everyone counts

Metro Denver's Point in Time Survey

metro denver homeless initiative mdhi

2018

Denver County, Colorado

POINT IN TIME DATA SUMMARY

2018 POINT IN TIME
Denver County Summary

This report summarizes the county level data for Denver County, Colorado.

The Point in Time is a snapshot of those experiencing homelessness in our community on a single night. This data was collected for the night of January 29th, 2018. The full Everyone Counts Metro Denver Homeless Initiative's 2018 Point in Time report[1] goes into detail explaining the methodology used while preparing for the count, executing the survey throughout the seven-county region, de-duplicating and cleaning the data, and extrapolation methods utilized. Refer directly to the regional report when interpreting the data contained in this county specific report.

Additionally, previous county level reports included information for either "all homeless" or "respondents" as noted in each section. If comparing data between years, this methodology change needs to be considered. The "respondents" were only the individuals taking the survey, which does not include other household members such as children or adults. Only respondent data was reported for several categories in past county reports, including: veteran status, unaccompanied youth, newly homeless, and chronically homeless. This 2018 report provides data for "all homeless" in every category.

Denver increased efforts to identify and survey persons experiencing homelessness during this Point in Time count. There was a dedicated coordinator who managed efforts throughout the county, which supported increased and more comprehensive communication with agencies and sites throughout the area. Agency and site participation both improved from last year. Two magnet events were held to support identification of two populations: transition age youth and veterans. Denver also increased street outreach coordination in 2018. Denver's Street Outreach Collaborative supported planning efforts for the mapping and zoning of "hot spot" areas across Denver. These professional outreach team members led agency staff and volunteers in surveying each identified zone. Lastly, the large downtown Denver shelters continued to work with the CoC to improve surveying, sampling, and database use this year.

The Point in Time (PIT) data references those persons that meet the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of homelessness. Communities across the nation follow current HUD methodology guidelines[2] for the count and tailor the survey to the needs of their own localities and regions. Persons in temporary living situations or who are at risk of becoming homeless (such as those staying with friends or family or paying to stay in a motel) are not included in this count. The definitions below describe the guidance in more detail.

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[1] Metro Denver Homeless Initiative, 2018 Point in Time report - https://www.mdhi.org/pit_reports

[2] https://www.HUDexchange.info/resource/4036/point-in-time-count-methodology-guide/

HUD PIT Homeless Definitions[3]: Continuums of Care (CoCs) must count all individuals or families who meet the criteria in paragraph (1)(ii) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3. This includes individuals and families:

Sheltered Count

"living in a supervised publicly or privately-operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)"

Unsheltered Count

"with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground

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[3] Notice CPD-17-08_2018 HIC and PIT Data Collection for CoC and ESG Programs, HIC/PIT Data Collection Notice September 2017

SUMMARY OF DENVER COUNTY 2018 POINT IN TIME DATA

HUD HOUSEHOLD TYPE BY LIVING SITUATION

Households without children make up almost four-fifths (79.3%) of the homeless population in Denver.

Table 1. Living Situation by Household Type on January 29, 2018

		ES-emergency shelter	TH-transitional housing	Safe Haven	Unsheltered	Total
HUD Household Type	Household without children	1663	450	22	597	2732
	Household with at least 1 adult and at least 1 child	156	544	0	10	710
	Household with only children under 18	1	0	0	2	3
	Total	1820	994	22	609	3445

Figure 1. Living Situation by Household Type
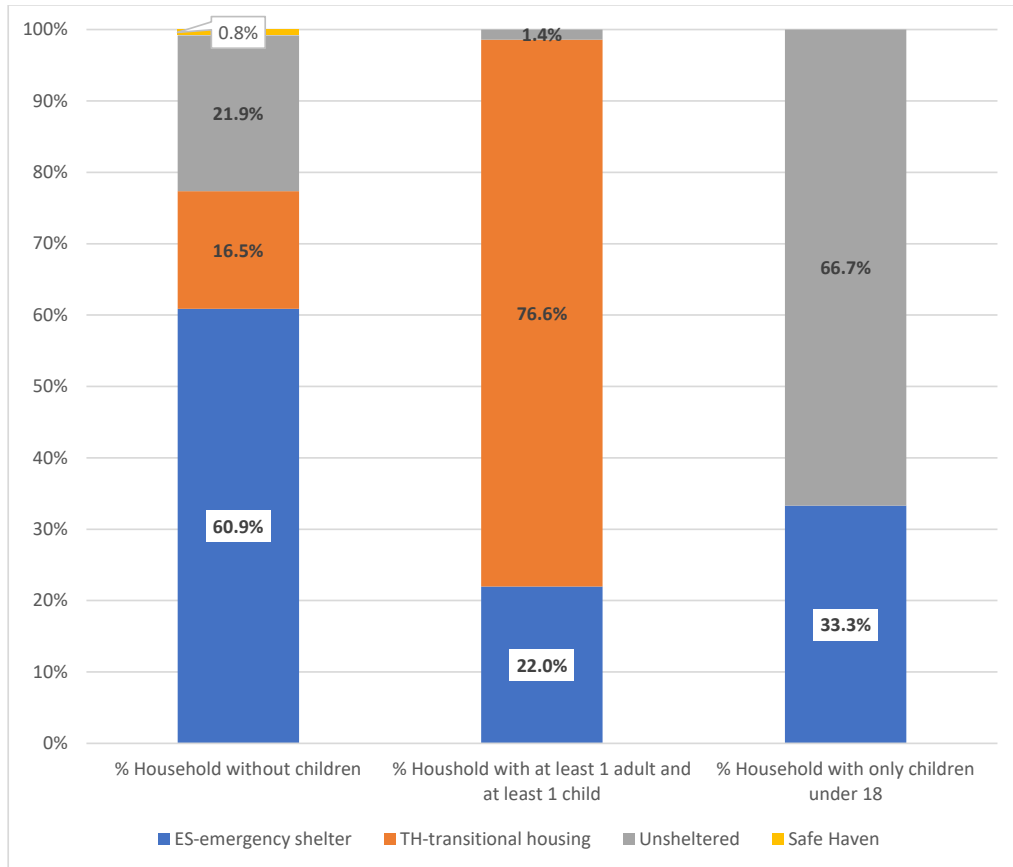
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY SHELTER, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, AND UNSHELTERED LIVING SITUATIONS

The number of people staying in shelters (52.8%) is almost double the amount of people in transitional housing (28.9%). Adults without children represent nearly 80% of those experiencing homelessness who were surveyed. While families were most likely to be in transitional housing, adults without children were 91.4% of those in emergency shelter and 98% of those surveyed who were living unsheltered on the night of the Point in Time count.

Table 2. Number of People in Emergency Shelters

	Household without Children		Household with at Least 1 Adult and 1 Child		Households with Only Children under 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons Staying in Emergency Shelters **Total of 1820 Persons or 52.8% of the total Homeless Population**	1663	91.4%	156	8.6%	1	0.1%

Table 3. Number of People in Transitional Housing

	Household without Children		Household with at Least 1 Adult and 1 Child		Households with Only Children under 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons Staying in Transitional Housing **Total of 994 Persons or 28.9% of the total Homeless Population**	450	45.3%	544	54.7%	0	0%

Table 4. Number of People in Safe Haven

	Household without Children		Household with at Least 1 Adult and 1 Child		Households with Only Children under 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons Staying in Safe Haven **Total of 22 Persons or 0.8% of the total Homeless Population**	22	100.0%	0	0%	0	0%

Table 5. Number of People Unsheltered

	Household without Children		Household with at Least 1 Adult and 1 Child		Households with Only Children under 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons Staying Unsheltered **Total of 609 Persons or 17.7% of the total Homeless Population**	597	98.0%	10	1.6%	2	0.3%

Unsheltered is defined as living on the street, under a bridge, in an abandoned or public building, in a car, in an outdoor camp, or in any other place that is not meant for human habitation.

Table 6. Homeless Living Situation 2015-2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Emergency Shelter	1383	37.0	1080	29.7	1181	35.4	1820	52.8
Transitional Housing	1681	45.0	2046	56.4	1580	47.4	994	28.9
Safe Haven	75	2.0	56	1.5	31	0.9	22	0.6
Unsheltered	598	16.0	449	12.4	544	16.3	609	17.7
Total	3737	100.0	3631	100.0	3336	100.0	3445	100.0

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

HUD defines persons experiencing chronic homelessness as those who (a) are homeless, (b) are living in a place not meant for human habitation, in a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, (c) have been homeless and living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless across those occasions is at least 12 months, and (d) have a disability.

Table 7. Living Situation – Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

	Emergency Shelter		Safe Haven		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness	605	61.0%	22	2.2%	364	36.7
Total of 991 Persons or 28.8% of the Homeless Population						

Table 8. Chronically Homeless by Population/HH type –Total and Percentage

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	**Individuals** (HH with no children)	**Youth** (under 25)	**Veterans**
Count	16	975	54	160
Percentage of Each Household Type That Are Chronic	2.3%	35.7%	8.4%	37.5%

Table 8 above shows the extent of how much of four population/household types were classified as chronically homeless based on their answers to the survey. For example, 160 veterans (or 37.5%) of the veteran population were experiencing chronic homelessness on the night of the PIT count.

Table 9. Chronic Homeless Population 2015 - 2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Chronic	483	12.9	551	15.2	701	21.0	991	28.8

NEWLY HOMELESS

Newly homeless is defined as a person who has been experiencing homelessness for less than one year and this was their first episode of homelessness.

Table 10. Newly Homeless

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Newly Homeless Persons	381	57.6%	228	34.5%	52	7.9%
Total of 661 Persons or 19.2% of the Homeless Population						

Table 11. Newly Homeless by population/HH type – Total and Percentage

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	Individuals (HH with no children)	Youth (under 25)	Veterans
Count	191	470	149	67
Percentage of Each Household Type That Are Newly Homeless	26.9%	17.2%	23.2%	15.7%

Table 11 above shows the extent of how much of four population/household types were classified as newly homeless based on their answers to the survey. For example, 470 individuals (or 17.2%) of the households with no children population were newly homeless on the night of the PIT count.

Table 12. Newly Homeless Population 2015 - 2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Newly	740	19.8	402	11.1	471	14.1	661	19.2

VETERANS

Individuals who self-selected that they served in the armed forces.

Table 13. Veteran by Living Situation

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Safe Haven		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Veteran Homelessness **Total of 427 Persons or 12.4% of the Homeless Population**	258	60.4%	92	21.5%	2	0.5%	75	17.6%

Table 14. Veteran Homelessness 2015 – 2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Veterans	400	10.7	551	15.2	457	13.7	427	12.4

FAMILIES

For the purposes of the PIT, households with at least one adult and one child under 18 are referred to as 'families.' Numbers here include both adults and children in families.

Table 15. Families by Living Situation

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Families **Total of 710 Persons or 20.6% of the Homeless Population**	156	22.0%	544	76.6%	10	1.4%

Table 16. Family Homelessness 2015 – 2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Families	1460	39.1	1536	42.3	798	23.9	710	20.6

UNACCOMPANIED AND TRANSITION AGE YOUTH

Unaccompanied or Transition Age Youth are defined as single youth who are under the age of 25 and not accompanied by a parent or guardian. Transition age youth are specifically those between 18-24 years old. Parenting youth are defined as those in the household that are under 25 years of age, and the guardians of a child under the age of 18.

Table 17. Unaccompanied Youth and TAY by Living Situation

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Unsheltered	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Unaccompanied Youth **Total of 177 Persons or 5.1% of the Homeless Population**	96	54.2%	13	7.3%	68	38.4%

Table 18. Youth Population Total and Percentage

Population	#	%
Unaccompanied Youth Under 18	3	0.1
Transition Aged Youth (18-24)	177	5.1
Parenting Youth and their children	104	3.0

Table 19. Unaccompanied Youth and TAY 2015 - 2018

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Unaccompanied Youth	328	8.8%	183	5.0%	267	8.0%	177	5.1

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Table 20. Indication of Mental Health Issue

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Safe Haven		Unsheltered		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Mental Health Issue	471	50.8%	180	19.4%	22	2.4%	254	27.4%	927

**Table 21. Mental Health Concern or Illness by population/HH type
–Total and Percentage**

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	Individuals (HH with no children)	Youth (under 25)	Veterans
Count	31	896	55	118
Percentage of Each Household Type That Indicated Mental Health Concern or Illness	4.4%	32.8%	8.6%	27.6%

Table 21 above shows the extent of how much of four population/household types were classified as having a mental health concern or illness based on their answers to the survey. For example, 55 youth under the age of 25 (or 8.6%) of the youth population on the night of the PIT count indicated they had a mental health concern/illness.

CURRENTLY FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Table 22. Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence Situation

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Safe Haven		Unsheltered		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	154	64.7%	44	18.5%	2	0.8%	38	16.0%	238

**Table 23. Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence by Population/HH type
–Total and Percentage**

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	Individuals (HH with no children)	Youth (under 25)	Veterans
Count	30	208	14	11
Percentage of Each Household Type Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	4.2%	7.6%	2.2%	2.6%

Table 23 above shows the extent of how much of four population/household types were classified as currently fleeing a domestic violence situation based on their answers to the survey. For example, 30 people (4.2%) in a household with children (out of the total population of families with children) reported that they were currently fleeing a domestic violence situation on the night of the PIT count.

SUBSTANCE USE OR ABUSE

Table 24. Indication of Substance Abuse Issue

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Safe Haven		Unsheltered		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Substance Abuse	450	44.7%	251	25.0%	10	1.0%	295	29.3%	1006

Table 25. Indication of Substance Abuse Issue by population/HH type – Total and percentage

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	Individuals (HH with no children)	Youth (under 25)	Veterans
Count	23	983	47	123
Percentage of Household Type That Indicated Substance Abuse Issue	3.2%	36.0%	7.3%	28.8%

Table 25 above shows the extent of how much of four population/household types were classified as having a substance abuse issue based on their answers to the survey. For example, 123 veterans (28.8%) of the veteran population on the night of the PIT count indicated they had a substance abuse issue.

PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Table 26. Indication of Living with AIDS/HIV

	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing		Safe Haven		Unsheltered		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Living with HIV/AIDS	20	47.6%	4	9.5%	0	0%	18	42.9%	42

Table 27. Living with HIV/AIDS by population/HH type –Total and Percentage

	Families (HH with at least 1 adult + 1 child)	Individuals (HH with no children)	Youth (under 25)	Veterans
Count	0	42	2	3
Percentage of Household Type That Indicated Living with HIV/AIDS	0.0%	1.5%	0.3%	0.7%

PRESENCE OF A COMPANION OR SERVICE ANIMAL

Table 28. Companion/Service Animal Present

Population	#	%
Stayed with Companion or Service Animal	45	1.3%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Table 29. Gender

Gender	#	%
Female	962	27.9
Male	2448	71.1
Transgender	10	0.3
Gender Non-Conforming	10	0.3
Missing	15	0.4
Total	3445	100.0

Table 30. Race

Race	#	%
White	1861	75.7
Black or African-American	754	21.9
Asian	17	0.5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	154	4.5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	38	1.1
Multi Racial	341	9.9
Missing	280	8.1
Total	3445	100.0

Table 31. Ethnicity

Ethnicity	#	%
Non-Hispanic/Latino	2607	75.7
Hispanic/Latino	767	22.3
Missing	71	2.1
Total	3445	100.0

Table 32. Age

Age Category	#	%
Less than 18	408	11.8%
18 - 24	234	6.8%
25 - 54	1903	55.2%
55 - 64	693	20.1%
65+	173	5.0%
Missing	34	1.0%
Total	3445	100.0%

SUMMARY OF EXCLUDED DATA

Table 33. Data Summary

DENVER	
Summary of Excluded Data	
# Individuals in Raw Data File	**3630**
Individuals Removed and Reason:	
Data quality issues	91
Observation/Refusal	303
Duplicate	228
Homeless Status could not be determined	42
Insufficient PIN Information	34
Not Homeless	17
County Missing or Outside Metro Denver	4
Total Individuals removed	**719**
Total Individuals Added Via Sampling	**534**
Total individuals remaining in data set	**3445**