

Point in Time Survey

What is a Point in Time survey (PIT)?

A point in time survey is a data gathering instrument used to collect baseline data about the homeless population, both sheltered and unsheltered.

Why do a PIT?

Since 2003, in the CoC application, HUD has required lead agencies to report the number of people who are homeless in the community at a particular time. In the past, some lead agencies took statistics and "estimated" a count without looking directly at local data, particularly data for homeless people who do not routinely use shelters. Starting with the 2003 CoC applications, HUD encouraged the collection of local data, and required a description of the methodology used to collect this data. HUD will continue to make this a requirement in future applications.

In addition to HUD requirements, the State Office on Homelessness also requires a PIT.

If our local coalition intends to compete for grants from either the State of Florida or HUD, this PIT must be completed.

Who will be counted during the PIT?

Both sheltered and non-sheltered homeless are counted.

Which agencies should be involved in this effort?

- Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army
- St. Andrew Baptist
- Gulf Beach Baptist Church
- Life Management Center
- Beach Care Services
- Catholic Charities

When should the PIT be completed?

In 2006, HUD specifies that all counts in the country take place during the same week—the last week of January—in order to generate comparable numbers and to increase public awareness of homeless issues.

Where is the PIT be conducted?

This should take place both within local agencies, and "on the street"