



Point in Time Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the PIT survey?

The PIT survey is a set of questions asked of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. Each survey is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally.

Why do we conduct the PIT survey?

The PIT survey provides the homeless assistance community with data needed to understand the number and characteristics of persons who are homeless. The surveys are an important metric for measuring Federal and local progress in preventing and ending homelessness. HUD is required by statute to conduct PIT surveys and has affirmed in regulation that it will require a sheltered and unsheltered survey at least every other year as a condition of funding.

Who participates in the PIT survey?

HUD requires all of Continuums of Care (CoCs) to conduct a PIT survey and report the data as part of their annual competitive CoC application.

- HUD develops guidance annually about minimum standards for the survey.
- Other Federal partners (e.g., Veterans Affairs) promote the surveys and help CoCs at the local level.
- CoCs plan, implement, and evaluate their surveys at the local level.
- CoCs engage homeless persons in the survey.

How often is the PIT survey conducted?

The Suncoast Partnership to End Homeless, the lead organization for our Continuums of Care (CoCs) coordinates the taking of the survey and tabulates the results annually.