survey also asks respondents to share what circumstances made them lose their housing (Table 85). Over half (51.7%) of valid responses indicated the primary reason was due to loss of housing for economic reasons. It should be noted that respondents only reported the primary reason. Many individuals likely had numerous reasons, but the survey directed them to choose the primary one.

Table 85: Partial Street Survey Respondents, What caused you to lose your permanent housing?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Not enough income, lost job, financial problems	46	34.3%	51.7%
Foreclosure	3	2.2%	3.4%
Eviction	3	2.2%	3.4%
Family Problem	6	4.5%	6.7%
Alcohol or drug problems	4	3.0%	4.5%
Mental health or emotional problems	4	3.0%	4.5%
Medical	6	4.5%	6.7%
Criminal History/arrest/Incarceration	6	4.5%	6.7%
Left to escape abuse	2	1.5%	2.2%
Natural Disasters	0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	9	6.7%	10.1%
Don't know	2	1.5%	--
Refused	10	7.5%	--
Missing	33	24.6%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Special Populations

HUD defined special homeless populations include veterans, chronically homeless (families and individuals), victims of domestic violence, and persons living with HIV/AIDS, serious mental illnesses, or substance use disorders. HUD reporting requires the number of individuals in each of these special population categories to be reported in the annual Point-in-Time count.

Veterans

Included in the veterans count are individuals who have served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called to active duty. The street survey asked whether the respondent served in the United States Armed Forces, and it further probed which military branch and war zones, if applicable. Results from the 2014 PIT indicated that 17 partial street survey respondents reported that they were veterans (see Table 86). Of the 17 Veterans, none reported being female.

Table 86: Veteran Status of Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	17	12.7%	19.5%
No	70	52.2%	80.5%
Refused	11	8.2%	--
Don't Know	1	0.7%	--
Missing	35	26.1%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Table 87 presents the military branch of homeless partial street survey respondents who reported veteran status. Nearly half (43.8%) reported being in the Army, followed by Marines (25.0%).

Table 87: Military Branch of Veteran Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Air Force	1	5.9%	6.3%
Army	7	41.2%	43.8%
Coast Guard	2	11.8%	12.5%
Marines	4	23.5%	25.0%
Navy	2	11.8%	12.5%
Refused	1	5.9%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Table 88 presents the war zones for those respondents who reported being homeless and veterans. Half (50.0%) of valid responses indicated serving in Afghanistan, with the other half reporting that they served in an "other" war zone.

Table 88: War Zone of Veteran Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Other	3	17.6%	50.0%
Vietnam	3	17.6%	50.0%
Refused	1	5.9%	--
Not Applicable	4	23.5%	--
Missing	5	29.4%	--
Don't Know	1	5.9%	--
Total	17	100%	100%

Foster Care History

Youth may become homeless when they leave foster or institutional care (including running away, aging out, or being discharged). Pinellas' 2014 street survey asked respondents if they had ever been in foster care. Table 89 shows that 9.4% of homeless partial street survey respondents with valid data reported a history of foster care, regardless of their age at the time of the survey.

Table 89: Partial Street Survey Respondents, Were you ever in foster care?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	8	6.0%	9.4%
No	77	57.5%	90.6%
Don't Know	2	1.5%	--
Refused	9	6.7%	--
Not Applicable	0	0.0%	--
Missing	38	28.4%	--
Total	134	100%	100%

Disabilities

The presence of disabilities among individuals experiencing homeless is common. Results from the 2014 PIT confirmed that Pinellas County is no exception, with 46.3% of the homeless reporting the presence of at least one disabling condition (see Table 90).

Table 90: Disabling Condition among Partial Street Survey Respondents Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Yes	62	46.3%
No	72	53.7%
Total	134	100%

Within the disabilities, HUD requires COCs to provide additional reporting on specific subgroups. These include severely mentally ill, chronic substance abuse, persons who have been victims of domestic violence and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The following tables (91-92) show the data for individuals who responded that they had these specific disabilities.

Table 91: Severely Mental Illness among Adult Partial Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	42	31.3%
No	92	68.7%
Total	134	100%

Table 92: Chronic Substance Abuse among Adult Partial Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes	16	11.9%
No	118	88.1%
Total	134	100%

Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

To determine whether each unsheltered survey participant qualifies as a chronically homeless individual, information must be collected to determine whether they have a disabling condition (diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, chronic physical illness or disability; or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions); has been continually homeless for a year or more; or has had at least four separate episodes of homelessness in the past three years. Because there are several criteria to be met and this data file had missing information for several variables, only 33 individuals (24.6%) were identified as chronically homeless (see Table 93 below).

Table 93: Chronic Homelessness among Adult Partial Street Survey Respondents		
	N	Percent
Yes ^a	33	24.6%
No	101	75.4%

- a. All respondents meeting chronic homelessness criteria were from households without children.

211 PIT Count Data File

This data file represents 25 individuals who called into 211 on the day/night of the count and were identified as either literally homeless (n = 16) or at imminent risk of losing their housing (n = 9).

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Tables 94 and 95 show the age and age group distributions for these individuals. Ages ranged from 19 to 61, with an average of 32.7 and a standard deviation of 11.3. The largest age group included those aged 25 to 29 (n = 8; 32.0%).

Table 94: Age Distribution of Individuals Calling into 211 Identified as Homeless		
Age	N	Percent
19	1	4.0%
21	1	4.0%
22	2	8.0%
23	1	4.0%
24	1	4.0%
25	2	8.0%
27	2	8.0%
28	2	8.0%
29	2	8.0%
30	1	4.0%
34	1	4.0%
35	2	8.0%
37	1	4.0%
38	1	4.0%
44	1	4.0%
48	1	4.0%
49	1	4.0%
57	1	4.0%
61	1	4.0%
Total	25	100%

Table 95: Age Group Distribution of Individuals Calling into 211 Identified as Homeless		
Age	N	Percent
18 to 24	6	24.0%
25 to 29	8	32.0%
30 to 39	6	24.0%
40 to 49	3	12.0%
50 to 59	1	4.0%
60 to 69	1	4.0%
70 to 79	0	0.0%
80 to 89	0	0.0%
Missing	0	0.0%
Total	25	100%

Gender

Table 96 presents information on the gender of individuals receiving TBIN services on the day of the count. The vast majority of individuals receiving these services were female (80.0%).

Table 96: Gender of Individuals Calling into 211 Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Female	20	80.0%
Male	5	20.0%
Total	25	100%

Race and Ethnicity

Tables 97 and 98 present information on race and ethnicity. With regard to race, the largest groups were Black (60.0%) or White (36.0%). Only two respondents (8.0%) reported Hispanic ethnicity.

Table 97: Primary Race of Individuals Calling into 211 Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Black or African American	15	60.0%
White	9	36.0%
Other	1	4.0%
Total	25	100%

Table 98: Ethnicity of Individuals Calling into 211 Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Hispanic/Latino	2	8.0%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	23	92.0%
Total	25	100%

History of Homelessness

The 211 PIT count data file also includes a variable to indicate the number of separate times that individuals were homeless in the past three years, although there was some missing data for this item. As indicated in Table 99, this sample most commonly reported that this was their first time being homeless in the past three years (61.1%).

Table 99: 211, Including this time, how many times in the last 3 years have you been homeless?			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
First time homeless	11	44.0%	61.1%
2 to 3 times	5	20.0%	27.8%
Chronic, 4 or more times	2	8.0%	11.1%
Don't Know	1	4.0%	--
Not Applicable	3	12.0%	--
Missing	3	12.0%	--
Total	25	100%	100%

Special Populations

Veterans

Information concerning individuals' veteran status is included in Table 100. Results indicate that only one individual (4.0%) reported being a veteran.

Table 100: Veteran Status of Individuals Calling into TBIN Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Yes	1	4.0%
No	24	96.0%
Total	25	100%

Victims of Domestic Violence

Information concerning the number of individuals who reported being a victim of domestic violence is included in Table 101. Results indicate that only one individual (20.0%) reported being a victim of domestic violence. However, it is important to note that this data set had missing data for the domestic violence variable for 20 out of 25 cases.

Table 101: Domestic Violence Among Individuals Calling into TBIN Identified as Homeless			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	1	4.0%	20.0%
No	4	16.0%	80.0%
Missing	20	80.0%	--
Total	25	100%	100%

Disabilities

The 211 PIT count data file also includes variables to indicate disabilities. As indicated in Table 102, 4 (16.0%) individuals calling into TBIN and reporting a homeless situation also reported having a disability. Despite this, only one of these individuals had any valid data to indicate their type of disability (see Table 103), which was a serious mental illness.

Table 102: Disability Status of Individuals Calling into TBIN Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Yes	4	16.0%
No	21	84.0%
Total	25	100%

Table 103: Type of Disability among Individuals Calling into TBIN Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Serious Mental Illness	1	4.0%

Jail Data File

The following tables depict the results for individuals who were in the Pinellas County Jail on the night of January 22nd, 2014 and who either self-reported as homeless or provided an address of transient at the time of booking. Although these individuals did not meet the HUD and state criteria for homelessness according to the 2014 rules, these individuals are classified as homeless for the purpose of this more comprehensive County report.

Demographic Characteristics

Age

Age was calculated from the date of birth that was included in the data file. Tables 104 and 105 present the age and age group distributions for the 419 individuals included in the jail data set. Individuals ranged in age from 19 to 81, with an average of 40.0 and a standard deviation of 12.0. The largest age group was individuals aged 40 to 49 (n = 107; 25.5%), 30 to 39 (n = 98; 23.4%), and 50 to 59 (n = 95; 22.7%). Few individuals were aged 60 and older (n = 17; 4.1%).

Table 104: Age Distribution of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless		
Age	N	Percent
18	5	1.2%
19	5	1.2%
20	4	1.0%
21	6	1.4%
22	3	0.7%
23	7	1.7%
24	10	2.4%
25	14	3.3%
26	11	2.6%
27	13	3.1%
28	17	4.1%
29	7	1.7%
30	14	3.3%
31	8	1.9%
32	12	2.9%
33	12	2.9%
34	17	4.1%
35	11	2.6%
36	9	2.1%
37	6	1.4%
38	5	1.2%
39	4	1.0%
40	11	2.6%

Table 104: Age Distribution of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless		
Age	N	Percent
41	11	2.6%
42	11	2.6%
43	1	0.2%
44	17	4.1%
45	16	3.8%
46	9	2.1%
47	9	2.1%
48	6	1.4%
49	16	3.8%
50	16	3.8%
51	18	4.3%
52	8	1.9%
53	12	2.9%
54	11	2.6%
55	12	2.9%
56	5	1.2%
57	4	1.0%
58	3	0.7%
59	6	1.4%
60	2	0.5%
61	5	1.2%
62	2	0.5%
63	1	0.2%
65	1	0.2%
66	2	0.5%
70	3	0.7%
81	1	0.2%
Total	419	100%

Table 105: Age Group Distribution of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless		
Age	N	Percent
18 to 24	40	9.5%
25 to 29	62	14.8%
30 to 39	98	23.4%
40 to 49	107	25.5%
50 to 59	95	22.7%
60 to 69	13	3.1%
70 to 79	3	0.7%
80 to 89	1	0.2%
Total	419	100%

Gender

Table 106 presents information on inmates' gender. The vast majority of the jailed individuals identified as homeless were male (84.7%).

Table 106: Gender of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Female	64	15.3%
Male	355	84.7%
Total	419	100%

Race / Ethnicity

Table 107 presents information on a single variable describing inmates' race/ethnicity. The majority of the jailed individuals identified as White (66.6%) or African-American (27.4%).

Table 107: Race/Ethnicity of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless		
	N	Percent
Asian	2	0.5%
Black	115	27.4%
Hispanic	23	5.5%
White	279	66.6%
Total	419	100%

Veterans

Table 108 presents information on inmates' veteran status. Due to missing data (275 cases missing), it was difficult to gauge the accuracy of this information. From the information reported, there were 35 homeless veterans in the Pinellas County Jail on the night of the PIT. The Army was the most common branch of service reported (n = 22), followed by the Marines (n = 8).

Table 108: Veteran Status of Jailed Individuals Identified as Homeless			
Military Branch	N	Percent	Valid Percent
Army	22	5.3%	15.3%
Navy	4	1.0%	2.8%
Marines	8	1.9%	5.6%
National Guard	1	0.2%	0.7%
None	109	26.0%	75.7%
Missing	275	65.6%	--
Total	419	100%	100%

SurveyMonkey Data File Results

Some homeless service providers do not participate in TBIN and do not consequently report data into the County's HMIS system. This group of providers primarily includes domestic violence shelters that must, by law, keep client information confidential and shelters that house children under the age of 18 years. In order to count the individuals served by these agencies on the night of the 2014 PIT, providers were asked to complete an online questionnaire using SurveyMonkey. Unfortunately, the questionnaire was not designed to meet the HUD and state reporting requirements. Consequently, these providers were sent and asked to complete a copy of the HUD reporting template, minus the items dealing with special populations. The resulting data file includes aggregate numbers served from each of the five responding service providers.

As Table 109 shows, this group of providers was serving a total of 264 clients on the night of the PIT count, including 91 adults and 173 children.

Table 109: Non-TBIN Sheltered PIT Count					
		Adults		Children	
		N	Percent	N	Percent
Transitional	Florida Resurrection House	16	55.2%	100	76.3%
	CASA II	13	44.8%	31	23.7%
	Total	29	100%	131	100%
Emergency	CASA	21	33.9%	10	23.8%
	FRS North	0	0.0%	9	21.4%
	FRS South	0	0.0%	11	26.2%
	The Haven of RCS	41	66.1%	12	28.6%
	Total	62	100%	42	100%
	All Non-TBIN TOTAL	91		173	

Pinellas County Schools Data File Results

The school count consists of those students who responded that they were homeless or “doubled up” (individuals or families who are sharing permanent housing) in a survey conducted in August 2013 around the beginning of the school year. Homeless students can also come to the attention of the school’s Homeless Emergency Assistance Team (H.E.A.T.) specialists at any time during a school year. To use this data, the point-in-time analysis team collaborates with the school’s research and accountability department to obtain a count of homeless students at the time of the January census. These data are incorporated into the count by checking the individual-level information against both the unsheltered and sheltered count to locate duplicate respondents. If an individual from the school data is also located in the sheltered or unsheltered data, the respondent is removed from the school count and their information is left as part of the sheltered or unsheltered count.

Data obtained from the Pinellas School District contained information on 115 adults who reported that they were homeless (see Table 110), including 6 adults who were enrolled in adult education classes. The remaining 109 adults are likely students who turned 18 years of age while attending public school. The majority (78.0%) reported that they were sharing the housing of other persons (“doubled up”).

Table 110: Adults (over 18 on PIT night) in Pinellas Schools		
	N	Percent
Awaiting Foster Care	2	1.7%
Emergency or Transitional Shelter	8	7.0%
Living in Hotels or Motels	10	8.7%
Place Not Meant for Habitation	0	0.0%
Sharing the Housing of Other Persons	95	82.6%
Total	115	100%

Partnership with the Pinellas County School District provides information regarding children who self-report homelessness at the beginning of each school year; or when they change from attending one school to another. The nature of the data gathering process in which homelessness is assessed at school entry does not allow for capturing the transitional nature of homelessness. Many of those who report that they were homeless at the beginning of the school year in August may have found stable housing by time the PIT count is done in January, but most remain classified as homeless for the duration of the year. As a result, there is low overlap between unsheltered, sheltered, and school datasets. This data are requested from the schools at the same time the PIT is conducted.

Results (Table 111 below) indicated that a total of 2,026 children were identified as homeless in the school data set. The largest group (68.1%) reported that they were sharing the housing of other persons, also known as “doubled up.” The next largest groups were residing in emergency shelter or transitional housing (16.0%) and hotels (14.0%). A very small percentage reported that they were actually living on the street (1.1%) or awaiting foster care placement (0.8%).

Table 111: Children in School Database		
	N	Percent
Place Not Meant for Habitation	23	1.1%
Emergency or Transitional Shelter	325	16.0%
Awaiting foster care	16	0.8%
Living in hotels or motels	283	14.0%
Sharing the housing of other persons	1,379	68.1%
Total	2,026	100%

Hotel / Motel Data File Results

The hotel / motel data file represents individuals who, on the night of the 2014 PIT count, stayed in hotels or motels that were paid for by charitable organizations, federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals. As indicated in Table 112, a total of 85 individuals from 52 households resided in these situations on the night of the Point-In-Time count. Most households consisted on only adults (63.5%), followed by adults with children (21.2%) and child only households (15.4%). A further breakdown indicated that, of the 85 people identified as homeless in this data set, 51 were adults and 34 were children.

Table 112: Family Type of Individuals Living In Hotels or Motels				
	Households		People	
	N	Percent	N	Percent
Adult Only	33	63.5%	35	41.2%
Adult with Child	11	21.2%	40	47.1%
Child Only	8	15.4%	10	11.8%
Total	52	100%	85	100%

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Data File Results

This data file represents individuals identified as homeless who were served by the Veterans Administration's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program on the day of the 2014 PIT count. Only one provider (St. Vincent De Paul) and 11 individuals were included in the data file.

Demographic Characteristics

Tables 113 to 117 present information on SSVF recipients' age, gender, race, and ethnicity. Individuals ranged in age from 41 to 63, with an average of 52.8 and a standard deviation of 7.8. Only one person (9.1%) was identified as female. This entire sample was White and non-Hispanic/non-Latino.

Table 113: Age Distribution of Individuals Receiving SSVF Services		
Age	N	Percent
41	1	9.1%
42	1	9.1%
45	1	9.1%
50	1	9.1%
51	1	9.1%
52	1	9.1%
57	1	9.1%
58	1	9.1%
60	1	9.1%
62	1	9.1%
63	1	9.1%
Total	11	100%

Table 114: Age Group Distribution of Individuals Receiving SSVF Services		
Age	N	Percent
40 to 49	3	27.3%
50 to 59	5	45.5%
60 to 69	3	27.3%
Total	11	100%

Table 115: Gender of Individuals Receiving SSVF Services		
	N	Percent
Female	1	9.1%
Male	10	90.9%
Total	11	100%

Table 116: Race of Individuals Receiving SSVF Services		
	N	Percent
White	11	100%

Table 117: Ethnicity of Individuals Receiving SSVF Services		
	N	Percent
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	11	100%

History of Homelessness

The data file also included a variable to indicate how many times each individual was homeless in the past three years, although data were missing on this variable in most (63.6%) cases (see Table 118). Of the four individuals with a valid response, half indicated two or three prior episodes of homelessness; one individual (25.0%) reported that this was his/her first time being homeless, and one individual (9.1%) reported a history of chronic homelessness with four or more recent episodes.

Table 118: Number of Times Homeless Among Individuals Receiving SSVF Services			
	N	Percent	Valid Percent
First time homeless	1	9.1%	25.0%
2 to 3 times	2	18.2%	50.0%
Chronic, 4 or more times	1	9.1%	25.0%
Missing	7	63.6%	--
Total	11	100%	100%

Discussion and Recommendations

Although required for federal and state compliance and funding, the value of the PIT study is not limited to requirements. It has the potential to be an essential tool in assessing the prevalence of homelessness in its various forms, planning appropriate public responses and evaluating the effectiveness of previous efforts.

The PIT count's primary role is to obtain an estimate of the number of homeless and at-risk individuals and families in Pinellas County at a given moment in time. In addition to the PIT, a number of other reports regarding the homeless population are generated each year, i.e., AHAR. However, these other sources of information are limited to individuals and families who utilize shelter beds and community services. For individuals and families who are "on the street" and do not tend to use shelters or regularly connect to community services, the PIT is the only means of painting an accurate picture of this segment of the population. Hence, conducting a count that is as accurate as possible is key to providing reliable information used to establish and monitor trends, meeting HUD reporting requirements, obtaining funding through grants or federal sources, and allowing the community to respond by planning and directing resources to address homelessness. The foundation for an accurate count begins long before actually surveying street homeless and analyzing the data for a final report. The path begins with consistent planning and support from community stakeholders, recruiting a sufficient pool of well-trained volunteer survey administrators, and implementing a precise deployment plan. The accuracy of the data that comprise the final accounting of the amount and nature of homelessness, especially "street" homelessness, hinges upon the quality of this groundwork.

Planning

Almost every community that conducts a successful public places count emphasizes the importance of participation and "buy-in" from different groups, including a variety of community groups, social service providers, advocacy groups, volunteer organizations, faith-based groups, police departments, universities, and business organizations. Therefore, sponsors should routinely communicate with the community, beginning the process of discussing the unsheltered homeless count with members of the local Continuum and others in the community prior to formal planning. These issues were consistently and successfully addressed in the 2014 Count and should be noted as such.

Even though the actual implementation of the street survey portion of the PIT occurs during the last 10 days in January of each odd numbered year, it is recommended that formal planning for such a large county-wide initiative continue to occur at least 11 months prior to the date of the survey. The 2014 County and Survey Planning Committee began meeting in Feb. of 2013 and met every month until September when they began meeting twice a month. In January 2014, the committee met weekly. Early in the 2014 PIT meeting process, the committee focused on the primary issues that contributed to compromising the accuracy of previous PIT Counts, and were diligent and earnest in their efforts to improve the 2014 PIT Count and Survey. In addition, five sub-committees were developed: Volunteer Recruitment, Marketing and Fundraising,

Deployment Locations, Training, and Survey Development. These subcommittees met in between the full planning committee meetings and reported their work to the full planning committee members.

Survey Administrator Recruitment

Volunteer recruitment was impressive for the 2014 count. Volunteer recruitment began in early September of 2013 and continued until January 10th, 2014. Over **400** volunteer applications were received. The entire base of volunteers registered received acknowledgement of receipt of their applications, the training schedule, and on-going email updates throughout the planning stages. Volunteers included students, elected officials, HLB Board Members, providers, faith based individuals, and community residents.

Survey Administrator Training

Effective training of volunteer survey administrators is critical to produce an accurate count of homeless people. As was done with the 2014 Pinellas PIT count, it is recommended that everyone (both new and previous volunteers) receive training each time the unsheltered count is implemented. Training is important for new volunteers and also serves as a reminder of the count procedures for repeating volunteer surveyors. The training should also serve as a means to alert everyone to any procedural changes that may have been implemented since the previous count.

Two additional recommendations that were successfully implemented in the 2014 Pinellas PIT count are: 1) that the timing of the trainings was fairly close to the actual time of the count so that volunteers retained their skills; and 2) the training was accessible to all of the individuals and organizations participating in the data collection effort. “*Train the Trainer*” training was conducted on January 8th and all of the scheduled trainers were in attendance. The training commenced on January 13th and continued through January 22nd. There were a total of 18 training sessions, conducted at various locations throughout the county (both day and evening sessions), with a special session for the law enforcement officers who participated in the survey. The volunteer surveyors left the training with knowledge of count procedures, basic research ethics and practices, as well as familiarity with the survey. Every trained volunteer received a printed training curriculum, which provided step-by-step instructions for completing the surveys. A detailed PowerPoint was utilized by the trainers during the sessions as well.

The provider agency response to volunteering greatly improved this year, and with the exception of the volunteers deployed to the libraries, a provider agency staff member was assigned to each of the deployed teams as a team lead and/or data quality regulator. The team leads monitored data collection to ensure that the surveys were completely filled out and that the information was gathered consistently.

Surveyor Deployment and Survey Collection

- Accurate deployment of volunteer survey administrators is critical for two reasons: a) deployment should focus on counting as much of a subpopulation (families, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) as possible and; b) survey administrators need to be sent to areas where unsheltered homeless are currently known to congregate at the times they are known to be there. In a large geographic area it is unlikely there will be sufficient volunteers to completely cover all areas, so careful thought and planning was given to deploying volunteers in a manner that would generate as much data as possible about specific subpopulations of interest to HUD and the community. To identify the locations that should be covered, the Deployment sub-committee reviewed findings of the 2013 PIT Report and solicited input from a variety of sources during the design phase of the count. As the information was gathered, focus was given to building relationships that could result in a more effective count with a broad base of participation. Informative partners included outreach workers, previous or current homeless individuals, shelter and non-shelter services staff, police, human services organizations, business associations, community development organizations, and other community groups.
- The deployment sub-committee developed a comprehensive spreadsheet to map out where volunteers were deployed. Volunteers were deployed to cover all main libraries, day labor sites, public parks, public feeding areas, major bus terminals, major food banks, and major hotel/motels where homeless families are known to reside. Volunteers were also deployed to canvas geographic areas where the homeless are known to congregate. . On the day of the Count and Survey; a total of **74** teams were deployed from **four** deployment centers. In addition, the V.A. deployed approximately 21 volunteers to cover the campus of the Bay Pines VA Medical Center, the surrounding area, and all of the barrier islands. There were 12 individuals sent to hotel/motels where homeless families are known to reside; to sit in the lobbies from 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Flyers were distributed to the families, beginning 1/19/14, letting them know volunteers would be in the lobby on Jan. 23rd; and that they would be provided an incentive (\$10 gift card from Wal-Mart) if they agreed to participate in the survey. The Sheriff, and the Clearwater, Pinellas Park, Largo, St. Petersburg and Tarpon Springs Police Departments deployed officers to the encampments and other areas where for safety reasons, volunteers are not typically sent.

As was successfully implemented in the 2014 Pinellas PIT count, a well-constructed deployment plan should minimally consist of the following:

- Dividing the count locations into organized “sections” that a team of surveyors can reasonably cover during the time of the count;
- Determining the relative safety of the different locations and assigning locations to appropriately sized and experienced groups of survey administrators;
- Providing volunteers clear and accurate instructions regarding the location to which they report on the day of the count and at what time;
- Deciding whether to cover the sections by foot or by car;

- Providing maps of the sectors so surveyors know where to conduct their work;
- Establishing a reliable method of communication;
- Multiple coordinating locations throughout the area where volunteers know they are to bring completed surveys, replenish needed supplies and have contacts available for questions; and,
- Contingency plans for unexpected occurrences on the night of the count for sufficient staff to deal with problems.

As was done with the Pinellas 2014 PIT count, pre-assessing the selected study areas will continue to produce optimal count results. A pre-assessment of proposed sites will alert organizers to any problems or issues in each study area, including hidden locations that enumerators might overlook, as well as differing patterns of use between the day and night. Pre-screening also provides an opportunity for organizers to clarify confusing study area boundaries and characteristics. Pre-testing should occur far enough in advance of the count for communities to make any needed adjustments. Continuing to track areas where unsheltered homeless congregate will continue to produce an optimal deployment plan for the day of the count.

It is also recommended that policy makers continue to use this and other opportunities during the planning time to inform both the homeless population in the community and the general public that the count is going to take place. It is good practice to give vulnerable populations some advance warning of the upcoming count via outreach or advertising particularly since the count is likely to take place when they are sleeping.

All of the steps outlined above have contributed to the success of the 2014 PIT Count and Survey process by maximizing data quality. Based on previous recommendations, in the 2014 count, experienced count coordinators were stationed at survey collection points throughout the county. This position played a critical role in ensuring data quality by guiding volunteer survey administrators and reviewing incoming surveys for completeness and accuracy; and minimizing many of the issues which had compromised the data collected during previous counts.

Other General Recommendations

The 2014 PIT Count and Survey was implemented over a large geographical area and required planning of significant length, detail, and organization. In light of the small permanent staff available to support an effort of this scale, contracting with a project manager is recommended. In addition, paper surveys currently used for the unsheltered portion of the PIT should be phased out as soon as feasible in favor of an electronic format which can be utilized by volunteer surveyors. Such a process allows for quicker turnaround of data, improved data quality and the integration of spatial analysis to provide visual tools to complement statistical results.

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