2015 PIT
Summary for Snohomish County
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**Introduction**

The local Point in Time count (PIT) has been conducted on a single night in January annually since 2006. This is not an exhaustive census of homeless persons and should instead be considered an indicator of overall trends.

The PIT consists of a sheltered count which assesses how many people are staying in homeless housing, in addition to an unsheltered count. Trained volunteers, working in pairs, utilize surveys to conduct the unsheltered count. These volunteers respectfully visit encampments, food banks, and community resource locations, while also attempting to locate new areas of activity. Volunteers typically work three hour shifts between 8:00am and 8:00pm in a quadrant of their choosing, with supervisors ensuring adequate coverage. Individuals contacted by volunteers have the option to decline an interview.

The sheltered count is generated through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), into which agencies continuously enter client level data about persons in homeless projects, such as emergency shelter. Locally, persons who are precariously housed are also surveyed.

**Data Quality Methodology**

To prevent double counting of individuals, changes were made locally for the 2015 count, in line with updated HUD standards. The first 2 letters of the first & last name, along with a middle initial, and a date of birth were logged for each homeless individual at the time of this year’s survey. In 2014 only the first initial for an individual’s first, middle, and last name were collected along with their age (not date of birth). As in previous years, the county was divided into four quadrants with each volunteer working in only one defined area under the direction of a volunteer supervisor.

There are three essential data elements to validate a survey and include the information. 86 surveys were excluded as they lacked at least one of these elements:

- No “date of birth” – adult/child status could not be determined
- No “last night city” – could not determine jurisdiction
- No “prior residence” – could not determine if literally homeless.

A further 211 surveys were removed as last night’s stay was not unsheltered\(^1\).

Those individuals whose last night stay was included under the precariously housed definition\(^2\), were included in the locally provided precariously housed count of 137.

Another 87 records were determined to be ineligible as these were either duplicate surveys or the respondent stayed outside of Snohomish County the night prior.

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\(^1\) “Unsheltered” – to spend the night prior on the streets, in an abandoned building, car, or other place not meant for human habitation.

\(^2\) “Precariously housed” – temporarily living with family or friends, jail, or in a hotel/motel without an emergency shelter voucher.
Summary
On January 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 2015, a point in time count showed that 966 persons in 743 households did not have a permanent place to stay.

- Under the age of 18
  - 200 youth
  - 42 of those were unaccompanied youth
  - 158 were in families with children
- Veterans
  - 68 total
  - 2 were female veterans
  - 11 Veterans were chronically homeless
- Serious Mental Illness
  - 188 adults
  - 97 were unsheltered
  - 17 were precariously housed
- Victims of domestic violence
  - 122 victims
  - 50 were unsheltered
  - 15 were precariously housed
- HIV+
  - 10 total respondents
  - 6 were unsheltered

Key Terms

#Sheltered: Spent the night prior to the survey in emergency shelter or transitional housing

#Unsheltered: Spent the night prior to the survey on the streets, in an abandoned building, car, or other place not meant for human habitation.

#Precariously Housed: temporarily living with family or friends, jail, hotel or motel paid for by self.

#Chronically Homeless: An individual or family with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.
### PIT Summary for Individuals & Households

#### 2015 PIT Summary for Persons in Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Precariously Housed</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family with child</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households w/o child</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied Youth</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Persons in Households

- Sheltered: 517 (54%)
- Unsheltered: 312 (32%)
- Precariously Housed: 137 (14%)
2015 PIT Summary for Households

- **Households by Type**
  - Sheltered: 374 (50%)
  - Unsheltered: 268 (36%)
  - Precariously Housed: 101 (14%)

- **Households by Composition**
  - Households with Children: 612
  - Households without Children: 272
  - Unaccompanied Youth: 75

- **Households with Children**
  - Family with child: 75
  - Households w/o child: 78
  - Unaccompanied Youth: 10

- **Households without Children**
  - 262

- **Unaccompanied Youth**
  - 27
## Unsheltered Breakout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Night City</th>
<th>Abandoned Building</th>
<th>Out of Doors (street, tent, etc.)</th>
<th>Vehicle (car, travel trailer, etc.)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arlington</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bothell</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Bar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite Falls</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Stevens</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynnwood</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marysville</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountlake Terrace</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snokey Point</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snohomish</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sultan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulalip</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unsheltered Type by Percentage

**(County)**
- **Vehicle**: 23%
- **Out of doors**: 70%
- **Abandoned Building**: 7%

**(Everett)**
- **Vehicle**: 9%
- **Out of doors**: 90%
- **Abandoned Building**: 1%
Basic Demographics

Race

- White: 74%
- Unknown: 5%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 2%
- Multi-Racial: 5%
- Black or African American: 10%
- Asian: 1%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 2%

Ethnicity

- Hispanic/Latino: 82%
- Non Hispanic/Latino: 13%
- Unknown: 5%

The demographics charts include sheltered and unsheltered populations. This is the second year in which we were required to collect and report on race & ethnicity.

Respondents who identified as a racial minority comprised 21% of the total sheltered population and 4% of the total unsheltered population.
Age if reported, all populations for sheltered and unsheltered counts.

- Unsheltered
- Sheltered

- **0 to 5**: Unsheltered: 6, Sheltered: 75
- **6 to 11**: Unsheltered: 2, Sheltered: 35
- **12 to 17**: Unsheltered: 2, Sheltered: 44
- **18 to 24**: Unsheltered: 41, Sheltered: 46
- **25 to 30**: Unsheltered: 45, Sheltered: 55
- **31 to 50**: Unsheltered: 141, Sheltered: 145
- **51 to 61**: Unsheltered: 68, Sheltered: 81
- **62+**: Unsheltered: 7, Sheltered: 18
Household Size by Housing Category

*No families reported 7 or more persons in their household this year.

Reported Gender by Housing Category
Gender options for 2015 were: ‘male’, ‘female’, ‘transgender (male to female)’, ‘transgender (female to male)’, and ‘refused to specify’. No individuals identified as transgendered in 2015.
Unsheltered Last Permanent Residence and Cause of Homelessness

### Unsheltered - Last Reported Permanent Residence

*Chart includes only areas with at least one response*

### Unsheltered - Reported Cause of Homelessness

*Percent of Total*

- Job Loss: 31%
- Family Crisis/Breakup: 25%
- Drug or Alcohol Use: 22%
- Eviction: 14%
- Mental Illness: 14%
- Medical Problems/Illness: 13%
- Primarily Economic Reasons: 11%
- Temporary Living Situation Ended: 7%
- Convicted of a Criminal Offense: 7%
- Domestic Violence: 5%
- Lack of Job Skills: 4%
- Discharged from Institution/Jail: 3%
- Transient on the Road: 3%
- Medical Costs: 2%
- Out of Home Youth: 2%
- Aged Out of Foster Care: 1%
- Language Barrier: 1%
- Lack of Child Care: 0%
- Refugee/Undocumented Immigrant: 0%
### Top Causes of Homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job Loss</td>
<td>Job Loss</td>
<td>Job Loss</td>
<td>Job Loss</td>
<td>Job Loss</td>
<td>Job Loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to pay rent or mortgage</td>
<td>Unable to pay rent or mortgage</td>
<td>Unable to pay rent or mortgage</td>
<td>Family Crisis/Breakup</td>
<td>Family Crisis/Breakup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug or alcohol use</td>
<td>Drug or alcohol use</td>
<td>Drug or alcohol use</td>
<td>Drug or alcohol use</td>
<td>Drug or alcohol use</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health issues</td>
<td>Family break-up</td>
<td>Family break-up</td>
<td>Permanent Physical Disability</td>
<td>Mental Illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family break-up</td>
<td>Mental health issues</td>
<td>Mental health issues</td>
<td>Primarily economic reasons</td>
<td>Eviction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicked out of home</td>
<td>Kicked out of home</td>
<td>Kicked out of home</td>
<td>Medical problems/illness</td>
<td>Medical problems/illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical problems/illness</td>
<td>Temporary living situation ended</td>
<td>Medical problems/illness</td>
<td>Eviction</td>
<td>Primarily economic reasons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Conditions and Barriers

- Adults w/ mental illness: 17 (Precariously Housed), 74 (Unsheltered), 97 (Sheltered)
- Adults w/ substance abuse disorder: 17 (Precariously Housed), 56 (Unsheltered), 90 (Sheltered)
- Adults with HIV/AIDS: 6 (Precariously Housed), 4 (Unsheltered), 0 (Sheltered)
- Victims of domestic violence: 15 (Precariously Housed), 50 (Unsheltered), 57 (Sheltered)

### Other Reported Barriers – Unsheltered Populations

Data collected from unsheltered populations demonstrated other significant barriers:

- 89 (29%) were experiencing chronic health conditions
- 71 (23%) reported a permanent physical disability
- 21 (7%) of the unsheltered had a developmental disability
2011 - 2015 PIT Trends

### 2011 - 2015 PIT Count Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2011 - 2015 PIT Count Trends

#### Unaccompanied Youth
- 2011: 44
- 2012: 34
- 2013: 34
- 2014: 83
- 2015: 42

#### Veterans
- 2011: 104
- 2012: 115
- 2013: 99
- 2014: 71
- 2015: 68

#### Chronic Homeless Individuals
- 2011: 205
- 2012: 163
- 2013: 158
- 2014: 167
- 2015: 133
During the 2011 and 2012 PIT counts, the use of “tic sheets” were phased out. This allowed for better de-duplication. In 2013 guidance from HUD stated that transitional housing\(^3\) which utilized project based vouchers\(^4\) could not be considered transitional and must be reclassified. Persons in transitional housing are considered homeless, whereas persons in permanent housing are not. This greatly impacted the number of persons who would be reported going forward.

\(^3\)“Transitional Housing” – housing which is limited to 24 months
\(^4\)“Project Based Vouchers” – a permanent housing rental subsidy