CHARLOTTE-
MECKLENBURG

POINT-IN-
TIME COUNT

2010-2017

PREPARED FOR
The Housing Advisory Board of
Charlotte-Mecklenburg

FUNDING PROVIDED BY
Mecklenburg County
Community Support Services

PREPARED BY
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Urban Institute

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About

The 2017 Housing Instability & Homelessness Report Series is a collection of local reports designed to better equip our community to make data-informed decisions around housing instability and homelessness. Utilizing local data and research, these reports are designed to provide informative and actionable research to providers, funders, public officials and the media as well as the general population.

The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg outlined three key reporting areas that, together, comprise the 2017 series of reports for community stakeholders. The three areas include:

1. POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

An annual snapshot of the population experiencing homelessness in Mecklenburg County. This local report is similar to the national report on Point-in-Time Count numbers, and provides descriptive information about both the sheltered and unsheltered population experiencing homelessness on one night in January and the capacity of the system to shelter and house them.

2. HOUSING INSTABILITY

An annual report focusing on the characteristics and impact of housing instability in the community. During the 2017 reporting cycle, this report will feature innovative affordable housing preservation and rehabilitation strategies that other communities have implemented.

3. SPOTLIGHT

An annual focus on a trend or specific population within housing instability and homelessness. During the 2017 reporting cycle, this report will focus on evictions within Mecklenburg County.

The 2017 reporting cycle is completed by the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute. Mecklenburg County Community Support Services provides funding for the report series.

Key Definitions

These definitions are based on guidelines from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Child Only Households
Households with all members under the age of 18.

Chronically Homeless
Individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation, safe haven, or emergency shelter; and who has either been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined occasions total at least 12 months. Occasions are separated by a break of at least seven nights. Stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break.

Emergency / Seasonal Housing (ES)
A facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless people.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
A software application designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless people. Each CoC maintains its own HMIS, which can be tailored to meet local needs, but must also conform to HUD's HMIS Data and Technical Standards.

Households with Adults and Children
Households that have at least one adult over the age of 18 and one child under the age of 18.

Households with Adults Only
Households with single adults and adult couples unaccompanied by children under the age of 18.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
A snapshot of the number of beds and units on one night that are dedicated to persons experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless people.

Parenting Youth
Youth (under age 25) who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Designed to provide housing and supportive services on a long-term basis to formerly homeless people. This is considered a form of permanent housing.

Point-in-Time Count (PIT)
An unduplicated one-night estimate of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations.

Other Permanent Housing
Long-term permanent housing that is not otherwise considered permanent supportive housing or rapid re-housing.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
A program that provides short- or medium-term (up to 24 months) financial assistance and services to help those experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. This is considered a form of permanent housing.

Transitional Housing (TH)
A program that provides temporary housing and supportive services for up to 24 months with the intent for the person to move towards permanent housing.

Sheltered Homeless People
People who are living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (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.)

Unaccompanied Youth
People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and are between the ages of 18 and 24.

Unsheltered Homeless People
People with a primary nighttime residence that is not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Veteran
Someone who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Introduction

This report highlights the findings from the 2017 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count). The PIT Count is federally mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for all communities receiving federal funds through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants Program. The PIT Count takes an annual unduplicated census of people experiencing homelessness—sheltered or unsheltered—on a given night in January and helps communities better advocate for additional federal, state, and local resources to provide services for persons experiencing homelessness.

There are two components to the PIT Count using HUD's definition of homelessness: a sheltered count of how many people are in shelters (transitional housing and emergency and seasonal shelter) and an unsheltered count of how many people are living in places unfit for human habitation (e.g. streets, camps, abandoned buildings).

For the first time, this report also includes data from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC). The HIC provides a snapshot of the number of beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness (emergency shelter and transitional housing beds) or formerly experiencing homelessness (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing beds) on the night of the PIT Count. The HIC provides context to the PIT Count data by showing how the capacity to house persons experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness changes over time. By combining these datasets, it provides information on how capacity is being utilized and how the community is prioritizing its resources for ending and preventing homelessness.

Another change to this year's PIT Count report involves enhancements to the historical data. Historical PIT Count and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to reflect the most current HUD guidelines around project type classifications. Adjusting the project types to be consistent across years allows for more accurate analysis of historical trends..

The findings provided in this report are estimates of the number of people that are homeless on a given night in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, which includes the City of Charlotte. There are several limitations to the 2017 PIT Count, as well as the PIT Count overall. Given its limitations, the PIT Count should not be viewed as an exact number, but rather a useful tool that can be used to estimate characteristics of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg homeless population and gauge changes in the homeless population over time (see "Limitations" section for more details).

The PIT Count in Mecklenburg County identified 1,476 people experiencing homelessness on the night of Wednesday, January 25, 2017. This was a 26% (519 person) decrease from 2010 and a 12% (198 person) decrease from 2016.

PIT COUNT	HIC	TRENDS
Unsheltered Sheltered	Beds	Adjusted trends
Number of people experiencing homelessness on one night	Capacity on one night (Beds dedicated to people currently and formerly experiencing homelessness)	Historical trends that use consistent project type classifications allow for more accurate analysis of historical trends.
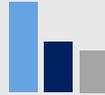
Key Findings
PIT Count

1,476

People experiencing homelessness on one night
in January 2017 in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

- 15% Unsheltered (215)
- 18% Transitional Housing (270)
- 67% Emergency Shelter (991)

12% Since 2016

26% Since 2010

* Historical data adjusted. See methodology for more details.
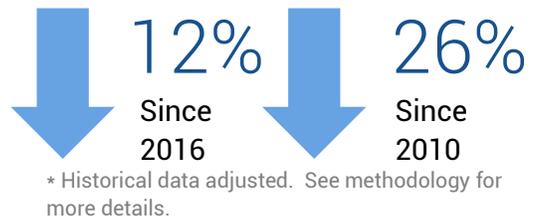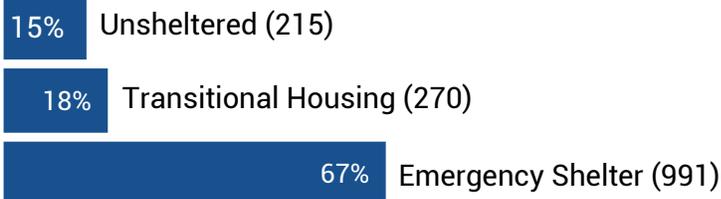
1,011 People in households with ADULTS ONLY

5 People in households with ONLY CHILDREN

460 People in households with ADULTS & CHILDREN

137 VETERANS

18-24 **66** UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

147 CHRONICALLY Homeless

21% Children

79% Black

4% Latino

44% Female
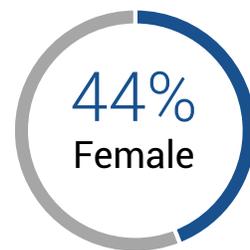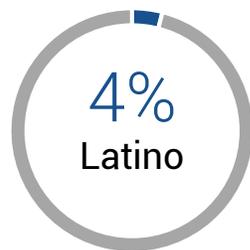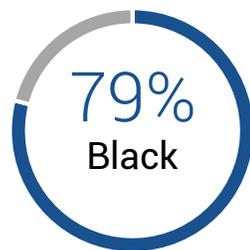
Key Findings
HIC

There is an increasing shift of resources towards rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing and away from transitional housing.

1,389 Emergency shelter and transitional housing beds

↓ 15% Since 2016

4% Since 2010

2,595 Permanent housing beds

↑ 16% Since 2016

321% Since 2010
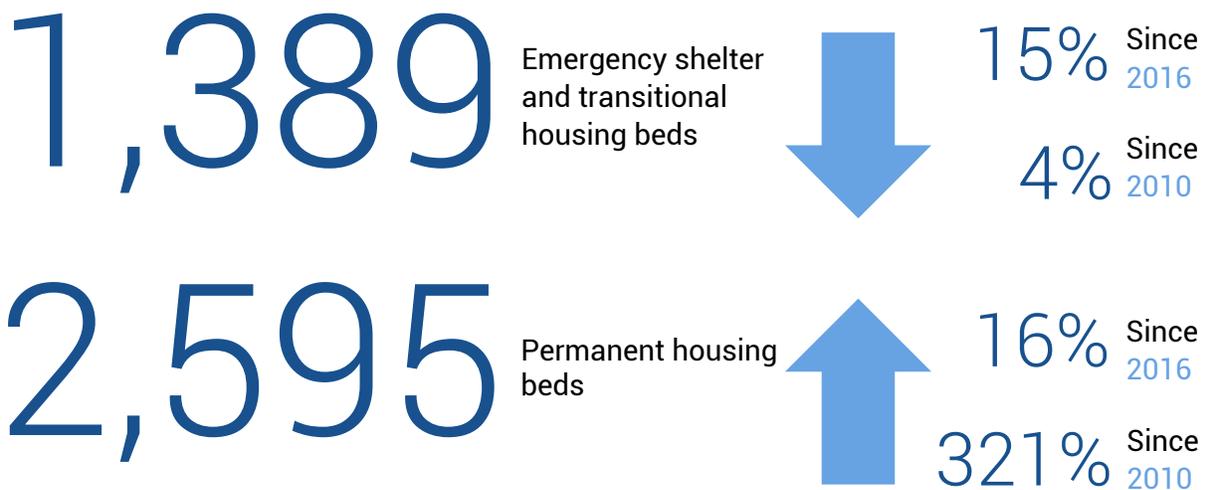
Historically, emergency shelters were at or near capacity on the night of the count, while transitional housing programs were relatively under capacity.

Bed Utilization on Night of Count
2010-2017

100%

ES
TH

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
ES	87%	97%	105%	102%	96%	101%	97%	96%
TH	84%	105%	92%	73%	82%	78%	77%	75%

Key Findings
Unsheltered

215

People experiencing **unsheltered** homelessness on one night in January 2017 in Charlotte-Mecklenburg
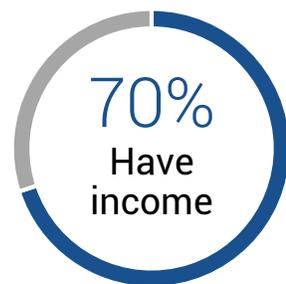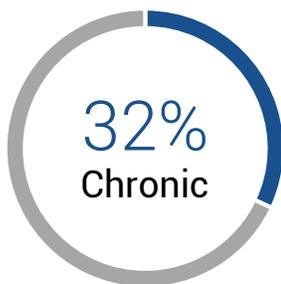
↑ **28%** Since 2016

↓ **71%** Since 2010

60% Slept on the street

32% Chronic

62% Homeless 12+ months

70% Have income

The majority (68%) of unsheltered persons have lived in Charlotte-Mecklenburg for more than 2 years.

Of the 32% (60) of unsheltered persons that moved in the last 2 years

JOB **35%** Came for job opportunities

48% Moved from within North or South Carolina

67% Did not have housing when they moved

Key Findings
Trends

Since 2010, the gap between need (people) and capacity (ES and TH beds) has decreased.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total People	1,995	2,298	2,040	1,737	1,715	1,710	1,674	1,476
ES+TH Beds	1,450	1,975	1,750	1,615	1,720	1,635	1,641	1,389
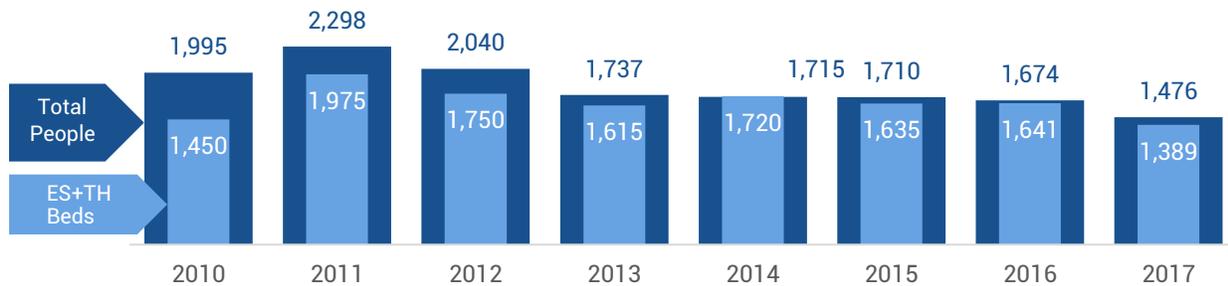
PIT
2016-2017

▲ = Increase ▼ = Decrease

Overall			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
Homelessness rate per 1,000 residents	▼ 0.22	1.59	1.37
Total homeless people	▼ 198 (12%)	1,674	1,476
Shelter type			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
Unsheltered people	▲ 28 (15%)	187	215
People in **emergency & seasonal shelter**	▼ 85 (8%)	1,076	991
People in **transitional housing**	▼ 141 (34%)	411	270
Household and population types			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
People in households with **adults and children**	▼ 47 (9%)	507	460
People in households with **adults only**	▼ 148 (13%)	1,160	1,011
People in households with **only children**	▼ 3 (38%)	8	5
Homeless veterans	▼ 12 (8%)	149	137
Chronically homeless	▼ 23 (14%)	170	147
Unaccompanied Youth (under 25)	*Not available*		

Key Findings
Trends contd.

HIC Beds
2016-2017

Overall			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
All beds	▲ 108 (3%)	3,876	3,984
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
Emergency shelter and transitional housing	▼ 252 (15%)	1,641	1,389
Emergency shelter	▼ 81 (7%)	1,110	1,029
Transitional housing	▼ 171 (32%)	531	360
Permanent Housing			
	Change	**2016**	**2017**
All Permanent housing	▲ 360 (16%)	2,235	2,595
Rapid re-housing	▲ 168 (18%)	958	1,126
Permanent supportive housing	▲ 188 (17%)	1,097	1,285
Other permanent housing	▲ 4 (2%)	180	184

Key Findings
Progress report

Community efforts are guided by the four goals outlined in the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness plan, "Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness." The plan was originally released in June 2010 and then amended in 2015. Below is Charlotte-Mecklenburg's progress on each of the four goals based on the January 2017 PIT Count.

END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

- On a night in January 2017, 147 people were identified as chronically homeless, 69 (47%) of which were unsheltered.

- The number of people experiencing chronic homelessness has decreased by 14% (23 people) since 2016.

PREVENT AND END FAMILY, YOUTH, AND CHILD HOMELESSNESS

- On a night in January 2017, 460 people in 148 households with adults and children experienced homelessness.

- The number of people in homeless households with adults and children decreased 9% (47 people) since 2016.

PREVENT AND END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

- On a night in January 2017, 138 homeless veterans were identified, 17% (24) of which were unsheltered.

- The number of homeless veterans has decreased 7% (11 people) since 2016.
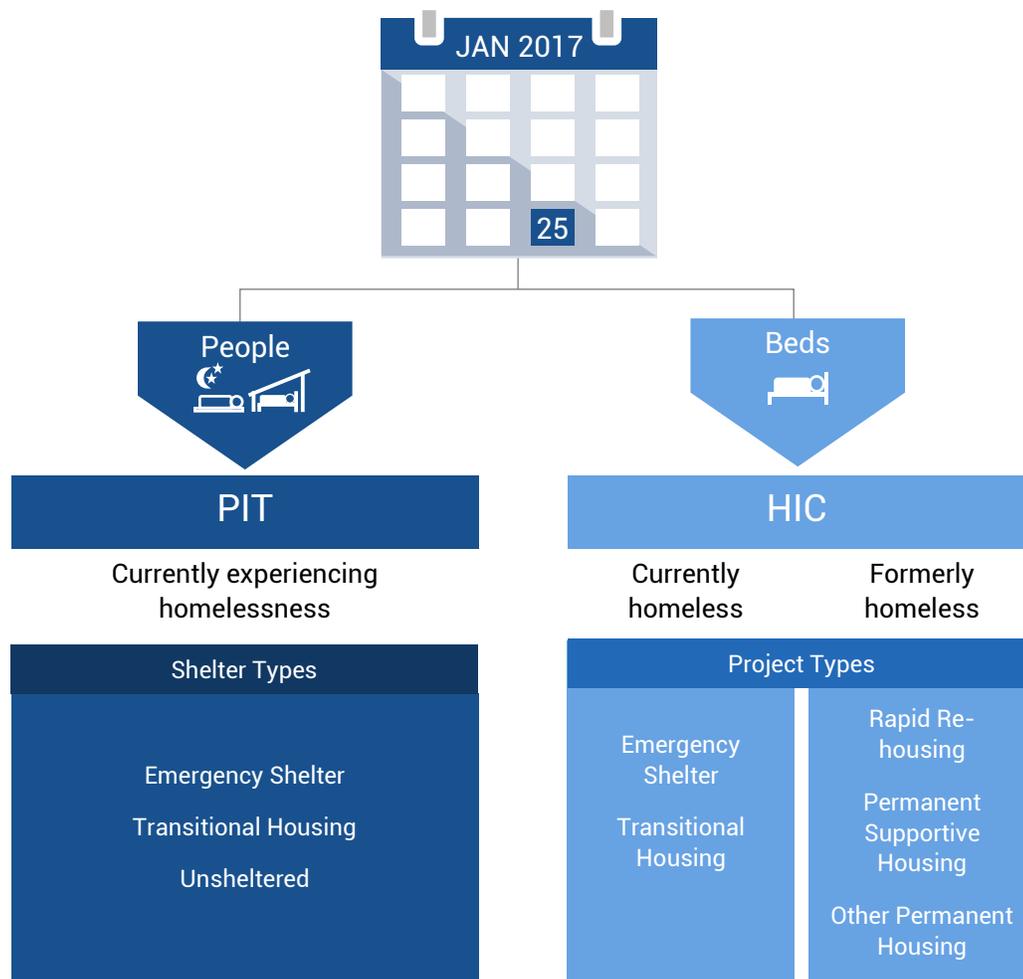
SET A PATH TO ENDING ALL TYPES OF HOMELESSNESS

- On a night in January 2017, 1,476 people experienced homelessness, with 1,261 (85%) sleeping in a shelter.

- Since 2016, homelessness decreased by 12% (198 people).

Data & Methodology

The PIT Count uses the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness in Federal regulation 24 CFR §578.3. The PIT Count estimates the number of people "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" or residing in a shelter (emergency/seasonal shelter or transitional housing). While the federal government determines the PIT reporting requirements for both the unsheltered and sheltered counts, the methodology for conducting the unsheltered count is up to each individual community to develop and implement.

The HIC is a snapshot of the number of beds dedicated to people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness on the night of the PIT Count. Beds are considered dedicated to people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness if: "A. The primary intent of the project is to serve homeless persons; B. The project verifies homeless status as part of its eligibility determination; and C. The actual project clients are predominantly homeless (or, for permanent housing, were homeless at entry)."[1]

JAN 2017 — 25

People
PIT
Currently experiencing homelessness

Shelter Types

Emergency Shelter

Transitional Housing

Unsheltered

Beds
HIC
Currently homeless | Formerly homeless

Project Types

Emergency Shelter

Transitional Housing

Rapid Re-housing

Permanent Supportive Housing

Other Permanent Housing

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[1] https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Notice-CPD-16-060-2017-HIC-PIT-Data-Collection-Notice.pdf

TABLE 1. CHANGES IN PIT METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION FROM 2011-2017

METHODOLOGY	DATA

2011

Prior to 2014, the unsheltered count used estimates of homeless persons living in places unfit for human habitation that were provided by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN
Unaccompanied children now considered a separate household type.

2014

OUTREACH METHOD
Beginning in 2014, volunteer outreach groups were used for the unsheltered count instead of using information provided by the police force. The increased effort to locate and count unsheltered individuals may partially account for the rise in unsheltered homelessness since 2013.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS
HUD strengthened chronically homeless data reporting requirements in HMIS. This may have contributed to an increase in the number of homeless people identified as chronically homeless.

GENDER
Transgender was added as a gender option.

RACE / ETHNICITY
Race and ethnicity collected for first time.

2015

INSTITUTIONAL DISCHARGES REMOVED
The decision was made by the PIT Count Planning Committee in 2015 to no longer collect information or report on institutional discharges, such as from jails and hospitals, due to concerns over discrepancies in question phrasing between the sheltered and unsheltered counts.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING EXPANDED
Formal volunteer trainings now provided.

INCREASED OUTREACH
Increased coordination with The Relatives and Time Out Youth to improve the count of unaccompanied youth.

GENDER
Option to select transgender male to female or female to male was added. Gender now collected for parenting and unaccompanied youth.

RACE / ETHNICITY
Race and ethnicity now collected for parenting and unaccompanied youth.

VETERANS
Chronically homeless status of veterans now reported.

MISCELLANEOUS
Additional details collected on unaccompanied youth, parenting youth, veterans, and the chronically homeless.

METHODOLOGY   DATA

2016

HMIS

For the first time, unsheltered count data were checked against HMIS to ensure no individuals were counted more than once. Chronically homeless status was also checked against Coordinated Assessment data in HMIS.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

HUD modifies the definition of "chronically homeless" and requires chronically homeless status of heads of households that are under 18.

GENDER

Option to select transgender male to female or transgender female to male was removed based on feedback received by HUD.

2017

HMIS

Chronically homeless status and veteran status were cross-referenced with the chronically homeless registry and veteran registry.

HISTORICAL DATA

Adjustments made to historical PIT and HIC data so that project type guidelines are consistent across years.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

HUD expands data collection for chronically homeless households to include all members of the household.

GENDER

The response categories for gender expanded to include "Don't identify as male, female, or transgender."

Local Context

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community has been active in its efforts to end and prevent homelessness. From January 2010 to January 2017, there were a number of initiatives, developments and programs aimed at addressing homelessness in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community. This historical context and combination of current strategies and initiatives help provide context for the PIT Count findings. Table 2 provides an overview of the initiatives and strategies to end and prevent homelessness that were in place in 2017. This list is intended to provide an overview of system wide initiatives, however there are many agency specific initiatives that contribute to this work as well. Table 3 provides a historical overview of community efforts from 2010 to 2017.

TABLE 2. OVERVIEW OF 2016-2017 INTIATIVES AND STRATEGIES

GOALS	INITIATIVES	STRATEGIES
End chronic homelessness	Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg	• Community coordination and collaboration
Prevent and end family, youth, and child homelessness	A Way Home Housing Endowment	• Coordinated assessment
		• Engagement and advocacy
Prevent and end veteran homelessness	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes	• Low barrier rapid re-housing initiatives
		• Permanent Supportive Housing
		• Data, research, and best practice informed decision making
		• Use of by-name registries for chronically homeless and veterans experiencing homelessness

TABLE 3. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND HISTORICAL EFFORTS

2010

HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG AND THE TEN-YEAR PLAN TO END AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS
Charlotte City Council and Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners create the Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board (formerly known as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Coalition for Housing) to oversee the ten-year plan to end and prevent homelessness.

2013

A WAY HOME HOUSING ENDOWMENT
The City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas establish A Way Home housing endowment.

ACCELERATION TO HOUSING 100 IN 100 DAYS INITIATIVE
Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days initiative begins. From May 2013 to May 2014, 442 chronically homeless persons are housed.

2014

CHARLOTTE HOUSING AUTHORITY HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST
Charlotte Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher waiting list opens.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG HOUSING OUR HEROES
Charlotte-Mecklenburg accepts the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015.

COORDINATED ASSESSMENT
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launches Coordinated Assessment.

HOUSING TRUST FUND
Charlotte voters approve a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY HOUSING STABILITY PARTNERSHIP
Mecklenburg County Housing Stability Partnership forms.

2015

HOUSING FIRST CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG
Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg initiative to end chronic homelessness by 2016 launches. Charlotte joins the national campaign Zero:2016 to end chronic homelessness by 2017.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY HIRES TWO NEW POSITIONS
Mecklenburg County hires two new positions committed to improving data and research.

2016

HOUSING TRUST FUND
Charlotte voters approve a $15 million bond for the Housing Trust Fund.
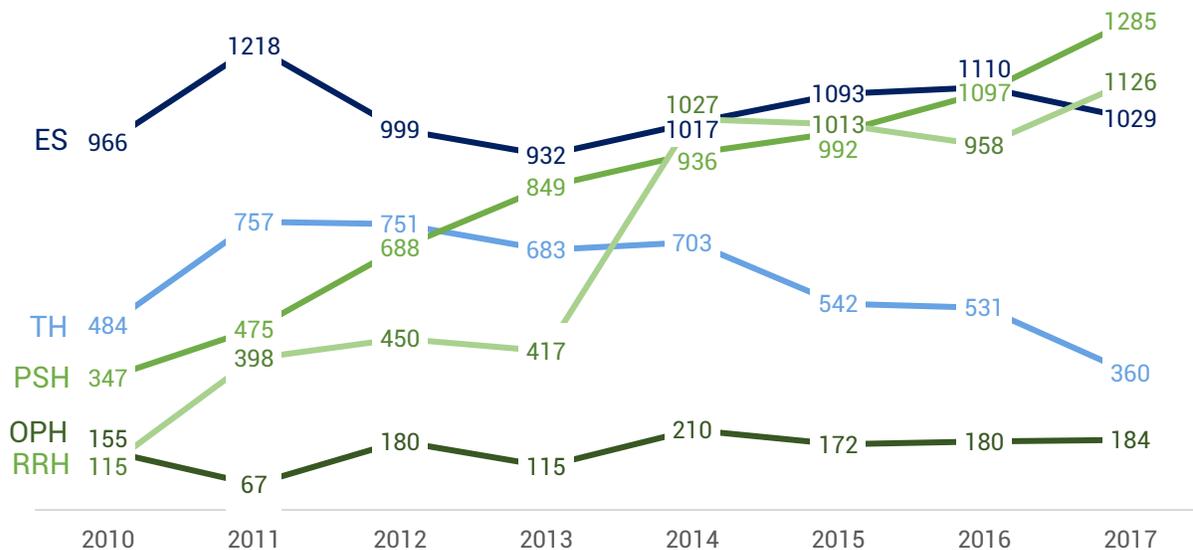
Trends in Capacity and Utilization

Historical Overview

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) gives a one-night snapshot of the number of beds that are dedicated to people currently experiencing homelessness or formerly experiencing homelessness. The HIC includes emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), rapid re-housing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), and other permanent housing (OPH) beds. When combined with the PIT Count, the HIC can provide greater insights into the capacity to shelter people experiencing homelessness on one night and how resources are being utilized.

In 2017, there were 3,984 beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. Of those, the majority (65% or 2,595) were permanent housing of some form (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing) and the remaining beds were 26% (1,029) emergency shelter, and 9% (360) transitional housing.

The historical data point to an increasing shift of resources towards rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing options and away from transitional housing. Since 2010, the number of permanent supportive housing beds increased 270% (from 347 beds in 2010 to 1,285 in 2017). Rapid re-housing increased significantly from 2013 to 2014 as HUD funding priorities started placing greater emphasis on rapid re-housing. From 2010 to 2017 the number of rapid re-housing beds increased by 879% (1,011). During this same time period, emergency shelter increased slightly (7% or 63 beds), while transitional housing decreased 26% (124 beds). The decrease in the number of transitional housing beds from 2016 to 2017 is partially due to Hope Haven's 180 transitional housing beds no longer being included in the HIC Count.

Housing Inventory Count
2010-2017

Total Housing Inventory Count (ES, TH, RRH, PSH, OPH)
2010-2017
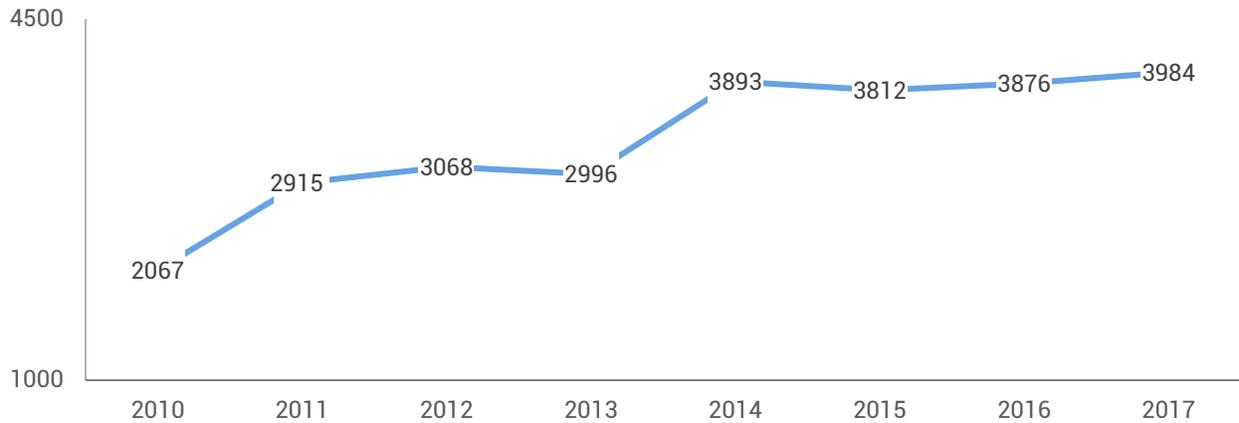
Capacity and Utilization

System Capacity

By combining the HIC and PIT Count it is possible to estimate the number of beds that were utilized on the night of the count. When there are more people experiencing homelessness on one night than the number of beds dedicated for people currently experiencing homelessness, it indicates a bed shortfall. Since 2010, the bed shortfall has decreased substantially (84%), however the shortfall has increased since 2014. On the night of the January 2017 count, there were 1,389 emergency shelter and transitional beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness and 1,476 people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. This indicates that there was a capacity shortage of approximately 87 beds. In the winter, seasonal shelter is available through Room In The Inn (RITI). During the months in which RITI is not open, there may be an increase in the shortage of beds. Despite a bed being dedicated to a person experiencing homelessness, it does not necessarily mean that the bed was occupied on the night of the count. Additionally, there are differences between emergency shelter and transitional housing utilization (see page 27 for more details).

Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Bed Utilization
2010-2017
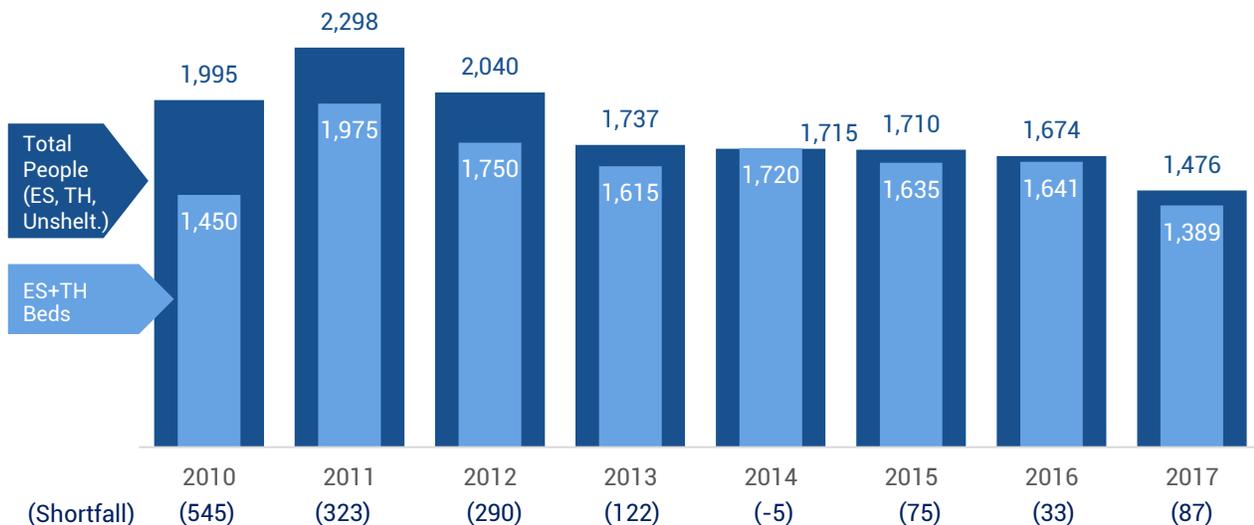
Emergency Shelter Utilization

Emergency shelter beds are consistently at or near capacity. Since 2011 shelters have been more than 90% occupied each year. In 2017, 96% of emergency shelter beds were utilized. One factor contributing to the under utilization of beds is that someone could be signed up to hold a bed for the night, but then did not show up for the bed on the night of the Count.

Emergency Shelter Bed Utilization
2010-2017

People in ES								
ES Beds								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
(Capacity)	(87%)	(97%)	(105%)	(102%)	(96%)	(101%)	(97%)	(96%)
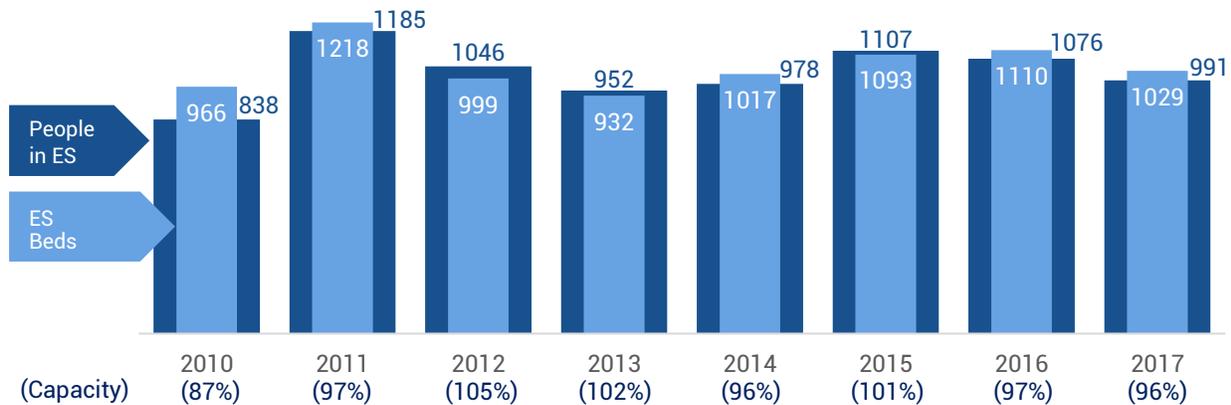
Transitional Housing Utilization

In contrast, transitional shelter beds have been consistently underutilized since 2013, despite a decrease in the number of transitional housing beds since 2010. In 2017, only 75% of transitional housing beds were being utilized on the night of the count.

Transitional Shelter Bed Utilization
2010-2017

People in TH								
TH Beds								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
(Capacity)	(84%)	(105%)	(92%)	(73%)	(82%)	(78%)	(77%)	(75%)

Bed Utilization
2010-2017

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
ES	87%	97%	105%	102%	96%	101%	97%	96%
TH	84%	105%	92%	73%	82%	78%	77%	75%
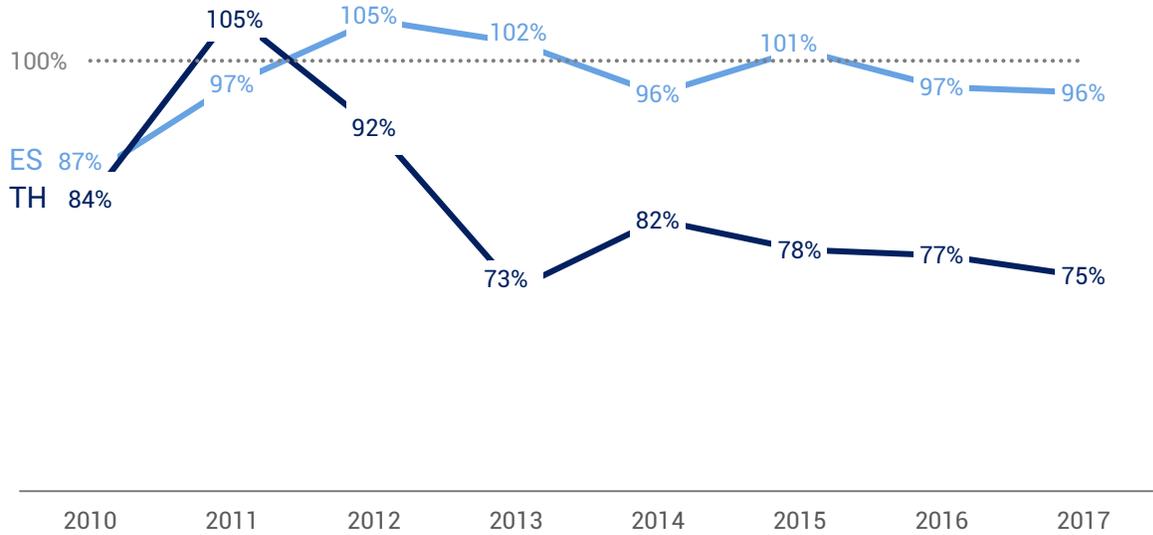
2017 Overview

Per Capita

- The per capita homelessness rate (homeless persons per 1,000 people in Mecklenburg County) **decreased** from 2.17 in 2010 to 1.37 in 2017 as the Mecklenburg County population grew.

Mecklenburg County population*
2010-2017
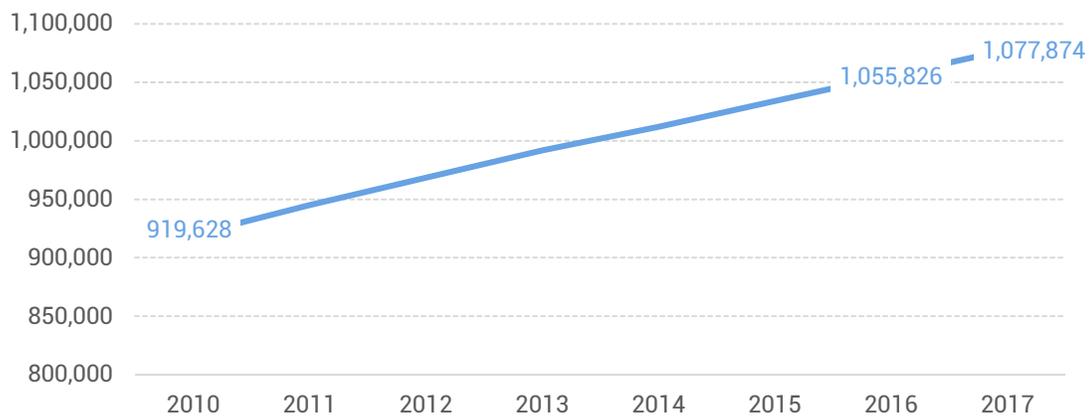
Homeless persons per 1,000 people*
2010-2017
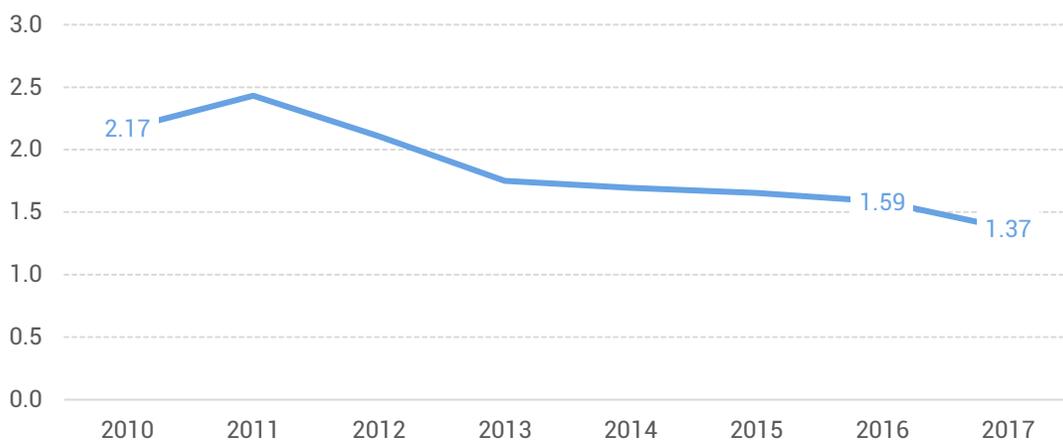
* 2009-2015 Population data obtained from Census Population Estimates.
2016 population projection obtained from the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management.

Overall, 2010-2017

- The 2017 count identified **1,476** homeless persons.

- **2010 to 2017:** There was a **26%** (519 people) decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness from 2010 to 2017. During this time, the overall number of HIC beds decreased by **4%** (61 beds). The decrease in homeless persons since 2010 is largely due to a decrease of **136** people in transitional housing and a decrease of **536** unsheltered persons.

- **2016 to 2017:** There was a **12%** (198) decrease in homeless persons from 2016 to 2017. During this same time, the number of emergency shelter and transitional housing HIC beds decreased **15%** (252 beds). The decrease in homeless persons since 2016 is due to a decrease of **141** people in transitional housing and a decrease of **85** people in emergency shelter.

1,476
Homeless persons identified on
the night of January 25, 2017

▼ 26%
From 2010 to 2017

▼ 12%
From 2016 to 2017

Overall PIT Count
2010 - 2017

All of Community Link's Transitional Housing units changed to Rapid Re-Housing

Hope Haven's transitional housing units no longer included in PIT Count

Total 1995 2298 2040 1737 1715 1710 1674 1476

Emergency & Seasonal 838 1185 1046 952 978 1107 1076 991

Unsheltered 751

Transitional Housing 406 798 693 502 573 423 411 270

315 301 283 164 180 187 215

2010   2011   2012   2013   2014   2015   2016   2017

Total Homeless Population by Shelter Type
2017

N=1,476
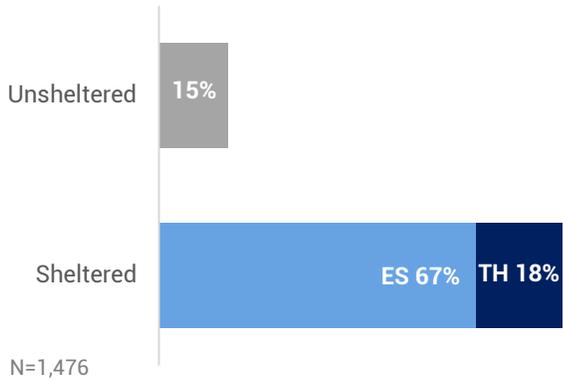
Shelter Type, 2017

- **15%** (215 people) of homeless persons identified were unsheltered, and the remaining **85%** (1,261) of homeless were sheltered

- Unsheltered homelessness increased by **17%** (31 people) and sheltered homelessness decreased by **22%** (360 people) from 2016 to 2017.

- The proportion of people experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters has increased since 2014 as the proportion in transitional housing has decreased.

PIT Count Shelter type distribution by year
2010-2017

Emergency & Seasonal

Year	%
2010	42%
2011	52%
2012	51%
2013	55%
2014	57%
2015	65%
2016	64%
2017	67%

Transitional Housing

Year	%
2010	20%
2011	35%
2012	34%
2013	29%
2014	33%
2015	25%
2016	25%
2017	18%

Unsheltered

Year	%
2010	38%
2011	14%
2012	15%
2013	16%
2014	10%
2015	11%
2016	11%
2017	15%
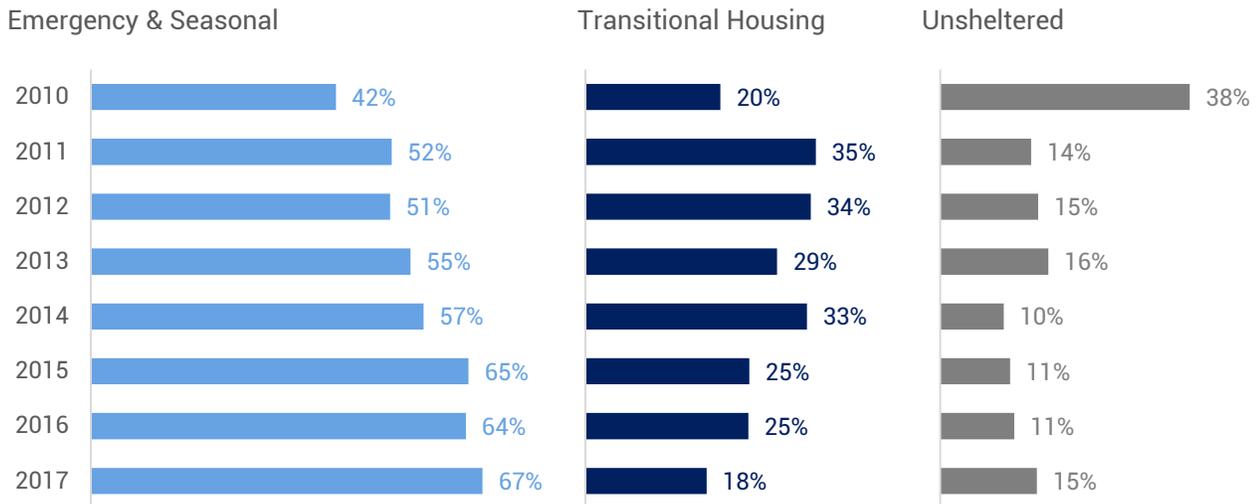
Household Type, 2017

Adult only households

- **1,011** people identified as homeless in households with adults only represented approximately **68.5%** of all homeless people on a single night.

- This represents a **13%** (148 person) decrease from 2016.

- **79%** (800 people) of individuals identified in households with adults only were sheltered.
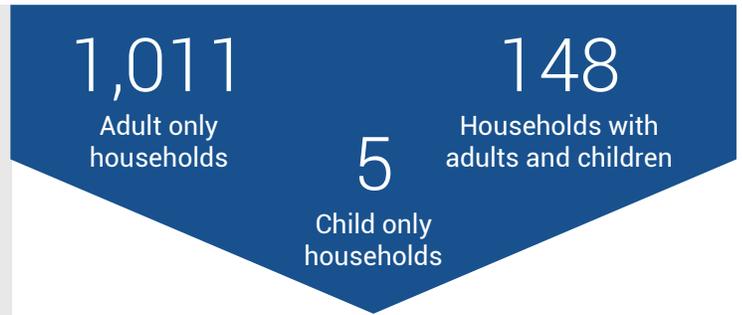
Households with adults and children

- There were **460** homeless people identified in **148** households with adults and children, representing **31.2%** of all homeless people on a single night.

- This represents a **9%** (47 person) decrease in people in homeless household with adults and children since 2016.

- **98.7%** (147) of households identified with adults and children were sheltered.

Child only households

- There were **5** unaccompanied homeless children identified on a single night in January 2017, representing **0.3%** of the population.

- **100%** of the identified child only households were sheltered in 2017.

1,011
Adult only households

148
Households with adults and children

5
Child only households

Persons by Household Type
2017

Adults Only — 68.5%
Adults and Children — 31.2%
Child Only — 0.3%

N=1,476
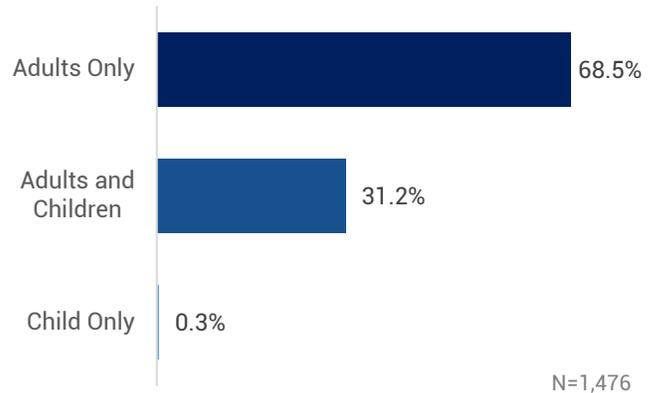
Persons by Household and Shelter Type
2017

■ Adults Only   ■ Adults and Children

Emergency & Seasonal: 63% / 36% / 1%
Transitional Housing: 64% / 36%
Unsheltered: 98% / 2%

N=1,476

147
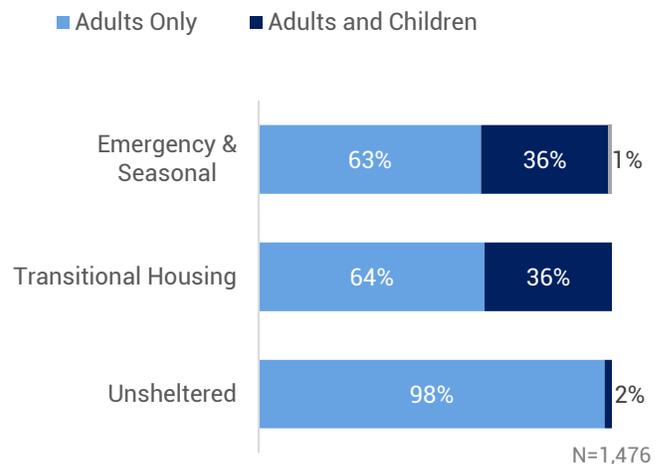
Chronically homeless persons

Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type
2017

Emergency & Seasonal	53%
Unsheltered	47%

N=147
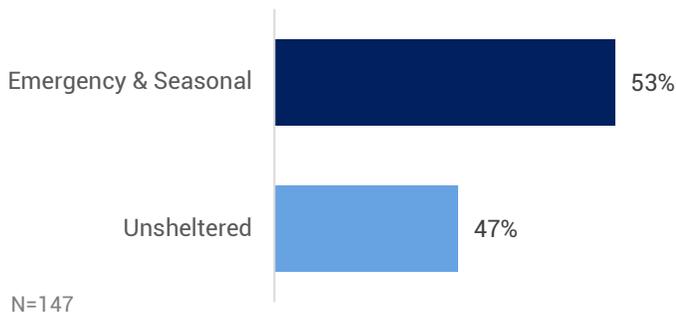
Chronically Homeless, 2017

- **10%** (147 people) of the homeless population identified as chronically homeless.

- **53%** (78 people) of people experiencing chronic homelessness were in emergency or seasonal shelter and **47%** (69 people) were unsheltered.

137

Veterans

Veterans by Shelter Type
2017

Emergency & Seasonal	46.4%
Transitional Housing	36.2%
Unsheltered	17.5%

N=137
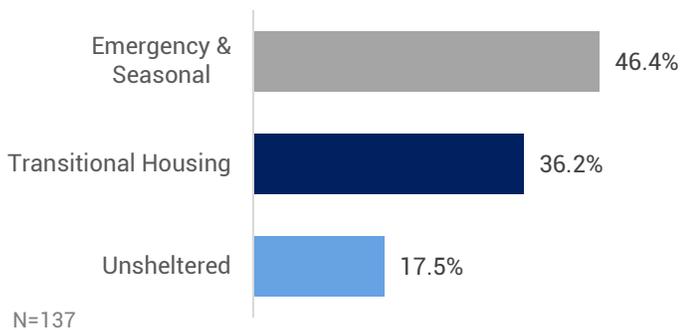
Homeless Veterans, 2017

- There were **137** homeless veterans identified in Mecklenburg County. Veterans experiencing homelessness accounted for nearly **12%** of all homeless adults.

- The majority (**82%** or **113** people) of homeless veterans were sheltered.

Race, 2017

- **79%** (1,170 people) of the total homeless population identified as Black. This is disproportionately high considering only **31%** of the general population in Mecklenburg County identifies as Black. In Mecklenburg County, **23%** of people who identify as Black lived under the poverty line accounting for **46%** of all people under the poverty line in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

- **61%** (132 people) of the unsheltered homeless population identified as Black.

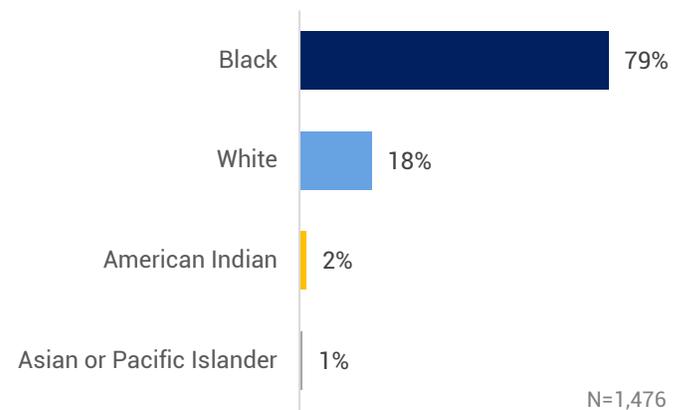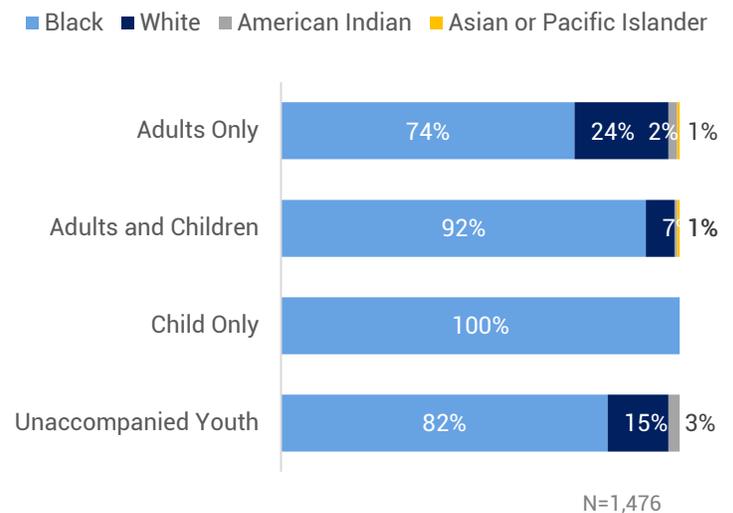- People who identify as White comprised about **18%** of the homeless population (272 people) but **57%** of the general population and **37%** of all people in poverty in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

- An overwhelming proportion of people in households with adults and children identify as Black (**92%** or **1170** people)**.** A large proportion of unaccompanied youth (**82%** or **59** people) identify as Black as well.

79% Black

3% Other

18% White

Homeless People by Race
2017

Race	Percent
Black	79%
White	18%
American Indian	2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1%

N=1,476

Homeless People by Race and Household Type
2017

■ Black ■ White ■ American Indian ■ Asian or Pacific Islander

Household Type	Black	White	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander
Adults Only	74%	24%	2%	1%
Adults and Children	92%	7		1%
Child Only	100%			
Unaccompanied Youth	82%	15%	3%	

N=1,476

4%

Latino

Homeless People by Ethnicity
2017

Hispanic/Latino 4%

Non-Hispanic/Latino 96%

N=1,476
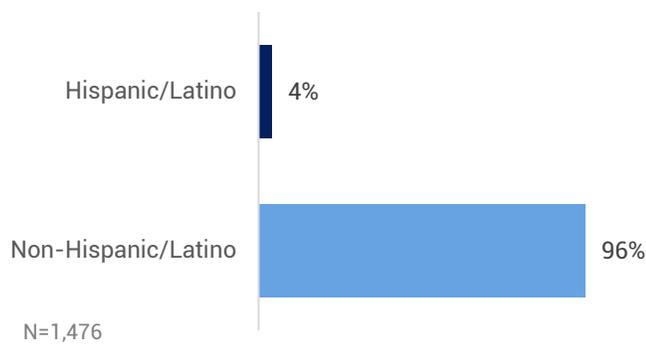
Homeless People by Ethnicity and Household Type
2017

	Non-Hispanic/Latino	Hispanic/Latino
Adults and Children	95%	5%
Adults Only	96%	4%
Unaccompanied Youth	96%	4%
Child Only	100%	

N=1,476

Ethnicity, 2017

- **4%** (60 people) of the total homeless population identified as Hispanic/Latino. In comparison, the Hispanic/Latino population comprises **13%** of the general population and **23%** of people below the poverty level in Mecklenburg County, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5-year estimates.

- **4%** (9 people) of the unsheltered homeless population identify as Hispanic/Latino.

- **85%** (51 people) of homeless people who identify as Hispanic/Latino were sheltered.

- **5%** (24 people) of people in Households with Children identify as Hispanic/Latino

Gender, 2017

- **56.2%** (829) of all homeless people identified were male in 2017, yet males accounted for **85%** (182 people) of the unsheltered homeless population.

- **43.6%** (644) of all homeless people identified were women in 2017, however women accounted for **64%** (296) of people in households with adults and children.
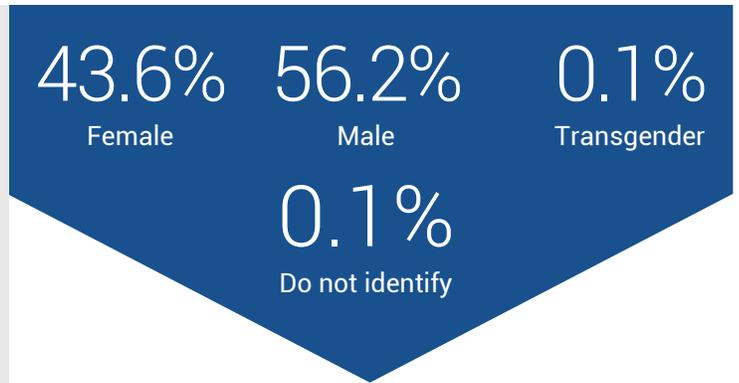
- **0.1%** (2) of all homeless people identified as transgender; one person was in emergency and seasonal housing and the other was unsheltered.

- **0.1%** (1) of all homeless people identified did not identify with a gender. This individual was unsheltered.

43.6%
Female

56.2%
Male

0.1%
Transgender

0.1%
Do not identify

Homeless Persons by Gender
2017

Male	56.2%
Female	43.6%
Transgender	0.1%
Do not identify	0.1%

N=1,476
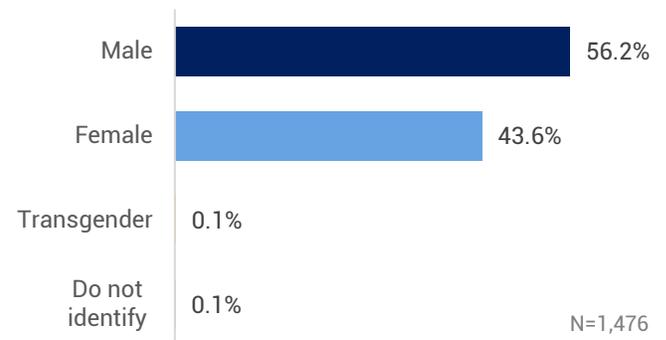
Gender by Shelter Type
2017

■ Female ■ Male ■ Do not identify ■ Transgender

	Female	Male	Transgender
Emergency & Seasonal	45.9%	54.0%	0.1%
Transitional Housing	58.5%	41.5%	
Unsheltered	14.4%	84.6%	0.5%

N=1,476
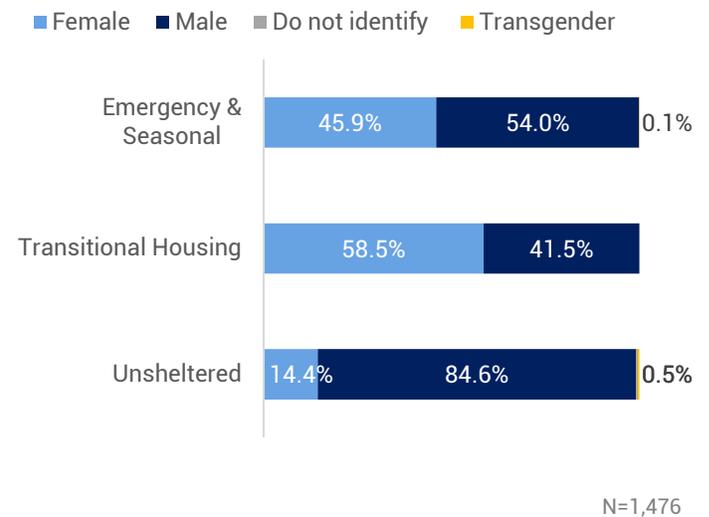
Homeless Persons by Age
2017

Persons age 17 or younger 21%

Persons age 18 or 24 7%

Persons age 25 or older 72%

N=1,476
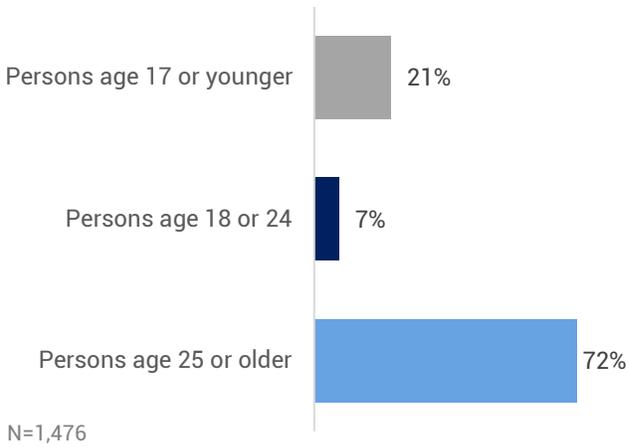
Age, 2017

- **21%** (311 people) of all homeless people identified on a single night in January 2017 were under the age of 18.

- **101** people (7%) were ages 18 to 24. Of the 101 youth ages 18 to 24, **66** (or 65%) were unaccompanied youth and **29** (29%) were part of a household with an adult and child.

- The majority of homeless people identified (**72%** or 1,064 people) were age 25 or older.

Age by Shelter Type
2017

	Emergency & Seasonal	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered
Persons age 17 or younger	44%	56%	0.4%
Persons age 18 or 24	68%	14%	17.8%
Persons age 25 or older	64%	18%	18.3%

N=1,476
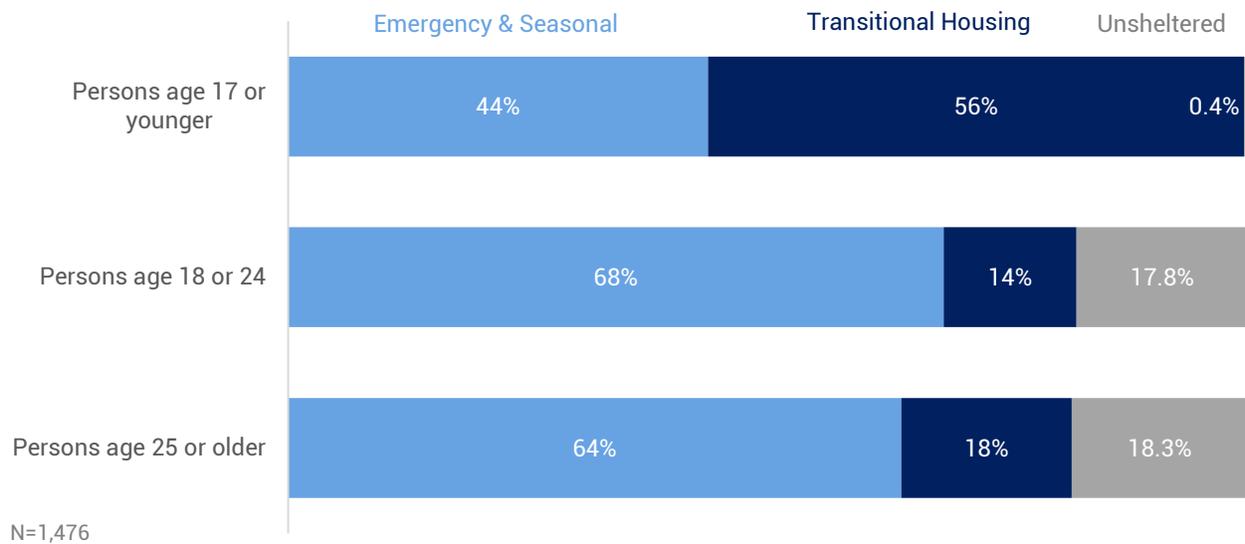
Households with
Adults & Children

DEFINITION

People who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult and one child. Also referred to as "families."

- Given changes in methodology for the unsheltered count since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

- The HUD definition of homelessness used in the PIT Count differs from the definition used by U.S. Department of Education to identify students experiencing homelessness and housing instability that qualify for McKinney-Vento services. Due to this difference in definition, comparisons cannot be made between the two numbers. See "Limitations" section for more details. For McKinney-Vento data refer to the *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Family Homelessness Snapshot* report.

On A Single Night in January 2017

- There were **460** homeless people identified in **148** households with adults and children, representing **31%** of all homeless people on a single night.

460
Homeless persons in households with adults and children

148
Households identified with adults and children

31%
Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in a household with adults and children

▼9%
From 2016 to 2017

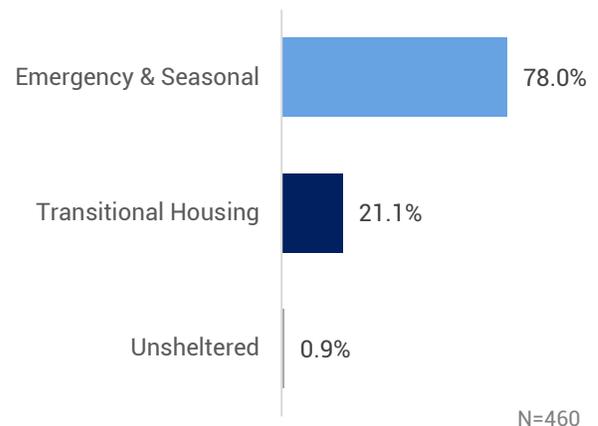## Shelter Type, 2017

- **78%** (359 people) identified in households with adults and children were in emergency and seasonal shelter.

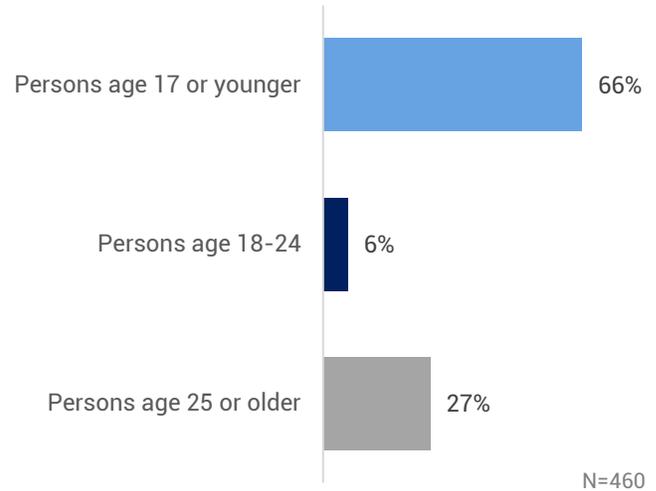- **99%** (146) of households with adults and children were sheltered.

People in Homeless Households with Adults and Children by Shelter Type
2017

Emergency & Seasonal	78.0%
Transitional Housing	21.1%
Unsheltered	0.9%

N=460

Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2017

- **66%** (305) of all homeless people identified in households with adults and children were under the age of 18.

- **6%** (29) of all homeless people in households with adults and children were between the ages of 18 and 24.

- **27%** (126) of people in households with adults and children were 25 years or older.

- **98%** (305) of homeless children were part of a homeless household with adults and children.

Age of People in Homeless Households with Adults and Children
2017

Persons age 17 or younger	66%
Persons age 18-24	6%
Persons age 25 or older	27%

N=460

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults and Children, 2017

- **64%** (296) of people in homeless households with adults and children were females. **36%** (164 people) of people in households with adults and children were males.

- Females made up **66%** (or 64 people) of those in transitional housing and **64%** (or 230 people) of those in emergency and seasonal shelter. An even share of males and females were unsheltered.

- There were **0** people in households with adults and children who identified as transgender.

- **22%** (or 64 people) of females were in transitional housing and **78%** (or 230 people) were in emergency and seasonal shelter.

Total People in Homeless Households with Adults and Children by Gender
2017

	Female	Male
Emergency & Seasonal	64%	36%
Transitional Housing	66%	34%
Unsheltered	50%	50%

N=460
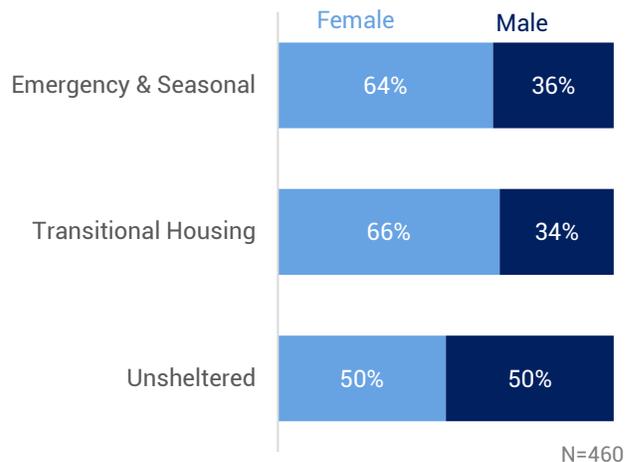
Since 2016

- The number of people in households with adults and children decreased by **9%** (47 people). This decrease from 2016 to 2017 was mostly due to a decrease in the number of people in households with adults and children in transitional housing, which decreased by **25%** (32 people), compared to emergency shelter which decreased **4.5%** (16 people).

- The number of unsheltered people in households with adults and children increased from **3** people in 2016 to **4** people in 2017 and the number of sheltered people in households with adults and children decreased by **10%** (48 people).

People in Households with Adults and Children
2016-2017
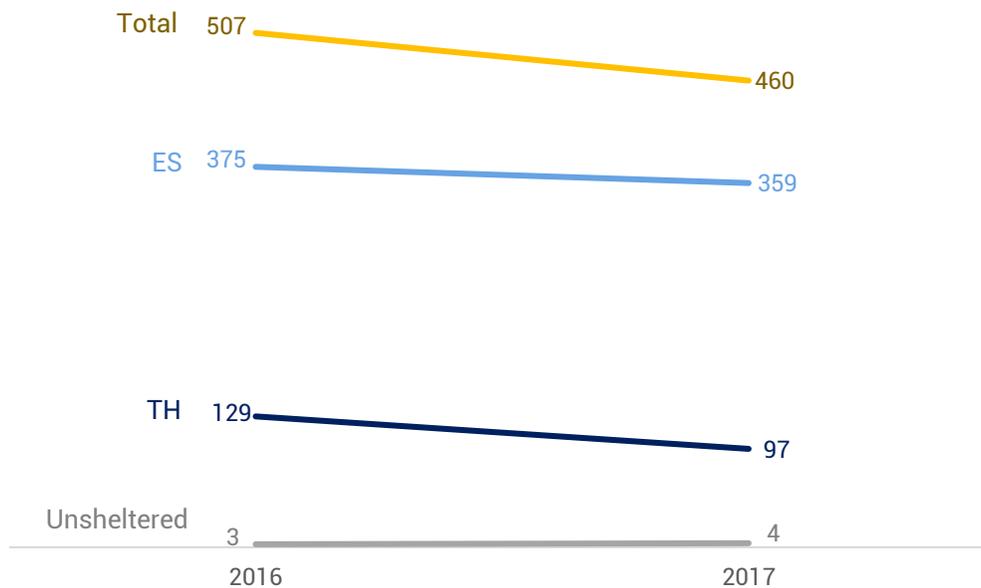
	2016	2017
Total	507	460
ES	375	359
TH	129	97
Unsheltered	3	4

Households with
Adults Only

- Given changes in methodology for the unsheltered count since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

- From 2014 to 2017, community initiatives and policies that include efforts to decrease the number of individuals experiencing homelessness include: Acceleration to Housing 100 in 100 Days campaign, Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg effort to end chronic homelessness, Housing Our Heroes effort to end veteran homelessness, and expansion of low barrier permanent supportive housing and low barrier rapid re-housing initiatives. See "Local Context" section for more details.

On A Single Night in January 2017

- **1,011** people were homeless in households with adults only in Mecklenburg County, representing **68.5%** of all homeless people on a single night.

1,011
Homeless people in households with adults only

68.5%
Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in a household with adults only

▼13%
From 2016 to 2017

N=1,011

Shelter Type, 2017

- People in households with adults only comprised **68.5%** (1,011) of the total homeless population.

- **62%** (627 people) of individuals were in emergency and seasonal shelters, **17%** (173 people) were in transitional housing.

- More homeless individuals were sheltered (**79%** or **800** people) than unsheltered (**21%** or **211** people).

People in Homeless Households with Adults Only by Shelter Type
2017

Shelter Type	Percentage
Emergency & Seasonal	62%
Transitional Housing	17%
Unsheltered	21%
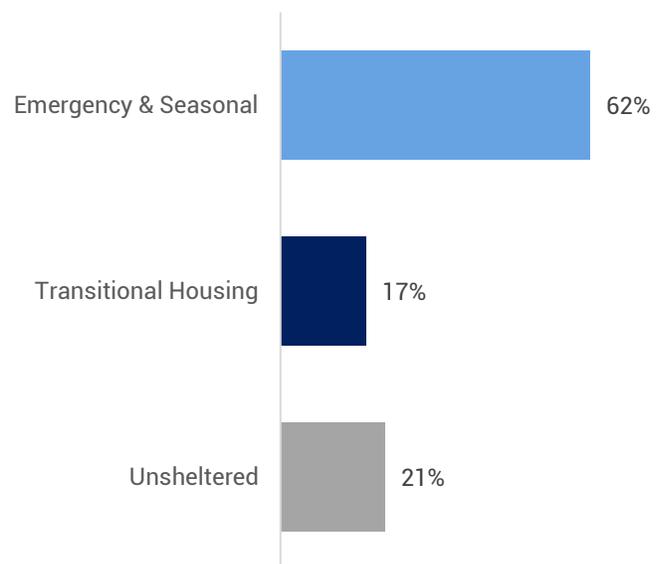
Age of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2017

- Approximately **8%** (or 78) of people in households with adults only were between the ages of 18 and 24.

- **92%** (or 933) of people in households with adults only were 25 years or older.

Age of Homeless Households with Adults Only
2017

Persons age 18-24 — 8%
Persons age 25 or older — 92%

N=1,011

Gender of Homeless People in Households with Adults Only, 2017

- **66%** (or 663) of people in households with adults only identified as male and **34%** (or 345 people) identified as female. **Two** people identified as transgender. **One** person did not identify with a gender.

- The majority (**85.3%** or **180** people) of unsheltered individuals identified as male.

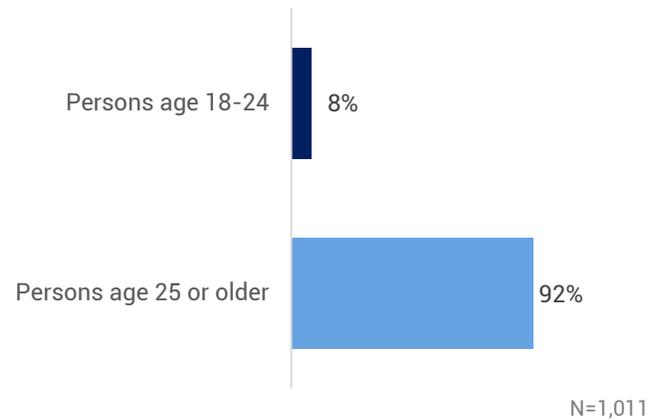- Males were more likely to be unsheltered (**27%** or 180 people) or in emergency and seasonal shelters (**61%** or **404** people) than in transitional housing (**12%** or **79** people).

- Females were more likely to be counted in transitional housing (**27%** or 94 people) or in emergency and seasonal shelters (**64%** or **222** people) than in unsheltered locations (**8%** or **29** people).

Total Homeless Households with Adults Only by Gender and Shelter Type
2017

■ Male ■ Female ■ Transgender ■ Do not identify

Emergency & Seasonal — Male 64.4%, Female 35.4%, 0.2%
Transitional Housing — Male 45.7%, Female 54.3%
Unsheltered — Male 85.3%, Female 13.7%, 0.5%, 0.5%

N=1,011
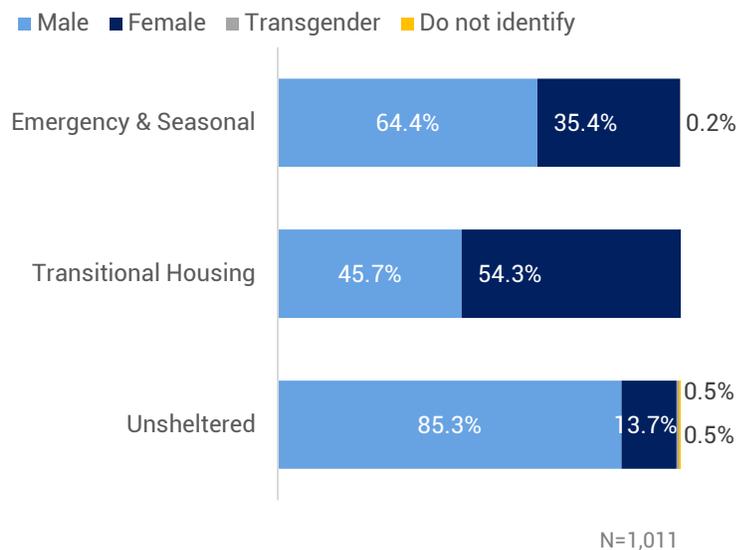
Since 2016

- The number of homeless individuals decreased by **13%** (from 1,160 people in 2016 to 1,011 people in 2017).

- The number of sheltered homeless individuals decreased by **18%** (from 975 individuals in 2016 to **800** individuals in 2017).

- The number of homeless individuals in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by **10%** (from 693 individuals in 2016 to 627 individuals in 2017), while the number in transitional housing decreased by **39%** (from 282 individuals in 2016 to 173 individuals in 2017).

- The number of unsheltered homeless individuals increased **15%** (from 184 individuals in 2016 to 211 individuals in 2017).

People in Homeless Adult Only Households by Shelter Type
2017

Total   1160 ——— 1011

ES   693 ——— 627

TH   282 ——— 173
Unsheltered   184 ——— 211

2016   2017
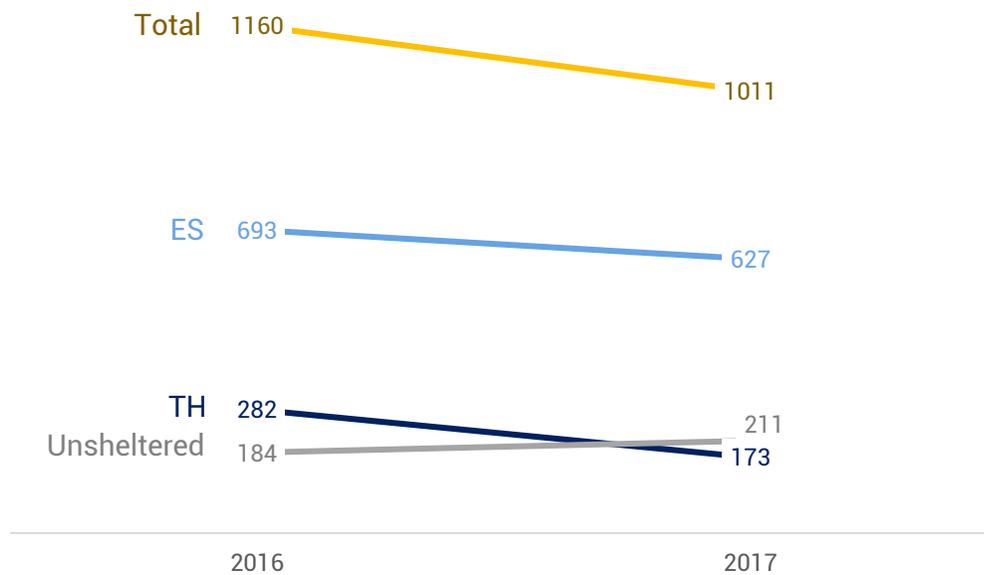
Child Only
Households

DEFINITION

People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 18.

- As part of the 2015, 2016, and 2017 PIT Counts, organizations that work with child only households were involved with PIT Count planning in an effort to improve the count.

- Homeless unaccompanied children and youth are especially hard to identify. As a result, this population is likely undercounted. Additionally, unaccompanied children and youth often do not meet the PIT Count definition of "homeless" but may be considered homeless under other definitions. See "Methodology" section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

On A Single Night in January 2017

- There were **5** children in **5** child only households on a single night in January 2017—less than **1%** of the total homeless population.

5

Homeless children in child only households

<1%

Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in child only households

Shelter Type, 2017

- None of the child only households were unsheltered in 2017. All (**100%**) of the child only households were in emergency and seasonal shelters.

Homeless Child Only Households by Shelter Type
2017

Emergency & Seasonal	100%
Transitional Housing	0%
Unsheltered	0%
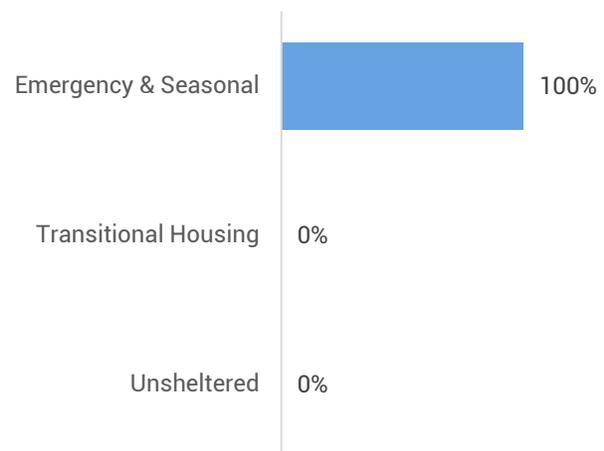
N=5

Gender of Homeless People in Child Only Households, 2017

- **Three** (60%) people in child only households were females. **Two** (40%) people in child only households were males.

- **Zero** people in child only households identified as transgender.

Total People in Homeless Child Only Households by Gender
2017

Female	60%
Male	40%
Transgender	0%
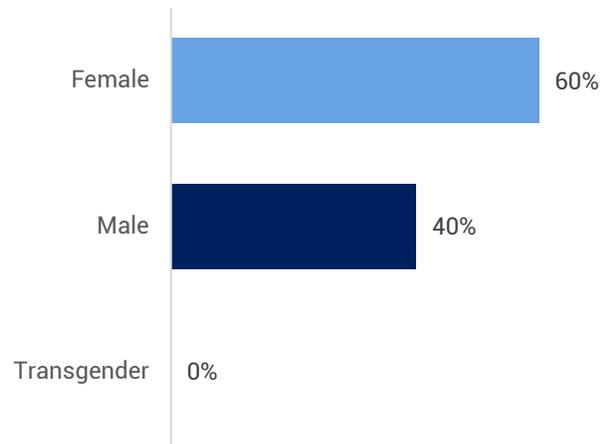
N=5

Since 2016

- The number of people in child only households decreased **37.5%** (from 8 in 2016 to 5 children in 2017).

- The number of people in child only households in transitional housing was **zero**.

- The number of unsheltered people in child only households was **zero**.

Child Only Household Shelter Status
2017

ES 8

5

2016   2017
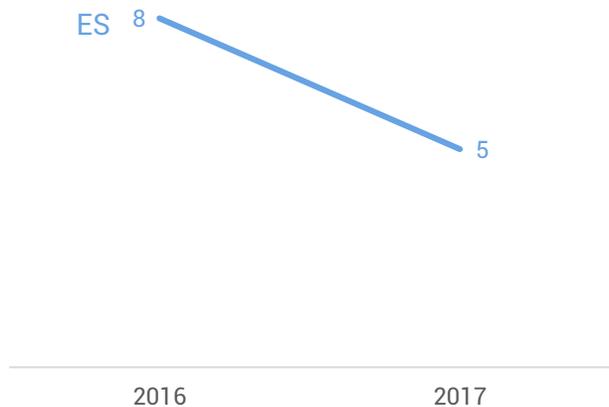
Unaccompanied & Parenting Youth Households

DEFINITION

Unaccompanied youth: People who are not part of a family during their episode of homelessness and who are under the age of 25.

Parenting youth: Youth (under age 25) who identify as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent.

- As part of the PIT Count, special events were held at organizations that work with unaccompanied youth in an effort to improve the count of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness.

- Homeless unaccompanied children and youth are especially hard to identify. As a result, this population is likely undercounted. Additionally, unaccompanied children and youth often do not meet the PIT Count definition of "homeless" but may be considered homeless under other definitions. See "Methodology" section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

- Prior to 2011, unaccompanied youth were not considered a separate household type, so changes since 2010 cannot be analyzed.

On a Single Night in January 2017

- There were **66** unaccompanied youth on a single night in January 2017—approximately **4%** of the total homeless population.

- **24%** (24) of all youth were parents.

66
Homeless persons in unaccompanied youth households

24
Parenting youth in households with adults and children

4%
Of all people experiencing homelessness were identified in unaccompanied youth households

Shelter Type, 2017

- **61%** (40 people) of the unaccompanied homeless youth were in emergency and seasonal shelters.

- **12%** (8 people) were in transitional housing.

- **27%** (18 people) of the unaccompanied youth were unsheltered in 2017.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth by Shelter Type
2017

Emergency & Seasonal	61%
Transitional Housing	12%
Unsheltered	27%
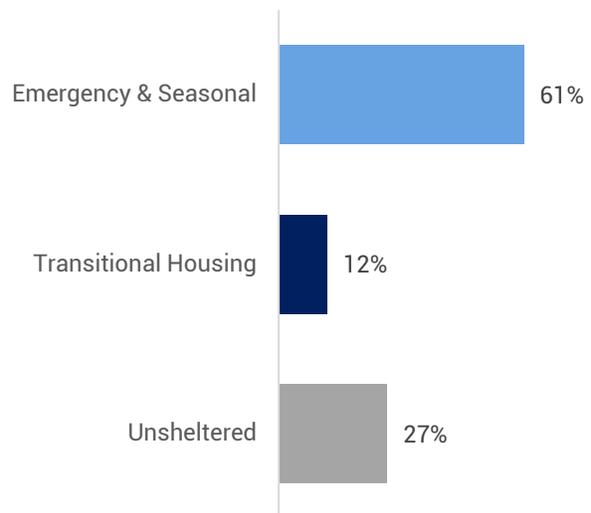
N=66

Gender of Homeless People in Unaccompanied Youth Households, 2017

- **59%** (39) of people in unaccompanied youth households were males and **39%** (26) were females.

- **One** (2%) person in an unaccompanied youth household did not identify with a gender.

- Unaccompanied youth that identified as female were predominantly in emergency and seasonal shelters (**65%** or 17 people) or in transitional housing (**31%** or 8 people).

Total People in Homeless Unaccompanied Youth Households by Gender
2017

Male — 59%
Female — 39%
Do not Identify — 2%
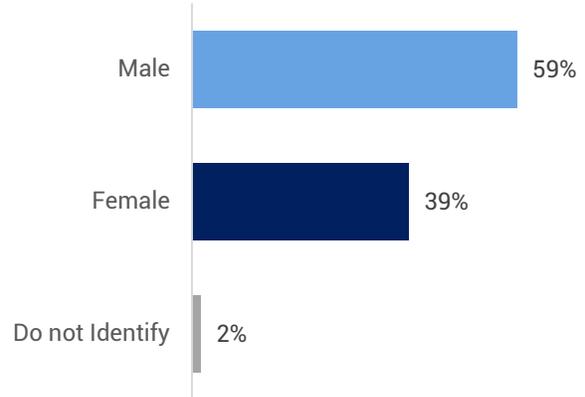
N=66

Due to adjustments to the 2010-2016 data, no historical comparisons can be made in this category.

Chronically Homeless

DEFINITION

Individual or head of household with a disability who lives in a place not meant for human habitation or in an emergency shelter; and who has either been continuously homeless for at least 12 months or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined occasions total at least 12 months. Occasions are separated by a break of at least seven nights and stays in institutions of fewer than 90 days do not constitute a break.

- From 2015 to 2017, community initiatives and policies that specifically targeted decreasing the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness included: Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg effort to end chronic homelessness and a focus on permanent supportive housing and housing first models. See "Local Context" section for more details.

- In 2014 HUD strengthened data reporting requirements for identifying the chronically homeless, resulting in changes in how the chronically homeless were identified in HMIS. In 2016, HUD modified the definition of chronically homeless. This change in definition could have contributed to changes observed in the number of sheltered chronically homeless in 2015 and the number of unsheltered homeless in 2016. See "Methodology" section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

On a Single Night in January 2017

- **147** people were identified in chronically homeless households, representing **10%** of all homeless people on a single night.

- **53%** (78) of the 147 chronically homeless people experiencing homelessness were individuals and **47%** (69) were in households with other adults. There were **0** chronically homeless households with adults and children.

- Chronically homeless individuals in adult only households represented **15%** of the total number of people in adult only households and **10%** of all homeless people.

147
Chronically homeless people experiencing homelessness

10%
Of all homeless people

▼14%
From 2016 to 2017

Shelter Type, 2017

- **53%** (78 people) of chronically homeless people were identified in emergency and seasonal shelters. The other **47%** (69 people) were unsheltered.

Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type
2017

Shelter Type	Percentage
Emergency & Seasonal	53%
Transitional Housing	0%
Unsheltered	47%

N=147
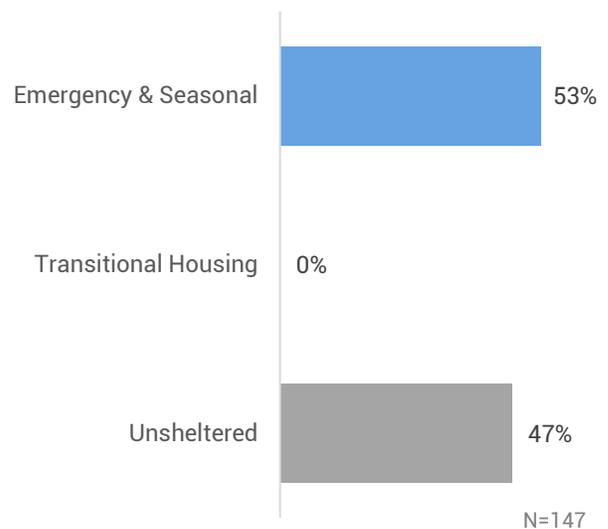
Since 2016

- The number of chronically homeless people decreased by **14%** (from 170 people in 2016 to 147 people in 2017).

- The number of unsheltered chronically homeless people increased by **17%** (from 59 people in 2016 to 69 people in 2017) and the number of sheltered chronically homeless people in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by **29%** (from 110 people in 2016 to 78 people in 2017).

Total Chronically Homeless Persons by Shelter Type
2017

	2016	2017
Total	170	147
ES	110	78
Unsheltered	59	69
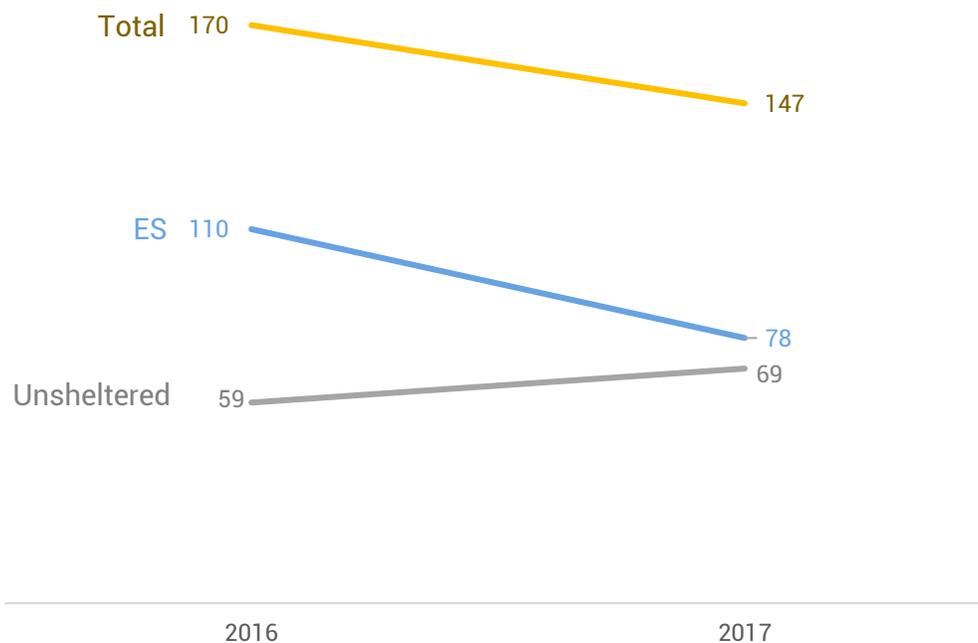
Veteran Households

DEFINITION

Someone who has served on active duty in the
Armed Forces of the United States.

- From 2015 to 2017, community initiatives and policies that specifically targeted decreasing the number of homeless veterans included the Housing Our Heroes effort to end veteran homelessness and the A Way Home Housing Endowment, which prioritizes veteran households with adults and children. See "Local Context" section for more details.

- Given changes in the unsheltered count methodology since 2013, historical trends should be interpreted with caution.

On A Single Night in January 2017

- There were 137 homeless veterans in Mecklenburg County. Homeless veterans accounted for nearly 12% of all homeless adults.

- 12% (17 people) of veterans are chronically homeless.

137
Veterans experiencing homelessness

12%
Of all adults experiencing homelessness were veterans

▼8%
From 2016 to 2017

Shelter Type, 2017

- The majority of homeless veterans were sheltered in emergency shelters (46% or 63 people) or transitional housing (36% or 50 people). The remaining 18% (24 people) were in unsheltered locations.

- Homeless veterans comprised about 9% (113 people) of the overall sheltered homeless population and 11% (24 people) of the overall unsheltered population.

Homeless Veterans by Shelter Type
2017

Shelter Type	Percent
Emergency & Seasonal	46%
Transitional Housing	36%
Unsheltered	18%

N=137
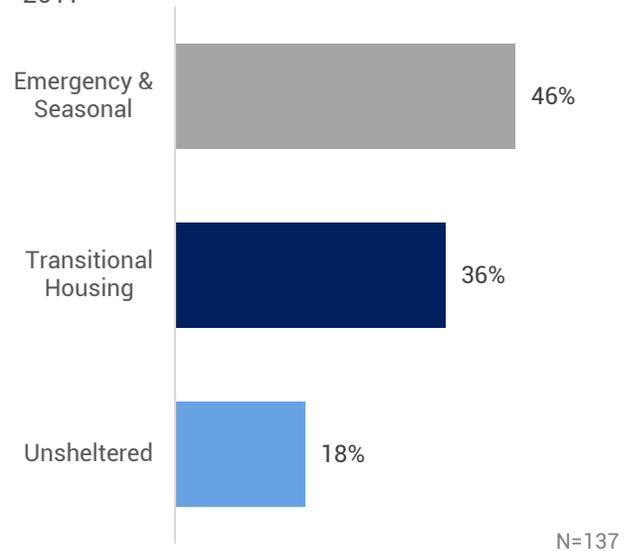
Race of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- Approximately **70%** (96 people) of homeless veterans were Black, **24%** (33 people) were White, **6%** (8 people) were American Indian

- **49%** (47 people) of Black homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelter compared to **38.5%** (37 people) in transitional housing.

- **42%** (14 people) of White homeless veterans were in emergency and seasonal shelters. A slightly lower proportion **27%** (or 9 people) were in transitional housing.

- **30%** (10 out of 33) of White homeless veterans were counted in unsheltered locations, while **12.5%** (12 out of the 96) of Black veterans were counted in unsheltered locations and **25%** (2 out of the 8) of American Indian veterans were counted in unsheltered locations

- **2%** (3 people) of the homeless veterans identified as Hispanic/Latino.

Homeless Veterans by Race
2017

Race	Percentage
Black	70%
White	24%
American Indian	6%

N=137
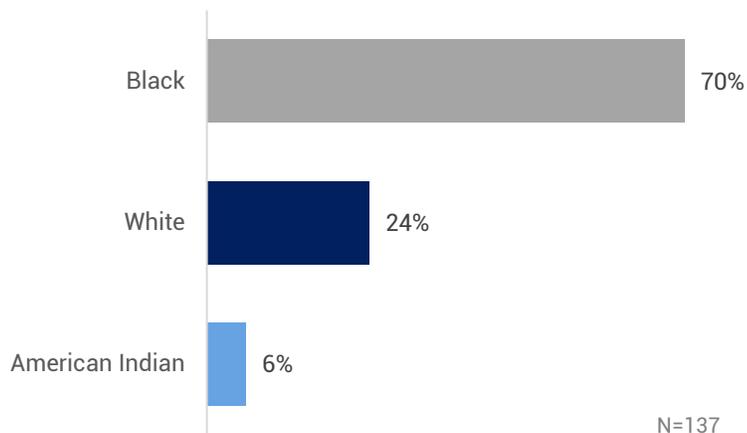
Number of Homeless Veterans by Ethnicity
2017

Ethnicity	Percentage
Non-Hispanic/Latino	98%
Hispanic/Latino	2%

N=137
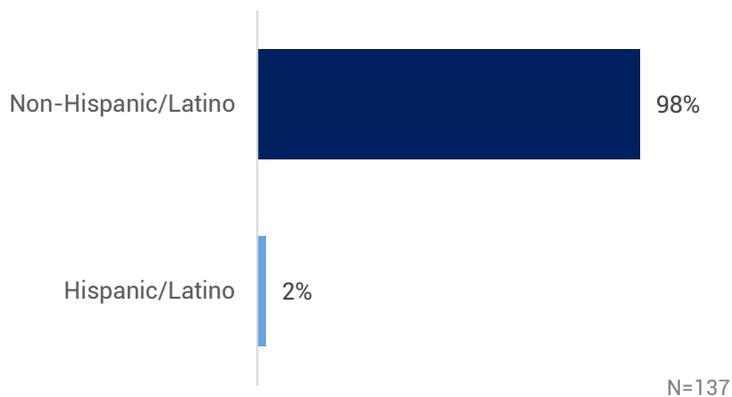
Gender of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- **87%** (119 people) of homeless veterans were males and **13%** (18 people) were females.

- **80%** of homeless male veterans (95 people) and **100%** of homeless female veterans (18 people) were sheltered.

Homeless Veterans by Gender
2017

Male	87%
Female	13%

N=137
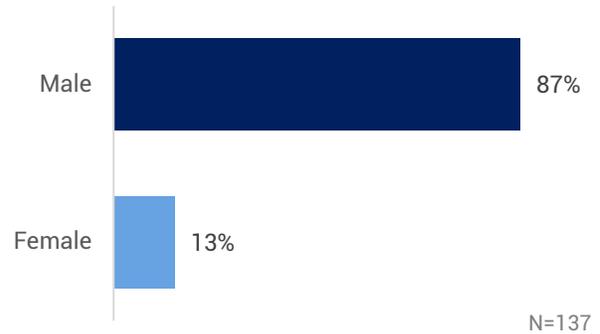
Household Type of Homeless Veterans, 2017

- **4%** (6 people) were in veteran households with adults and children and **96%** (131 people) of homeless veterans were in veteran households with adults only.

- **37.4%** (49 people) of homeless veterans in veteran households with adults only were in transitional housing. The remaining **44.3%** (58 people) were in emergency and seasonal shelter and **18.3%** (24 people) were unsheltered.

Homeless Veterans by Household Type
2017

Adults and Children	4%
Adults Only	96%

N=137
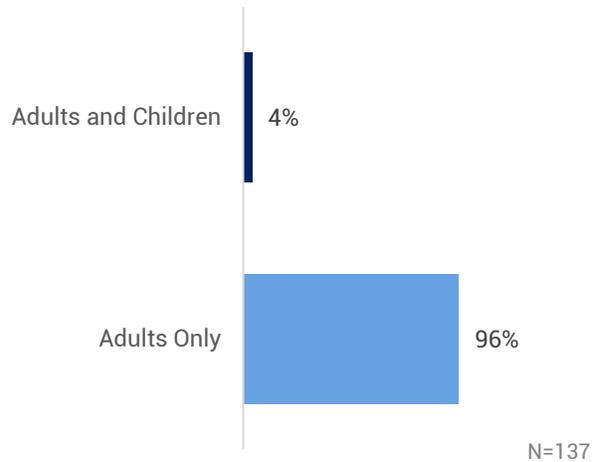
Since 2016

- The number of homeless veterans decreased by **8%** (from 149 people in 2016 to 137 people in 2017).

- The number of homeless individual veterans in emergency and seasonal shelters decreased by **5%** (from 66 people in 2016 to 63 people in 2017). The number of veterans in transitional housing decreased, by **14%** (from 58 people in 2016 to 50 people in 2017).

- The number of unsheltered veterans stayed relatively the **same** (25 in 2016 and 24 in 2017) and the number of sheltered veterans decreased by **9%** (from 124 people in 2016 to 113 people in 2017).

Total Homeless Veterans
2017

Total 149 ———————— 137

ES 66 ———————— 63
TH 58 ———————— 50

Unsheltered 25 ———————— 24

2016   2017
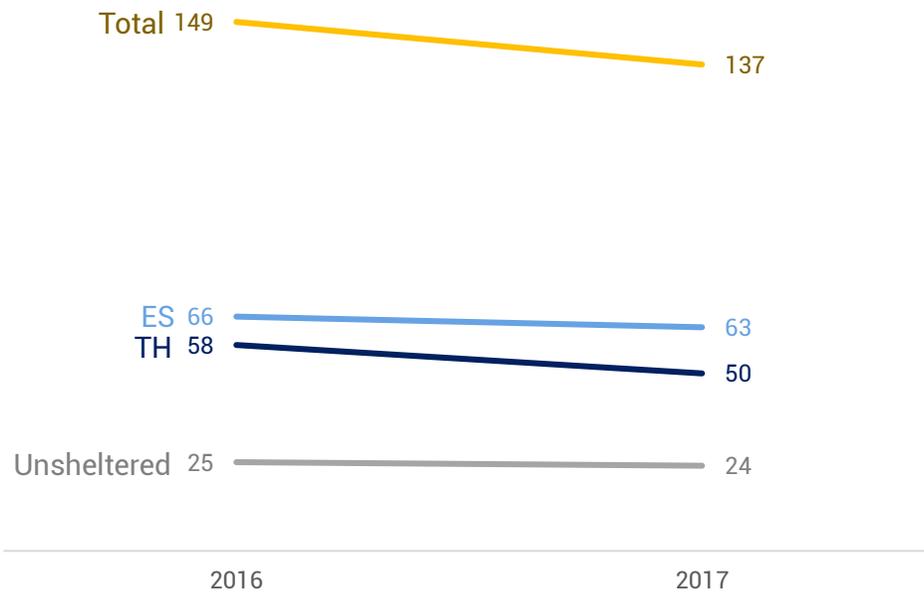
Additional Unsheltered Survey Questions

DESCRIPTION

A person sleeping in a place unfit for human habitation

- In 2016 and 2017, the PIT Count Steering Committee added additional questions to the unsheltered count survey in order to better understand additional characteristics of this population. These are not questions required by HUD.

- Because answering these survey questions was not required, response rates may vary for each question depending on whether the person chose to answer the question.

Where Unsheltered Persons Slept the Night of the PIT Count
2017

Category	%
Street	60%
Camp	29%
Other place unfit for human habitation	7%
Car	3%
Storage Unit/Shed	1%
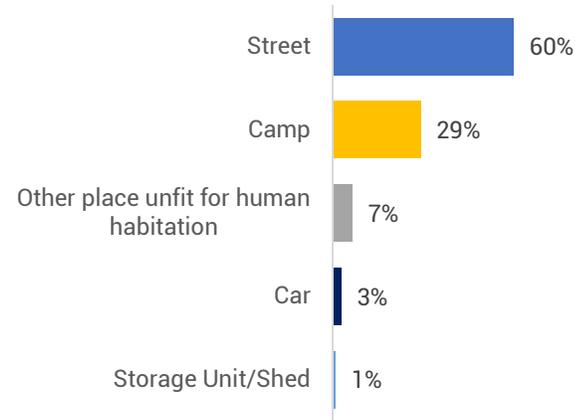
N=215

Where Unsheltered Persons Slept the Night of the Count, 2017

- The majority of unsheltered individuals slept on the street (**60%** or 130 people) or in a camp (**29%** or 63 people) on the night of the count. Other places not fit for human habitation (**7%** or 14 people) include places like abandoned buildings and bus stations.

Age of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Category	%
Persons age 17 or younger	1%
Persons age 18 or 24	8%
Persons age 25 or older	91%
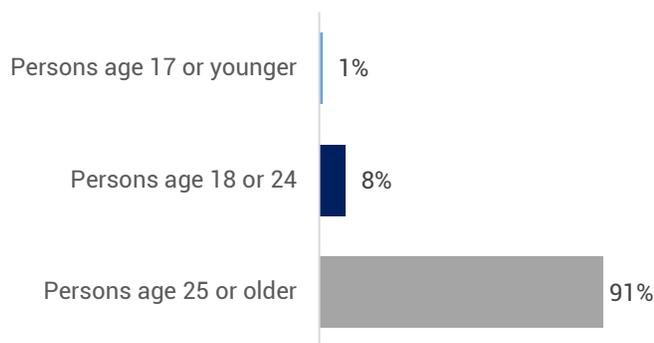
N=215

Age of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The majority (**91%** or 195 people) of individuals were age 25 or older. The average age of unsheltered persons was roughly **45** years.

Note: The average age does not include individuals whose ages were observed by the person implementing the survey.

Gender of of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Category	%
Male	84.7%
Female	14.4%
Do not identify	0.5%
Transgender	0.5%
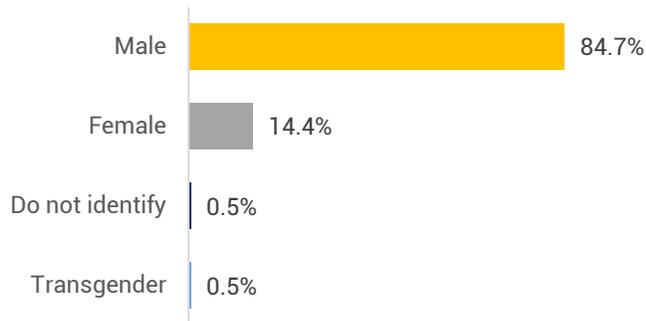
N=215

Gender of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The overwhelming majority of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness were men (**84.7%** or 182 people).

Race of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- Race of unsheltered individuals differed from the larger homeless population. Unsheltered individuals were **34%** (or 74 people) White and **61%** (or 132 people) Black compared **18%** (or 272 people) White and **79%** (1,170 people) Black in the larger homeless population.

Race of Unsheltered Persons
2017

White	34%
Black	61%
American Indian	4%
Asian	0.5%

N=215
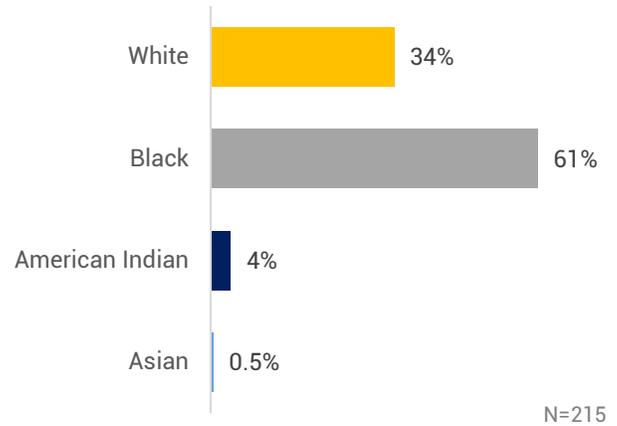
Ethnicity of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The ethnicity of unsheltered individuals is the same as the larger homeless population. Unsheltered individuals were **4%** (9 people) Hispanic/Latino.

Ethnicity of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Non-Hispanic/Latino	96%
Hispanic/Latino	4%

N=215
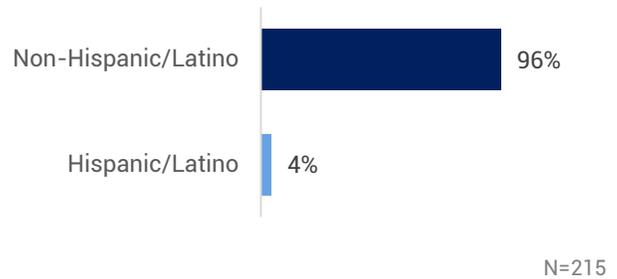
Veteran Status of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- **11%** (or 24 people) of the unsheltered individuals were veterans.

Veteran Status of Unsheltered Persons
2017
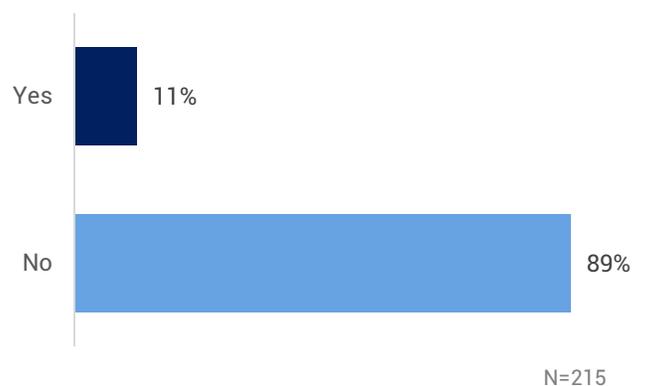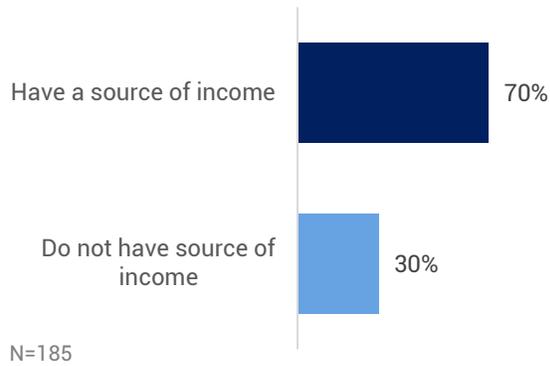
Yes	11%
No	89%

N=215

Income of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Have a source of income	70%
Do not have source of income	30%

N=185

Source of Income of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The majority of individuals received income from employment (**55%** or 72 people) or disability income (**24%** or 31 people).

Source of Income of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Employment	55% (72)
Disability income	24% (31)
Panhandling	13% (17)
Other	3% (4)
Donating plasma	2% (3)
Family/friends	2% (2)
Sex work	1% (1)

N=130
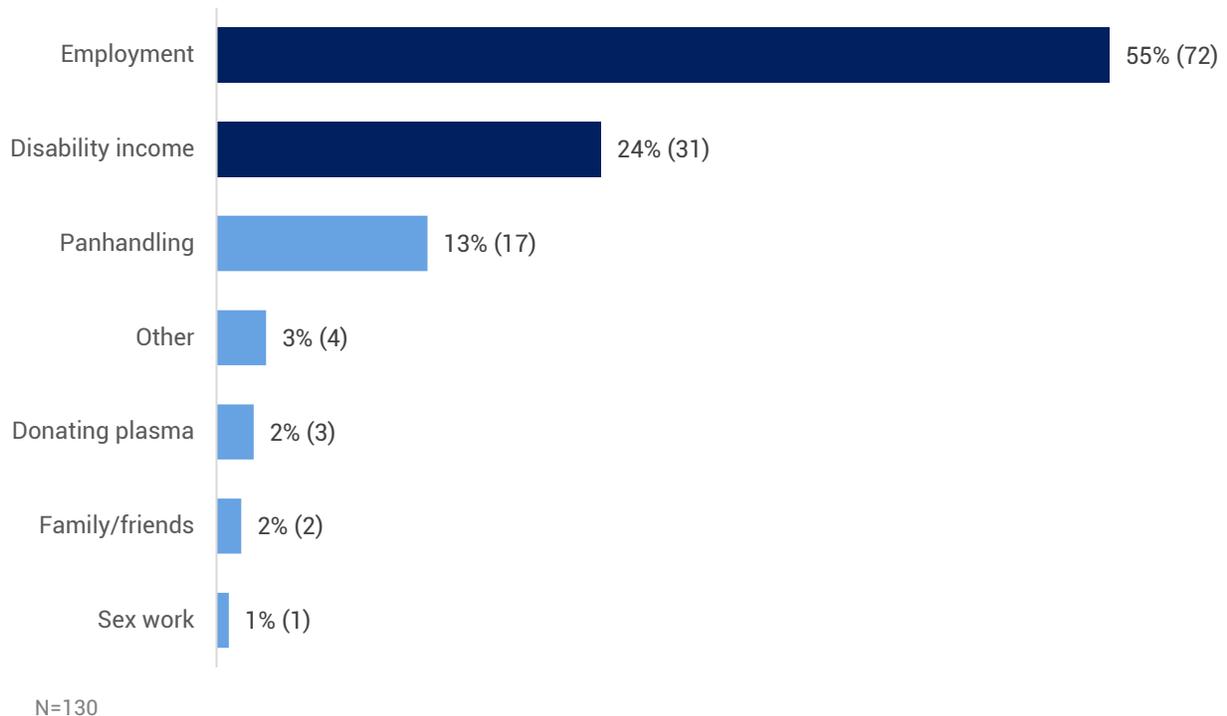
Chronic Homelessness Status of People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness, 2017

- **68%** (146) of those unsheltered were not chronically homeless and **32%** (69) were chronically homeless.
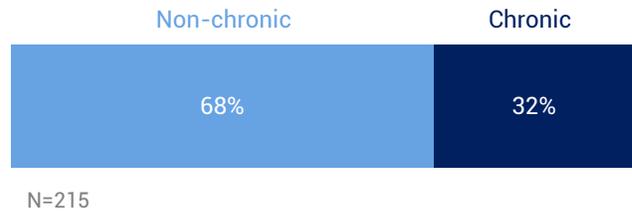
Chronic Homelessness Status of Unsheltered Persons
2017

Non-chronic	Chronic
68%	32%

N=215

Length of Current Homelessness Episode of Unsheltered Persons, 2017

- The overwhelming majority (**62%** or 101 people) of unsheltered individuals' current episode of homelessness was more than 12 months.

Note: While unsheltered persons' current length of homelessness may be for more than 12 months, they are not classified as chronically homeless unless they also have a disability.

Length of Current Homelessness Episode of Unsheltered Persons
2017

12+ months	62%
4 -6 months	13%
1 - 3 months	9%
7 - 11 months	7%
7-30 days	6%
A week or less	3%
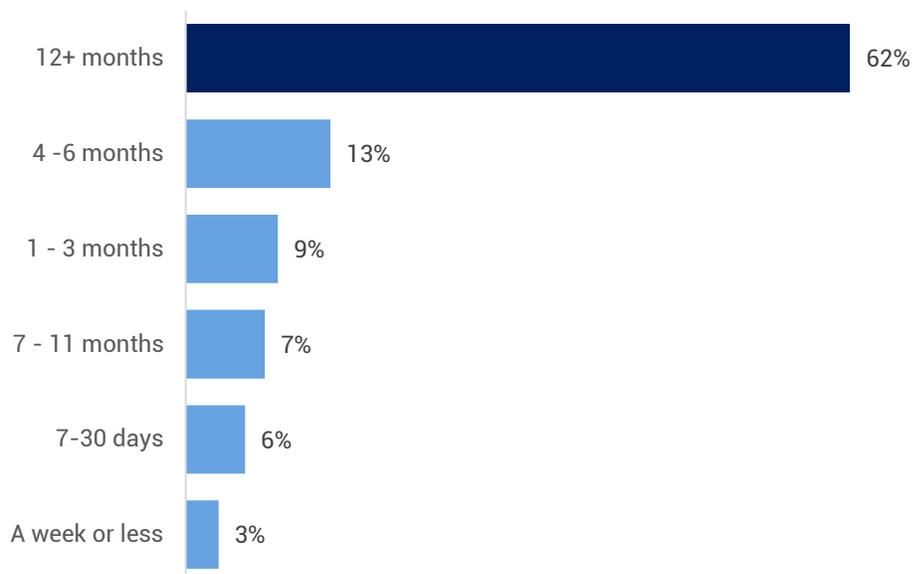
N=163

Whether Unsheltered Persons had Stayed in a Shelter in the Last 2 years
2017

Yes	47%
No	53%

N=182

Why Unsheltered Persons were not in a Shelter, 2017

- **30%** (or 52 people) of unsheltered individuals said the main reason they did not stay in a shelter was because they were full or unclean.

Note: 15% of unsheltered individuals stated a reason of "Other" however there was not enough information to provide analysis of this category.

Why Unsheltered Persons were not in a Shelter
2017

Shelter is full	17%
Other	15%
Unclean shelters	13%
I do not feel safe	11%
I am afraid my things will be stolen	10%
Too many people to feel comfortable	7%
Banned/not eligible	7%
Too structured/Lack of control	7%
Lack of privacy / fear of crowds	6%
I do not want to be separated from companion/pet	3%
Hours do not work with job schedule	2%
Shelter does not allow substance use	1%
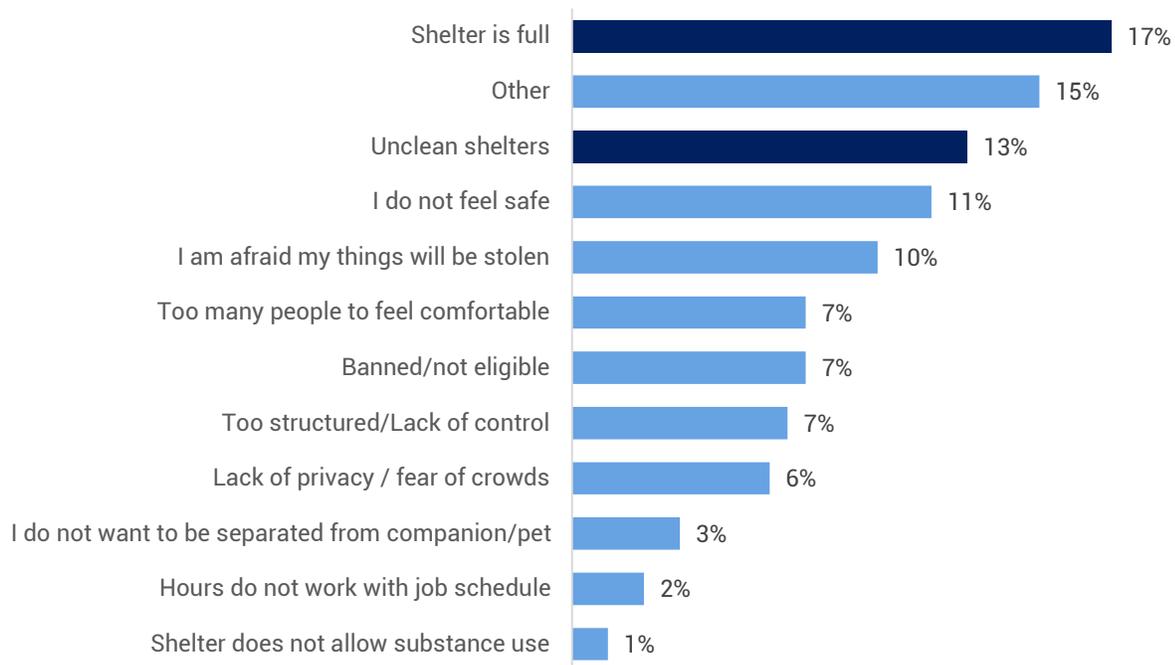
N=176

Persons Moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in Last 2 Years, 2017

- The majority (**68%**) of unsheltered persons have lived in Charlotte-Mecklenburg for more than 2 years. The remaining **32%** moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last two years.

- The majority of individuals that moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years moved from North/South Carolina (**48%** or 29 people) and other parts of the U.S. (**40%** or 24 people).

- Of those that moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years, the majority relocated for job opportunities (**35%** or 21 people) or family/friends (**30%** or 18 people).

- Roughly **two-thirds** (or 38 people) of the unsheltered people who came to Charlotte-Mecklenburg within the last two years did not have housing when they arrived.

Note: 12% of unsheltered individuals stated a location of "Other" however there was not enough information to provide analysis of this category.

Have you lived anywhere else besides Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years?
2017

No	68%
Yes	32%

N=185
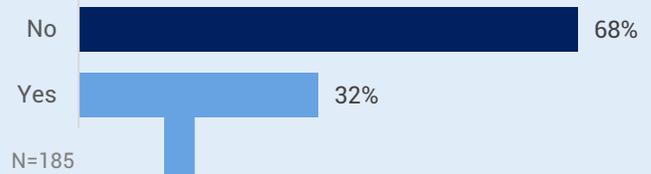
Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years, where did they move from?
2017

Surrounding County	13%
Other part of NC	27%
South Carolina	8%
Other part US	40%
Unknown	12%

N=60
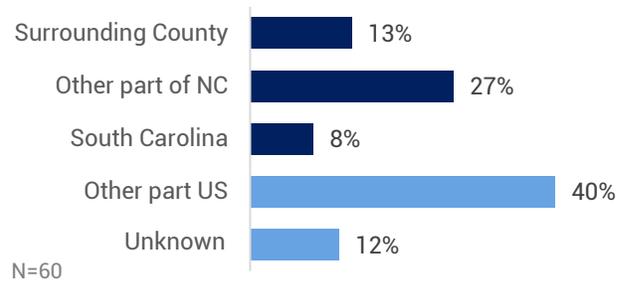
Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in the last 2 years, did they have housing when they moved?
2017

Did not have housing	Had housing
67%	33%

N=57

Of those who moved to Charlotte-Mecklenburg in last 2 Years, why did they move?
2017

Job Opportunities	35%
Family / Friends	30%
Other	12%
I want a fresh start	8%
I am from here	8%
Access to Services / Resources	3%
I like it here	2%
I am fleeing an abusive situation	2%

N=60
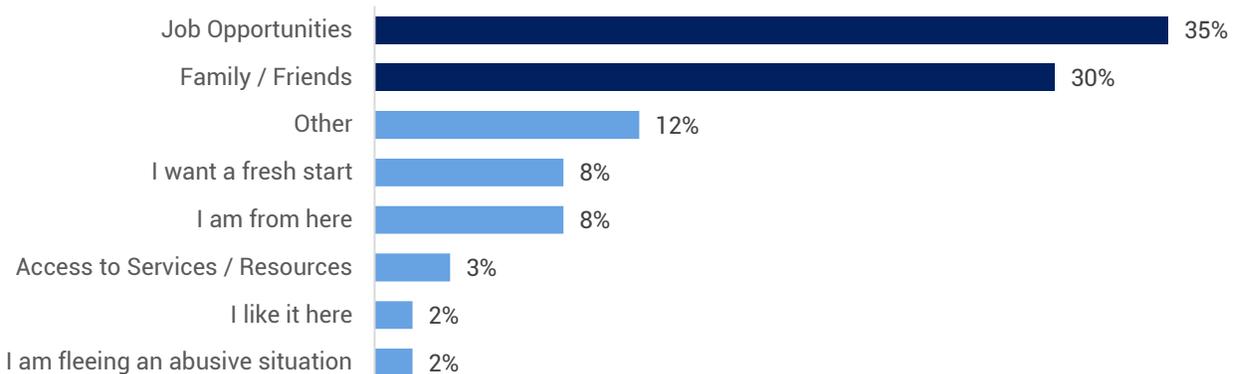
Appendix

DATA & METHODOLOGY

Unsheltered PIT Count

The unsheltered portion of the PIT Count attempts to estimate the number of persons living in places unfit for human habitation on the night of Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

The 2017 PIT Count occurred with the assistance of over 170 volunteers on 24 survey teams. Volunteers went out Thursday morning to ask people where they had slept the night before to identify people sleeping in places unfit for human habitation.

Two volunteer training sessions were held to familiarize volunteers with the PIT Count and survey. Survey locations included uptown streets, homeless camps, greenways, soup kitchens, libraries, and hospital waiting rooms.

As part of a nationwide effort to establish baseline data for youth, special data collection strategies were employed to address the unique data collection needs of unsheltered homeless youth. Strategies included targeting known locations for unsheltered youth, utilizing youth-specific providers and including screening questions that differentiate between youth who are homeless under non-HUD definitions and those homeless under the HUD definition.

Data collection

For the unsheltered data collection in 2017, volunteers collected data on a printed form. Volunteers were divided into teams that were headed by a captain. Each team was assigned to a specific geographic area within Mecklenburg County and received a map to ensure maximum coverage of the geographic area. Street outreach staff from Urban Ministry Center with assistance from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department coordinated the unsheltered count and provided information of where camps are located throughout the county so that teams could target those areas.

Recognizing that verifying chronic homeless status requires multiple responses to survey questions, volunteers had access to a hotline during the count in order to verify chronic homelessness status of unsheltered persons in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The unsheltered persons being interviewed provided consent before HMIS records were checked. If a person was homeless but unwilling to answer all the questions for the PIT Count, volunteers were allowed to answer the following items through observation: age, gender, race, and ethnicity.

Once collected, the data were entered into an Excel spreadsheet by a staff person. These data were cross-referenced with HMIS data to improve accuracy and prevent duplicate entries for the sheltered and unsheltered count. Final data sets were reviewed by a data quality review committee comprised of local agency volunteers.

UNSHELTERED COUNT

Estimates the number of unsheltered persons living in places unfit for human habitation on
January 25, 2017

170+   24
volunteers   teams

LOCATIONS

Uptown streets, homeless camps, greenways, soup kitchens, the library, and hospital waiting rooms

WEATHER

Low 57°, High 66°
Light rain and overcast

The weather was warmer than last year's PIT Count when there was a low of 32°

Weather

The 2017 PIT Count occurred on a night that was warmer than normal, which may have resulted in a higher number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations.[2]

Overnight Low	2014	2015	2016	2017
	10°	27°	32°	57°

Sheltered PIT Count

The sheltered count provides census data on all households with adults and children, households with adults only, and child only households sleeping in "a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (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) on the night designated for the count."[3]

The sheltered count excludes persons who are precariously housed, such as staying with family or friends, living in a motel or hotel paid for without a voucher, living in permanent housing units, receiving temporary assistance while living in conventional housing, or staying at a hospital, residential treatment facility, foster care, or detention facility.

Data collection

For the sheltered count data in 2017, all agencies in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) were required to submit their census data for the PIT Count.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg HMIS database was used to compile the sheltered count data for CoC agencies that use HMIS. Reports pulled from HMIS were checked for data quality issues and to verify that data were accurate. For CoC agencies that do not use HMIS and domestic violence agencies, forms were provided for data entry. Once the forms were collected, the data in the forms were reviewed for completeness and accuracy before being entered into HMIS as project entries. In total, 14 agencies, representing 21 projects, participated in the sheltered count.

HIC

The housing inventory count provides a one-night snapshot of the capacity to house people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness. The HIC includes the number of beds designated for people experiencing homelessness (emergency and seasonal shelter and transitional housing) and formerly experiencing homelessness (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing).

Data collection

All agencies in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care (CoC) were required to participate in the HIC. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg HMIS Database was used to compile the data for CoC agencies that use HMIS. Data were checked by CoC staff and reviewed by the PIT Count Steering Committee. 23 agencies and 57 projects are represented in the HIC. The number of agencies and programs included in the HIC is larger than the number included in the PIT Count because the PIT does not include permanent housing, while the HIC does.

SHELTERED COUNT

A census of households sleeping in a shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements on January 25, 2017

SOURCE
HMIS Data

14 agencies   21 projects

HIC

A snapshot of the number of beds dedicated to serving people experiencing or formerly experiencing homelessness on January 25, 2017

23 agencies   57 projects

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[2] Source: https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/usa/charlotte/historic?month=1&year=2017
[3] https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Notice-CPD-16-060-2017-HIC-PIT-Data-Collection-Notice.pdf

Changes in data and methodology in 2017

Data requirements and definitions are established by HUD and have changed from year to year as the HUD PIT Count data collection requirements have expanded, and as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community makes enhancements to the data collection methodology. See Table 1 for a summary of changes made to the PIT Count data and methodology from 2009 to 2016. The following changes to data collection occurred in 2017:

- **Chronically homeless:** Chronic homelessness is now reported by household type. For households with multiple individuals, all members of the household should be counted as chronically homeless.

- **Gender:** The response categories for gender expanded to include "Don't identify as male, female, or transgender."

Methodology

- **Additional survey questions added:** Based on community feedback, the PIT Count Steering Committee decided to collect additional information on people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, specifically related to: source of income and whether the person or household had ever stayed in a shelter in Mecklenburg County in the past 2 years.

- **Adjustments to historical data:** Historical PIT Count sheltered data and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to use consistent project type classifications. Since 2010, HUD has provided additional guidance on how to define project types and what project types should be included or excluded from the PIT and HIC. The result is that project types were historically included in the PIT and HIC that would not be included under HUD's current guidelines. The adjusted data uses consistent project type classifications, allowing for more accurate analysis of historical trends. The adjusted PIT data from 2010 to 2015 are available by shelter type but are not available by household type. Data at the household type level are only available for 2016 and 2017. While this limits the ability to look further back historically, it allows for more accurate trend data from 2016 to 2017 and creates the foundation for more accurate historical data moving forward. The result of the adjustments is that the overall homeless count decreased for each year, as did the inventory. Over time, the trend is still a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness, however the decrease is at a slower rate compared to the unadjusted numbers. See the Appendix for more details on the differences between the original and adjusted numbers.

- **Data verification:** Both sheltered and unsheltered count data were cross-referenced with the chronic and veteran homelessness registries to verify status for each.

- **Planning:** The planning process for the PIT Count was informed by a feedback session held in 2016. Infrastructure for the PIT Count was also established that included a steering committee and five working groups: sheltered count, unsheltered count, data/HMIS, communication, and volunteer recruitment and training.

Agencies that participated in the 2017 PIT and HIC

1. ABCCM *(HIC only)*
2. Another Choice for Black Children *(HIC only)*
3. Carlolinas CARE Partnership *(HIC only)*
4. Charlotte Family Housing
5. Community Link *(HIC only)*
6. Community Support Services *(HIC only)*
7. Family Endeavors *(HIC only)*
8. Family Forum, Inc.
9. Florence Crittendon
10. Friendship Missionary Community Development Corporation
11. HomeCare of the Carolinas
12. Hope Haven *(HIC only)*
13. Hope House Foundation
14. Men's Shelter of Charlotte
15. Safe Alliance
16. Salvation Army Center of Hope
17. Samaritan's House of Charlotte
18. Sunshine Village
19. Supportive Housing Communities *(HIC only)*
20. The Relatives
21. Urban Ministry Center
22. Veterans Administration *(HIC only)*
23. YWCA of the Central Carolinas

TABLE 4. AGENCIES BY PROGRAM TYPE, 2017

Agencies	PIT & HIC		HIC Only		
	ES	TH	RRH	PSH	OPH
ABCCM			■		
Another Choice for Black Children	■				
Carolinas CARE Partnership			■	■	
Charlotte Family Housing		■	■		■
Community Link			■	■	
Community Support Services				■	
Family Endeavors			■		
Family Forum, Inc.		■			
Florence Crittenton		■			
Friendship Missionary CDC		■			
HomeCare of the Carolinas		■			
Hope Haven				■	
Hope House Foundation		■			
Men's Shelter of Charlotte	■		■		
Safe Alliance	■				
Salvation Army	■		■		■
Samaritan House	■				
Sunshine Village		■			
Supportive Housing Communities			■	■	
The Relatives	■		■		
Urban Ministry Center	■	■		■	
Veteran's Administration				■	
YWCA		■			

Changes in data and methodology 2009 - 2016

2009-2013

Prior to 2014, the unsheltered count used estimates of homeless persons living in places unfit for human habitation that were provided by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. This approach was used because police officers are often very familiar with the locations of homeless people within their service areas. The North Tryon, Central, and Metro service areas were excluded from the unsheltered count since the persons identified in those areas were often simultaneously being served in shelters. In addition, outreach volunteers interviewed people experiencing homelessness in uptown Charlotte and at a local soup kitchen the following day to collect demographic data.

2014-2016

Beginning in 2014, the unsheltered methodology was expanded to include a larger outreach effort by service providers and volunteers. Prior to the Count, there was outreach to community members in an effort to gather information on the locations where they believed there might be homeless persons. Police officers also provided information for each of their districts on where homeless people might reside. Teams of volunteers were organized to cover each police district and went out the day of the PIT Count to identify (and count) people experiencing homelessness at services centers, soup kitchens, and places unfit for human habitation.

In an effort to improve the count of unaccompanied youth, in 2015 the PIT Count Planning Committee coordinated with The Relatives' On Ramp Center and Time Out Youth to have events on the date of the PIT Count in an effort to attract unaccompanied youth that may not have been found through traditional outreach efforts. For the first time, two volunteer training sessions were held to better equip volunteers in administering the PIT Count and to gain comfort with approaching people and asking sensitive questions.

Unique to the 2015 count was that it coincided with a Chronically Homeless Registry (the Registry) effort by Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is a collaborative initiative to end chronic homelessness. Whereas the annual PIT Count identifies people experiencing homelessness on one night, the Registry sought to connect with chronically homeless individuals over the course of three days and administer the Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). It is important to note that the number of people counted as chronically homeless through the PIT Count differed from the number of chronically homeless people identified in the Registry. This is because the PIT Count is a snapshot of those experiencing homelessness on a given night, whereas the Registry was developed over three days and continues to add individuals as they are identified as chronically homeless. The PIT Count is used to help identify trends and is a static number each year, whereas the Registry will grow and change as more chronically homeless people are identified and housed over the course of the year.

LIMITATIONS

There are several limitations to the 2017 PIT Count and HIC, as well as the PIT Count and HIC overall. Given its limitations, the 2017 PIT Count should not be viewed as an exact number, but rather an estimate that can be used to examine characteristics of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg homeless population and trends over time. Limitations include:

Changes in categorization of housing types. Changes at the agency level for how projects are categorized may have an impact on findings. For example, a program that is transitional housing units may be reclassified the next year as rapid re-housing, which would result in a decrease in the number of people counted in transitional housing for the PIT Count.

Changes in definitions. HUD may occasionally change the definition of certain elements, which may expand or reduce the number of people who get included in the count.

Homeless definition. The HUD definition of homelessness may be narrower or different from other definitions of homelessness, and caution should be used in making direct comparisons with estimates of homelessness using different definitions of homelessness. For example, the HUD definition does not include those who are unstably housed in hotels or living doubled up with relatives or friends, however those people may be considered homeless under the other definitions of homelessness.

Methodology changes. Because of the unsheltered methodological changes beginning in the 2014 PIT Count, caution should be used in interpreting changes over time. Beginning in 2014, volunteer outreach groups were used for the unsheltered count instead of solely using information provided by the police force. The increased effort to locate and count unsheltered individuals may partially account for the rise in unsheltered homelessness since 2013.

SUMMARY OF LIMITATIONS

- Changes in count methodology over time

- Count is a one-night estimate

- Definitions and housing type classifications may change

- Longitudinal analyses should be viewed as general trends

- PIT homeless definition different from others (ex. McKinney-Vento)

- Self-reported data have reliability issues and not all people answer these questions

- Undercount of people experiencing homelessness

Self-reported and observed data. Self-reported data should not be viewed as an exact number. Individuals may choose whether or not to answer these highly personal questions and to do so truthfully or not. Therefore, the numbers provided in this report are only reflective of those who chose to answer these questions. Due to the potential inaccuracies of self-reported data, the findings provided in this report regarding self-reported data should be used with caution. If a person was homeless but unwilling to answer all the questions for the PIT Count, volunteers were allowed to answer the following items through observation: age, gender, race, and ethnicity.

Unaccompanied children and youth. Unaccompanied children and youth are typically undercounted because they tend to not reside in the same areas as older adults experiencing homelessness, not self-identify as homeless, stay on friends' couches, or try to blend in.

Undercount. The PIT Count is a useful tool in understanding homelessness at a point in time and overall trends, but does not capture all the people who:

- Experience periods of homelessness over the course of a year
- Are unsheltered but not visible on the day of the count
- Fall under a broader definition of homelessness (ex. living in motels, staying with family/friends, in jail or in a treatment facility)

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE HISTORICAL PIT COUNT NUMBERS

Historical PIT Count sheltered data and HIC data from 2010 to 2016 were adjusted to use consistent project type classifications. Since 2010, HUD has provided additional guidance on how to define project types and what project types should be included or excluded from the PIT and HIC. The result is that project types were historically included in the PIT and HIC that would not be included under HUD's current guidelines. The adjusted data uses consistent project type classifications, allowing for more accurate analysis of historical trends. The adjusted PIT data from 2010 to 2015 are available by shelter type but are not available by household type. Data at the household type level are only available for 2016 and 2017. While this limits the ability to look further back historically, it allows for more accurate trend data from 2016 to 2017 and creates the foundation for more accurate historical data moving forward. The result of the adjustments is that the overall homeless count decreased for each year, as did the inventory. Over time, the trend is still a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness, however the decrease is at a slower rate compared to the unadjusted numbers. Table 5 summarizes the differences between the original PIT Count numbers and the adjusted numbers.

TABLE 5. ORIGINAL AND ADJUSTED PIT COUNT NUMBERS

Year	Original	Adjusted	Difference
2010	2824	1244	-1580
2011	2848	1983	-865
2012	2567	1739	-828
2013	2418	1454	-964
2014	2014	1551	-463
2015	2001	1530	-471
2016	1818	1487	-331

NATIONAL CONTEXT

In the last eight years, federal policy governing the national response to homelessness has shifted from a focus on programs that manage the problem of homelessness to local systems that prevent and end the problem of homelessness.

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition (HEARTH) Act of 2009

The HEARTH Act reauthorized McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs that provide funding to states and local communities to address homelessness. The Act requires local Continuums of Care to incorporate a number of changes that will impact local service-delivery, including:

- System responses instead of program responses to homelessness
  As a system, communities that receive federal funding will have to coordinate their response to homelessness and use system and program level data to inform decision-making.

- Measuring outcomes instead of reporting activities
  Communities that receive federal funding will be expected to show progress on key outcomes including the reduction in overall homelessness, the reduction of people who return to homelessness, increased access to housing and services through outreach, and job and income growth.

- Permanent housing instead of shelter
  Funding decisions will be weighted toward housing solutions, specifically Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities for chronically homeless households and rapid re-housing opportunities for those who are not chronically homeless.

Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness

In 2010, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) launched the Federal Strategic Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness "as a roadmap for joint action" by 19 member agencies and state and local partners. The plan, which was amended in 2015, established the following goals:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in five years.[4]
- Prevent and end homelessness among veterans in five years.
- Prevent and end family homelessness in 10 years.
- Set a path toward ending all types of homelessness.

The plan also established strategies for meeting its goals, including increased leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement; increased access to and provision of stable and affordable housing; expanding opportunities for sustainable employment; improving health by linking health care with homeless assistance and housing programs; and, transforming homeless service systems into crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and return people quickly to stable housing.

LOCAL CONTEXT

2016-2017 community initiatives

A Way Home Housing Endowment

In 2013, the City of Charlotte and Foundation For The Carolinas established the A Way Home housing endowment, which will be fully funded in 2018. This $20 million endowment, funded through public and private dollars, will be aimed at providing housing and rental assistance for families at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness, with veteran households receiving priority. In 2014, a group of local faith leaders raised operational funds, along with grant dollars from the Foundation For The Carolinas, to begin a pilot program until the endowment is fully funded.

As of January 2017, four agencies receive funds through the pilot program: Charlotte Family Housing, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Salvation Army Center of Hope, and Renaissance West Community Initiative. In addition, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services partnered with A Way Home by providing grants to Charlotte Family Housing and Salvation Army that cover the cost of supportive services for families receiving housing subsidies through A Way Home.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Our Heroes

On Veterans Day 2014, the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and the W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center accepted the Mayors Challenge with a goal of housing 204 Veterans by the end of 2015. As part of this initiative, best practices adopted in Charlotte-Mecklenburg include:

- Creating a by-name registry of homeless veterans in our community
- Case management meetings to expedite veteran housing
- Accelerating and streamlining existing operational processes
- Agency coordination and outreach
- Active engagement of landlords
- Expediting determination of veteran status

Charlotte-Mecklenburg continues to work with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to meet the federal criteria of ending veteran homelessness.

Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg, launched in January 2015, is a collaboration between business, city, county and non-profit agencies to end chronic homelessness, focusing on the Housing First model.

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[4] The original goal for ending chronic homelessness was 2016. In February 2015, the USICH extended this goal to 2017.

As part of this effort, a by-name registry of the chronically homeless coincided with the PIT Count in January 2015. This registry is used to help target outreach efforts and interventions, as well as prioritize housing placements to the most vulnerable. Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg is also working to expand outreach efforts, create more permanent supportive housing units, and develop additional leadership and staff support for the Housing First model.

2016-2017 community strategies

Coordinated Assessment

Coordinated Assessment seeks to better connect households currently experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness with the services that are best able to serve them. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Continuum of Care launched Coordinated Assessment in 2014, with funding from Wells Fargo through the United Way of Central Carolinas and funding from Mecklenburg County Community Support Services for five positions. The National Alliance to End Homelessness and the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness provided assistance in developing and implementing the new system. Social workers stationed at three sites administer a standardized assessment that helps identify the services that can best address the housing needs of households experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness within 72 hours (or within 14 days in the case of families). For people identified as experiencing chronic homelessness, an additional assessment called the Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) is administered. In 2016, social workers began administering a VI-SPDAT assessment specific to families that are literally homeless or at risk of homelessness within 14 days.

Low Barrier Rapid Re-Housing Initiatives

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community is shifting to fund rapid re-housing initiatives with low barriers to program entry. These initiatives help households with adults and children successfully exit homelessness and maintain permanent housing by integrating employment assistance, case management and housing services. Community Link, Men's Shelter of Charlotte and the Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte's Center of Hope are currently engaged in low-barrier rapid re-housing programs.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

The community is using a system-wide Housing First model, which creates permanent supportive housing for a household that is experiencing homelessness and has a condition of disability such as mental illness, substance abuse, chronic health issues or other conditions that create multiple and serious ongoing barriers to housing stability. PSH units are provided through community agencies and scattered-site programs located throughout the community.

Data, Research, and Best Practice Informed Decision-Making

- **Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Research and Evaluation Committee**
  The Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Research and Evaluation committee coordinates and advocates on issues concerning data collection, research on homelessness and housing instability, and system level outcomes to measure progress.

- **Housing Data Consortium**
  In 2013, the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute received funding from Foundation For The Carolinas through a Catalyst Grant to create a Homeless and Housing Data Consortium within the Institute for Social Capital (ISC). ISC houses Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data along with other key data from agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

- **Research and Evaluation efforts**
  Both the public and private sectors of Charlotte-Mecklenburg are investing in and working to strengthen research and evaluation efforts to better understand homelessness and housing instability.

TABLE 6. SUMMARY DATA TABLES

TOTAL PERSONS					
	2010	**2016**	**2017**	**% change 2010-2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	838	1076	991	18%	-8%
Transitional	406	411	270	-33%	-34%
Unsheltered	751	187	215	-71%	15%
Total	1995	1674	1476	-26%	-12%
% Sheltered	62%	89%	85%		
% Unsheltered	38%	11%	15%		

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADULTS AND CHILDREN			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	375	359	-4%
Transitional	129	97	-25%
Unsheltered	3	4	33%
Total	507	460	-9%
% Sheltered	99%	99%	
% Unsheltered	1%	1%	

HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	693	627	-10%
Transitional	282	173	-39%
Unsheltered	184	211	15%
Total	1159	1011	-13%
% Sheltered	84%	79%	
% Unsheltered	16%	21%	

CHILD ONLY HOUSEHOLDS			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	8	5	-38%
Transitional	0	0	-
Unsheltered	0	0	-
Total	8	5	-38%
% Sheltered	100%	100%	
% Unsheltered	0%	0%	

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	-	40	-
Transitional	-	8	-
Unsheltered	-	18	-
Total	-	66	-
% Sheltered	-	73%	-
% Unsheltered	-	27%	-

PARENTING YOUTH			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	-	19	-
Transitional	-	5	-
Unsheltered	-	0	-
Total	-	24	-
% Sheltered	-	79%	-
% Unsheltered	-	21%	-

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	110	78	-29%
Transitional			
Unsheltered	59	69	17%
Total	169	147	-13%
% Sheltered	65%	53%	
% Unsheltered	35%	47%	

VETERANS			
	2016	**2017**	**% change 2016-2017**
Emergency & Seasonal	66	63	-5%
Transitional	58	50	-14%
Unsheltered	25	24	-4%
Total	149	137	-8%
% Sheltered	83%	83%	
% Unsheltered	17%	17%	

AGE - 2017

	Emergency & Seasonal	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total
Persons age 25 or older	680	189	195	1064
Persons age 18-24	69	14	18	101
Persons age 17 or younger	242	67	2	311

GENDER - 2017

	Emergency & Seasonal	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total
Male	535	112	182	829
Female	455	158	31	644
Transgender	1	0	1	2
Did not identify	0	0	1	1

RACE/ETHNICITY – 2017

	Emergency & Seasonal	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total
Ethnicity				
Hispanic/Latino	39	12	9	60
Non-Hispanic/Latino	952	258	206	1416
Race				
White	160	221	74	455
Black or African American	817	38	132	987
American Indian	8	8	8	24
Asian or Pacific Islander	6	3	1	10