

SCICH

2019 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE OF HOMELESSNESS REPORT

South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness



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South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness

The South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness (SCICH) operates as an interagency council and aims to end homelessness in South Carolina (SC) by convening homeless service providers, state agencies, and other stakeholders to collaborate on the development and advancement of statewide strategies designed to end homelessness.

SCICH (formerly South Carolina Coalition for the Homeless) has several focus areas: researching the experience of homelessness in SC, advocating for people who are experiencing homelessness, responding to state and federal homelessness policy, and promoting collaboration and peer support among those professionals working in the field and across the four Continuums of Care in the state. SCICH operated as an informal network of providers for seven years until incorporation in 2002. The Council is now a nonprofit, volunteer organization developed to support and represent the state's local Continuums of Care.

SCICH has coordinated the statewide Point-in-Time Count since 2005; sponsored research on service cost and utilization among the homeless; sponsored conferences and trainings to promote the goal of ending homelessness; and advocated at the state and federal level for policies to improve services to people who are experiencing homelessness.

SCICH is South Carolina's authority on homelessness, working to disseminate and encourage evidence-based practices including trauma-informed care, housing first, motivational interviewing, and SOAR. Information about these best practices can be found at the SCICH website: www.schomeless.org



Executive Summary

Homelessness in South Carolina is a complex social problem. Quality data is required to better understand the scope of the issue and generate solutions. This report draws on a variety of available data to present the most comprehensive picture to date of homelessness in South Carolina. The *Population* experiencing homelessness, the *Capacity/Inventory* to serve those in need, and the *Performance* of the statewide homeless response system are examined and discussed.

Population

From October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, 11,338 persons were served in homeless housing projects. This year-round statistic shows the extent of persons receiving homeless housing services across South Carolina in crisis-housing such as emergency shelter and transitional housing, as well as long-term supportive housing for persons formerly experiencing homelessness. Contained in this number is a demographic cross-section of the South Carolina population. Comparing this data to the statewide population revealed significant disparities: homelessness disproportionately affects males, Black/African Americans, and adults older than 24 years of age. In addition, most persons were found to be experiencing homelessness on their own (not in a family-unit) and nearly half of adults reported living with some form of disability. This annualized data is the most comprehensive information compiled yet to describe not only the number but also the demographic characteristics of persons experiencing homelessness in South Carolina.

While homelessness is a year-round issue, it is also helpful to understand the extent of persons experiencing homelessness at a single point in time. The state's Annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT) conducted on the night of January 23, 2019 identified 4,172 persons as experiencing homelessness. While this focus on a single-night vastly under-represents the number of persons in need of housing assistance across an entire year, it is a useful statistic to track from year-to-year. The 2019 PIT Count revealed a 6% increase from 2018 in the number of persons experiencing homelessness across South Carolina. This total increase resulted entirely from a rise in the unsheltered count (persons living on the streets, their vehicles or other places not meant for human habitation). However, since 2014, the overall count has decreased by 17.5% indicating an overall reduction in the number of persons counted in homeless situations – particularly among those living in sheltered situations.

One final way to gauge homelessness in South Carolina comes from the public school system, which uses a different federal definition of homelessness. This definition is explained in the Homelessness Among Students section. According to data provided by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), 12,660 students were experiencing homelessness during the 2017–18 school year. This larger number, regardless of the broader definition of homelessness,



indicates that among school-aged children, homelessness and unstable housing is a widespread reality for South Carolina children and youth.

Capacity/Inventory

Across South Carolina in 2019, there are 5,894 beds dedicated to serving persons currently or formerly experiencing homelessness. Emergency shelter and long-term supportive housing beds account for the majority of the available inventory (37.5% and 35.1% respectively). Within the overall number of beds, 498 beds are reserved for victims of domestic violence and their children. Across all project types, the majority of beds are available for persons in households without children (63%) while nearly all of the remaining beds are dedicated for families with children (36%).

Performance

An effective homeless response system is designed to make an experience of homelessness brief, rare, and non-recurring. The effectiveness of the South Carolina homeless response system was assessed by analyzing four specific performance metrics: 1) the Number of Persons Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time, 2) the Length of Time Persons are Homeless, 3) Exits to Permanent Housing, and 4) Returns to Homelessness.

In 2017, 6,342 persons were identified as experiencing homelessness for the first time. This represented 77.5% of all persons served in crisis-housing projects and, compared to the previous year, showed a consistently high percentage of persons that were experiencing their first episode of homelessness, indicating they were not in the midst of a recurring cycle of homelessness. In 2017, people stayed on average 64 days in an emergency shelter or safe haven project. This length of stay was over 4 days shorter than the average length of stay reported in 2016 – showing year-over-year progress towards making people’s experience of homelessness as brief as possible.

Exiting to permanent housing is the overarching goal of homeless housing projects. In 2017, 41% of persons exiting temporary shelter/housing exited to permanent destinations (down from 48% in 2016). In projects with more intensive case-management, a much higher percentage of persons exited or maintained their permanent housing (94% in both 2016 & 2017). Achieving even higher rates of exits to permanent housing is critical to battling persistent homelessness that extends beyond a single engagement with a homeless service provider.

The long-term success of persons exiting homeless-assistance projects is another key quality of an effective homeless response system. There is perhaps no better way to understand the recurrence of homelessness than to see how many persons exited a project to permanent housing, but then reentered services with a homeless service provider. After exiting to a permanent housing

destination, only 17% of persons experienced an additional episode of homelessness at homeless shelters or programs that use HMIS in the two years after their exit. Persons were most likely to remain housed after exiting from a homeless program geared towards permanent housing than from emergency or transitional housing projects.

Conclusion

This report was designed to compile and communicate statewide information about homelessness in South Carolina. However, the report also presents more localized data so that readers can see the progress their local community is making towards making homelessness brief, rare, and non-recurring. The information presented here is just a starting point for statewide and local organizations/supporters to hone their efforts in addressing homelessness in their community and across the Palmetto State.



Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of the following report is to provide a comprehensive overview of statewide and local homelessness data as reported by the state's four Continuums of Care and the South Carolina Department of Education. Previous efforts to report statewide data were focused solely on annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count totals. Although useful for comparative purposes from year to year, PIT data is widely believed to provide an artificially low count of persons experiencing homelessness. To more accurately depict the scope of homelessness in South Carolina, this report expands beyond the single-night data collected through the PIT to include annualized data across multiple project types that are dedicated to serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness. More broadly, this report is intended to be a resource to assist Continuums of Care and local communities identify needs and make data-driven decisions for project development, program improvement, and strategic planning, as well as to inform policymakers and the general public as to the scale of homelessness and the challenges it presents to the state of South Carolina.

Structure

This report is organized into five sections. The first three will be statewide in scope, the latter two drawing on narratives and data specific to each of the four Continuums of Care (CoC).

1. *Population*: The first section will focus on the *Population* of persons experiencing homelessness. Annualized and point-in-time data will be presented that provides greater demographic context on who is experiencing homelessness in South Carolina.
2. *Capacity/Inventory*: The second section will cover the *Capacity/Inventory* of available resources to provide temporary and permanent housing solutions to persons experiencing homelessness.
3. *Performance*: The third section will analyze key *Performance* measures that illustrate the effectiveness of our State's homeless response system.
4. *Continuum of Care Specific Narratives*: The fourth section is dedicated to *CoC-Specific Data/Narratives* where CoCs share locally relevant information that reflects the current state of homelessness in their local area.
5. *Continuum of Care Compendium*: The fifth section is the lengthy *CoC Compendium* which disaggregates the state-level data presented in the Population, Capacity/Inventory, and Performance sections for each of the four SC CoCs.

Overview of HMIS

Data for this analysis were drawn from the South Carolina Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). A Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a localized database used to collect client-level information and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. The statewide HMIS database is hosted on the WellSky ServicePoint software. In addition to being shared by all four of the South Carolina Continuums of Care, this database system is also shared with the United Way's statewide SC-211 resource line.

Data Sources

Four times per year, CoC's are required to submit specific reports to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These reports include the Point in Time Count (PIT), Housing Inventory Count (HIC), Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR; recently changed to the Longitudinal System Analysis), and System Performance Measures (SPM). To complete these reporting requirements, each CoC is mandated to upload these reports to the HUD Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX) by the HUD-defined deadlines.

The majority of the data presented in this report was drawn primarily from these HUD-required reports uploaded directly to HDX. Each CoC provided the most recent HDX exports for each of the four HUD-required reports (2019 PIT, 2019 HIC, 2017 AHAR, and 2017 SPM). Each of the four CoC reports were then aggregated to create a statewide summary of these important data.

Additional non-HUD-required data for the CoC-specific sections was drawn at the discretion of each CoC. These data sources and methodology are defined in the CoC-specific sections. Data on students experiencing homelessness in South Carolina was provided by the McKinney-Vento State Coordinator from the Office of Federal and State Accountability. Finally, Census data was utilized from the 2013-2017 American Community Service (Five Year Estimates) produced by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Population

Annualized Data

Description of the AHAR Report

The Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) is an annual report Continuums of Care produce and submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The AHAR uses data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to gather information over a 12-month (annualized) period on individuals and families who were served in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing projects. The AHAR provides a demographic profile of project participants as well as information about their experience of homelessness.

The date-range for the AHAR report is October 1 to September 30 - corresponding with HUD's fiscal year. The date range for the data included in this report is for Federal Fiscal Year 2017 - October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. As of 2019, the AHAR report provided by CoCs has been replaced with the Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA). However, at time of writing, final LSA data was pending technical review and was therefore unavailable for inclusion. Therefore, the most recently available annualized data submitted to HUD was compiled for this report.

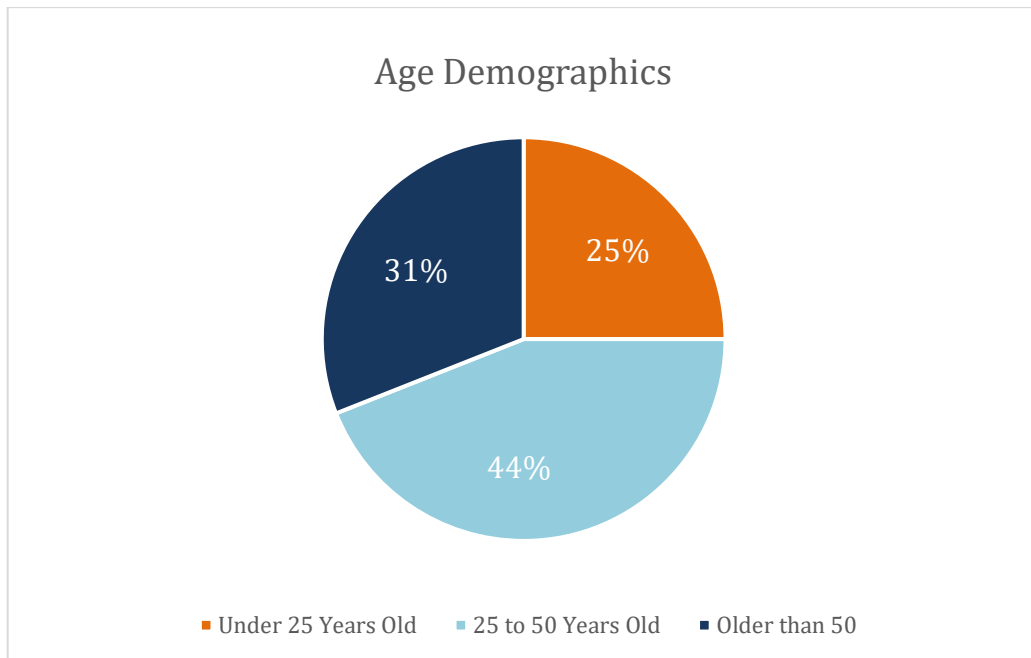
Total Number of Persons Served

Statewide, from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, 11,338 persons currently or formerly experiencing homelessness were served in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing projects. This figure details an annualized perspective of the number of persons receiving services across all ages, genders, races, ethnicity, and household size/composition. The following section will detail the demographic characteristics of the persons served in these homeless housing and service projects.

Demographic Description of Persons Served

The largest percentage of persons experiencing homelessness was between 31 to 50 (34%) and 51 to 61 (24%) years of age. Cumulatively, a smaller, but still sizable proportion of persons experiencing homelessness was less than 18 years of age (18%). Seven percent were young adults age 18 to 24. On the other end of the spectrum, another 7% were older persons age 62 and older.

Age of Persons Experiencing Homelessness	Number	Percent
Under 1	152	1%
1 to 5	644	6%
6 to 12	741	7%
13 to 17	400	4%
18 to 24	794	7%
25 to 30	1,135	10%
31 to 50	3,839	34%
51 to 61	2,758	24%
62 or older	814	7%
Missing Information	61	<1%
Total Number of Persons	11,338	N/A



Nearly two-thirds of persons experiencing homelessness identified as male (63%). A smaller percentage identified as female (37%). Only a handful of persons identified as transgender (15 total), while information on gender was missing from an additional 16 persons.

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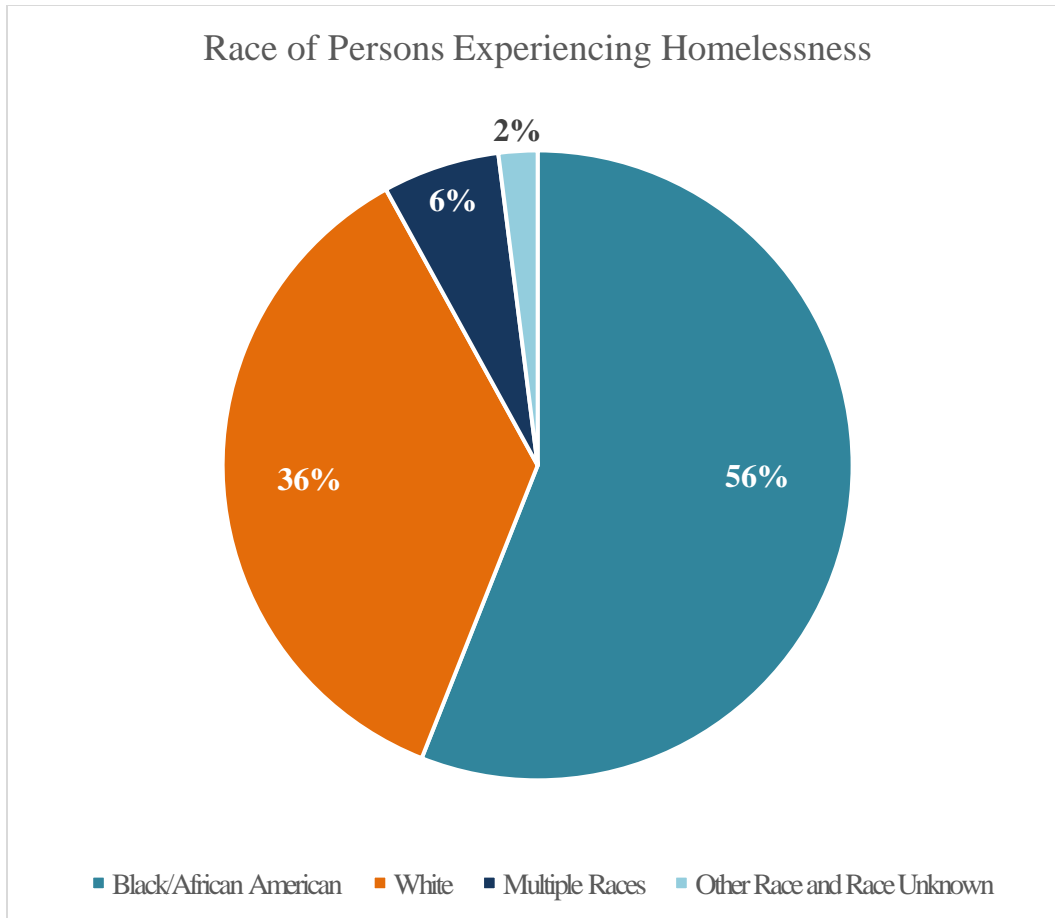
Gender	Number	Percent
Female	4,162	37%
Male	7,145	63%
Trans M-F	11	<1%
Trans F-M	4	<1%
Other	0	<1%
Missing Information	16	<1%

The majority of persons identified as Black/African American (56%). The second highest percentage identified as White (36%). Most of the remaining persons were identified as Multiple Races (6%), meaning they identified a distinct primary and secondary race. Comparatively, few persons identified as primarily American Indian or Alaska Native (51 persons, <1%), Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (29, <1%), and Asian (26, <1%). Racial classification could not be determined for 1% of the population.

Race	Number	Percent
White	4,116	36%
Black or African American	6,316	56%
Asian	26	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	51	<1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	29	<1%
Multiple Races	700	6%
Missing Information	100	1%
Ethnicity	Number	Percent
Non-Hispanic	10,909	96%
Hispanic	334	3%
Missing Information	95	1%

The vast majority of persons experiencing homelessness in South Carolina identified as non-Hispanic/Latino (96%). The remaining percentage identified as Hispanic/Latino (3%) or had missing information related to ethnicity (1%).





Nearly one-quarter of persons experiencing homelessness identified as a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. Conversely, 76% were not Veterans. Veteran status information was missing from 1% of all persons included in this analysis. This higher-than-normal percentage of Veterans (the statewide percentage of Veterans compared to the adult population is 10%) is likely due to the inclusion of a variety of Veteran-specific housing projects included in the analysis. This includes Housing and Urban Development Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), a Permanent Housing project type, and Grant Per Diem (GPD), a Transitional Housing project type funded by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veteran Status (Adults Only)	Number	Percent
A Veteran	2,152	23%
Not a Veteran	7,139	76%
Missing Information	96	1%

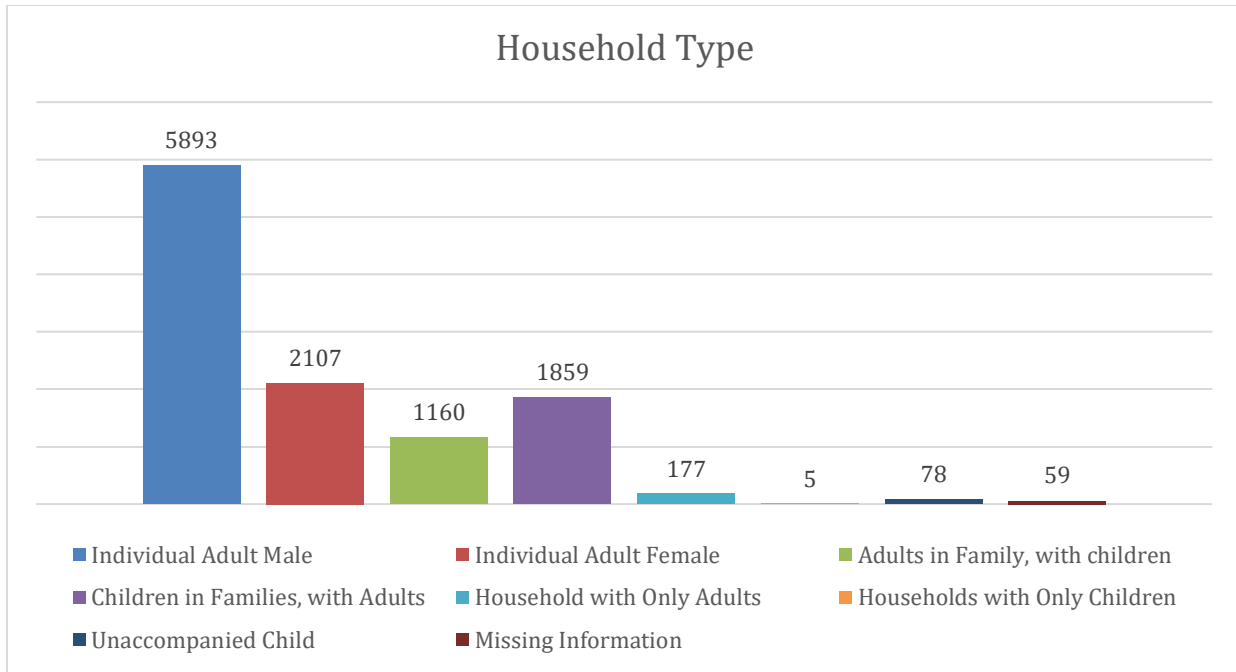
Household Description

The majority of persons experiencing homelessness across the entire year were experiencing homelessness on their own (72%). This means no other person was associated with them at the time they received services. The remaining percentage of persons experiencing homelessness were in a household unit that included either 2 persons (8%), 3 persons (8%), 4 persons (7%), or 5 or more persons (6%).

Persons by Household Size	Number	Percent
1 Person	8,128	72%
2 persons	853	8%
3 Persons	880	8%
4 Persons	751	7%
5 or more persons	726	6%
Missing Information	0	0%

The type of household composition is important to more accurately understand the context of people’s experience of homelessness. The majority of persons were experiencing homelessness as an individual male (52%) or individual female (19%). A sizeable percentage (26%) were experiencing homelessness in an adult-child setting. Sixteen percent of persons were children in families accompanied by adults and 10% were adults in families with children. There were relatively few persons in adult-only households (2%) and even fewer in households with only children (5 total; <1%). There were a total of 78 children under the age of 18 (1% of the population) who were experiencing homelessness alone. Information on household composition was missing for 59 persons, or 1% of the population.

Persons by Household Type	Number	Percent
Individual adult male	5,893	52%
Individual adult female	2,107	19%
Adults in family, with child(ren)	1,160	10%
Children in families, with adults	1,859	16%
Households with only adults	177	2%
Households with only children	5	<1%
Unaccompanied child	78	1%
Missing Information	59	1%



Disability Status

Nearly half of all adults age 18 and older experiencing homelessness (49%) identified living with some form of disability. These disabilities were related to substance abuse (alcohol and/or drugs), mental health, physical health, chronic health conditions (liver, heart, and kidneys), developmental issues, and/or HIV/AIDS. A similar percentage of adults indicated that they are not living with a disabling condition (48%). Disability information was missing from 3% of the adult population.

How Many Persons in Families are Disabled (Adults Only)	Number	Percent
Yes, disabled	4,629	49%
Not disabled	4,490	48%
Missing information	268	3%

Point-in-Time Data

Point-in-Time Count Introduction

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a snapshot of persons experiencing unsheltered and sheltered homelessness on a single night in January. *Unsheltered homelessness* is categorized as any person residing in a place not meant for human habitation, such as the street, a car, or an abandoned building. *Sheltered homelessness* includes individuals and families residing in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Safe Haven. HUD requires CoCs to conduct an annual sheltered count every year and an unsheltered count at least every other year. In 2019, all four Continuums of Care in South Carolina conducted both a sheltered and unsheltered count of persons experiencing homelessness with January 23, 2019 as the single night of reference.

Total Count

On January 23, 2019, across all four South Carolina Continuums of Care, 4,172 persons were counted as experiencing homelessness. The majority of persons counted were residing in sheltered settings (2,455; 59%), with the remainder residing in unsheltered settings (1,717; 41%).

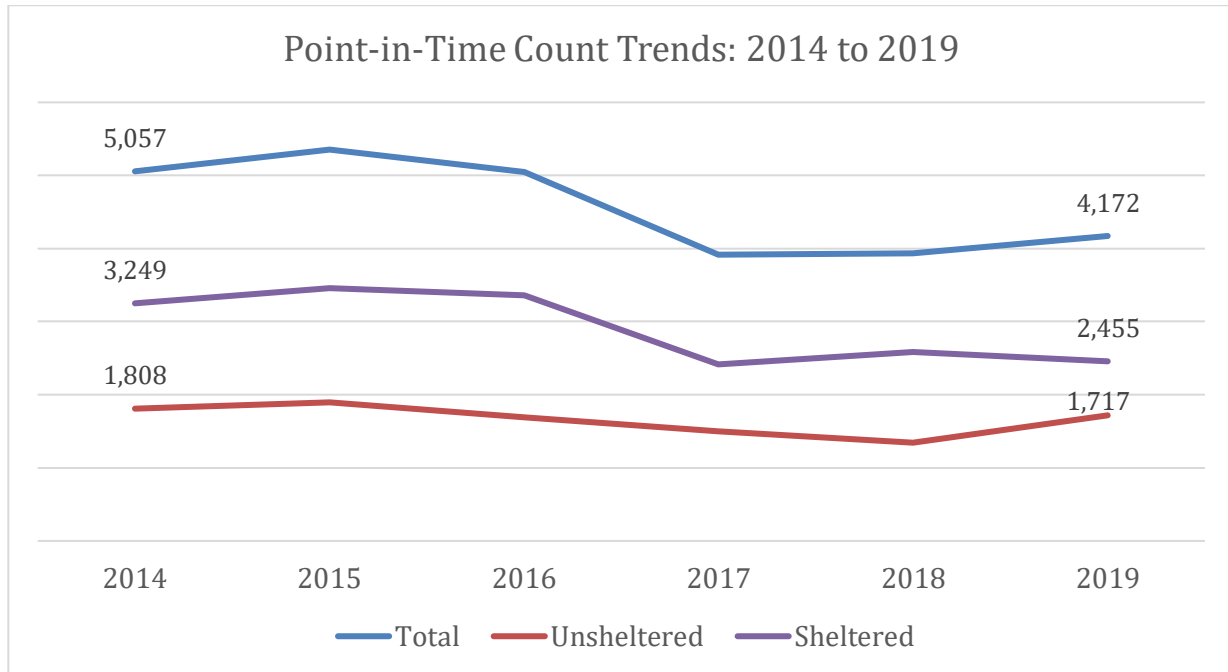
Change in Count Over Time

There was a 6.1% increase in the number of persons counted in 2019 compared to 2018 (+239). While the number of sheltered persons decreased from 2018 to 2019, the rise in unsheltered persons accounted for the overall increase seen between the two years.

Housing Status	Number of Individuals per Year					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Unsheltered	1,808	1,896	1,690	1,501	1,344	1,717
Sheltered	3,249	3,458	3,361	2,415	2,589	2,455
Total	5,057	5,354	5,051	3,916	3,933	4,172
Change from Previous Count	N/A	+5.55%	-5.99%	-28.98%	+0.4%	+6.1%
Change in Count from 2014	N/A	+5.55%	-0.12%	-22.56%	-22.23%	-17.50%

From 2014 to 2019, the overall number of persons counted has decreased by 17.5%. The vast majority of this 885-person decrease was due to a reduction in the number of people counted in sheltered settings (-794 persons). A smaller decrease is accounted for by the reduction in people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (-91 persons). The largest year-to-year change occurred between 2016 and 2017; the sheltered count reduced significantly due to a reduction in available

transitional housing between those two years. Since 2017, the count has increased incrementally by 0.4% in 2018 and 6.1% in 2019.



Demographic Profile

Nearly two-thirds of the 4,172 persons counted in 2019 identified as male (2,647; 63%). Slightly over one-third identified as female (1,520; 36%). Both males and females were more likely to be counted in sheltered settings than unsheltered settings. Five persons identified as other than female/male; three identified as gender non-conforming and two identified as transgender.

The majority of persons counted identified as Black/African American (2,160; 52%). The second highest percentage of persons identified themselves as White (1,793; 43%). Four percent of persons identified as multiracial, with an even smaller percentage identifying as American Indian/Alaska Native (36; 1%). Ethnically, the vast majority of persons did not identify as Hispanic/Latino (4,052; 97%).

Most persons counted were adults over the age of 24 (3,389; 81%). A smaller percentage were young adults between the age of 18 and 24 (6%). Twelve percent (520) were persons under the age of 18.

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Key Demographics*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Households	2,056	<i>N/A</i>	1,425	<i>N/A</i>	3,481	<i>N/A</i>
Total Number of Persons	2,455	<i>N/A</i>	1,717	<i>N/A</i>	4,172	<i>N/A</i>
Gender						
Female	878	36%	642	37%	1,520	36%
Male	1,576	64%	1,071	62%	2,647	63%
Transgender	0	0%	2	<1%	2	<1%
Gender Non-Conforming	1	<1%	2	<1%	3	<1%
Race						
White	954	39%	839	49%	1,793	43%
Black/African American	1,376	56%	784	46%	2,160	52%
Asian	8	<1%	6	<1%	14	<1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	15	1%	21	1%	36	1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3	<1%	7	<1%	10	<1%
Multiple Races	99	4%	60	3%	159	4%
Ethnicity						
Not Hispanic/Latino	2,381	97%	1,671	97%	4,052	97%
Hispanic/Latino	74	3%	46	3%	120	3%
Age						
Under 18	366	15%	154	9%	520	12%
18 – 24	167	7%	96	6%	263	6%
Over 24	1,922	78%	1,467	85%	3,389	81%
Chronically Homeless						
Total Number of Persons	352	14%	590	34%	942	23%

*Percent is computed as Percent of Sheltered/Unsheltered Subpopulations. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.

Household Composition

Nearly eight out of ten persons counted (3,310; 79% of the total population) were in households without children. A higher number of persons in these households were counted in sheltered settings (1,868) than unsheltered settings (1,442). Most of the remainder were in households with at least one adult and one child (854). More persons in these family units were counted in sheltered settings (580) than unsheltered settings (274). Finally, a small number (8) were persons in households with only children — with all but one residing in sheltered settings.



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Household Type*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Persons in Households without Children	1,868	76%	1,442	84%	3,310	79%
Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	580	24%	274	16%	854	20%
Persons in Households with only children	7	<1%	1	<1%	8	<1%
Total	2,455	N/A	1,717	N/A	4,172	N/A

*Percent is computed as Percent of Sheltered/Unsheltered Subpopulations. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.

Additional Subpopulations

Those experiencing homelessness often have special needs that make them particularly vulnerable. Across the state, 942 persons (22.6% of the total count) were experiencing chronic homelessness — meaning the person has a long-term disability and has been experiencing homelessness for at least one year consecutively or has experienced four or more occasions of homelessness in the past three years totaling more than 12 months. More chronically homeless persons were experiencing unsheltered (590) than sheltered homelessness (352).

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless	352	590	942
Veterans	343	119	462
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	105	38	143
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	274	311	585
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	324	204	528
Adults with HIV/AIDS	35	24	59

Veterans are also another important population to understand. In total, 462 persons self-identified as Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces (11.1%). The majority of Veterans were counted in sheltered (343) versus unsheltered (119) situations.

Statewide 143 adults experiencing homelessness said they were actively fleeing domestic violence. The majority were experiencing sheltered (105) compared to unsheltered (38) homelessness. It is important to emphasize that this domestic violence statistic only includes a count of those fleeing

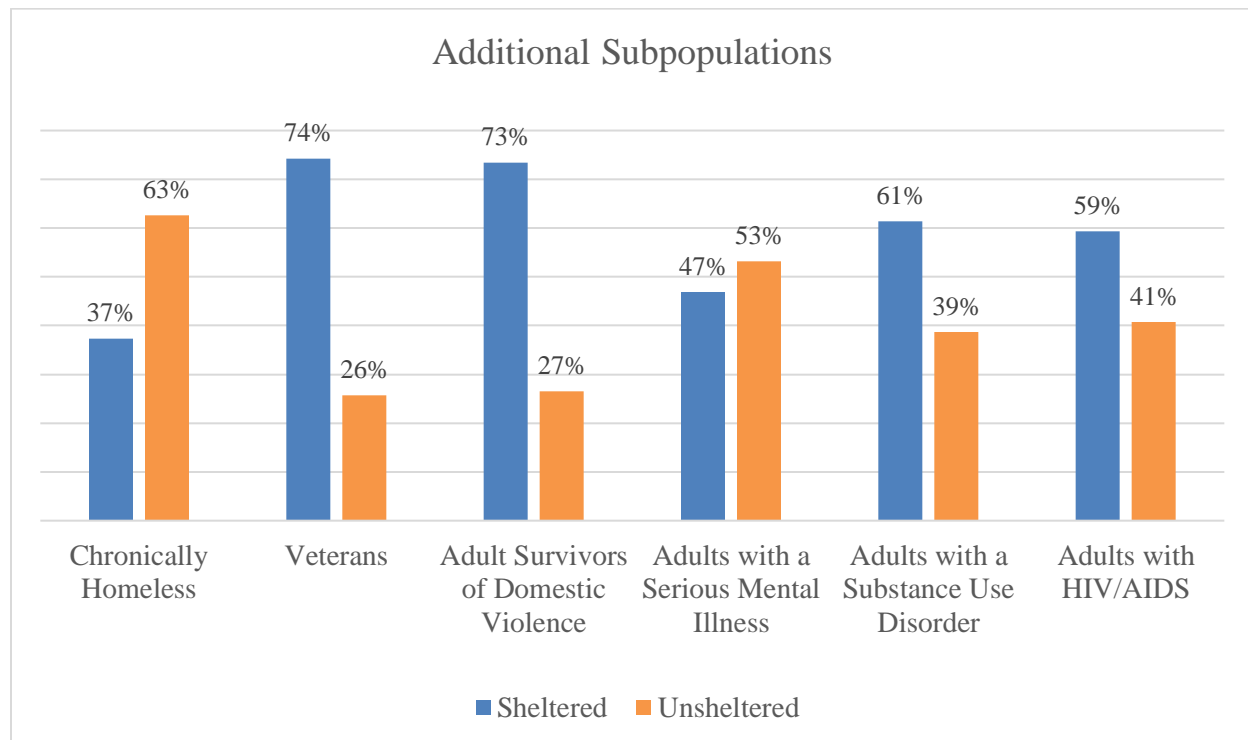


from an experience of domestic violence who were 18 years of age or older; the statistic does not include any dependent children (only adults).

Living with disabilities is also a contributing reason why persons experience homelessness. Disabilities such as mental illness, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS are particularly difficult to address/treat while a person experiences homelessness. During data collection, persons were asked to self-report any disabling conditions they believed they were currently living with. Across the state, 585 adults (14.0%) self-identified as dealing with a serious mental illness. The majority of persons living with a serious mental illness were counted in unsheltered (311) versus sheltered situations (274).

Substance use disorders are also challenges faced by a proportion of persons experiencing homelessness. In total, 528 persons (12.7% of the total count) self-reported a long-term substance use issue. A larger percentage of clients reporting a substance use disorder were residing in a sheltered (324) compared to unsheltered setting (204).

Living with HIV/AIDS is another struggle faced by a smaller, but important segment of the homeless population. Statewide, 59 adults experiencing homelessness (1.4% of the total count) were also living with HIV/AIDS. Among these persons, a similar proportion were residing in sheltered (59.3%) and unsheltered (40.7%) settings.



PIT Data by Continuum and County

The total number of persons counted statewide was disaggregated based on the Continuum of Care and the county a person was counted in. For a map of the counties contained in each Continuum of Care, please see below:



The Upstate CoC had the largest number of persons counted (1,401 persons). The Upstate CoC had the second highest unsheltered (506) and sheltered count (895); exceeded by the Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC) and the Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH) in each category respectively. The Upstate CoC counted the highest number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness (321) and the second highest number of self-reported Veterans experiencing homelessness (110).

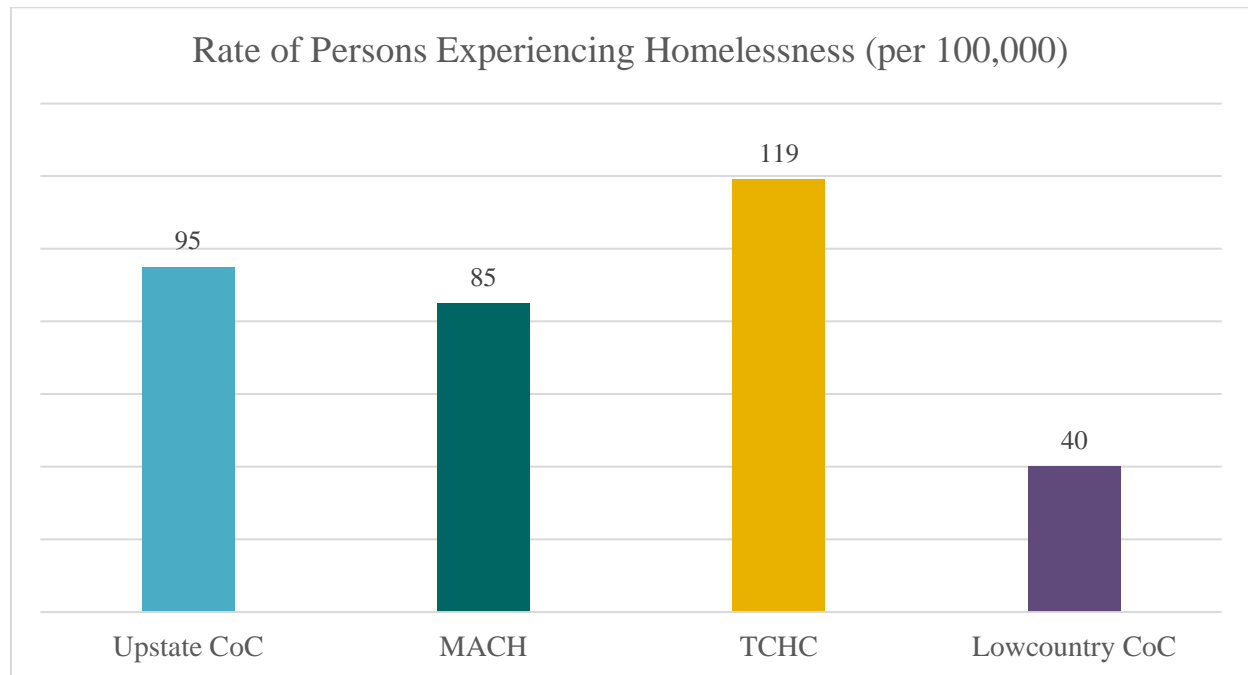
As stated above, MACH had the highest number of persons counted in sheltered settings (923), while TCHC counted the highest number of unsheltered persons (791). Both counted a high number of persons experiencing chronic homelessness (MACH: 277; TCHC: 258). Additionally, MACH counted the largest number of self-reported Veterans experiencing homelessness (188, or 41% of all Veterans counted statewide). Lowcountry CoC counted fewer persons experiencing homelessness than the other CoCs - likely because it covers a much smaller geographic and

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population-base than the three other CoCs. However, of note is the large proportion of self-reported Veterans counted in the Lowcountry (100, nearly 25% of the entire 403 persons counted in the CoC). A much more in-depth report of each CoC’s PIT Count results can be found later in the “Continuum of Care Compendium” section of this report.

Continuum of Care	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	Chronically Homeless
Upstate CoC	506	895	1401	110	321
MACH	292	923	1215	188	277
TCHC	791	362	1153	64	258
Lowcountry CoC	128	275	403	100	86

While the Upstate CoC has the largest population of persons experiencing homelessness, they do not have the highest rate in the State. In the TCHC region 119 out of every 100,000 people are experiencing homelessness, which is over 20 higher than the Upstate. The Lowcountry CoC not only has the fewest persons experiencing homelessness but that region also has the lowest rate.



When the total count from each county was compiled, each CoC had one county represented in the top four, indicating that homelessness is in fact a statewide problem. Richland had the highest overall count with 851 persons experiencing homelessness (183 unsheltered, 668 sheltered) as well as the highest number of chronically homeless (225) and self-reported Veterans experiencing homelessness (96). Horry had the second highest overall count (796), but by far the highest number of unsheltered persons counted (600). Greenville had the third highest count overall (753), which



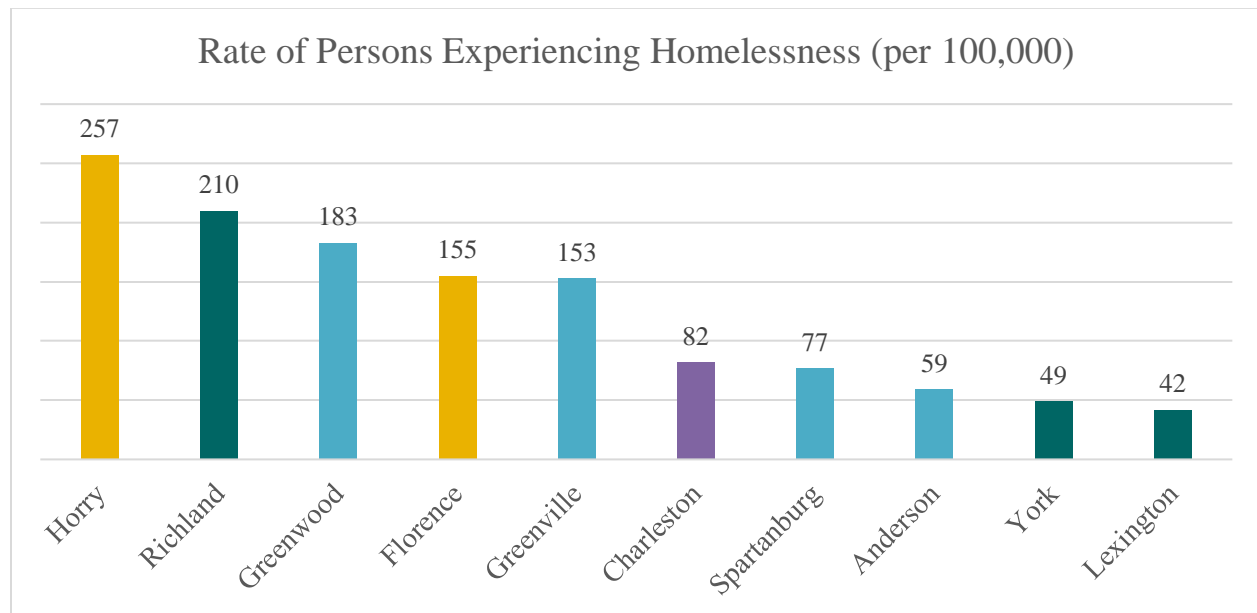
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included the second highest unsheltered (242), sheltered (511), and chronically homeless count (193). Charleston County had the fourth highest count overall (318), with the third highest sheltered count (207) and second highest count of Veterans (93).

The ten counties with the highest number of persons counted were Richland, Horry, Greenville, Charleston, Spartanburg, Florence, Greenwood, York, Lexington, and Anderson counties. The Upstate CoC had four counties represented in the top 10. MACH had three, Total Care for the Homeless Coalition had two, and the Lowcountry CoC had one.

County	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	CH
1. Richland	183	668	851	96	225
2. Horry	600	196	796	42	177
3. Greenville	242	511	753	57	193
4. Charleston	111	207	318	93	56
5. Spartanburg	88	141	229	22	39
6. Florence	112	103	215	15	44
7. (tie) Greenwood	35	89	124	7	16
7. (tie) York	15	109	124	11	24
9. Lexington	6	111	117	75	3
10. Anderson	57	57	114	15	31

Horry County has, by a good bit, the highest rate of persons experiencing homelessness in the state out of the top 10 counties. Lexington County has the lowest of the top 10 at 42 persons per 100,000, a rate that is one-sixth that of Horry County.



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Lowcountry CoC					
County	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	CH
Charleston	111	207	318	93	58
Colleton	0	56	56	2	20
Beaufort	16	12	28	5	7
Dorchester	1	0	1	0	1
Total	128	275	403	100	86
MACH					
County	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	CH
Richland	183	668	851	96	225
York	15	109	124	11	24
Lexington	6	111	117	75	3
Aiken	21	22	43	3	10
Lancaster	27	0	27	2	3
Allendale	25	0	25	0	3
Orangeburg	4	13	17	0	1
Barnwell	11	0	11	1	8
Total	292	923	1,215	188	277
TCHC					
County	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	CH
Horry	600	196	796	42	177
Florence	112	103	215	15	44
Kershaw	25	29	54	2	13
Sumter	9	21	30	3	8
Georgetown	26	0	26	2	14
Dillon	7	13	20	0	0
Marlboro	6	0	6	0	0
Darlington	2	0	2	0	0
Clarendon	2	0	2	0	1
Lee	1	0	1	0	0
Williamsburg	1	0	1	0	1
Total	791	362	1,153	64	258
Upstate CoC					
County	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total	Veterans	CH
Greenville	242	511	753	57	193
Spartanburg	88	141	229	22	39
Greenwood	35	89	124	7	16
Anderson	57	57	114	15	31
Oconee	35	35	70	2	16
Cherokee	20	39	59	5	12
Pickens	14	9	23	0	5
Laurens	5	10	15	2	3
Saluda	9	0	9	0	5
Abbeville	0	4	4	0	0
Edgefield	1	0	1	0	1
Total	506	895	1,401	110	321



Comparison of Annualized vs. Point-in-Time Count vs. Census

Description of the Comparisons

A demographic comparison was made between the homeless-related AHAR (annualized) and PIT (single-night) data, with broader Census-level data. This comparison was made to understand if there were substantial differences between 1) the observed demographics in the two homeless-related datasets and 2) the demographics of the homeless population compared to the broader statewide profile. The Census data utilized in this analysis was drawn from the 2017 American Community Survey (Five Year Estimates) from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Comparison of the Homeless Data (AHAR and PIT)

At the most basic level, it should be briefly stated that the annualized AHAR data is a better representation of homelessness in South Carolina than the single-night perspective of the PIT Count. In total, 11,338 persons were counted in the AHAR dataset (FY2017) compared to 4,172 in the 2019 PIT Count. The year-round AHAR perspective included nearly three times more persons than the limited PIT Count approach. Therefore, the 11,338 figure from the AHAR report provides a more accurate scope of the issue of homelessness in South Carolina.

Comparison of the Homeless Data and Census Data

Of greater interest is comparing demographics from the homeless population (AHAR and PIT data) to the broader South Carolina population (via Census data). Three major disparities surface: the disproportionate number of men experiencing homelessness, the extremely skewed representation of Black/African Americans in the homeless population, and the older nature of the homeless population.

According to U.S. Census data, males compose 49% of the state's population. However, in the homeless population, that percentage is much higher (AHAR & PIT = 63%). Conversely, and also notable, is the noticeably lower percentage of females experiencing homelessness (AHAR: 37%, PIT: 36%) compared to the Census information on the proportion of females living in South Carolina (51%). This discrepancy is noteworthy but does not come as a surprise to homeless service providers; indeed, the plurality of emergency-related beds made available to persons experiencing homelessness are designated for individual males.

Another discrepancy lies in the vast overrepresentation of Black/African Americans experiencing homelessness. Across South Carolina, Black/African Americans compose 27% of the population.



However, this same group represents 56% of the population receiving services over a year-round period (AHAR) and were also significantly more likely to be documented experiencing homelessness on a single-night in January (PIT; 52%). Conversely, persons who identified as White, who represent the majority of South Carolina residents (67%), had lower levels of representation in the homeless population (AHAR: 36%, PIT 43%).

A final notable disparity between the homeless population and the State population is related to age. Across South Carolina, 32% of the population was 24 years of age or younger. In the homeless population, this number was much lower (AHAR: 19%, PIT: 18%). This data indicates a lower proportion of children and young adults are experiencing homelessness than would be expected from the baseline Census data. On the other hand, a higher percentage of adults over 24 years of age are experiencing homeless (AHAR: 75%. PIT: 81%) compared to the Statewide population (68%). Proportionally, more adults 24+ are accessing the homeless service system than would be expected from the Statewide Census data.

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Key Demographics	AHAR Total		2019 PIT Total		Census Data*	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Persons	11,338	N/A	4,172	N/A	4,893,444	N/A
Age						
Under 18	1,937	(17%)	520	(12%)	1,090,955	(22%)
18 - 24	794	(7%)	263	(6%)	476,888	(10%)
Over 24	8,546	(75%)	3,389	(81%)	3,325,601	(68%)
Missing Information	61	(1%)	0	(0%)	N/A	N/A
Gender						
Female	4,162	(37%)	1,520	(36%)	2,516,685	(51%)
Male	7,145	(63%)	2,647	(63%)	2,376,759	(49%)
Transgender	15	(<1%)	2	(<1%)	N/A	N/A
Other	0	(0%)	3	(<1%)	N/A	N/A
Missing Information	16	(<1%)	0	(0%)	N/A	N/A
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	10,909	(96%)	4,052	(97%)	4,626,046	(95%)
Hispanic	334	(3%)	120	(3%)	267,398	(5%)
Missing Information	95	(1%)	0	(0%)	N/A	N/A
Race						
White	4,116	(36%)	1,793	(43%)	3,292,598	(67%)
Black or African American	6,316	(56%)	2,160	(52%)	1,332,100	(27%)
Asian	26	(<1%)	14	(<1%)	71,994	(1%)
American Indian or Alaska Native	51	(<1%)	36	(1%)	14,992	(<1%)
Native Hawaiian	29	(<1%)	10	(<1%)	3,015	(<1%)
Multiple Races	700	(6%)	159	(4%)	104,407	(2%)
Other or Missing Information	100	(1%)	0	(0%)	74,328	(2%)
Veteran Status (Adults Only)						
A Veteran	2152	(23%)	462	(11%)	367,921	(10%)
Not a Veteran	7,139	(76%)	3710	(89%)	3,404,166	(90%)
Missing Information	96	(1%)	0	(0%)	N/A	N/A

*Source: American Community Survey Demographic and Housing Estimates, 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Demographics that are significantly more present in the population experiencing homeless than the general population are in red font.



Homelessness Among Students

McKinney-Vento Overview and Homeless Definition

The word *homeless* typically does not bring to mind images of children and youth, but the reality is that many people experiencing homelessness are under the age of 18; some of them are a part of families experiencing homelessness, while others are youth experiencing homelessness on their own. Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (hereafter referred to as *The McKinney-Vento Act*), reauthorized in 2015 by Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.), is a Federal law that addresses the educational needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

While both the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development base their services and eligibility criteria on the McKinney-Vento Act, each agency uses a different definition of *homeless* due to differences in the federal statute. Both agencies consider people who lack a “fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence” to be homeless. While there is overlap, Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act, the Education of Homeless Children and Youth definition, is more encompassing. ED’s broader definition of homeless was adopted by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Higher Education Act, the Head Start Act, the Child Nutrition Act, the Violence Against Women Act, and by programs that receive Child Care and Development Fund subsidies.

Many homeless families and youth never live in situations that meet HUD’s definition of homeless for a variety of reasons. Lack of family shelters, shelter openings, shelter safety, and shelter restrictions which may force a family to split up (i.e. many family shelters do not permit adolescent boys) explain why most families and youth who are homeless do not reside in shelters. Many families will not live in unsheltered situations (i.e. public areas, vehicles, campgrounds, abandoned buildings) due to the fear that child welfare authorities will remove their children.

As a result, most families with children and youth in homeless situations stay temporarily with other people, in motels, or in substandard housing. These situations are very unstable, often unsafe and overcrowded, and put children, parents, and youth at risk of abuse and/or trafficking. These more *hidden* forms of homelessness have been shown to have impacts that are just as negative as being homeless on the streets or in shelters. To prevent and end homelessness, we need to have a clear understanding of who is experiencing homelessness and who is at risk of becoming homeless.

ED’s Definition of Homelessness: The federal McKinney-Vento Act defines children and youth experiencing homelessness as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence,” including the following situations:

- Children and youth who are:



- sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
 - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or campgrounds due to lack of alternative accommodations;
 - living in emergency or transitional shelters; or
 - abandoned in hospitals.
-
- Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
 - Children and youth living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
 - Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: The McKinney-Vento Act defines unaccompanied youth as children or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. An unaccompanied *homeless* youth is an unaccompanied youth living in any of the situations covered under the definition of homeless.

Primary Nighttime Residence: Per federal requirements, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) annually collects and reports data on the number and status of students experiencing homelessness, including the students' primary nighttime residence (PNR) at the time the student is first identified. However, many students' housing statuses are fluid, resulting in moves between categories over the course of the year.

This report uses the following terms and definitions from ED and SCDE to categorize primary nighttime residences of children and youth (including runaway and unaccompanied youth):

- *Doubled-up:* sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- *Hotels/Motels:* residing in hotels/motels due to lack of alternative housing.
- *Shelters:* living in supervised facilities designed to provide temporary living accommodations, including (but not limited to) homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, or transitional housing.
- *Unsheltered:* living in abandoned buildings, campgrounds, vehicles, trailer parks, FEMA shelters, bus or train stations, substandard or inadequate housing, on the "streets," or in similar situations. This category also includes children and youth abandoned in hospitals.

Pupils in Poverty: SCDE has developed a new methodology for identifying pupils in poverty (PIP), which incorporates a number of socioeconomic related data elements from several sources. The elements that are used to indicate PIP are as follows:

- Served through Medicaid within the last 3 years;

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- Served by the Department of Social Services (SNAP, TANF and Foster) within the last 3 years; and
- PowerSchool data relating to current year Homeless, Foster, and Migrant status.

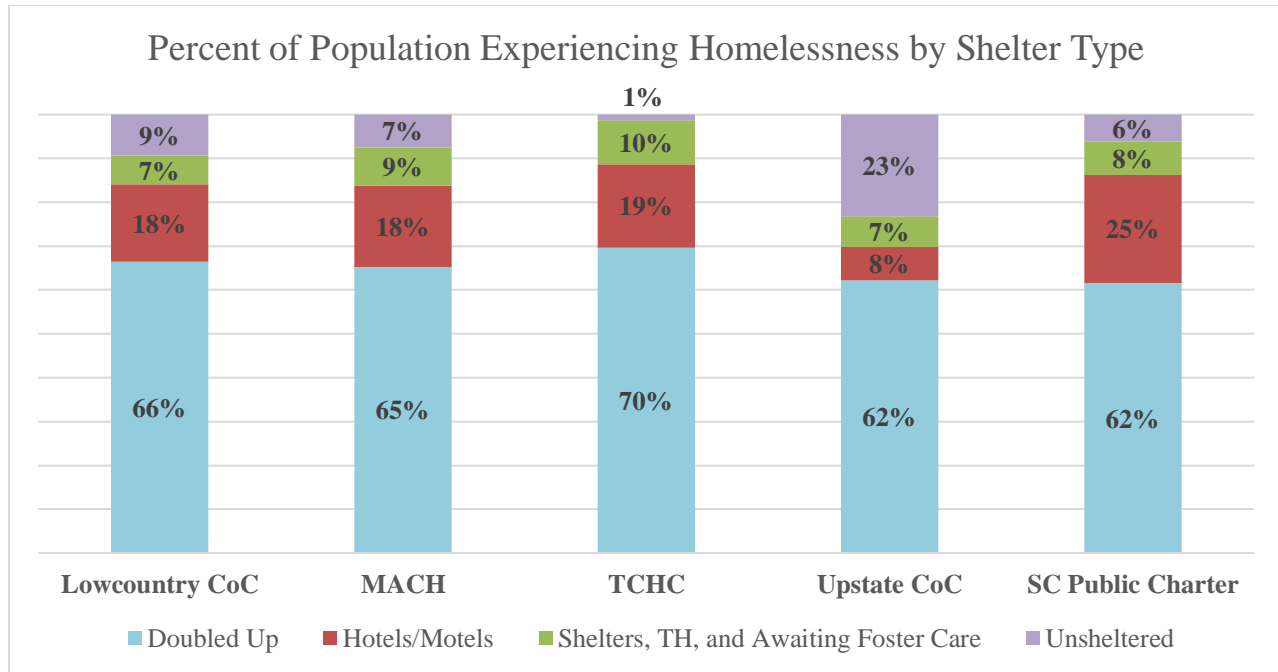
McKinney-Vento by Homeless Situation

Across South Carolina, 12,660 students enrolled in public school districts were identified as experiencing homelessness during the 2017–18 school year. School Districts indicate the student’s eligibility by coding her or his primary nighttime residence in PowerSchool at the time of identification. The majority of these students (8,181) were in doubled-up living situations. The number of children and youth living in unsheltered situations (1,775) and living in hotels/motels (1,721) were almost equal. The smallest number of students experiencing homelessness (983) were living in shelters or transitional housing.

In the table below, the number of students enrolled in SC public schools identified as experiencing homelessness is disaggregated by CoC (with the exception of the SC Public Charter School District, which serves students in schools statewide). Broken out by CoC, the Upstate CoC has the largest population of students experiencing homelessness (46%). A remarkably high percentage of Upstate students were experiencing unsheltered homelessness (1,345), accounting for 76% of students experiencing unsheltered homelessness across the state. The MACH area had the second highest number of students experiencing homelessness (2,949; 23%), and the highest number of students residing in hotels/motels. The TCHC had the third highest count of students (1,906; 15%) with the Lowcountry CoC rounding out the four CoCs (1,812; 14%).

Reporting Group	Doubled Up	Hotels/ Motels	Shelters, Transitional Housing, & Awaiting Foster Care	Unsheltered	Total
Statewide	8,181	1,721	983	1,775	12,660
Lowcountry CoC	1,203	320	118	171	1,812
MACH	1,926	544	258	221	2,949
TCHC	1,327	364	190	25	1,906
Upstate CoC	3,595	441	401	1,345	5,782
SC Public Charter	130	52	16	13	211





Estimated Unidentified Homeless Students

If students experiencing homelessness are not being identified, they are not getting access to the services they need to be successful. School districts are responsible for the identification of students experiencing homelessness, with the district appointed McKinney-Vento liaison leading the charge. To accomplish this, districts must choose an appropriate person who has the capacity to accomplish all duties listed in the Act. In addition, the liaison needs the support of the school district and community. Some districts may discourage the identification of students experiencing homelessness due to the perceived stigma attached.

When considering approximately how many students should be identified as experiencing homelessness, states, districts and schools should use available data. Areas that have a high housing cost burden, fluctuating unemployment rates, rising cost of living and health care, stagnant salaries, and dwindling public resources, should have identified students experiencing homelessness. One method for examining identification rates is based on a nationally accepted rule that approximately ten percent of individuals living in poverty experience homelessness at some point during a year. To calculate unidentified homeless students, the table below includes the poverty index, the estimated number of students experiencing homelessness, and the estimated number of unidentified students. Using this theory, while TCHC has the highest poverty index, MACH has the highest possible unidentified homeless students. In the table, however, when compared to the total actively enrolled student count, the Lowcountry had the highest percentage identified.

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CoC	Total Homeless Students by CoC	Total Actively Enrolled Students	Average Percent Homeless	Average Poverty Index	Poverty Count	10% Poverty	Estimated # Unidentified Homeless Students
Lowcountry	1,812	145,567	3.52	70.05	82,926	8,293	6,481
MACH	2,949	227,876	1.15	69.72	133,137	13,314	10,365
TCHC	1,906	142,456	1.28	77.81	101,166	10,117	8,211
Upstate	5,782	228,074	2.57	67.45	139,186	13,919	8,137
Charter SD	211	25,304	0.83	53.50	13,538	1,354	1,143
Grand Total	12,660	769,277	1.90	70.77	469,953	46,995	34,335

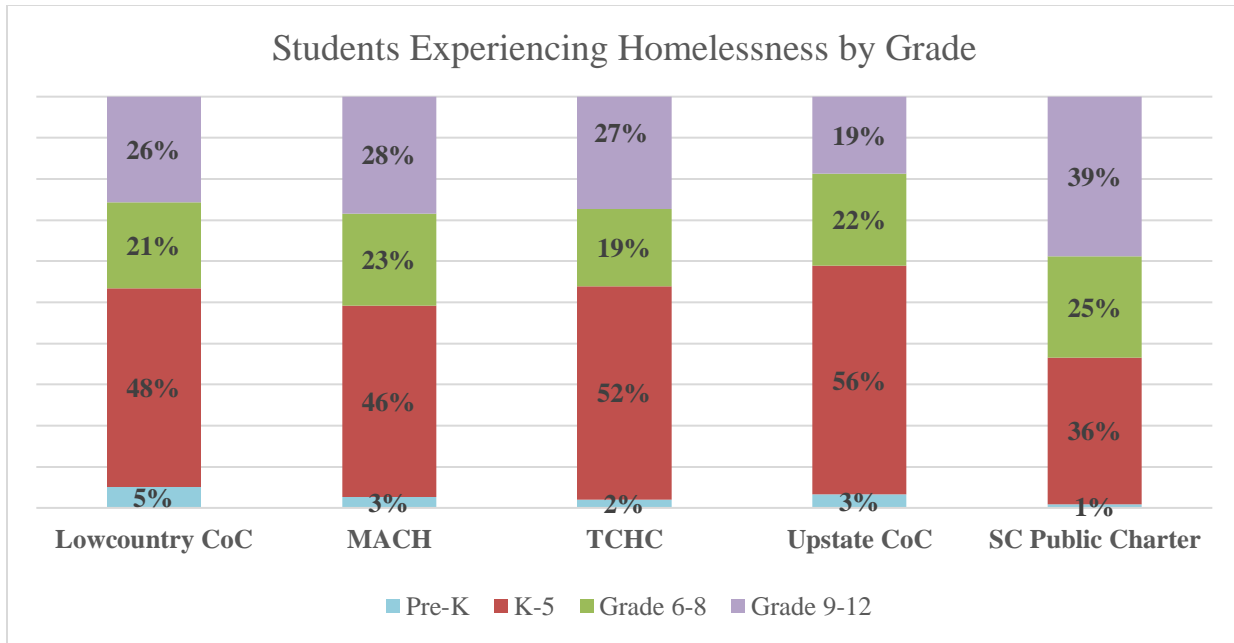
McKinney-Vento Data by Grade

Of the 12,660 students statewide, the largest percentage of students experiencing homelessness were in elementary school (Kindergarten – Grade 5; 6,526; 52%). The next highest number of students experiencing homelessness were high-schoolers (Grades 9-12; 2,995; 24%) followed by middle-schoolers (Grades 6-8; 2,738; 22%). Children in Pre-K composed the lowest percentage of the student population experiencing homelessness (401; 3%).

This data was then parsed by Continuum of Care. The trends identified statewide tended to also be generally consistent with data from each CoC. For example, in the Lowcountry CoC, MACH, and TCHC, students were predominantly identified as 1) elementary students, 2) high school students, 3) middle school students, and 4) pre-K students. Only in the Upstate CoC did this trend differ: while elementary students were still the highest population of students, the next largest group were middle schoolers (not high schoolers as with the other CoCs).

Continuum of Care	Pre K	K -5	Grade 6-8	Grade 9-12	Total
Statewide	401	6,526	2,738	2,995	12,660
Lowcountry CoC	91	876	378	467	1,812
MACH	80	1,368	664	837	2,949
TCHC	39	988	357	522	1,906
Upstate CoC	189	3,219	1,287	1,087	5,782
SC Public Charter	2	75	52	82	211





Academic Outcomes of Students in Various Housing Situations

A student’s socioeconomic and housing stability can have large impacts on their success in the classroom. The table below lists the proficiency rates on statewide assessments for *all students*, *pupils in poverty*, and *students experiencing homelessness*. Subgroups were unable to be separated by homeless status for this table. As such, the PIP data includes both housed students and students experiencing homelessness.

While the overall student population has proficiency rates in the mid-40s, the rates drop to the low 30s with economically disadvantaged students (PIP). Furthermore, homeless students score significantly lower than students living in poverty. This indicates having a fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence makes a difference in student outcomes, as opposed to simply living in poverty. The data shows students experiencing homelessness score in the low 20s, almost 10 percentage points less than housed students living in poverty.

School Year	Content Area*	Percent Proficient		
		All Students	Pupils in Poverty	Students Experiencing Homelessness
2016-2017	English	44.1%	32.6%	24.3%
2016-2017	Math	43.2%	31.1%	22.0%
2015-2016	English	46.0%	33.4%	24.1%
2015-2016	Math	45.6%	34.0%	24.5%

*Statewide academic proficiency rates are the results in the areas of ELA and mathematics based on the SC READY assessment results in grades 3 through 8, and End-of-Course assessment results in Algebra 1 and English 1.



The Graduation Rate measures the percentage of students who enter 9th grade and graduate within four years (adjusted for students who transfer in or out of the cohort after 9th grade). This data was then disaggregated by homeless status. While all students for the 2016-17 school year have an 84% graduation rate, when homeless status is controlled for, students experiencing homelessness have a significantly lower graduation rate, at 63%, resulting in a 21% gap.

The SC State Board of Education defines *dropout* as a student who leaves school for any reason, other than death, prior to graduation or completion of a course of studies and without transferring to another school or institution. For the 2016-17 school year, the state dropout rate for all students was 2.4%, with a slight increase for economically disadvantaged students at 3.5%. However, the dropout rate jumps to 8.1% when looking at homeless youths.

Students experiencing homelessness are far more likely than housed students to score low on state proficiency tests, drop out of school, or fail to graduate on time. This holds true even when comparing academic outcomes for housed pupils in poverty to homeless students.

Housing Inventory/Capacity

Housing Inventory Count

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is an annual inventory of beds and units dedicated to individuals and families experiencing literal homelessness on the same night of the annual PIT Count. There are six program types included in the HIC: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Safe Haven, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing. The HIC also specifies the allocation of those beds based on household status and specific populations (domestic violence victims, Veterans, youth, and HIV/AIDS clients). While the PIT Count demonstrates the demand for housing resources on a single night in January, the HIC is a particularly useful tool to understand the supply of available beds on that same night dedicated to persons experiencing homelessness.

Bed Inventory

Across South Carolina, on January 23, 2019, there were 5,894 beds dedicated to serving persons currently or formerly experiencing homelessness. This figure includes beds available for temporary housing assistance (Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing) and long-term housing solutions (Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing). The two largest categories of available housing inventory are Emergency Shelter (2,209; 37.5% of all beds) and Permanent Supportive Housing (2,071; 35.1%).

Of the overall total, 498 beds (8%) were specifically dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence. The majority of these beds are designated as Emergency Shelter, with smaller inventory available in the Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing project types.

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a tool used to help keep track of the services being provided to persons experiencing homelessness. When aggregated, this data provides a powerful lens through which to glean the extent of homelessness in a community. As such, the more homeless service agencies and projects entering information into HMIS, the more complete the picture of homelessness. One statistic to measure how depictive HMIS data is of homelessness is by seeing how many of the homeless-dedicated beds are having their client information entered and tracked within HMIS. This “HMIS Coverage Rate” is computed by dividing the total number of HMIS-affiliated beds by the total number of non-DV affiliated beds within each project type (note: HUD does not allow DV client information to be entered into HMIS).

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Overall, 4,296 homeless-dedicated beds are being recorded/tracked in the South Carolina statewide HMIS. This yields a 79.6% HMIS coverage rate across all project types. HMIS coverage is complete in the Safe Haven, Rapid Rehousing, and Other Permanent Housing project types. It is less complete in regards to Emergency Shelter (68.8%), Transitional Housing (71.7%), and Permanent Supportive Housing (84.8%).

Project Type	Total Beds on 2019 HIC	Total DV Beds	Total HMIS Bed	HMIS Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter	2,209	366	1,268	68.80%
Safe Haven	17	0	17	100.00%
Transitional Housing	845	68	557	71.69%
Rapid Rehousing	468	0	468	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing	2,071	64	1,702	84.80%
Other Permanent Housing	284	0	284	100.00%
Total	5,894	498	4,296	79.61%

Beds Available Based on Household Type

The majority (63%) of the 5,894 homeless-dedicated beds were available for persons in households without children. Within this household type, the largest number of these beds were in the Permanent Supportive Housing project type (40.0%), followed by Emergency Shelter (35.2%).

Virtually all of the remaining overall bed inventory (36%) were designated for persons in households with children (i.e. families). Within this household type, the highest percentage of available beds were designated as Emergency Shelter (42.3%), followed by Permanent Supportive Housing (26.8%).

Only a small percentage of homeless-dedicated beds are made available for persons in households with only children. This unique household type is composed completely of persons under the age of 18 (whether individuals or children together in a household). In total, 64 beds (1% of all beds) were designated for this type of household. Most all of these available beds are from the Transitional or Other Permanent Housing project types (28 beds each).



Project Type	Beds Available for Persons in...			Total Beds
	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	
Emergency Shelter	1,314	887	8	2,209
Transitional Housing	524	293	28	845
Safe Haven	17	0	0	17
Rapid Rehousing	215	253	0	468
Permanent Supportive Housing	1,508	563	0	2,071
Other Permanent Housing	153	103	28	284
Total Beds	3,731	2,099	64	5,894
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	63%	36%	1%	N/A

Comparison of HIC Information to PIT Data

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) depicts the supply of available housing inventory, while the Point in Time Count demonstrates the demand for these housing resources. As a reminder, both the 2019 HIC and 2019 PIT data reference the single night of January 23, 2019. Comparing HIC inventory information to PIT client demand will show how well aligned the available bed inventory is with the populations experiencing homelessness on that single night. Particular focus was given to temporary housing availability (Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Safe Haven). For the purpose of this comparison analysis, permanent housing (Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing) were excluded.

At a most basic level, 60% of the available temporary housing inventory were designated for “Households without Children” (i.e. individuals and adult-only households). However, 79% of the population identified in the PIT Count were classified as persons in households without children. Thirty-eight percent of temporary beds are dedicated to persons in “Households with Children” (i.e. families). Noticeably, only 20% of the persons counted in the PIT Count were members of this type of household.

These two comparisons of supply (beds) and demand (persons experiencing homelessness) indicate a disproportionate percentage of beds being dedicated to persons in households with children over persons in households without children. For example, while there were 887 Emergency Shelter beds available to families on the night of the PIT Count, only 363 persons in households resided in Emergency Shelter on the night of the statewide Count. This resulted in a 41% utilization rate (demand/supply) for families in Emergency Shelter. Fear of family separation

and the misconception that shelter staff will contact the Department of Social Services to remove children from the household could contribute to a lower level of utilization among persons in families on the night of the PIT Count. Tempering these fears and supporting family maintenance and unification is increasingly needed among shelters serving vulnerable families experiencing homelessness together.

Conversely, persons in households without children exhibited a 110% utilization rate of year-round beds. This was due to many persons in households without children utilizing seasonal/cold-weather beds made available on the night of the PIT Count. This high utilization rate indicates that the demand for year-round beds among those in households without children outstrips the available year-round inventory for this group.

While utilization of Emergency Shelter beds for households with children was low (demonstrated above), utilization for Transitional Housing beds for this same demographic was higher (74%). The utilization rate of Transitional Housing beds for persons in households without children was slightly higher (76%).

The overall utilization rate, across all three household types, for Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Safe Haven were as follows: 82%, 73%, and 88% respectively. All in all, the data presented here indicate that across nearly all project and household types (excluding persons in households without children in Emergency Shelter), the availability of homeless-dedicated beds (supply) outpaced the number of persons occupying those beds (demand).

Unmentioned to this point is the number of persons identified to be experiencing unsheltered homelessness. When this sizable group is included in the supply/demand calculation, the demand begins to outpace the available supply - especially among those in households without children. Overall, 4,172 persons were identified to be experiencing homelessness and 3,071 temporary homeless beds (Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Safe Haven) were available to shelter these individuals.

While some persons experiencing homelessness will choose to live in an unsheltered setting, the CoCs should continue to encourage as many persons as possible to utilize the available crisis housing for stabilization and housing-focused case management. The implementation of low-barrier entry policies could help unsheltered persons be more readily able to access and utilize these services. Low barrier is the practice of not screening out potential persons because of perceived barriers to housing or services (such as addiction and criminal backgrounds). As demonstrated above, there is available inventory to serve more persons in need - particularly for those in households with children.

Supply				
HIC: Year-Round Beds Available for Persons in...				
Project Type	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	Total Beds
Emergency Shelter	1,314	887	8	2,209
Transitional Housing	524	293	28	845
Safe Haven	17	0	0	17
Total Beds Available	1,855	1,180	36	3,071
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	60%	38%	1%	N/A

Demand				
PIT: Number of Persons Counted in...				
Project Type	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	Total Persons
Emergency Shelter	1,454	363	3	1,820
Transitional Housing	399	217	4	620
Safe Haven	15	0	0	15
Unsheltered	1,442	274	1	1,717
Total Persons	3,310	854	8	4,172
Percent of Persons in Each Household Type	79%	20%	<1%	N/A

Trends in Housing Inventory

Analyzing trends in housing inventory is useful to understand the capacity for available housing supply to stay on-track with anticipated demand. Below is an analysis of changes statewide in bed inventory from January 2018 to January 2019. Overall, there was a very small increase in beds available to serve persons experiencing homelessness (+70 beds; +2.3%). Emergency Shelter

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inventory increased by 63 beds from 2018 to 2019 (+2.9%) and Transitional Housing beds also increased slightly (+7 beds; +0.8%). Safe Haven beds remained at the same levels in 2018 and 2019.

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in 2019 HIC	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
Emergency Shelter	2,146	2,209	2.9%
Safe Haven	17	17	0.0%
Transitional Housing	838	845	0.8%
Total	3,001	3,071	2.3%



Performance

System Performance Measures

System Performance Measures (SPMs) quantify the efficacy of a local homeless response system through seven separate metrics. The progress CoCs are making on these seven metrics are assessed annually via the System Performance Measures report to HUD. The seven SPMs HUD has developed as priorities for homeless service systems to track and report on are:

1. The length of time persons remain homeless;
2. The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness
3. The number of homeless persons
4. Jobs and income growth for persons in CoC Program-funded projects
5. The number of persons who become homeless for the first time
6. Homelessness prevention and housing placements of persons defined by Category 3 of HUD's homeless definition in CoC Program-funded projects (not measured in 2017)
7. Successful housing placement

This section will focus on four of the seven System Performance Measures (#1, #2, #5, and #7). Number 3 was omitted because it was already described in further depth in the *Population* section above. Number 4 was omitted because it focuses on a very small proportion of clients being served in HUD-funded Continuum of Care projects. As a statewide report, this document is focused on being as inclusive of the broader homeless population as possible; therefore #4 was excluded. Finally, #6 is a performance measure only relevant to communities who have eliminated literal homelessness altogether; therefore, none of the four CoCs in South Carolina were required to report on #6.

Data presented here are for Federal Fiscal Year 2017 (October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017). Note: The deadline for CoCs to submit this annual report is the end of May. Therefore, at time of writing, the most recently available and HUD-approved data is from the 2017 SPM submission.

First Time Homeless

In 2017, 6,342 persons were identified to be experiencing homelessness for the first time. This means these persons utilized an HMIS-affiliated Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing during 2017 and did not have an enrollment in any of these project types in the previous 24 months (HUD’s definition for first time homeless). The comparable figure in 2016 was 5,809, meaning that there was increase of 533 persons experiencing first-time homelessness from one year to the next.

In 2017, 77.5% of all persons served in ES, SH, and TH were experiencing homelessness for the first time. In 2016, the percentage was 79.0%. While there was a slight decrease in percentage of persons experiencing first time homelessness from 2016 to 2017, this consistently high percentage shows the vast majority of persons receiving services in these project types are considered first-time homeless.

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	7,351	8,193	842
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	1,542	1,851	309
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	5,809	6,342	533
Percent of persons experiencing first time homelessness	79.0%	77.5%	-1.5%

When persons receiving permanent housing assistance are added to the calculation, 7,597 persons were identified to be experiencing homelessness for the first time in 2017 (76.9% of all persons receiving services), up from 7,062 in 2016 (78.1% of clients). This represents an increase of 535 persons experiencing homelessness from one year to the next. While there was a whole-number increase in overall persons experiencing homelessness the first time, there was actually a percentage decrease in the first time homelessness from 2016 to 2017 (-1.2%).

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Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period	9,043	9,882	839
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	1,981	2,285	304
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	7,062	7,597	535
Percent of persons experiencing first time homelessness	78.1%	76.9%	-1.2%



Length of Time Homeless

A statewide weighted average for the length of time persons spend in homeless-specific projects was computed to understand how long persons are enrolled. In 2017, persons in Emergency Shelter and Safe Haven spent an average of 63.7 days in those projects. In 2016, that average was 68.0 days. When comparing 2016 to 2017, the length of stay for a client in these projects decreased by 4.3 days.

When clients served in Transitional Housing were included with ES and SH clients, the 2017 weighted average was 89.6 days. In 2016, the weighted average was 107.6 days. From 2016 to 2017 the length of time persons spent in these three homeless projects decreased by 18 days.

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless	Weighted Average		Difference
	2016	2017	
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	68.0	63.7	-4.3
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	107.6	89.6	-18.0

While weighted averages convey aggregated statewide data on length of time homeless, a more precise understanding of this variable is achieved by examining the data for each Continuum of Care. The *CoC Compendium* portion of this report conveys information specific to each continuum.

Exits to Permanent Housing

Moving clients out of a homeless situation and into a successful or permanent housing destination is an overarching goal of virtually every homeless service project. This entails exiting a client from the project and facilitating a permanent housing exit destination. Common permanent exit destinations include but are not limited to: rental by client with no ongoing housing subsidy, rental by client with some form of housing subsidy, staying or living with family or friends permanently, and housing owned by client.

Street Outreach (SO) is the only project type that HUD defines a successful exit as an exit to any destination besides a place not meant for habitation or jail/prison. In 2017, a total of 605 persons exited from participating in a SO project. Of those clients, 248 (41%) exited successfully. Compared to 2016, clients exiting from Street Outreach in 2017 were much more likely to exit successfully; there was a 21% increase in the rate of successful exits (20% in 2016 to 41% in 2017).

Metric 7a. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	1,398	605	-793
Of the persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	128	126	-2
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	150	122	-28
% Successful exits	20%	41%	21%

Statewide, 8,553 persons exited from Emergency Shelters, Safe Havens, Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing, and other Permanent Housing projects. Of those who exited, 3,502 exited to permanent housing destinations. This resulted in 41% of clients exiting to successful destinations. Clients exiting from these projects in 2016 were slightly more successful - 48% exited to permanent housing solutions. Therefore, when comparing successful exit rates from 2016 to 2017, there was a 7% decrease.

Metric 7b. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	7,391	8,553	1,162
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	3,547	3,502	-45
% Successful exits	48%	41%	-7%

A final metric of successful housing outcomes to consider is the number of clients who exited from a Permanent Housing project to another permanent housing destination AND the number of clients who retained their permanent housing throughout the reporting year. Statewide, in 2017, 2,200 persons were served in Permanent Housing projects (excluding clients receiving Rapid Rehousing). Of this population, 2,069 remained in an applicable Permanent Housing project OR exited to a permanent housing destination. This resulted in 94% of Permanent Housing clients either successfully exiting or retaining their permanent housing placement during 2017. This very same percentage was also seen in 2016, demonstrating consistency in the success of Permanent Housing projects to successfully exit their clients to permanent housing or work with them to keep them housed from year-to-year.

Metric 7b. 2 - Change in exits or retention of permanent housing	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	2,309	2,200	-109
Of the persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	2,173	2,069	-104
% Successful exits/retention	94%	94%	0%

Returns to Homelessness

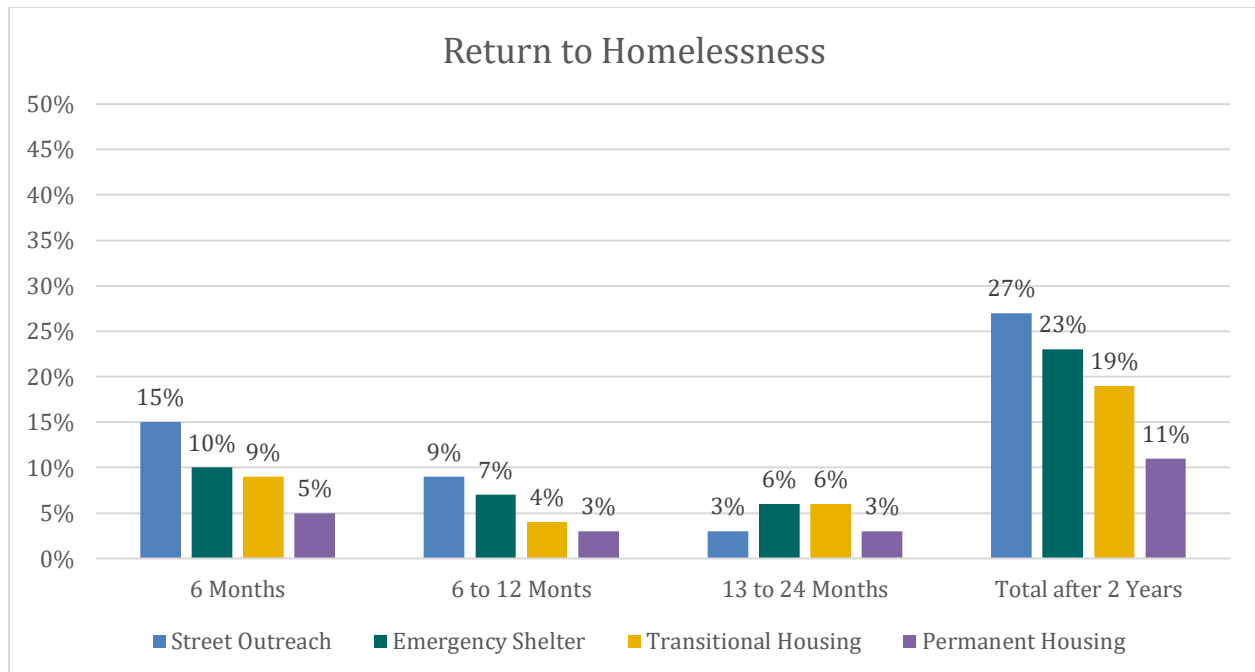
Last, CoCs track the number of individuals who exited to permanent housing from a Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, or Permanent Housing project in Federal Fiscal Year 2015 and returned to homelessness in the following two years (tracked via enrollment in an HMIS-affiliated project). Across the following two-year time frame, of the 3,967 exiting clients, only 667 (17%) returned to homelessness, suggesting that clients were largely successful in maintaining permanent housing. However, rates of returns to homelessness were not spread evenly across all five project types. Returns to homelessness across the two-year period were more common for clients exiting from Street Outreach (27%), Emergency Shelter (23%), and Transitional Housing (19%). Also, unsurprising was the lower level of persons returning to homelessness among those exiting from a Permanent Housing project (179; 11%).

On a shorter time-frame, only 8% of persons returned to homelessness in less than six months. This low number indicates that immediately after a person exits successfully from a homeless program the vast majority of persons are successful in maintaining their permanent housing opportunity in the short-term. The lowest level of returns was from clients exiting from Permanent Housing (86 persons; 5%) and the highest was from clients exiting from Street Outreach (10 persons; 15%).

Rates of returns to homelessness during the 6 to 12 month and 13 to 24 month windows were similar. During both time-frames, the total rates of return to homelessness was 4% (178 persons returned during 6 to 12 months and 177 persons during the 13 to 24 month window). The rates of returns from specific project types were also relatively consistent between the two time periods. Across these two time-frames (6 to 12 months and 13 to 24 months), Emergency Shelter clients returned to homelessness at a rate of 7% and 6%, Transitional Housing clients returned at rates of 4% and 6%, and Permanent Housing clients returned at a rate of 3% during both time-windows.

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Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness	Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing		Returns to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 months		Number of Returns in 2 Years	
	FY 2017	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	
Exit was from SO	66	10	15%	6	9%	2	3%	18	27%	
Exit was from ES	1,168	121	10%	79	7%	72	6%	272	23%	
Exit was from TH	1,053	95	9%	43	4%	60	6%	198	19%	
Exit was from SH	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	
Exit was from PH	1,679	86	5%	50	3%	43	3%	179	11%	
TOTAL Returns to Homelessness	3,967	312	8%	178	4%	177	4%	667	17%	



Continuum of Care Narratives

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional planning body that coordinates housing and services funding families and individuals experiencing homeless. The state of South Carolina is divided into four Continuums of Care: the Lowcountry Continuum of Care, the Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH), the Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC), and the Upstate Continuum of Care. The coverage area for each CoC is illustrated below:



Each Continuum of Care is different – there are often important data-related findings that cannot be captured in the HUD and McKinney-Vento data presented earlier in this report. To address this, each Continuum of Care was asked to identify two or three specific data-driven insights they wish to include as part of the statewide report. This section gives the CoC’s an opportunity to present valuable data that they believe best reflects homelessness in their local area. This section will also give readers more locally-relevant data points to refer to about each CoC.

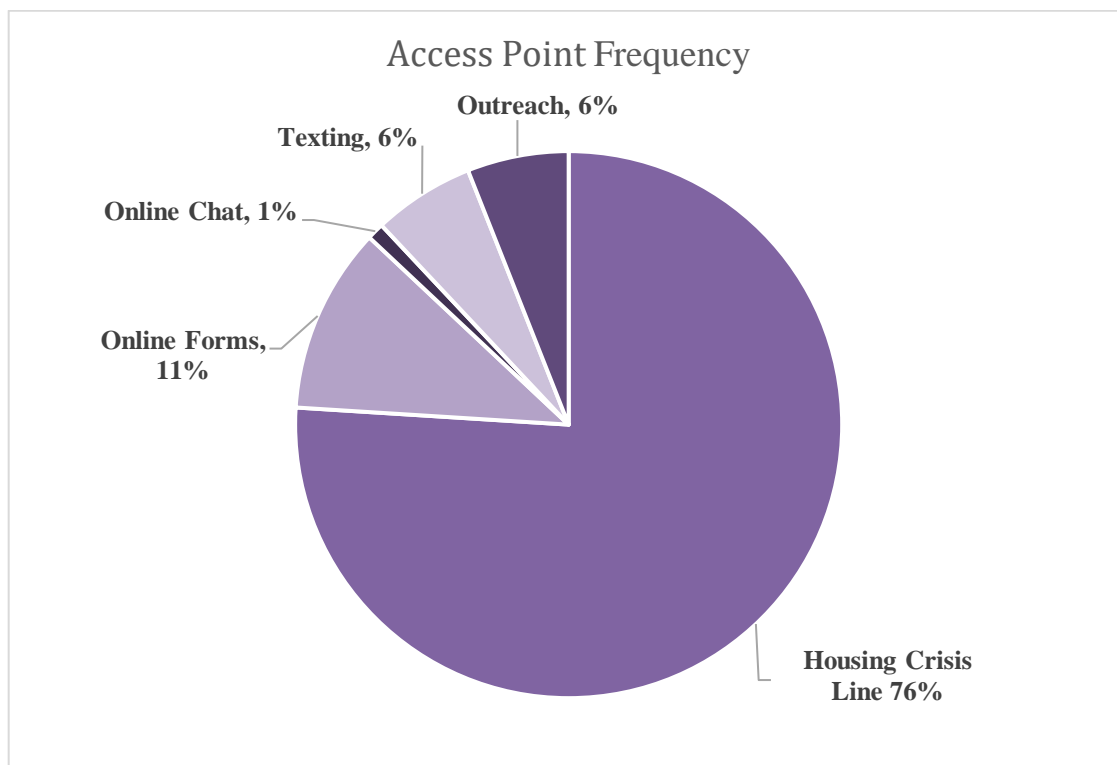
Lowcountry CoC Narrative

For their narrative, the Lowcountry CoC decided to present information on two pertinent topics: 1) the different ways a person experiencing homelessness can be connected to the CoC’s available housing resources, and 2) the scope and solutions to youth homelessness.

Coordinated Entry System Access Points






A Coordinated Entry System (CES) is a process designed to efficiently facilitate connecting persons experiencing homelessness to available housing resources. These steps include coordinating participant intake, assessment, provision of referrals, and placement into housing. When implemented correctly, CES allows communities to move beyond a traditional “first come, first served” approach to one that looks across the CoC to serve those most in need of assistance.

Over the past year, the Lowcountry Continuum of Care has focused on expanding access points into the Coordinated Entry System. The main access point had been the Housing Crisis Line, but the continuum recognized that a phone may not always be accessible for people experiencing homelessness, therefore adding a barrier for some of the most vulnerable individuals. Outreach teams continue to serve as an access point into coordinated entry and have expanded their presence in the community. Throughout the course of the year, the continuum has implemented a texting feature, an online form, and an online chat function on the website.

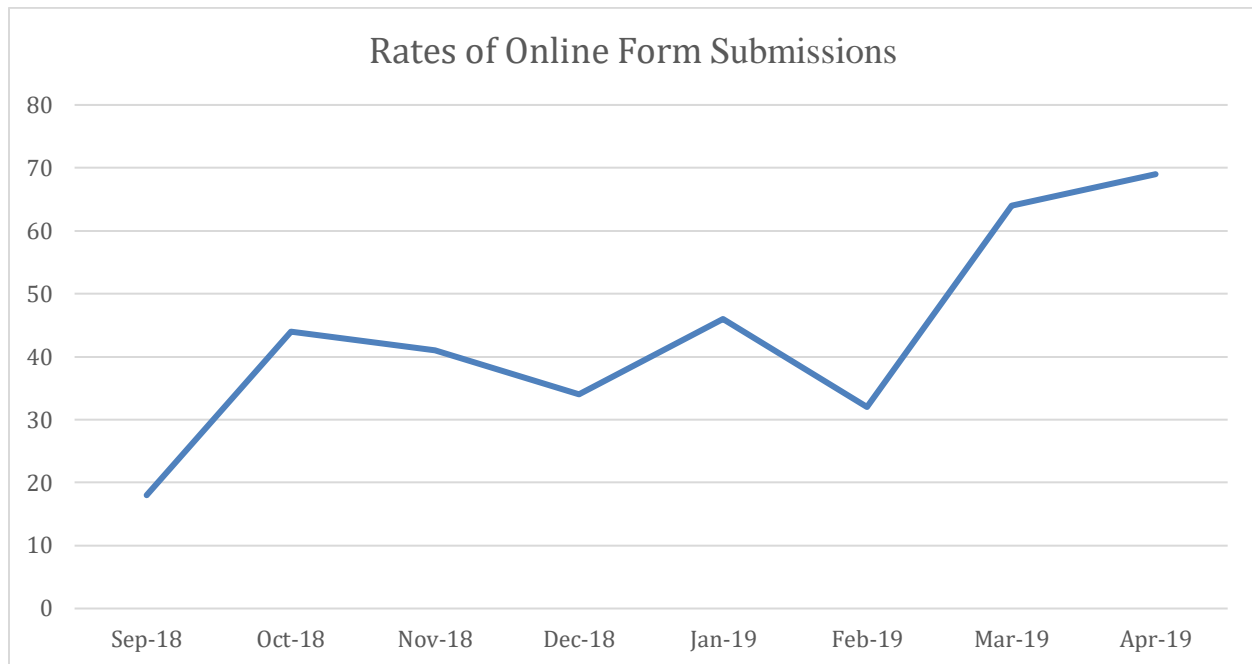


The various access points have established a more effective coordinated entry system. More households in need throughout the Continuum have been able to access coordinated entry and stay in contact. The Housing Crisis Line has continued to be the most frequently used access point. However, with the implementation of the online form, the CoC has seen a significant increase in the submission of forms.

Coordinated Entry Access Points

<p>Housing Crisis Line</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone Line that operates seven days a week • Most frequently used access point • Receives calls from individuals experiencing homelessness, concerned citizens, households that need other types of assistance such as utility arrears
<p>Online Form</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available on the Lowcountry CoC website 24/7 • Can be accessed from any computer with internet • Asks initial intake questions • Frequently used in resource center computer labs, so service providers can serve as contact • Coordinated Entry staff follows up within 2 business days
<p>Texting</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becoming an increasingly popular access point • Opportunity for people who have ran out of call minutes to access coordinated entry • High rates of people that use free texting apps and will get messages when connected to wifi • Convenient to get in touch with people who are working and can't speak on the phone
<p>Outreach</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In person access point • Outreach teams rotate locations throughout the community throughout the week to meet different • Service providers, such as soup kitchens, have fixed schedules when outreach will be attending to let individuals in need know when they can access coordinated entry
<p>Online Chat</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows individuals to instant message coordinated entry staff through our website • Available Monday-Friday during office hours • Least utilized access point • Beneficial for those accessing that have no other means of contact

Coordinated Entry staff has seen that many service providers throughout the community that do not have access to HMIS assist individuals with the form and also serve as a contact for that person. Having this extra contact can aid in finding households when openings become available and also collecting documentation and other necessary information for coordinated entry. The chat function on the CoC website has been the least used access point. It seems that individuals prefer to submit the form and receive follow up at a later point. The CoC continues to pursue additional “in person” access points to reach the extremely vulnerable population that does not have access to technology.



Youth Experiencing Homelessness in the Lowcountry CoC

In the Lowcountry, there has been an increase in collaboration among providers to ensure that unaccompanied youth who experience homelessness are on a quick path to safe, stable, and permanent housing. A newly funded CoC Youth Rapid ReHousing project will focus on providing housing identification, rent and move-in assistance and case management to those who are 18 to 24 years old. This housing first project will follow best practices demonstrated by other youth RRH providers around the nation. This includes utilizing coordinated entry, strong street outreach, and specially trained case managers to assist youth with each step to self-sufficiency.

Youth Homelessness in Charleston

In 2018, The Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Center for Livable Communities at the College of Charleston, drew attention to youth homelessness in the community by conducting a count of housing and food

insecure youth in Charleston. According to the Youth Count, “thirty-eight percent of respondents have been experiencing continuous insecure housing for one year or longer.”¹

Among the youth identified during the Youth count

- 38% spent time in the foster care system
- 60% report having left a stable housing situation because they feared for their safety
- 40% report that they have been coerced into sexual activities
- 50% report interactions with law enforcement in the last year²

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), “on a single night in 2018, 36,361 unaccompanied youth were counted as homeless.”³ Along with the NAEH, the Lowcountry CoC understands that on any single night, the number is likely to be an undercount. The Point-in-Time Count (PIT) committee is working to improve the way data is collected for the count by recruiting county coordinators to focus on youth in order to produce a more accurate count of the number of young people experiencing homelessness.

Defining Youth Homelessness

Defining homelessness for youth in the Lowcountry takes many forms: youth may be unsheltered – living on the streets, camping outdoors, living in cars or abandoned buildings. Youth may be sheltered – staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs. They may also be staying with family or friends, usually referred to as couch-surfing or doubled-up. “Unaccompanied” youth refers to a youth who presents as an individual (i.e. not as a part of a family household) who is under the age of 25 and lacks parental, foster or institutional care. Different federal agencies use different definitions to define youth homelessness. HUD defines youth homelessness as those sheltered, unsheltered or in transitional housing under the age of 25.

Unaccompanied Youth	
Age	Young adults 18-24
Living situations	Place not meant for human habitation
	Emergency shelters or transitional housing

Finding Solutions to Youth Homelessness

Collaborating with an array of community partners, from law enforcement to healthcare providers to other nonprofits, the Lowcountry CoC is committed to working with other agencies to ensure that the community response is as effective as possible. Working toward a goal of rapidly moving young adults out of homelessness and into permanent housing, the youth RRH program will work collaboratively with participants to help them obtain housing, expand positive support networks, increase their income and resources, maintain their safety and achieve their personal goals.

¹ <http://riley.cofc.edu/About%20the%20Riley%20Center/CYC%20Canvassing%20Exec.%20Sum.%203.8.19.pdf>

² http://riley.cofc.edu/About%20the%20Riley%20Center/student_food.house_summary.pdf

³ <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/who-experiences-homelessness/youth/>



Youth Homelessness Response System

An end to youth homelessness does not mean that youth will never experience a housing crisis again. Instead, it means having a response system in place that ensures that homelessness is prevented whenever possible, and that a quick response with appropriate housing options is available on the rare occasion a youth does experience homelessness. The CoC is working towards a coordinated community response to preventing and ending youth homelessness. This included the formation of a CoC Youth Committee as well as a Youth Advisory board to include youth with lived experience of homelessness. CoC data along with input from those with lived experiences will help guide the response from the CoC regarding implementation of new projects.

MACH Narrative

For their narrative, MACH, in collaboration with United Way of the Midlands (UWM), decided to highlight two reports on specific topics related to homelessness. The first was a report examining reasons why youth, under the age of 25, experienced homelessness and the second was an analysis of race disparities across the population of all individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The following contains modified excerpts from those two reports. If you would like to read either of the full reports, please visit www.midlandshomeless.com

Youth in Transition: System Experience Prior to Homelessness

Background

In 2013, United Way of the Midlands (UWM) initiated the Youth In Transition (YIT) initiative in response to a growing number of youth experiencing homelessness in Lexington and Richland counties in the midlands of South Carolina. The initiative focuses on young people, ages 17 to 24, who are homeless or vulnerable to homelessness or are at risk for other adverse outcomes due to a lack of social and financial support. This includes youth transitioning out of foster care or juvenile or adult justice; runaway youth; unaccompanied youth, or other youth who fall through the cracks of the system of care.

Since the inception, the YIT movement has expanded to include youth specific street outreach; 40 new units of housing for youth; and the opening of a youth drop-in center. In December 2017, the Midlands Youth Plan was released, which includes eight measurable goals and 16 specific strategies for homeless prevention; improved discharge planning; community level reporting and measurement of success; outreach including specialized access points for youth; and development of housing and services to fill gaps.

Introduction

Youth (ages 17-24) represent a growing segment of the homeless population. Understanding the causes of homelessness is important to help mitigate those predictors prior to someone becoming homeless. Research into youth who experience homelessness have outlined reasons and predictors for housing instability. Some, but not all, factors include experiences of childhood adversity, including poor parenting, neglect, and sexual abuse; having four congregate care placements; disrupted adoptions; multiple foster care placements; more than three school moves in a three year span; lack of academic qualifications; multiple school expulsions; poor social networks; being a parent as a youth; having multiple convictions; receiving mental health treatment, and; neighborhood adversity. Most studies determining the predictors of homelessness are focused on the general population of those experiencing homelessness regardless of age, while research on youth has been focused specifically on adolescents or those aging out of or exiting systems like foster care and juvenile justice. There is little research or data that examines the age range of 17-

24 and their experiences with various systems prior to becoming homeless. Therefore, the purpose of this report is to provide a better understanding of the experience and contributing factors of youth who become homeless in the midlands of South Carolina. By identifying a cohort of youth with a confirmed episode of homelessness and securing data on their engagement with Medicaid, Department of Social Services, State Department of Education, Department of Mental Health, State Law Enforcement Division, and Department of Juvenile Justice, prior to them becoming homeless, the YIT team can identify and address system changes to help eliminate youth homelessness.

Methods

The final cohort of unaccompanied youth was completed through a three-step process.

Step 1: The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was used in the first step of generating the cohort. In March 2018, HMIS System Administrator ran a query in HMIS to identify all youth (ages 17-24) experiencing homelessness in the South Carolina counties of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Chester, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, and York from 2014 through 2017. From the query an initial sample of 2,146 youth were identified and provided to the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) to complete Step 2 of the process to obtain records from the six agencies.

Step 2: RFA is a neutral entity that gathers and maintains demographic, economic, redistricting, financial, geodetic, health, education, law enforcement, social services and other data in the South Carolina Data Warehouse. The initial youth cohort (ages 17-24) was provided to RFA for linking and gathering data from the six state agencies to determine the factors (risk and protective) with youth becoming homeless. When available, RFA used full name, date of birth, and social security number to provide the RFA Unique Identification Number that allows everyone in the cohort to be tracked across the six-agency data sets in the data warehouse. RFA provided a deidentified data set from the state agencies that included the requested variables for the youth. Of the 2,146 individuals provided to RFA from Step 1, 2,128 individuals were able to be matched to an existing RFA Unique Identification Number.

Step 3: UWM's study team received the data sets to finalize the cohort used in the study. The primary focus of this initial study was intended to be on unaccompanied youth who were "*literally homeless*". Unaccompanied youth, for this study is defined as "youth not in the physical custody of a parent or court-appointed guardian, including: youth who have run away from home; youth who have been forced to leave their homes; and youth whose parents have left the area and left them behind." "*Literally homeless*" means the youth are living unsheltered on the streets, in cars, campgrounds, in abandoned buildings, or other public spaces, or living in emergency shelters.

Final Cohort Demographics/Statistics

Utilizing the criteria above, the final youth cohort resulted in 669 unaccompanied youth who had a documented service in HMIS between 2014-2017. Six-hundred thirty-seven youth were listed as ‘Self’ and 32 were listed as ‘Head of Household Spouse/Significant Other’, where the Head of Household was under the age of 25. Males made up 51% of the cohort, 62% were Black/African-American, and 36% were White. The average age the youth first received a service indicating homelessness was 21.86 years old, with 16 youth under the age of 18 at the time of their first service. Over 80% of the cohort were in Richland (58%) and Lexington (24%) counties when they became homeless.

Results

There are over 10 pages of results in the full report. The following is a very abbreviated list of findings the research team found interesting.

- There were more than \$10 million in combined medical and pharmacy paid claims for the 444 youth that had an inpatient, outpatient, or physician office visit claim paid by Medicaid between 2012-2017.
- Of the top 20 reasons youth received medical care, 85% of were due to a mental health diagnosis. This could indicate unaddressed childhood trauma.
- Analysis indicated being Black or African American is one of the leading risk factors of becoming homeless after exiting foster care.
- Females who have a juvenile charge at a significantly higher risk of becoming homeless. Of youth who became homeless with a charge, 42% were female. However, only 22% of all juvenile charges are by females.
- Education data revealed that nearly 60% of the youth repeated a grade and 26% repeated two or more grades.

Racial Disparity in People Experiencing Homelessness in the Midlands Area

Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH) is the federally designated Continuum of Care for 13-counties in the central Midlands of South Carolina. MACH is a network of advocates, service providers and funders with the mission of expanding capacity to address Homelessness within the South Carolina counties of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland and York.

In 2019, MACH’s Data and Evaluation Committee examined data on racial disparities in people experiencing homelessness. The purpose of this data review is to better understand the population served with housing and service programs and examine disparities in service delivery.

Review of MACH’s Data

To complete the analysis, MACH reviewed data from US Census estimates, 2018 Point-In-Time count (PIT), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the CoC Racial Equity Analysis

Tool provided by HUD, and state agencies (Medicaid, Department of Social Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, State Law Enforcement Division, State Department of Education, Department of Mental Health). The PIT count is an annual assessment of the number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single day. The data allows communities to identify whether a person is an individual, a member of a family unit, or an unaccompanied youth. In addition, communities identify if a person is chronically homeless, indicating long-time or repeated homelessness and the presence of a disability along with demographic information. HMIS is a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. The Racial Equity Analysis Tool is provided by HUD and designed to help CoC's identify racial disparities in the system. The tool is an overlay of the racial distributions of people living in poverty by race and ethnicity, age, and veteran status, sourced from the American Community Survey (ACS) 2011-2015 5-year estimates, and the most recent PIT count data.

Racial Inequalities in Homelessness

Within the 13-counties of the MACH Continuum of Care, African Americans make up 32% of the general population, but more than 65% of the individuals experiencing homelessness during the 2018 Point-In-Time Count. African Americans are even more disproportionately overrepresented in families with children who are experiencing homelessness (general population 32%/experiencing homelessness 77%). Whites, Native American/Alaskans, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Other/Multi-Racial groups are all underrepresented in those experiencing homelessness when compared to the general population. When examining unsheltered homelessness in the 2018 PIT count, 100% of the families with children who were unsheltered were African American. This disparity persists even in comparison to the population living below the poverty line. In MACH's 13-counties, 43% of all individuals living below the poverty line are white and 49% are African American. When examining disparities in ethnicity, data indicates there is not a significant difference in the ethnicity of the total population and of those experiencing homelessness. There is a slightly lower percent of Hispanic or Latino individuals experiencing homelessness when compared to the overall population.

These disparities were confirmed when reviewing the 'CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool'. In MACH's data, 49% of all people living in poverty identified as black; however, among the people experiencing homelessness during the annual point-in-time count 66% identified as black. Further, 67% of people in the 2017 unsheltered count during were black. For families experiencing homelessness during the count 77% were black. These two data sources confirm Black/African Americans are overrepresented in the homeless population when compared to the general population.

Recommendations for MACH

Through the systematic review of existing data and the literature on evidence-based methods to address disparities, the following strategies are recommended for adoption to encourage a homelessness system that is more representative of the community served:

- By the end of 2019, complete a survey of all MACH partners to gauge diversity in leadership, review equal access policies, and explore how people of color are involved in planning.
- By the end of 2022, constitute the CoC Board of Directors have equal representation of people of color, compared to the 13-county demographics.
- Annually, the MACH Membership and Training Committee will host cultural competency training for MACH members that includes content on underlying, systemic issues contributing to racial disparities in housing.
- By the end of 2020, monitor HUD funded CoC and ESG funded projects on their efforts to mitigate racial disparities in the provision and outcomes of homeless assistance.
- Annually, review data to assess trends in housing and homelessness related to disparities in access to services and those exiting to permanent housing, to minimally include an examination of racial, ethnic, and LGBTQ+.

TCHC Narrative



For their narrative, Total Care for the Homeless Coalition presented information about their recent organizational restructuring, challenges in serving a predominantly rural area, innovative collaborations, and efforts to combat youth homelessness.

Restructuring of TCHC

Formerly known as Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization (ECHO), the Continuum of Care re-organized and is now known as Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC). TCHC includes 13 counties in Northeastern South Carolina: Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, Williamsburg, and a new addition, Kershaw. ECHO the agency operates independently as a member organization within TCHC, and is designated as the Collaborative Applicant, and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System (CES) lead for TCHC.

The majority of TCHC's geographic area is rural, with the exception of Florence, Horry, and Sumter counties. To help the community with being aware of persons experiencing homelessness, TCHC utilizes existing data to aid with identification of needs and solutions, along with providing more context.

Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Areas

There continues to be marked disparities in TCHC's PIT Count totals between the region's rural and urban or suburban counties. Horry and Florence counties consistently yield substantially higher numbers than the remaining 11 areas. Two of which, Chesterfield and Marion counties, are entirely unrepresented. This underrepresentation highlights some ongoing challenges and opportunities for improvement for TCHC.

Although all communities face challenges finding and counting homeless populations, extremely limited resources in rural areas make collecting such information exceptionally challenging. Lack of shelters and other homeless service providers prevents access to the people who need them.

Many people experiencing unsheltered homelessness don't want to be seen, let alone counted or interviewed; which is often reinforced by such resource-limited surroundings.

Having so few service providers puts a strain on existing providers because they must expend disproportionate effort for PIT Count planning and implementation. Fewer providers also means having fewer people available to physically do the counting.

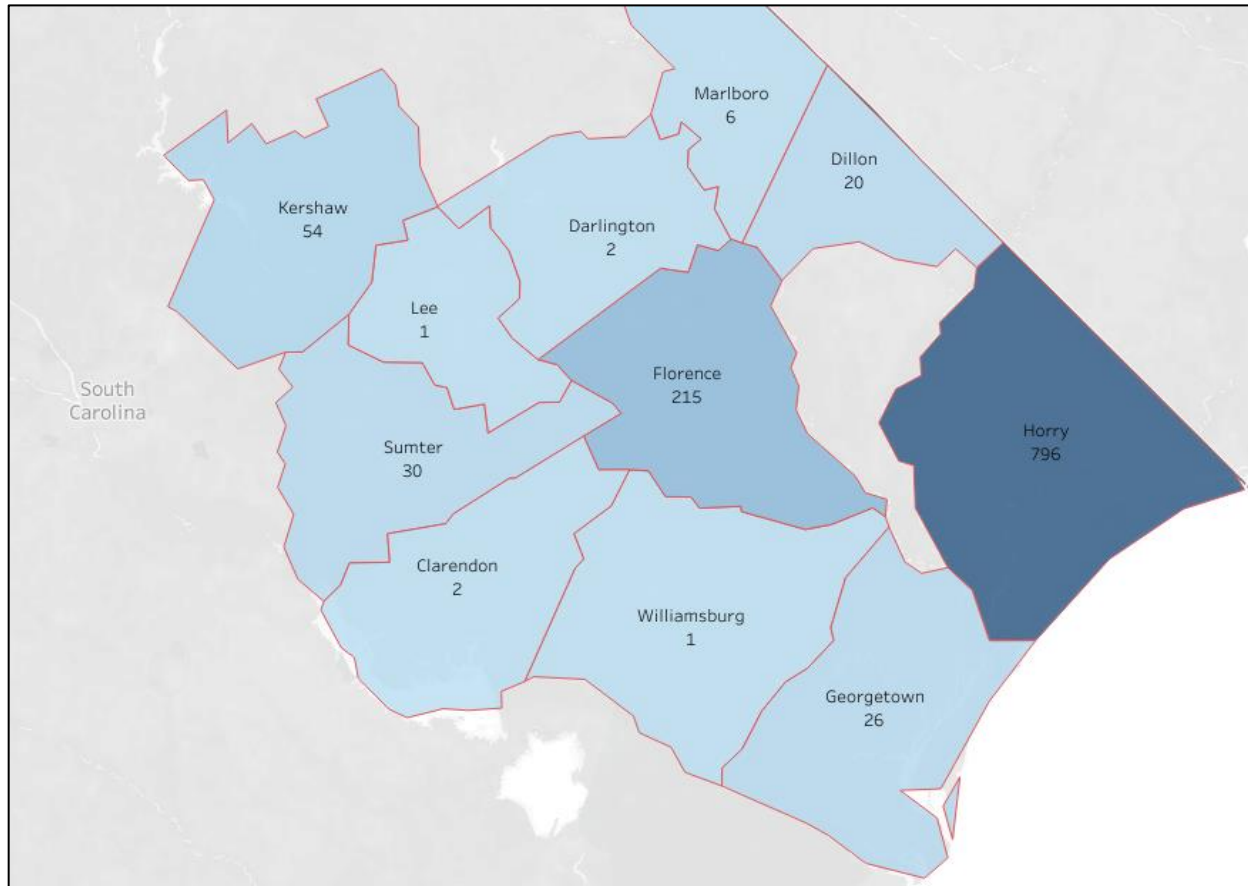
The vast geographical expanses of rural communities create disconnects among participating service providers and make organizing counts difficult. Some of the challenges presented getting participants to such spread out, remote, and largely hidden areas include: transportation, terrain, and knowledge of or ability to locate encampments.

Many people in more rural areas live in dwellings that qualify as unfit for human habitation. Without participants that are experienced and familiar with both homelessness and the area, it can be problematic determining the difference between substandard housing and places not meant for habitation. Not being able to identify homelessness means that it cannot be counted.

Engaging and encouraging local resources to serve as CES Access Points will improve ability to identify homelessness, create connections to services, and also increase reliability of PIT Count data. Exploring such opportunities for involvement from churches, social workers, law enforcement, civic organizations, community leaders, outreach, and Federally Qualified Health Centers would raise essential participation while opening doors to much-needed services.

While the challenges faced in rural areas are not unique, they are certainly exaggerated. To truly recognize and address homelessness in rural communities, TCHC needs accurate documentation of the problem. Examining the data TCHC has— and the data they don't have — presents opportunities for using more informed and geographically-relevant approaches. Ultimately, these efforts will all help improve TCHC data while increasing awareness, knowledge, and therefore TCHC's ability to provide services to the people who need them.

PIT Count Totals by County



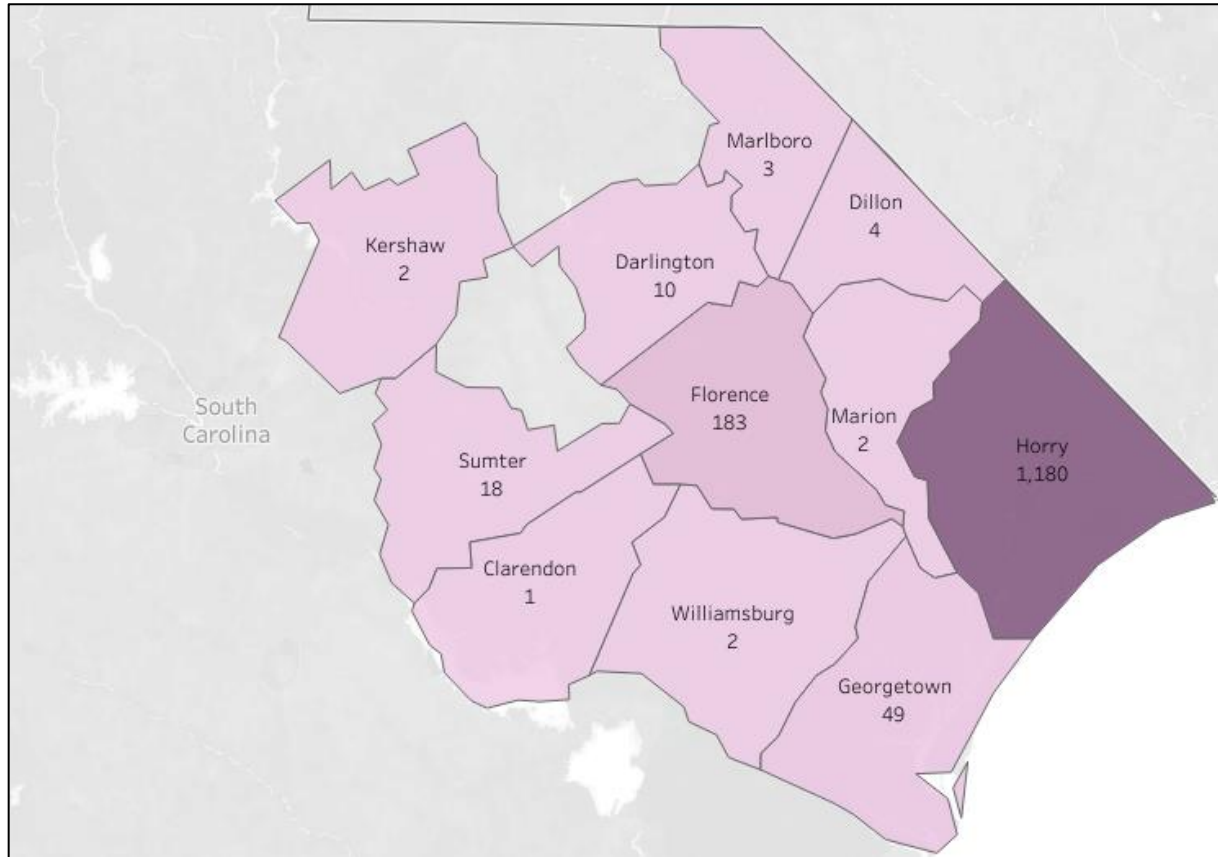
Innovative Collaboration

Opening Doors

Identification of all community members experiencing homelessness is a big challenge. To tackle this large issue over the last year, TCHC has worked to maximize existing resources by collaborating with a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) to create additional Access Points for people experiencing homelessness in five of the Continuum’s 13 counties. TCHC continues to work on formalizing collaborative relationships with the FQHCs within the remaining eight counties.

Utilizing existing healthcare providers as Access Points in the region, especially rural areas, allows for an increase in identification, access, prioritization, and connection to existing resources in these communities. Additionally, this collaborative approach eliminates the need for people in search of these services to tell their story over and over again and lowers the barrier of access caused by limited transportation options.

CES Entries by County



Ending and Preventing Youth Homelessness

TCHC is part of an entrepreneurial effort to build a stronger, more collaborative system for ending and preventing youth homelessness in the community. Horry County was selected by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be one of five communities to participate in the 100-Day Challenges to end and prevent youth homelessness. These challenges are part of a nationwide effort being led by A Way Home America that aims to build movement to end and prevent youth homelessness.

The focus area for TCHC's 100-Day Challenge is on improving housing solutions for youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness by (a) preventing youth exiting systems (e.g., foster care or juvenile justice) from becoming homeless, and (b) fast-tracking housing and support services for youth experiencing homelessness with substance abuse and/or mental health challenges.

100-Day Challenge Goal Statement and Progress

In 100 days, TCHC will stably and sustainably house 50 youth and young adults under 25

(unaccompanied or head of households) in 30 days or less and provide them behavioral health services in 45 days or less. TCHC will also prevent homelessness for 50 young people at risk (RHY definition) by creating housing access plans and/or, if needed, providing behavioral health services in 45 days.

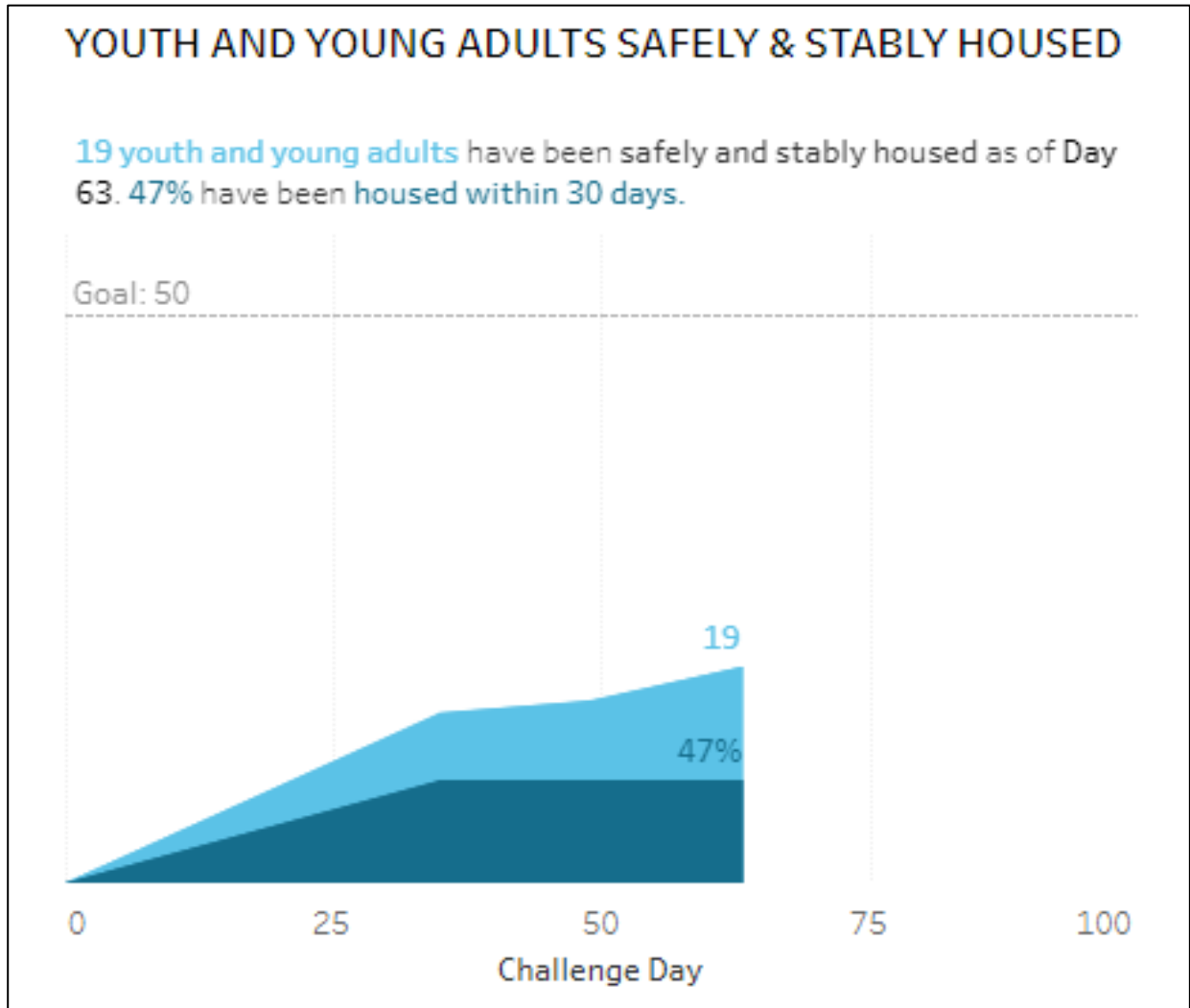


Chart provided by Rapid Results Institute

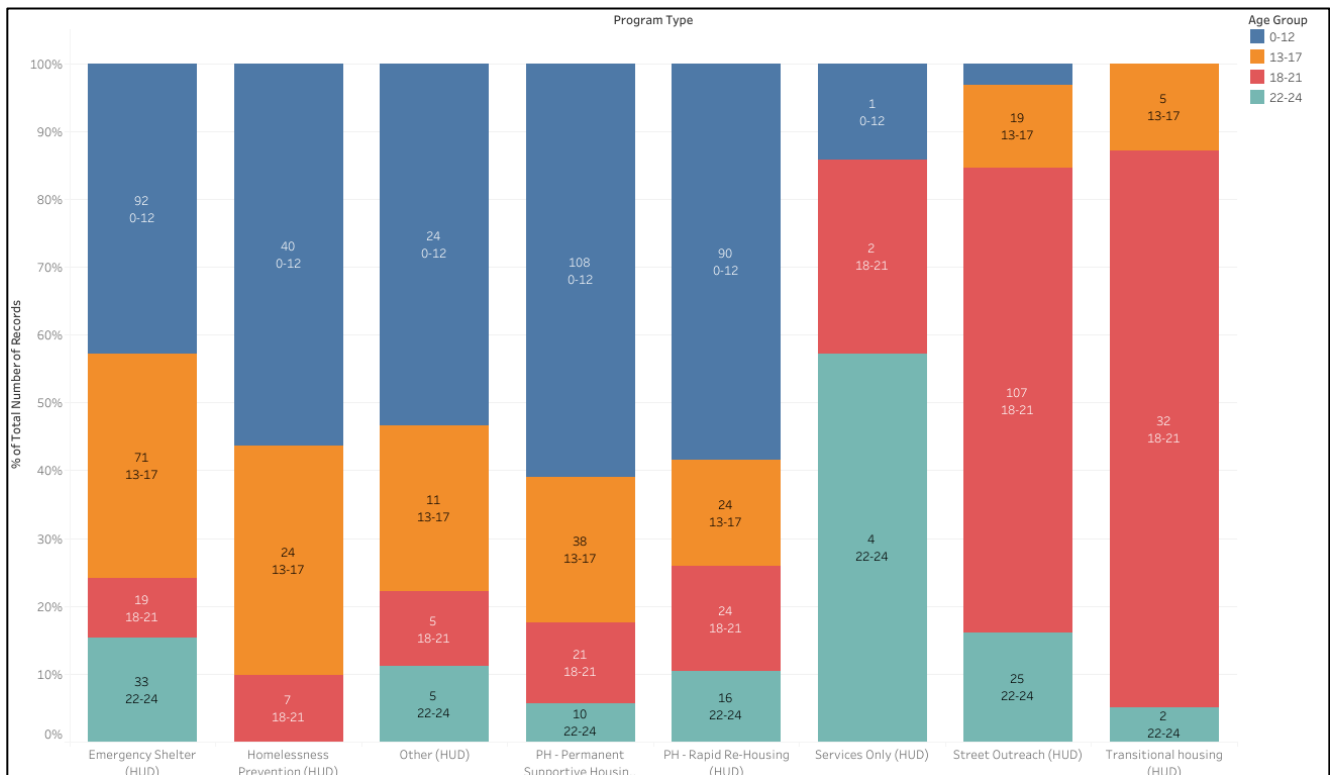
2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

The McKinney Vento data underscore the need for such innovative solutions to this problem:

- TCHC had the third highest count of unstably housed/homeless students (1,906; 15% in state)
- 1,327 were doubled up and 364 were in hotels/motels
- 190 in shelters, transitional housing, and awaiting foster care
- 25 unsheltered
- The majority of the total number of students in TCHC area were in grades 1-5 (828), followed by grades 9-12 (522)

TCHC has also created a Youth Advisory Committee and Youth Action Board to bring providers, community organizations, systems, and consumers together to develop and advance more collaborative solutions to end youth homelessness. Some of the local systems included in this effort include: education, juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, solicitor’s office, and Palmetto Coordinated System of Care.

Youth & Young Adults by Program



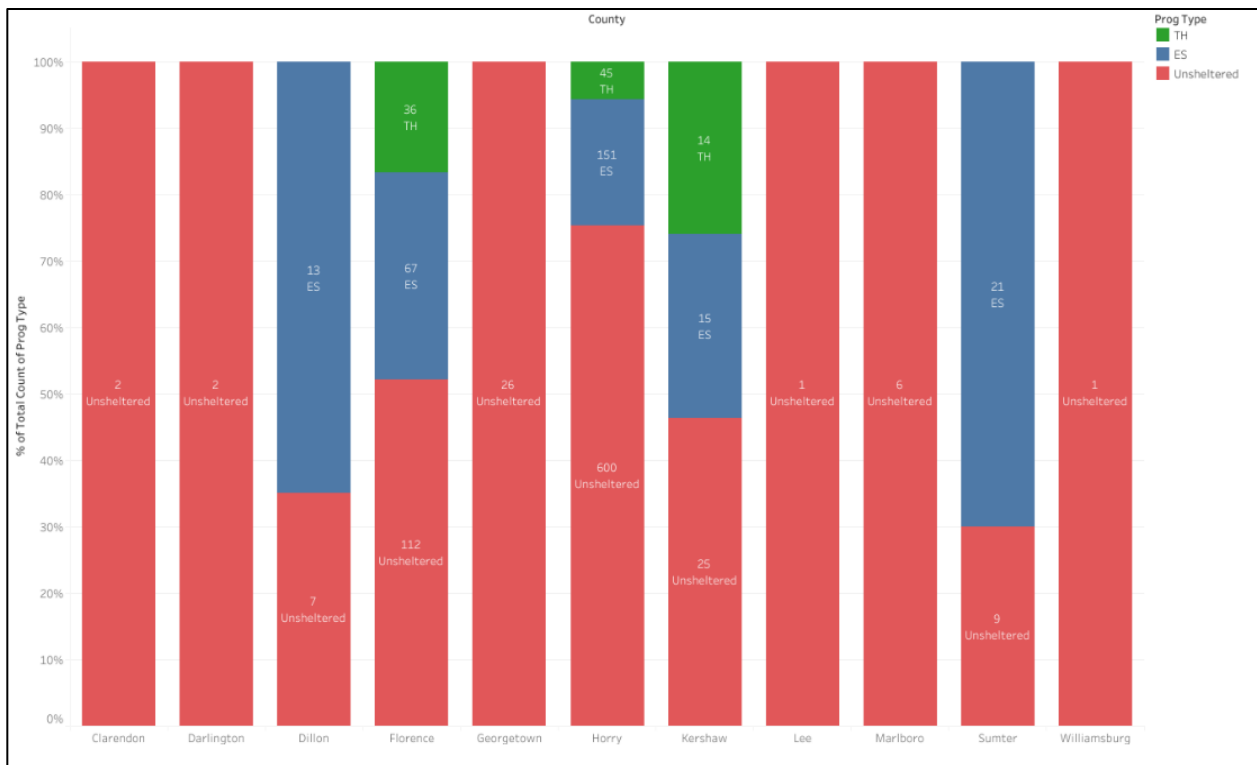
Need for More Low-Barrier Emergency Shelter Beds

Out of all four CoCs, TCHC had the second lowest PIT Count total (1,153), but the highest total number unsheltered (791). Unsheltered persons represent 69% of the area’s total homeless population, which is more than double compared to the average for the rest of the state (33%).

The Housing Inventory Count (one-night snapshot from the same night of the PIT Count) shows a utilization rate of 73% for all the emergency shelter beds in the CoC (minus the 50 beds dedicated for victims of domestic violence). However, the 27% of unoccupied beds coupled with the disproportionately high number of unsheltered persons in the PIT Count, points to a clear need for more emergency shelter beds. Specifically, for low-barrier shelters that allow access to any individual or family without having to split up based on gender or age, provide documentation of family relationships, participate in religious activities, be clean or sober, etc.

The TCHC membership voted to create a new special committee that will research private foundations and grants that can help fund existing emergency shelters to build capacity and provide opportunities for new partners to develop low-barrier shelters in the region. The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) has provided a learning series on Emergency Shelter that aims to educate the public on the methods of an effective shelter program. The special committee will participate and work to incorporate NAEH’s best practices into this project.

Sheltered v. Unsheltered by County



Upstate CoC Narrative

For their narrative, the Upstate CoC decided to present data collected as part of their local Coordinated Entry System (CES). CES data is a useful source of information about who is actively experiencing homelessness in the CoC. This data provides, in some ways, a more inclusive perspective on homelessness because participation in CES is not contingent on being enrolled in an HMIS-affiliated project. The Upstate CoC Narrative will utilize CES data to explore: 1) Participant Demographic and Geographic Disparities, 2) Appropriate Housing Recommendations, and 3) the Length of Time Persons are Experiencing Homeless.

Participant Demographic and Geographic Disparities

In this section, a basic demographic profile of Upstate CoC CES clients is presented. This demographic profile is then compared to annualized information from HMIS (2017 AHAR) and US Census data for the CoC's 13-county region. Demographic and geographic disparities are then identified.

During a twelve-month period (April 2018 to April 2019), 824 unique heads of household who completed the Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Intake and VI-SPDAT assessment (which helps determine the person's vulnerability while experiencing homelessness).

Demographically, the majority of the persons who completed the CES intake were female (56%), Black/African American (52%), and presented themselves as Individuals (63%). This contrasts slightly with annualized data from the 2017 AHAR report, which revealed more parity in the ratio of females to males, a lower percentage of white-only respondents, and a slightly higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino persons.

Both CES and AHAR data was then compared to the Census data for the CoC's 13-county service-area (using the 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates). The biggest discrepancy identified was the severe overrepresentation of Black/African American clients in the homeless service system compared to the overall population (Census = 19% compared to 52% and 56% in the CES and AHAR data respectively). There are clear racial disparities within the Upstate CoC's 13-county region; Black/African Americans make up a much higher percentage of clients engaged with the homeless service system than the broader population.

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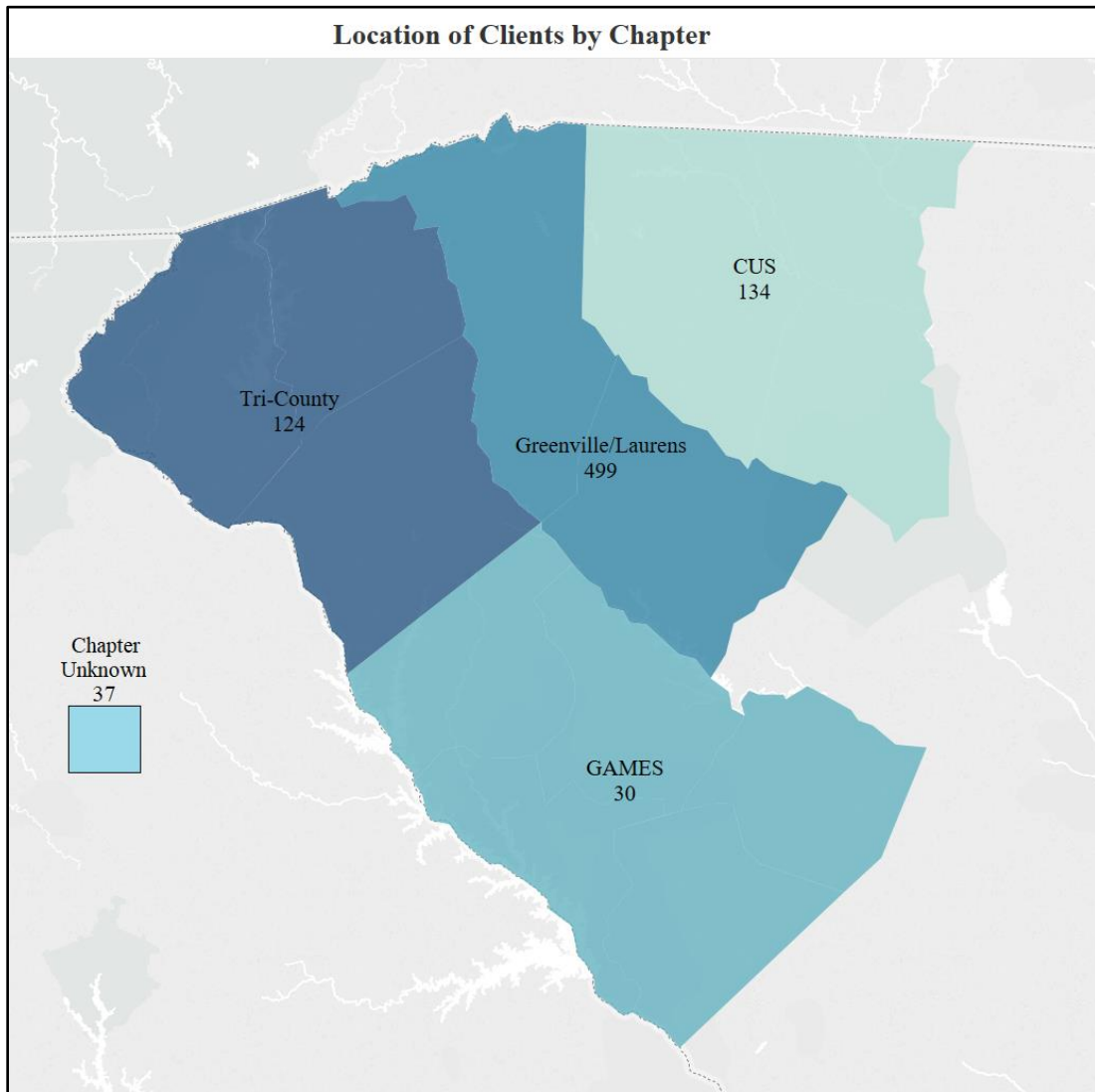
Comparison of CES, AHAR, and Census Data

	Percentage		
	CES Data	AHAR	Census
Gender			
Male	42%	49%	49%
Female	56%	51%	51%
Missing	1%	0%	N/A
Transgender Female	0%	0%	N/A
Client Refused	0%	0%	N/A
Race			
White	43%	35%	76%
Black/African American	52%	56%	19%
Asian	0%	0%	2%
American Indian	2%	0%	0%
Native Hawaiian	0%	0%	0%
Other/Multi-Racial	0%	8%	3%
Missing/Client Refused	3%	0%	0%
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	2%	5%	6%
Non-Hispanic	95%	95%	94%
Missing/other	3%	0%	0%
Veteran Status			
Veteran	11%	5%	7%
Non-Veteran	87%	95%	93%
Missing/Other	2%	N/A	N/A

Sources: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data, Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019
 Upstate CoC 2017 AHAR Report, Date Range: 10/01/2016 to 09/30/2017
 US Census Bureau 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

Geographically, 61% of all CES intakes were completed by clients residing in Greenville and Laurens counties. A much smaller number of intakes were completed in the CUS (Cherokee, Union, Spartanburg), Tri-County (Anderson, Oconee, Pickens), and GAMES (Greenwood Abbeville, McCormick, Edgefield, Saluda) chapters of the Upstate CoC. This presents a different form of inequity as Access Points for the Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System are currently most prevalent in the Greenville-area. Comparatively, there are fewer Access Points in areas in and around Spartanburg, Anderson, and Greenwood and the remaining counties that make up the overall geography of the Upstate CoC – resulting in more limited opportunities for persons to become connected with the CES process.

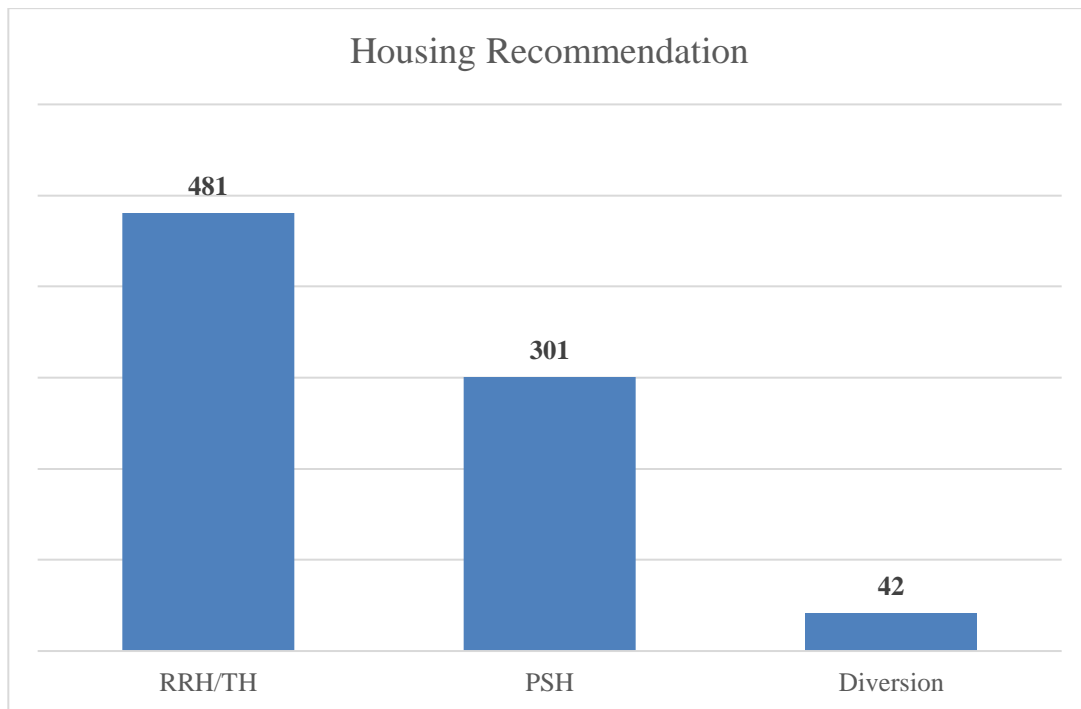




Appropriate Housing Recommendation

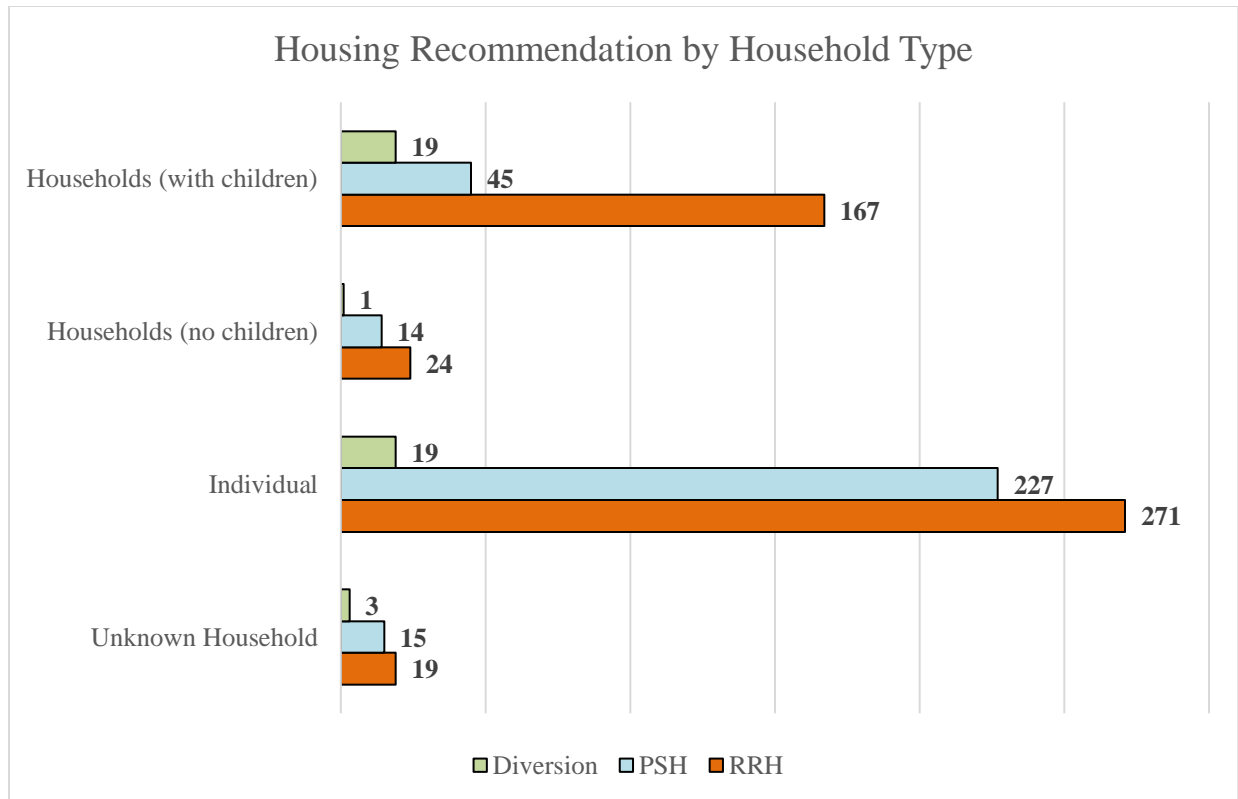
One of the benefits of using the VI-SPDAT assessment tool as part of the CES process is that it provides a baseline for which housing type would best meet the client’s level of need. This section will analyze the types of housing most in demand for clients engaged with the Upstate CoC CES process.

Fifty-eight percent of persons who completed the VI-SPDAT scored for Rapid Rehousing (RRH) assistance or Transitional Housing (TH) placement (based on a score of 4-7 on the VI-SPDAT). Thirty-seven percent scored for Permanent Supportive Housing (8+ on the VI-SPDAT). The remaining five percent scored for Diversion/no housing assistance (<4 on the VI-SPDAT).



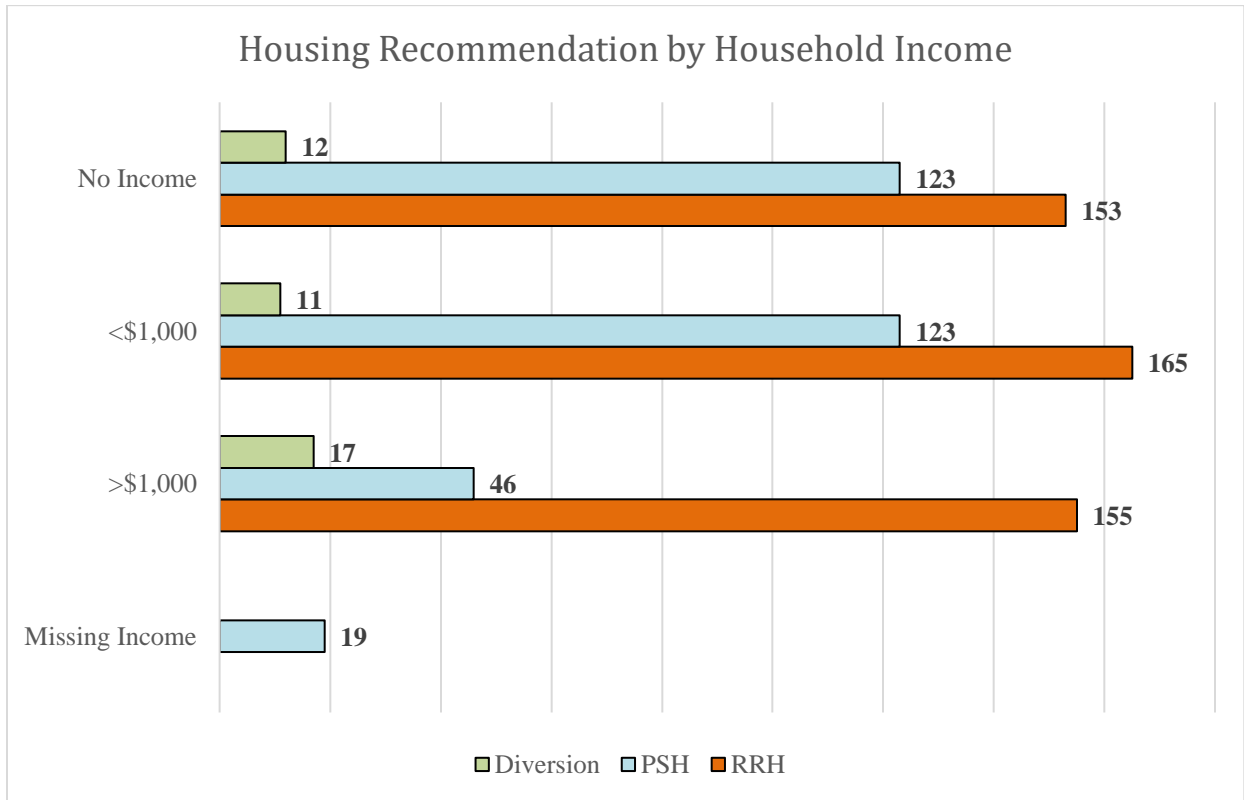
Source: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data
Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019

The recommended housing intervention differed based on household status. For example, a higher proportion of persons who described their household as families with children scored for RRH (72%) compared to clients who identified as individuals (52%). Conversely, those who identified as individuals were much more likely to score for PSH compared to persons in a family with children (44% vs. 19%).



Source: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data
Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019

A final analysis of housing recommendation and income status revealed clients who make >\$1,000 per month, were much more likely to score for RRH (71%) than PSH (21%). On the other hand, clients who make <\$1,000 and those with no income had a higher likelihood to score for PSH support (41% PSH for those <\$1,000 income, and 43% PSH for those reporting no-income).



Source: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data
Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019

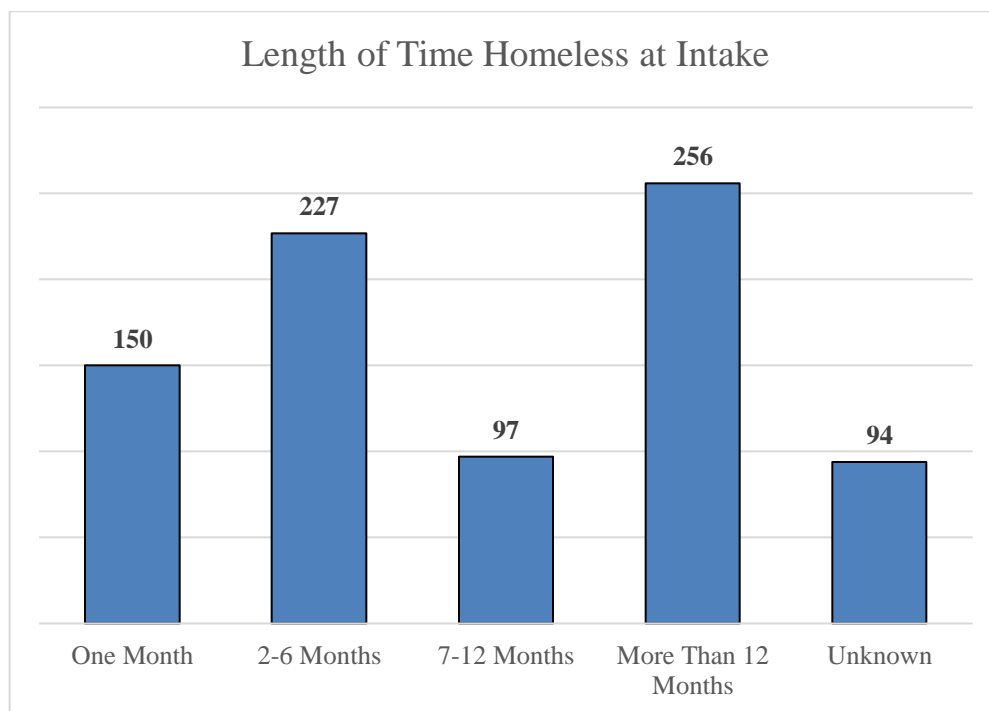
Based on the data, Rapid Rehousing is the housing opportunity most needed in the Upstate CoC. In particular, RRH could be a particularly valued resource for families experiencing homelessness and those who report a moderate amount of income (>\$1,000 per month). Similarly, persons experiencing homelessness alone and those with little or no income are more likely to need longer-term assistance via Permanent Supportive Housing. Increasing the housing stock for Individual PSH units continues to be a prime goal for the Upstate CoC.

Length of Time Persons are Experiencing Homeless.

It is relatively simple to assess how long a person has been experiencing homelessness while enrolled in an HMIS-affiliated project (see the *Performance* section of the statewide report above).

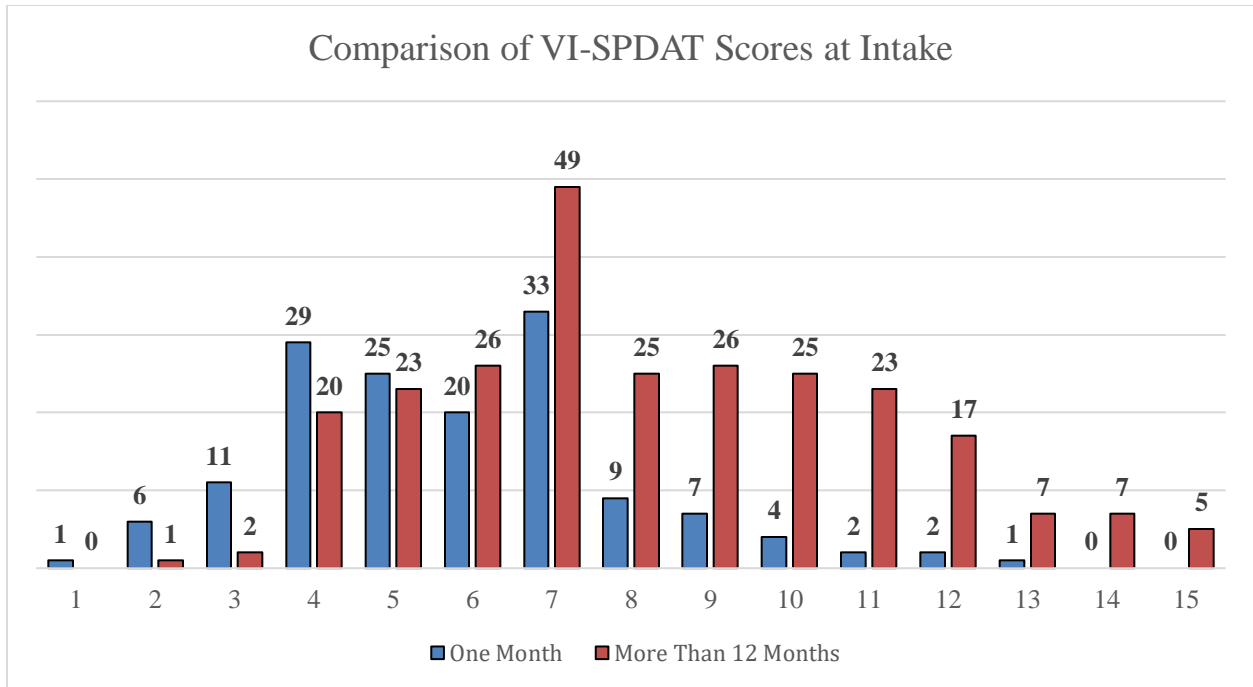
It is more difficult to assess length of time homeless among those experiencing unsheltered homelessness and those not enrolled in HMIS-affiliated housing projects. This section will bridge this gap by examining how long clients on the Upstate CoC CES list have been experiencing homelessness in the past three years at the time of intake. Additional analyses will examine if the length of time a person is experiencing homelessness is related to the severity of their homeless experience.

The largest percentage of clients at their CES Intake (31%) reported experiencing homelessness for “More than 12 months” in the past three years. By contrast, only 18% of clients at Intake reported that they were currently experiencing their first month of homelessness.



Source: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data
Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019

A further analysis revealed persons with longer histories of homelessness at time of intake tended to score higher on the VI-SPDAT assessment than those with shorter histories of homelessness. Fifty-three percent of those reporting more than 12 months of homelessness scored for PSH, versus 17% of those who reported this was their first month of homelessness.



Source: Upstate CoC Coordinated Entry System Data
Date Range: 04/05/2018 to 04/05/2019

As the length of time a person experiences homelessness increases, the more severe their experience of homelessness becomes. The data supports this trend wherein persons who have experienced a longer tenure of homelessness tended to score for more intensive housing supports. Reducing the length of time a person experiences homelessness will likely have downstream effects on reducing many of the hardships that come from residing in a homeless situation for an extended period of time (including physical and emotional trauma, degradation in quality of life, negative interactions with the criminal justice system, and visits to emergency departments).

Continuum of Care Compendium

This compendium provides a breakdown, by CoC, of all the data presented in the Statewide sections of the report. This section will be of particular use to readers interested in a specific CoC, rather than the aggregated Statewide statistics.

This Compendium includes data covering each CoC’s *Population, Capacity, and Performance*. The same data sources used in the Statewide section are utilized here. These include: the 2017 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), 2019 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, 2019 Housing Inventory Count (HIC), and 2017 System Performance Measures (SPM).

The counties included in each CoC are listed in the table below:

Lowcountry Continuum of Care	Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH)	Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC)	Upstate Continuum of Care
Beaufort	Aiken	Chesterfield	Abbeville
Berkeley	Allendale	Clarendon	Anderson
Charleston	Bamberg	Darlington	Cherokee
Colleton	Barnwell	Dillon	Edgefield
Dorchester	Calhoun	Florence	Greenville
Hampton	Chester	Georgetown	Greenwood
Jasper	Fairfield	Horry	Laurens
	Lancaster	Kershaw	McCormick
	Lexington	Lee	Oconee
	Newberry	Marion	Pickens
	Orangeburg	Marlboro	Saluda
	Richland	Sumter	Spartanburg
	York	Williamsburg	Union

Lowcountry Continuum of Care

Annual Homelessness Assessment Report

Key Demographics*	Count	Percent
Total Number of Persons	1632	N/A
Age		
Under 1	24	1%
1 to 5	77	5%
6 to 12	67	4%
13 to 17	22	1%
18 to 24	87	5%
25 to 30	137	8%
31 to 50	558	34%
51 to 61	487	30%
62 or older	160	10%
Missing Information	13	1%
Gender		
Female	483	30%
Male	1145	70%
Trans M-F	0	0%
Trans F-M	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Missing Information	4	<1%
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic	1536	94%
Hispanic	64	4%
Missing Information	32	2%
Race		
White, Non-Hispanic	552	34%
White, Hispanic	38	2%
Black or African American	918	56%
Asian	4	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	<1%
Native Hawaiian	4	<1%
Multiple Races	98	6%
Missing Information	12	1%
Veteran Status (Adults Only)		
A Veteran	549	38%
Not a Veteran	861	60%
Missing Information	25	2%

*Due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



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Additional Demographics	Count	Percent
Persons by Household Size		
1 Person	1287	79%
2 persons	108	7%
3 Persons	114	7%
4 Persons	71	4%
5 or more persons	52	3%
Missing Information	0	0%
Persons by Household Type		
Individual adult male	996	61%
Individual adult female	276	17%
Adults in family, with child(ren)	130	8%
Children in families, with adults	182	11%
Households with only adults	27	2%
Households with only children	3	<1%
Unaccompanied child	9	1%
Missing Information	9	1%
How Many Persons in Families are Disabled (Adults Only)		
Yes, disabled	862	60%
Not disabled	556	39%
Missing information	17	1%



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Point-in-Time Count

Key Demographics*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Households	242	(67%)	119	(33%)	361	N/A
Total Number of Persons	275	(68%)	128	(32%)	403	N/A
Gender						
Female	84	(21%)	31	(8%)	115	(29%)
Male	191	(47%)	96	(24%)	287	(71%)
Transgender	0	(0%)	1	(<1%)	1	(<1%)
Gender Non-Conforming	0	(0%)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
Race						
White	80	(20%)	44	(11%)	124	(31%)
Black/African American	174	(43%)	72	(18%)	246	(61%)
Asian	1	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	2	(<1%)
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	3	(1%)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	3	(1%)
Multiple Races	16	(4%)	9	(2%)	25	(6%)
Ethnicity						
Not Hispanic/Latino	257	(64%)	123	(31%)	380	(94%)
Hispanic/Latino	18	(4%)	5	(1%)	23	(6%)
Age						
Under 18	31	(8%)	0	(0%)	31	(8%)
18 – 24	6	(1%)	6	(1%)	12	(3%)
Over 24	238	(59%)	122	(30%)	360	(89%)
Chronically Homeless						
Total Number of Persons	39	(10%)	47	(12%)	86	(21%)

*Percent is computed as Percent of the Total Population. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Household Type	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	52	(13%)	0	(0%)	52	(13%)
Persons in Households without Children	223	(55%)	128	(32%)	351	(87%)
Persons in Households with only children	0	(0%)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless	39	47	86
Veterans	84	16	100
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	6	6	12
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	29	29	58
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	15	15	30
Adults with HIV/AIDS	4	4	8



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Housing Inventory Count

Project Type	Total Beds on 2019 HIC	Total DV Beds	Total HMIS Bed	HMIS Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter	234	60	153	87.93%
Safe Haven	5	0	5	100.00%
Transitional Housing	97	0	97	100.00%
Rapid Rehousing	46	0	46	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing	398	0	93	23.37%
Other Permanent Housing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	780	60	394	54.72%

Project Type	Beds Available for Persons in...			Total Beds
	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	
Emergency Shelter	132	102	0	234
Transitional Housing	87	10	0	97
Safe Haven	5	0	0	5
Rapid Rehousing	19	27	0	46
Permanent Supportive Housing	398	0	0	398
Other Permanent Housing	0	0	0	0
Total Beds	641	139	0	780
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	82%	18%	0%	N/A

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in 2019 HIC	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
Emergency Shelter	254	234	-7.9%
Safe Haven	5	5	0.0%
Transitional Housing	91	97	6.6%
Total	350	336	-4.0%



System Performance Measures

Metric 5: First Time Homeless

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	1184	1295	111
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	210	234	24
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	974	1061	87

Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period	1356	1501	145
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	261	287	26
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	1095	1214	119

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless	Average LoT		Difference
	2016	2017	
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	62	50	-12
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	77	67	-10

Metric 7: Exits to Permanent Housing

Metric 7a. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	523	64	-459
Of the persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	59	6	-53
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	108	57	-51
% Successful exits	32%	98%	66%

Metric 7b. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	1223	1241	18
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	520	518	-2
% Successful exits	43%	42%	-1%

Metric 7b. 2 - Change in exits or retention of permanent housing	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in al PH projects except PH-RRH	156	135	-21
Of the persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	154	133	-21
% Successful exits/retention	99%	99%	0%

2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness	Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing		Returns to Homelessne ss in Less than 6 Months	Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 months		Number of Returns in 2 Years	
	FY 2017	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns
Exit was from SO	26	2	8%	2	8%	0	0%	4	15%
Exit was from ES	246	15	6%	12	5%	10	4%	37	15%
Exit was from TH	239	34	14%	15	6%	19	8%	68	28%
Exit was from SH	0	0		0		0		0	
Exit was from PH	182	5	3%	5	3%	5	3%	15	8%
TOTAL Returns to Homelessness	693	56	8%	34	5%	34	5%	124	18%



Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH)

Annual Homelessness Assessment Report

Key Demographics*	Count	Percent
Total Number of Persons	5000	N/A
Age		
Under 1	59	1%
1 to 5	217	4%
6 to 12	234	5%
13 to 17	110	2%
18 to 24	354	7%
25 to 30	475	10%
31 to 50	1696	34%
51 to 61	1440	29%
62 or older	384	8%
Missing Information	31	1%
Gender		
Female	1773	35%
Male	3211	64%
Trans M-F	6	<1%
Trans F-M	4	<1%
Other	0	0%
Missing Information	6	<1%
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic	4844	97%
Hispanic	99	2%
Missing Information	57	1%
Race		
White, Non-Hispanic	1385	28%
White, Hispanic	50	1%
Black or African American	3271	65%
Asian	8	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	21	<1%
Native Hawaiian	18	<1%
Multiple Races	209	4%
Missing Information	38	1%
Veteran Status (Adults Only)		
A Veteran	1042	24%
Not a Veteran	3272	75%
Missing Information	61	1%

*Due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Additional Demographics	Count	Percent
Persons by Household Size		
1 Person	3945	79%
2 persons	289	6%
3 Persons	313	6%
4 Persons	262	5%
5 or more persons	191	4%
Missing Information	0	0%
Persons by Household Type		
Individual adult male	2818	56%
Individual adult female	1086	22%
Adults in family, with child(ren)	386	8%
Children in families, with adults	607	12%
Households with only adults	58	1%
Households with only children	0	0%
Unaccompanied child	14	<1%
Missing Information	31	1%
How Many Persons in Families are Disabled (Adults Only)		
Yes, disabled	2315	53%
Not disabled	1888	43%
Missing information	172	4%



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Point-in-Time Count

Key Demographics*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Households	776	(75%)	265	(25%)	1,041	N/A
Total Number of Persons	923	(76%)	292	(24%)	1,215	N/A
Gender						
Female	328	(27%)	88	(7%)	416	(34%)
Male	595	(49%)	201	(17%)	796	(66%)
Transgender	0	(0%)	1	(<1%)	1	(<1%)
Gender Non-Conforming	0	(0%)	2	(<1%)	2	(<1%)
Race						
White	256	(21%)	100	(8%)	356	(29%)
Black/African American	637	(52%)	178	(15%)	815	(67%)
Asian	4	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	5	(<1%)
American Indian/Alaska Native	7	(1%)	5	(<1%)	12	(1%)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	2	(<1%)
Multiple Races	18	(1%)	7	(1%)	25	(2%)
Ethnicity						
Not Hispanic/Latino	901	(74%)	284	(23%)	1,185	(98%)
Hispanic/Latino	22	(2%)	8	(1%)	30	(2%)
Age						
Under 18	135	(11%)	7	(1%)	142	(12%)
18 – 24	68	(6%)	27	(2%)	95	(8%)
Over 24	720	(59%)	258	(21%)	978	(80%)
Chronically Homeless						
Total Number of Persons	150	(12%)	127	(10%)	277	(23%)

*Percent is computed as Percent of the Total Population. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Household Type	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	218	(18%)	17	(1%)	235	(19%)
Persons in Households without Children	703	(58%)	275	(23%)	978	(80%)
Persons in Households with only children	2	(<1%)	0	(0%)	2	(<1%)

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless	150	127	277
Veterans	158	30	188
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	19	7	26
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	112	58	170
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	88	47	135
Adults with HIV/AIDS	22	11	33



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Housing Inventory Count

Project Type	Total Beds on 2019 HIC	Total DV Beds	Total HMIS Bed	HMIS Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter	640	98	486	89.67%
Safe Haven	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transitional Housing	419	13	322	79.31%
Rapid Rehousing	203	0	203	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing	907	64	843	100.00%
Other Permanent Housing	152	0	152	100.00%
Total	2321	175	2006	93.48%

Project Type	Beds Available for Persons in...			Total Beds
	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	
Emergency Shelter	486	154	0	640
Transitional Housing	262	157	0	419
Safe Haven	0	0	0	0
Rapid Rehousing	95	108	0	203
Permanent Supportive Housing	609	298	0	907
Other Permanent Housing	61	63	28	152
Total Beds	1513	780	28	2321
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	65%	34%	1%	N/A

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in 2019 HIC	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
Emergency Shelter	663	640	-3.5%
Safe Haven	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transitional Housing	472	419	-11.2%
Total	1135	1059	-6.7%



System Performance Measures

Metric 5: First Time Homeless

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	3227	3843	616
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	900	1073	173
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	2327	2770	443
<hr/>			
Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period	3592	4335	743
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	1059	1236	177
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	2533	3099	566

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless	Average		Difference
	2016	2017	
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	62	58	-4
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	100	82	-18

Metric 7: Exits to Permanent Housing

Metric 7a. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	652	304	-348
Of the persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	43	58	15
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	15	25	10
% Successful exits	9%	27%	18%

Metric 7b. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	2673	3693	1020
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	1210	1255	45
% Successful exits	45%	34%	-11%

Metric 7b. 2 - Change in exits or retention of permanent housing	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	890	878	-12
Of the persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	827	843	16
% Successful exits/retention	93%	96%	3%

2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness	Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing	Returns to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 months		Number of Returns in 2 Years	
		FY 2017	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017
Project Exit									
Exit was from SO	36	8	22%	4	11%	1	3%	13	36%
Exit was from ES	439	70	16%	37	8%	29	7%	136	31%
Exit was from TH	499	57	11%	25	5%	22	4%	104	21%
Exit was from SH	0	0		0		0		0	
Exit was from PH	363	24	7%	17	5%	13	4%	54	15%
TOTAL									
Returns to Homelessness	1337	159	12%	83	6%	65	5%	307	23%



Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC)

Annual Homelessness Assessment Report

Key Demographics*	Count	Percent
Total Number of Persons	3039	N/A
Age		
Under 1	32	1%
1 to 5	138	5%
6 to 12	155	5%
13 to 17	132	4%
18 to 24	243	8%
25 to 30	369	12%
31 to 50	1112	37%
51 to 61	631	21%
62 or older	210	7%
Missing Information	17	1%
Gender		
Female	1051	35%
Male	1980	65%
Trans M-F	2	<1%
Trans F-M	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Missing Information	6	<1%
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic	2938	97%
Hispanic	95	3%
Missing Information	6	<1%
Race		
White, Non-Hispanic	1448	48%
White, Hispanic	56	2%
Black or African American	1195	39%
Asian	10	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	22	1%
Native Hawaiian	4	<1%
Multiple Races	254	8%
Missing Information	50	2%
Veteran Status (Adults Only)		
A Veteran	471	18%
Not a Veteran	2099	82%
Missing Information	10	<1%

*Due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.

2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Additional Demographics	Count	Percent
Persons by Household Size		
1 Person	2287	75%
2 persons	203	7%
3 Persons	201	7%
4 Persons	166	5%
5 or more persons	182	6%
Missing Information	0	0%
Persons by Household Type		
Individual adult male	1654	54%
Individual adult female	562	18%
Adults in family, with child(ren)	265	9%
Children in families, with adults	401	13%
Households with only adults	82	3%
Households with only children	2	<1%
Unaccompanied child	54	2%
Missing Information	19	1%
How Many Persons in Families are Disabled (Adults Only)		
Yes, disabled	1029	40%
Not disabled	1472	57%
Missing information	79	3%



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Point-in-Time Count

Key Demographics*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Households	300	(33%)	616	(67%)	916	N/A
Total Number of Persons	362	(31%)	791	(69%)	1,153	N/A
Gender						
Female	138	(12%)	339	(29%)	477	(41%)
Male	224	(19%)	452	(39%)	676	(59%)
Transgender	0	(0%)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
Gender Non-Conforming	0	(0%)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
Race						
White	167	(14%)	435	(38%)	602	(52%)
Black/African American	165	(14%)	321	(28%)	486	(42%)
Asian	2	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	3	(0%)
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	(<1%)	8	(1%)	10	(1%)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	(0%)	2	(<1%)	2	(<1%)
Multiple Races	26	(2%)	24	(2%)	50	(4%)
Ethnicity						
Not Hispanic/Latino	358	(31%)	773	(67%)	1,131	(98%)
Hispanic/Latino	4	(0%)	18	(2%)	22	(2%)
Age						
Under 18	58	(5%)	97	(8%)	155	(13%)
18 – 24	47	(4%)	35	(3%)	82	(7%)
Over 24	257	(22%)	659	(57%)	916	(79%)
Chronically Homeless						
Total Number of Persons	31	(3%)	227	(20%)	258	(22%)

*Percent is computed as Percent of the Total Population. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Household Type	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	84	(7%)	168	(15%)	252	(22%)
Persons in Households without Children	274	(24%)	622	(54%)	896	(78%)
Persons in Households with only children	4	(<1%)	1	(<1%)	5	(<1%)

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless	31	227	258
Veterans	29	35	64
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	16	10	26
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	50	138	188
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	15	77	92
Adults with HIV/AIDS	1	5	6



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Housing Inventory Count

Project Type	Total Beds on 2019 HIC	Total DV Beds	Total HMIS Bed	HMIS Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter	423	50	343	91.96%
Safe Haven	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transitional Housing	115	14	95	94.06%
Rapid Rehousing	99	0	99	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing	418	0	418	100.00%
Other Permanent Housing	132	0	132	100.00%
Total	1187	64	1087	96.79%

Project Type	Beds Available for Persons in...			Total Beds
	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	
Emergency Shelter	252	163	8	423
Transitional Housing	69	20	26	115
Safe Haven	0	0	0	0
Rapid Rehousing	51	48	0	99
Permanent Supportive Housing	199	219	0	418
Other Permanent Housing	92	40	0	132
Total Beds	663	490	34	1187
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	56%	41%	3%	N/A

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in 2019 HIC	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
Emergency Shelter	381	423	11.0%
Safe Haven	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transitional Housing	88	115	30.7%
Total	469	538	14.7%



System Performance Measures

Metric 5: First Time Homeless

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	1693	1925	232
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	254	390	136
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	1439	1535	96
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Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period	2520	2545	25
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	403	533	130
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	2117	2012	-105

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless	Weighted Average		Difference
	2016	2017	
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	51	55	4
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	80	74	-6

Metric 7: Exits to Permanent Housing

Metric 7a. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	51	101	50
Of the persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	9	24	15
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	19	29	10
% Successful exits	55%	52%	-3%

Metric 7b. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	1904	2134	230
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	889	942	53
% Successful exits	47%	44%	-3%

Metric 7b. 2 - Change in exits or retention of permanent housing	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	1019	980	-39
Of the persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	955	896	-59
% Successful exits/retention	94%	91%	-3%

2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness	Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing	Returns to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 months		Number of Returns in 2 Years	
		FY 2017	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017
Project Exit									
Exit was from SO	3	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	1	33%
Exit was from ES	149	12	8%	10	7%	8	5%	30	20%
Exit was from TH	50	1	2%	3	6%	4	8%	8	16%
Exit was from SH	0	0		0		0		0	
Exit was from PH	830	54	7%	25	3%	18	2%	97	12%
TOTAL									
Returns to Homelessness	1032	67	6%	38	4%	31	3%	136	13%



Upstate Continuum of Care

Annual Homelessness Assessment Report

Key Demographics*	Count	Percent
Total Number of Persons	1667	N/A
Age		
Under 1	37	2%
1 to 5	212	13%
6 to 12	285	17%
13 to 17	136	8%
18 to 24	110	7%
25 to 30	154	9%
31 to 50	473	28%
51 to 61	200	12%
62 or older	60	4%
Missing Information	0	0%
Gender		
Female	855	51%
Male	809	49%
Trans M-F	3	<1%
Trans F-M	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Missing Information	0	0%
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic	1591	95%
Hispanic	76	5%
Missing Information	0	0%
Race		
White, Non-Hispanic	533	32%
White, Hispanic	54	3%
Black or African American	932	56%
Asian	4	<1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	<1%
Native Hawaiian	3	<1%
Multiple Races	139	8%
Missing Information	0	0%
Veteran Status (Adults Only)		
A Veteran	90	9%
Not a Veteran	907	91%
Missing Information	0	0%

*Due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Additional Demographics	Count	Percent
Persons by Household Size		
1 Person	609	37%
2 persons	253	15%
3 Persons	252	15%
4 Persons	252	15%
5 or more persons	301	18%
Missing Information	0	0%
Persons by Household Type		
Individual adult male	425	25%
Individual adult female	183	11%
Adults in family, with child(ren)	379	23%
Children in families, with adults	669	40%
Households with only adults	10	1%
Households with only children	0	0%
Unaccompanied child	1	<1%
Missing Information	0	0%
How Many Persons in Families are Disabled (Adults Only)		
Yes, disabled	423	42%
Not disabled	574	58%
Missing information	0	0%



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Point-in-Time Count

Key Demographics*	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Total Number of Households	738	(63%)	425	(37%)	1,163	N/A
Total Number of Persons	895	(64%)	506	(36%)	1,401	N/A
Gender						
Female	328	(23%)	184	(13%)	512	(37%)
Male	566	(40%)	322	(23%)	888	(63%)
Transgender	0	(0%)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
Gender Non-Conforming	1	(<1%)	0	(0%)	1	(<1%)
Race						
White	451	(32%)	260	(19%)	711	(51%)
Black/African American	400	(29%)	213	(15%)	613	(44%)
Asian	1	(<1%)	3	(<1%)	4	(0%)
American Indian/Alaska Native	4	(<1%)	7	(<1%)	11	(1%)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	(0%)	3	(<1%)	3	(<1%)
Multiple Races	39	(93%)	20	(1%)	59	(4%)
Ethnicity						
Not Hispanic/Latino	865	(62%)	491	(35%)	1,356	(97%)
Hispanic/Latino	30	(2%)	15	(1%)	45	(3%)
Age						
Under 18	142	(10%)	50	(4%)	192	(14%)
18 – 24	46	(3%)	28	(2%)	74	(5%)
Over 24	707	(50%)	428	(31%)	1,135	(81%)
Chronically Homeless						
Total Number of Persons	132	(9%)	189	(13%)	321	(23%)

*Percent is computed as Percent of the Total Population. Also, due to rounding, the total percentages may not equal 100%.



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Household Type	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	
	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)	Count	(Percent)
Persons in households with at least one adult and one child	226	(16%)	89	(6%)	315	(22%)
Persons in Households without Children	668	(48%)	417	(30%)	1085	(77%)
Persons in Households with only children	1	(<1%)	0	(0%)	1	(<1%)

Population	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
Chronically Homeless	132	189	321
Veterans	72	38	110
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	64	15	79
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	83	86	169
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	206	65	271
Adults with HIV/AIDS	8	4	12



2019 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report

Housing Inventory Count

Project Type	Total Beds on 2019 HIC	Total DV Beds	Total HMIS Bed	HMIS Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter	912	158	286	37.93%
Safe Haven	12	0	12	100.00%
Transitional Housing	214	41	43	24.86%
Rapid Rehousing	120	0	120	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing	348	0	348	100.00%
Other Permanent Housing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	1606	199	809	57.50%

Project Type	Beds Available for Persons in...			Total Beds
	Households without Children	Households with Children	Households with Only Children	
Emergency Shelter	444	468	0	912
Transitional Housing	106	106	2	214
Safe Haven	12	0	0	12
Rapid Rehousing	50	70	0	120
Permanent Supportive Housing	302	46	0	348
Other Permanent Housing	0	0	0	0
Total Beds	914	690	2	1606
Percent of Beds Available for Each Household Type	57%	43%	<1%	N/A

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in 2019 HIC	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
Emergency Shelter	848	912	7.5%
Safe Haven	12	12	<1.0%
Transitional Housing	187	214	14.4%
Total	1047	1138	8.7%



System Performance Measures

Metric 5: First Time Homeless

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	1247	1130	-117
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	178	154	-24
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	1069	976	-93

Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period	1575	1501	-74
Of the persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH, or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year	258	229	-29
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH, or PH in the previous 24 months	1317	1272	-45

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Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless

Metric 1: Length of Time Homeless	Weighted Average		Difference
	2016	2017	
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	103	103	0
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	173	152	-21

Metric 7: Exits to Permanent Housing

Metric 7a. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	172	136	-36
Of the persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	17	38	21
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	8	11	3
% Successful exits	15%	36%	21%

Metric 7b. 1 - Change in exits to permanent housing destinations	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	1591	1485	-106
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	928	787	-141
% Successful exits	58%	53%	-5%

Metric 7b. 2 - Change in exits or retention of permanent housing	2016	2017	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	244	207	-37
Of the persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	237	197	-40
% Successful exits/retention	97%	95%	-2%



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Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness

Metric 2: Returns to Homelessness	Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing	Returns to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 months		Number of Returns in 2 Years	
		FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns	FY 2017	% of Returns
Project Exit									
Exit was from SO	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Exit was from ES	334	24	7%	20	6%	25	7%	69	21%
Exit was from TH	265	3	1%	0	0%	15	6%	18	7%
Exit was from SH	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Exit was from PH	304	3	1%	3	1%	7	2%	13	4%
TOTAL Returns to Homelessness	905	30	3%	23	3%	47	5%	100	11%

Glossary of Terms

Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). Annual report prepared by Continuums of Care and submitted to HUD. The report includes information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless persons. The individual AHAR submissions from all Continuums of Care are then compiled into a single report to Congress (also called the AHAR) which provides an in-depth look at the state of homelessness in the country.

Continuum of Care (CoC). A collaborative funding and planning approach that helps communities plan for and provide, as necessary, a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons. HUD also refers to the group of community stakeholders involved in the decision making processes as the “Continuum of Care.” Each CoC has a governing body and a lead agency (see below).

Continuum of Care Governing Body. The elected or selected body responsible for leading the policy, strategy, and governance of the Continuum of Care.

Continuum of Care Lead Agency. Agency or organization designated by the CoC primary decision making body to be the entity that submits the CoC application. The CoC lead agency is responsible for the coordination and oversight of the CoC planning efforts and has the authority to certify and submit the CoC homeless assistance funding application.

Doubled Up. Persons living in shared housing with other persons due to economic hardship, loss of housing or other reasons.

Emergency Shelter (ES). Any facility in which the primary purpose is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy agreements.

HMIS Coverage Rate. HMIS bed coverage is calculated by dividing the total number of year-round beds located in HMIS-participating programs by the total number of year-round beds in the Continuum of Care (CoC), after excluding beds in domestic violence (DV) programs and inventory under development.

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). An HMIS is a computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics of service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality. It is designed to aggregate client-level data to generate an unduplicated count

of clients served within a community's system of homeless services. An HMIS may also cover a statewide or regional area and include several CoCs. HMIS can provide data on client characteristics and service utilization. HUD will allow only one applicant for HMIS dedicated grants within a CoC.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC). Annual inventory of a CoC's emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe havens, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing resources for persons who are homeless in a CoC. The HIC includes both HUD and non-HUD funded shelter and housing resources.

Lowcountry Continuum of Care (LCoC). The Lowcountry Continuum of Care plans, develops and implements comprehensive and coordinated strategies to address homelessness in Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton and Jasper Counties in South Carolina.

McKinney-Vento Act. Federal legislation passed in 1987 that established a variety of programs designed to assist persons experiencing homelessness. For the purpose of this report, the McKinney-Vento Act is most notable in the protections it provides to school-aged children experiencing homelessness. The US Department of Education, through the McKinney-Vento Act, has a broader definition of homelessness than the definition used by HUD whose definition of homelessness was amended by the Hearth Act to generally not include persons who are "Doubled Up" and paying for stays in "Hotels/Motels". To reference these differing definitions, refer to the following resource: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ecd/homelessness_definition.pdf

Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless (MACH). The Midlands Area Consortium for the Homeless was formed in the early 1990s as a grassroots organization to advocate for funding to address homelessness. Through collaboration, MACH has grown to include over 50 partner members throughout 13 counties in the Midlands of South Carolina. For more than 20 years, MACH has been helping individuals obtain stable housing and employment and education necessary to become self-sufficient.

Other Permanent Housing (OPH). Permanent housing that is designated for homeless people that provides housing and services or housing only but is not categorized as another project type such as Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Long-term housing to homeless individuals with disabilities and families in which the head of household has a disability and supportive services are designed to meet the needs of the program participants.

Point-in-Time (PIT) count. One night count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons; reported by CoCs into the Homeless Data Exchange (HDX). CoCs can choose to conduct these

counts each year, but they are only required to conduct them every other year during the last week in January. HUD requires each CoC to conduct a sheltered count every year and an unsheltered count every other year (years ending in an odd number).

Pupils in Poverty (PIP). Metric developed by the South Carolina Department of Education to identify students facing characteristics of poverty and associated vulnerability. The metrics which determine if a student is a pupil in poverty are if they: 1) were served through Medicaid within the last 3 years; 2) were served by the Department of Social Services (SNAP, TANF and Foster) within the last 3 years; and 3) have information from PowerSchool data relating to current year Homeless, Foster, and Migrant status.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH). Short or medium-term assistance (up to 24 months) where the lease for the unit must be between the landlord and the program participant. The program participant must be able to select the unit they lease and the provider impose a restriction on how long the person may lease the unit, though the provider can impose a maximum length of time that grant funds will be used to assist the program participant in the unit. In short, rapid rehousing is an intervention designed to help individuals and families that don't need intensive and ongoing supports to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing

Safe Haven (SH). A type of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who come primarily from the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in other housing and supportive services.

Sheltered Homelessness. Adults, children, and unaccompanied children who are living in shelters for the homeless. These include emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing.

South Carolina Interagency Council on Homelessness (SCICH). The SCICH is a 501(c)(3) organization with a board of directors comprised of CoC representatives, state agencies, individuals with lived experiences, and other service providers and advocates committed to ending homelessness in South Carolina.

Staying in Hotels/Motels. Under the HUD definition of homelessness, persons who are not paying for a temporary stay in hotels and motels are considered homeless. If persons are paying for that hotel/motel stay from their own resources, they are not considered homeless. Under the McKinney-Vento definition, persons are considered homeless if they are predominantly staying in a hotel/motel regardless of if they are paying for it or not.

Street Outreach (SO). Homeless assistance projects designed to provide essential services necessary to reach out to persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Some of the services

includes actively engaging individuals experiencing homelessness with the goal of connecting them to services and housing.

System Performance Measures (SPM). Seven metrics developed by HUD to assess how a homeless response system is functioning. Data on these measures are submitted annually to HUD as part of the System Performance Report.

Total Care for the Homeless Coalition (TCHC). Representing 13 counties in eastern South Carolina, TCHC works to break the cycle of homelessness experienced by individuals and families.

Transitional Housing (TH). A project that has as its purpose facilitating the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually up to 24 months). Transitional housing includes housing primarily designed to serve deinstitutionalized homeless individuals and other homeless individuals with mental or physical disabilities and homeless families with children.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, that improve and develop the Nation's communities, and enforce fair housing laws. Among the broad scope of their mandate, HUD also is the primary federal funder for homeless assistance program via the Continuum of Care Program Competition and Emergency Solutions Grants funding streams.

Unsheltered Homelessness. Adults, children, and unaccompanied children who are living in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, parks, abandoned buildings, or vehicles.

Upstate Continuum of Care (UCoC). The Upstate CoC is a community of individuals and providers that organize and deliver housing and services to individuals experiencing homelessness as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. Serving 13 counties in Upstate, SC, the Continuum of Care aims to prevent, reduce and end homelessness through the coordination of agencies in our communities.