



# NORTHWEST MINNESOTA *Continuum of Care*



Working to end  
homelessness in  
Northwest  
Minnesota

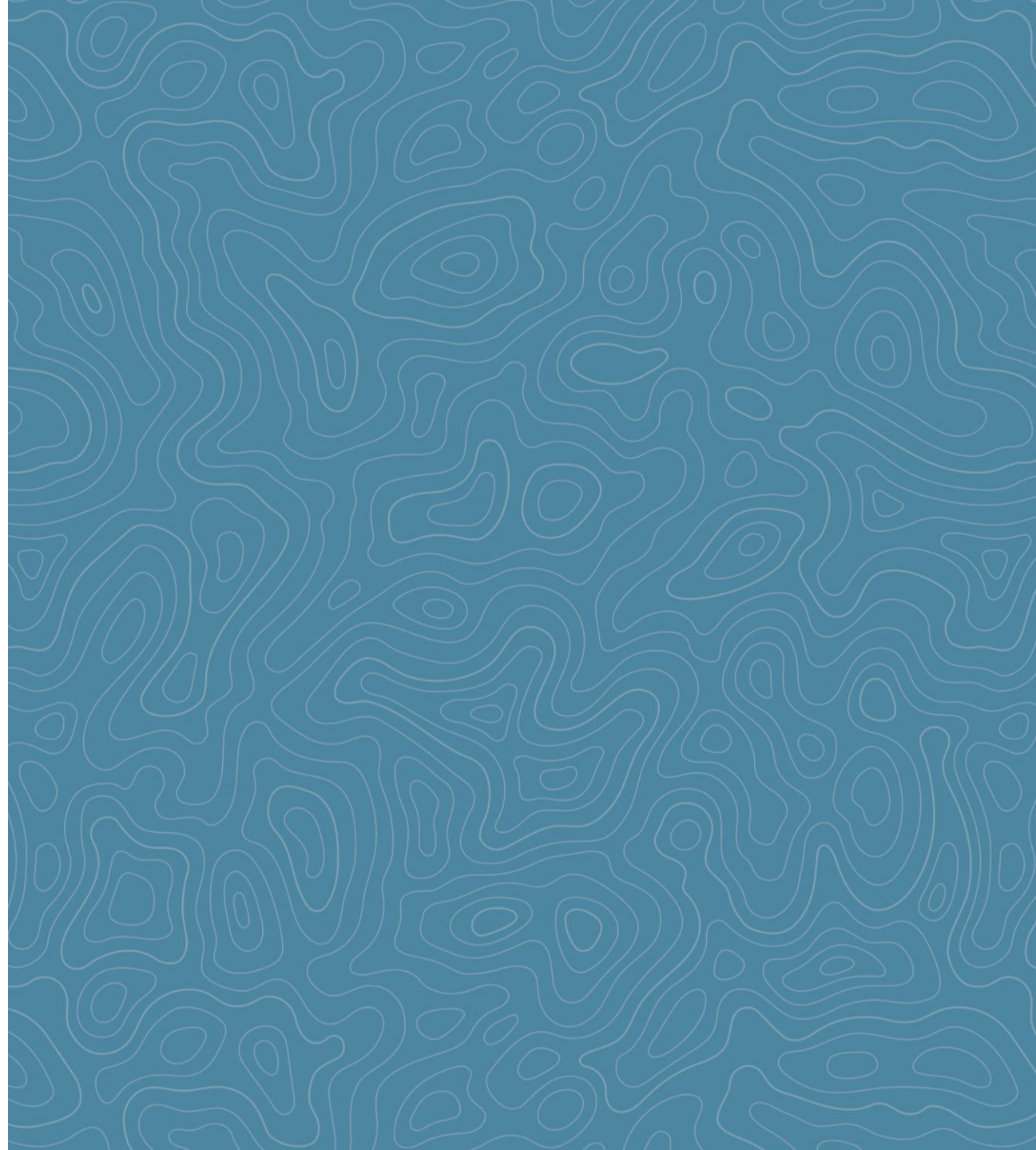




# 2025 Point in Time Information Session

Monday, January 6th, 2025  
Via Teams  
1pm





## What is the Point in Time Count?



- The Point-in-Time Count, or “PIT”, is an annual count of all persons experiencing homelessness on a single night.
- The PIT takes place nationwide, and is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Together, the PIT and the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) enable communities to identify potential gaps in service delivery and inform decisions around policies and funding.
- During the PIT Count there is a large-scale community-wide effort to identify folks experiencing homelessness that may not otherwise be counted, namely those that are unsheltered, or living on the street or in a place not meant for habitation (such as a car or abandoned building).
- In Minnesota, we also count those that are doubled up (which means they are “couch hopping” or temporarily staying with family or friends).

# What is the Housing Inventory Count?



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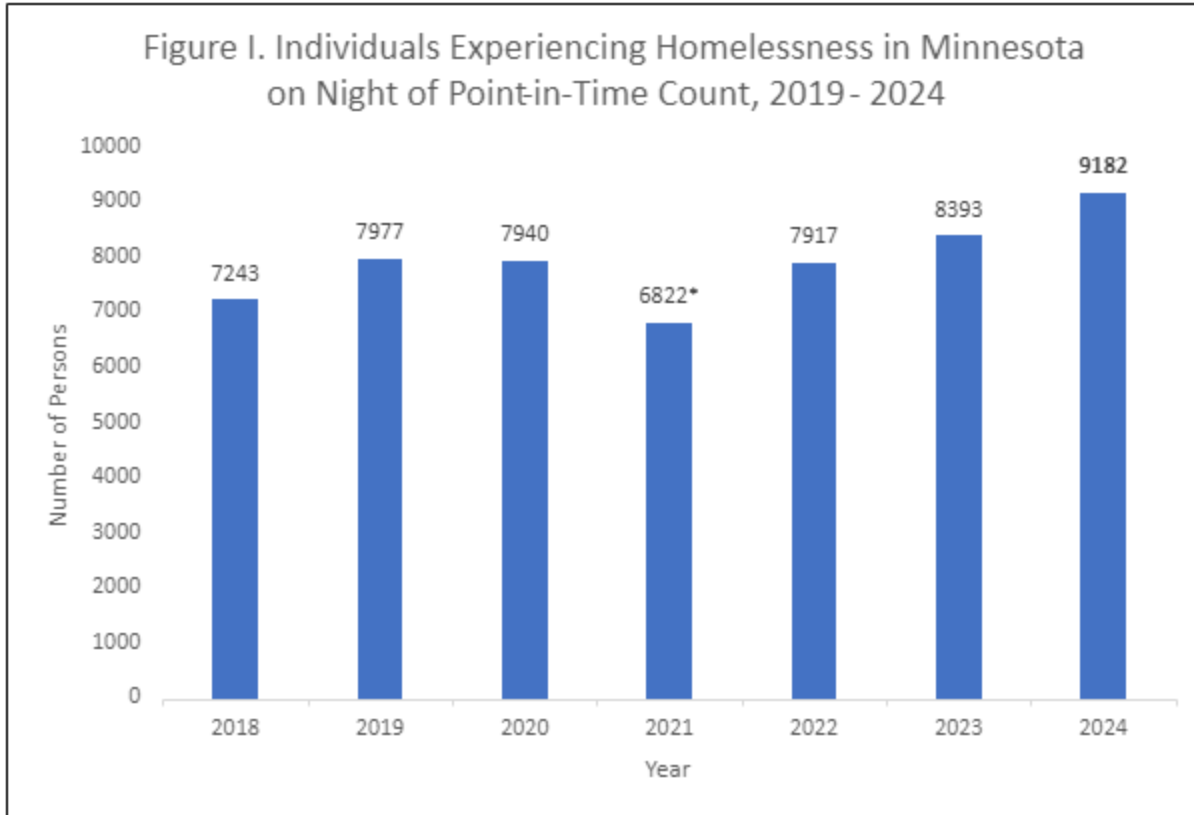
The Housing Inventory Count, or “HIC”, is an annual count of all homeless-dedicated beds available on a single night. The HIC takes place nationwide, and is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Together, the HIC and the Point in Time Count enable communities to identify potential gaps in service delivery and inform decisions around policies and funding.

The following project types are included in the HIC:

- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Safe Haven (None in Minnesota)
- Permanent Supportive Housing - Disability Required
- Permanent Housing with Services - No Disability Required
- Permanent Housing - Housing Only
- Rapid Re Housing



# Statewide 2024 PIT Count Data

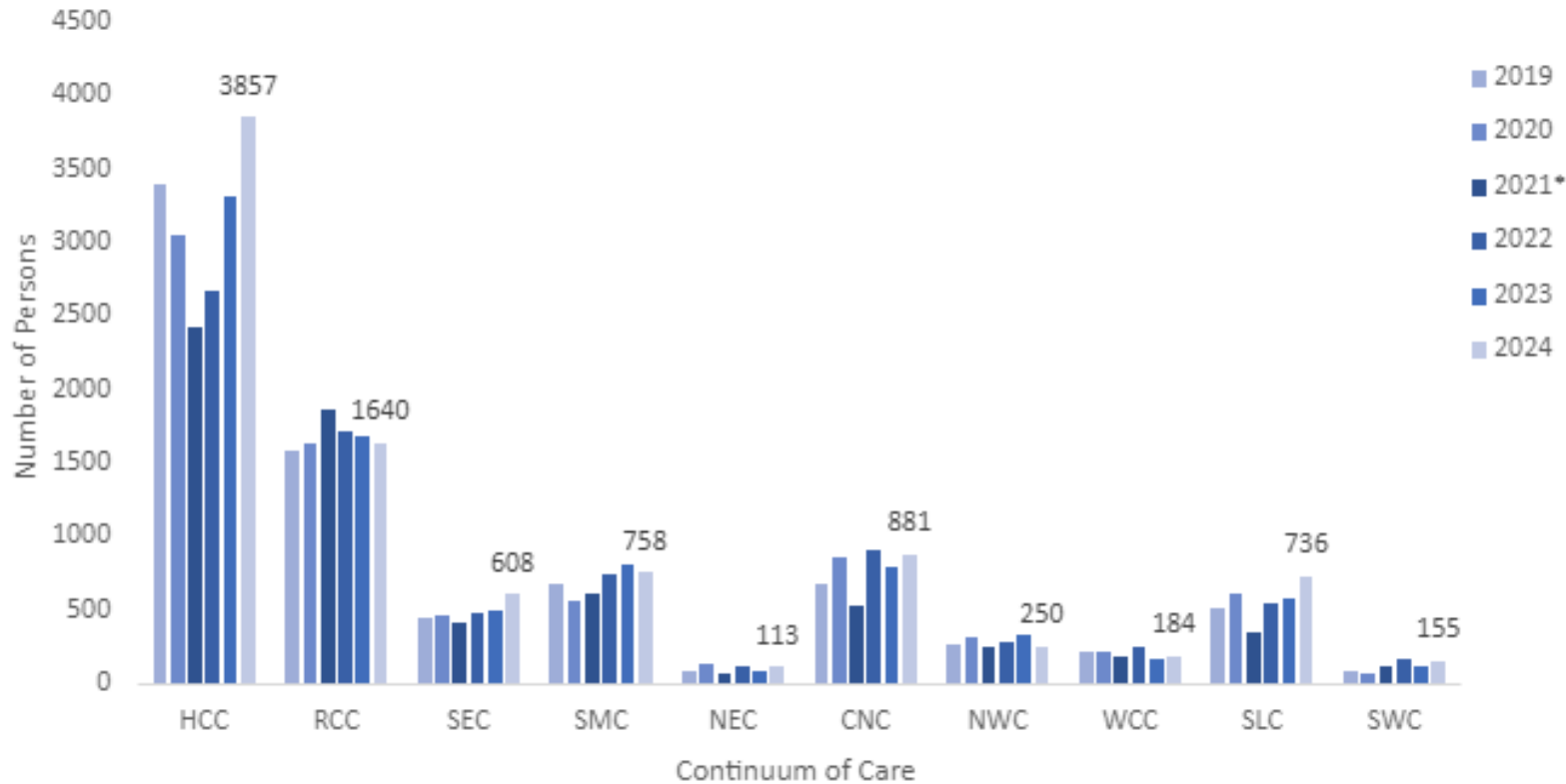


The results of the 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) count are in. The annual federal mandate counts the number of individuals living outside and staying in temporary shelters across 10 regions in Minnesota on a single night in January. This year's PIT count found **9,182 individuals experiencing homelessness in Minnesota** on the night of January 24, 2024.\*\* The results reflect a 9.5% increase compared to last year's total (Figure I).



# Who Conducts It?

Figure II. Individuals Experiencing Homelessness on Night of Point-in-Time Count by Continuum of Care, 2019 - 2024

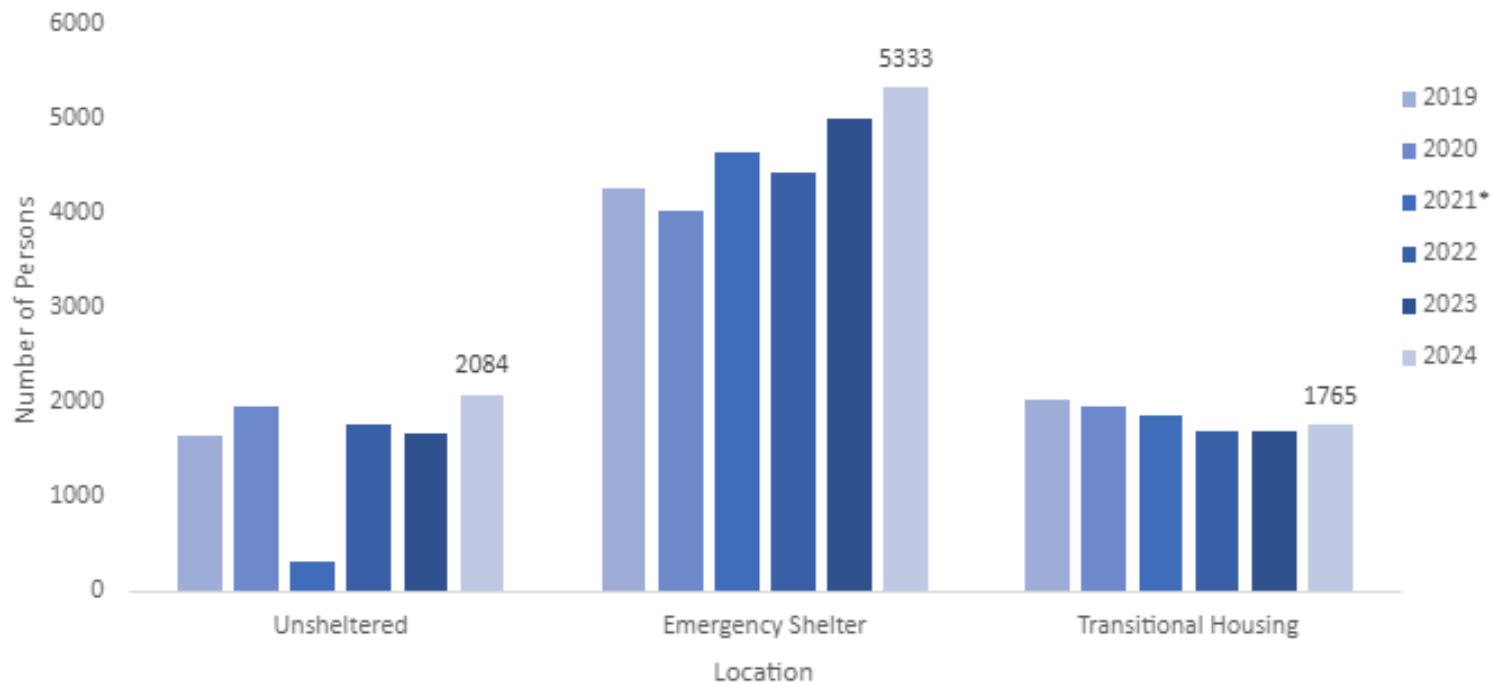


The US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) requires that Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct the PIT Count, and in Minnesota, it is carried out by ten CoC's (Figure II).



# Who is Counted?

Figure III. Individuals Experiencing Homelessness on Night of Point - in - Time Count in Minnesota by Location, 2019 - 2024



The PIT total includes people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and people staying in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing programs and Safe Havens on the PIT night. There are no Safe Havens in Minnesota, so the results are shown in the remaining three location types (Figure III). Minnesota saw an increase in all three locations from last year to this year. Notably, the number of unsheltered individuals increased about 24% from last year, while the number of people staying in Emergency Shelter increased about 7% and Transitional Housing about 3%.





# *How is this data used?*

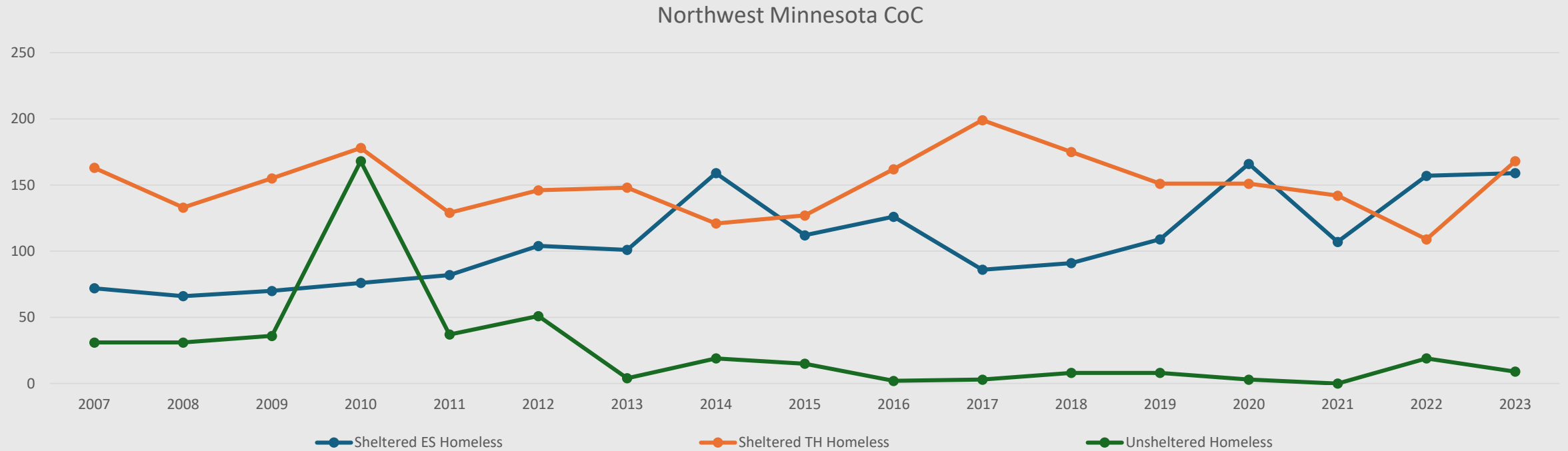
Some ways PIT data is used (this is also on our website but good place to throw it)

- At a national level by HUD and other agencies that fund Homeless Services initiatives
- At the state level to inform Minnesota's statewide plan to prevent and end homelessness
- By CoCs and individual agencies to make plans for addressing homelessness
- By the media and by research groups



# NWCoC PIT Data

<b>MN-506</b>		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Northwest Minnesota CoC																		
Sheltered ES Homeless		72	66	70	76	82	104	101	159	112	126	86	91	109	166	107	157	159
Sheltered TH Homeless		163	133	155	178	129	146	148	121	127	162	199	175	151	151	142	109	168
Unsheltered Homeless		31	31	36	168	37	51	4	19	15	2	3	8	8	3	0	19	9



Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, PIT Data, 2007-2023.



# PIT Count Date: January 22, 2025

## What's your role?

- If your agency operates an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Safe Haven program that participates in HMIS, your job is to enter complete and accurate data into HMIS like you usually do!
- If your agency operates an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Safe Haven program, but do not enter data in HMIS, you will participate by completing paper surveys.
- If you are a school liaison, you may participate in the count directly, utilizing the paper survey as well. In Minnesota, we count individuals that are “doubled-up”.

# Survey Information

SURVEYOR INFORMATION					
1	Surveyor name:	2	Phone:	3	Email:
4	Continuum of Care:	5	County:	6	Agency/team:
7	Specific location of survey:				
8	School district: [School-based surveys only]				

1. Name of person conducting survey.
2. Phone number of person conducting survey.
3. Email address of person conducting survey.
4. If you are unsure what Continuum of Care (CoC) you are in, ask your CoC Coordinator, PIT Lead, or trainer.
5. County where you physically interview the respondent (i.e., where the survey takes place). This may not be the same county where your respondent is staying on PIT night.
6. Name of agency or team with which you are conducting the survey. If you are surveying clients staying at your emergency shelter or transitional housing program, list the name of your agency/program here.
7. Where you physically interview the respondent. For example: city, shelter name, Light Rail, gas station parking lot. If over the phone, denote the name of the agency and phone survey. If in shelter, denote the name of the shelter (or project within the shelter). Your trainer should specify exactly what level of detail to write in this field. If DV shelter, do not put address of shelter here.
8. ONLY applies to school liaisons.



What are the first three letters of your <b>first</b> name? And <b>last</b> name?	First: _____	<b>Household ID [Surveyor input here]:</b> _____ - _____ - _____
	Last: _____	

Jam

Smi

NWC

Jam

Smi

**Household ID** is a combination of the CoC abbreviation where the survey is completed and the first 3 letters of the first and last name of the **FIRST PERSON SURVEYED** in this household. It should be the same for all household members (see [Terms and Definitions](#) for full instructions and definition of “household”).

You survey Jamie Smith at a food pantry. She and her partner, Tom Jones, are staying together in her vehicle in Polk County (Northwest CoC) the night of the PIT

- First respondent surveyed in this household: Jamie Smith
- Surveyor’s CoC: Northwest (abbreviated NWC)
- Household ID for Jamie and Tom would be: NWC-Jam-Smi



## WHAT TO SAY & WHAT TO READ

Here are examples of the survey's layout. We use plain text, bolded text, and shading to indicate what surveyors should say aloud, what are instructions for the surveyor, and what are response options.

Questions and text written like this should be asked aloud:

Can I have about 10 minutes of your time?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>[END THE SURVEY. Corr</b>
Did another volunteer already ask you where you are staying tonight/where you stayed last night?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <b>[END THE SURVEY]</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No

**[bolded, bracketed language like this is guidance directed at the surveyor and should not be read aloud]:**

How old is each person in your household or group? <b>[If couch-hopping/staying with family or friends, do not count the permanent residents.]</b>
<b>[If everyone is age 24 or younger, then ask:]</b> <u>Including yourself</u> , how many are the parent or legal guardian of a child in your household?



## IDENTIFYING & HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

The survey asks you to collect information about everyone in a household (or family or group), starting with their ages. The term household means people who live together now or most of the time.

Obtaining the age of each household member helps determine the household type. (i.e., how many folks experiencing homelessness are single adults? How many are young families?).

Ask the respondent their age and put that in #1 (as seen below). Then ask the ages of others in the household and put those in #2.

How old are you? 	Will anyone/did anyone stay with you tonight/that night?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes [Go to the next question] <input type="checkbox"/> No [SKIP to Demographics section]
How old is each person in your household or group? [If couch-hopping/staying with family or friends, do not count the permanent residents.] 		
[If everyone is age 24 or younger, then ask:] Including yourself, how many are the parent or legal guardian of a child in your household?	____ # of Parents Age 18-24 currently ____ # of Parents Age 17 and younger currently	



The survey layout collects all the information for the head of household (first respondent) first. If there are no more individuals in the household, END SURVEY and thank the respondent for their time. If there are more members in the household, continue to the Additional Family Members section. If you are interviewing respondents individually, read down the appropriate column for each person.

**1. Additional Family Members Section**

**[If there are additional household members, CONTINUE BELOW]**

Additional Family Members (All ages)			
	Household Member 2:	Household Member 3:	Household Member 4:
<b>Household ID [must match first page of survey]:</b>	_____ - _____ - _____		
Will you/did you also stay in a shelter or outside Wednesday night (January 22nd, 2025)? [or in same location as first respondent if staying with family or friends]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]
Can I ask you a few additional questions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [END SURVEY]
What are the first three letters of your first and last names?	First: _____ Last: _____	First: _____ Last: _____	First: _____ Last: _____
How old are you?			







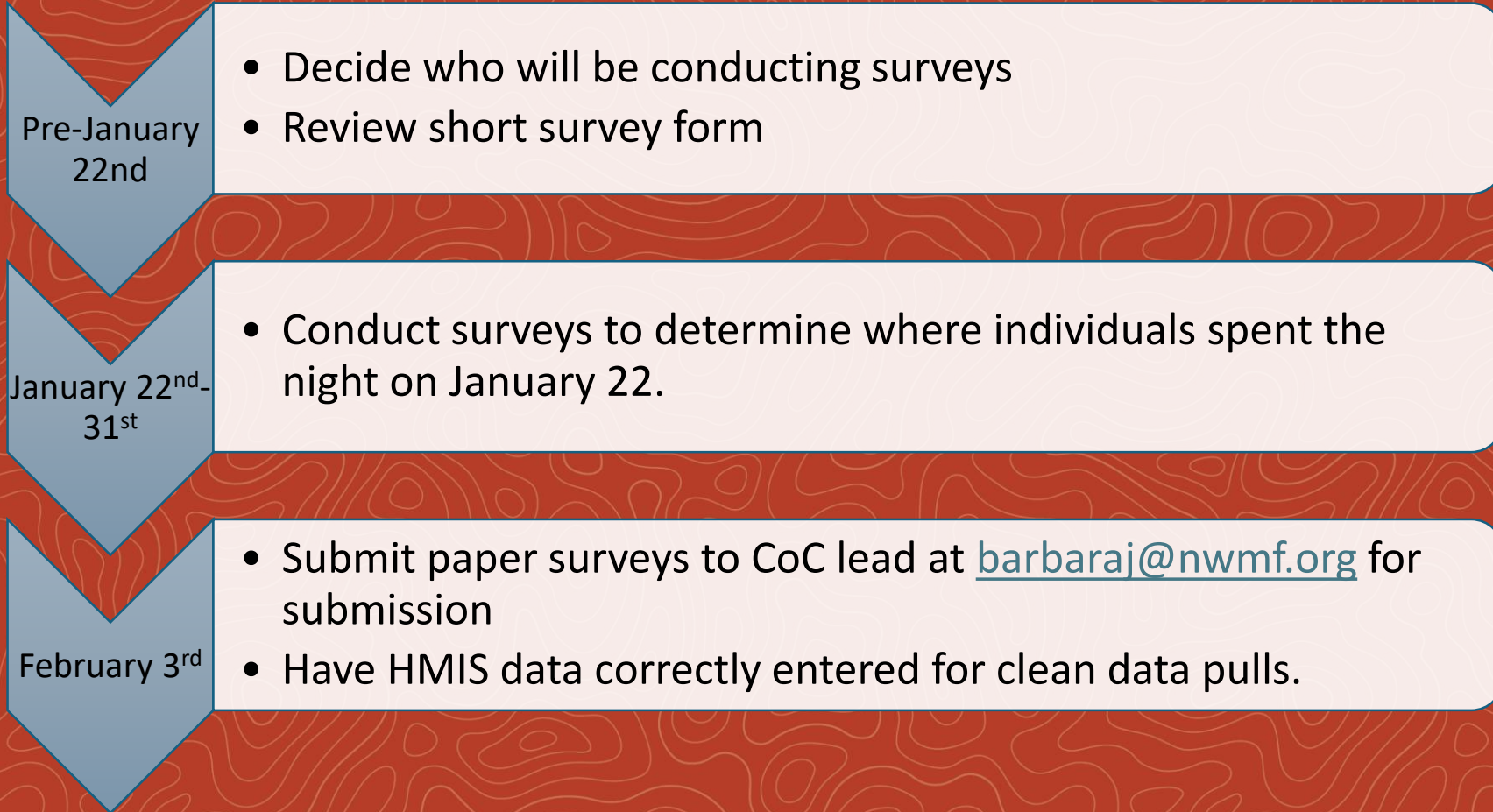
# Unsheltered Observation Tool

This form should only be used if:

1. You are unable to obtain consent
2. You are unable to enter a site
3. You do not wish to disturb someone sleeping outside, in a car or abandoned building



# PIT Timeline





# Resources

- Barbara at [barbaraj@nwmf.org](mailto:barbaraj@nwmf.org)
- [www.hmismn.org/point-in-time-count](http://www.hmismn.org/point-in-time-count)



Thank you!

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