

Point in Time Survey

Conducted on January 24, 2017



Maine Housing
Maine State Housing Authority

HELPING MAINERS RENT, BUY
& HEAT THEIR HOMES SINCE 1969

About the Point in Time Count

The Point in Time (PIT) Count is intended to be a snapshot of homelessness on one night of the year. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that each Continuum of Care conduct a PIT Count annually, and that it occur within the last 10 days of January. In 2017, the “Night of the Count” in Maine was January 24, 2017. Information from emergency shelters and other service providers was primarily collected through Maine’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Information from those who were unsheltered, as well as from those shelters or programs that do not participate in HMIS, was collected using paper surveys. In an effort to ensure that everyone who was homeless on the night of the count was included, even if they did not stay at a shelter or complete an outreach survey that night, additional information was collected over the following three days. All data, however, had to reference where the people were staying on the actual night of the count.

1,188¹ People Homeless in Maine

527 people homeless
in the **Portland Continuum of Care**
(City of Portland)

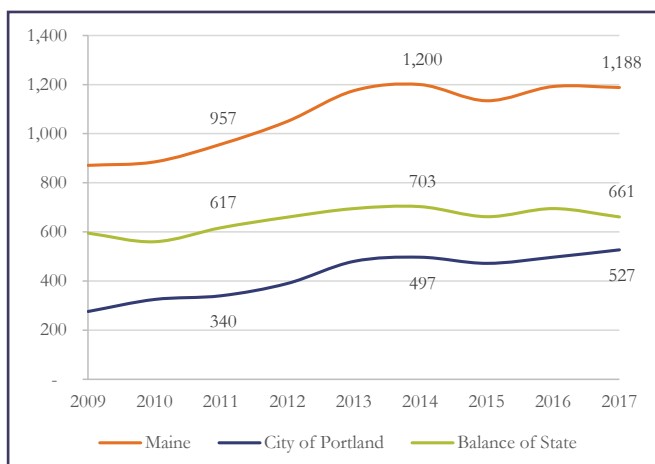
661 people homeless
in the **Maine Continuum of Care**
(Balance of State)

Where People Stayed	People Identified as Homeless		
	Maine	City of Portland	Balance of State
In Emergency Homeless Shelters	1,008	474	534
Unsheltered ²	180	53	127
Total	1,188	527	661

¹ Total does not include 1,094 individuals in transitional housing reported to HUD.

² Unsheltered - HUD definition

Previous Years: 2009-2017



2017 PIT Summary

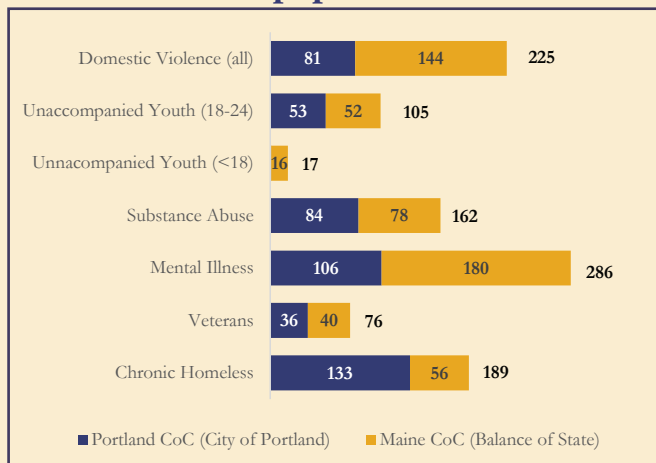
In 2017, the overall size of the population of those experiencing homelessness remained relatively unchanged. Maine saw less than a 1% decrease in the total number of people who were homeless on the night of the count as compared to 2016. There were differences within Maine’s two Continuums of Care (CoC), however. The City of Portland CoC saw a 6% increase, while the Balance of State CoC had a 5% decrease.

Programs designed specifically to address chronic homelessness and veteran homelessness appear to be having a positive impact, with reductions of 5% and 10% respectively, from 2016 to 2017.

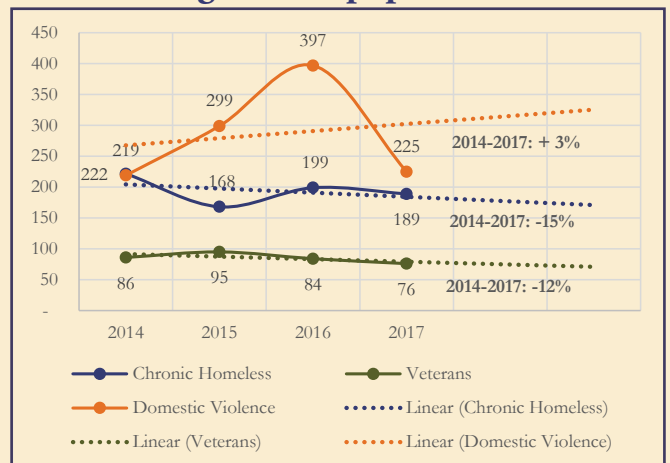
There was an increased focus on collecting data on the number of youth experiencing homelessness during the 2017 PIT, including youth under 18 years old, youth 18 to 24 years old, and families with parents who were under 25 years old.

People Identified as Homeless

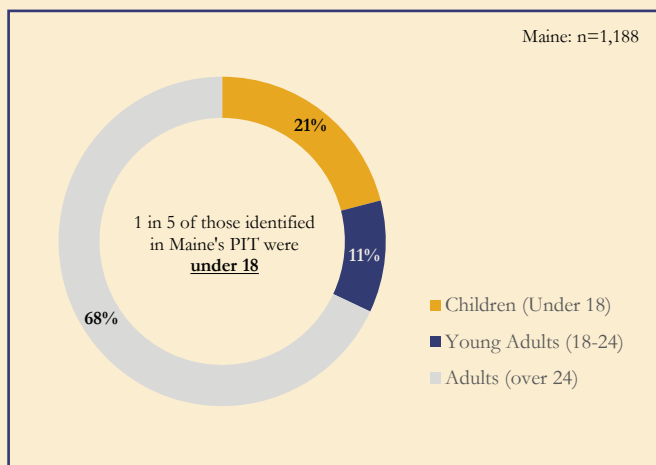
Subpopulations



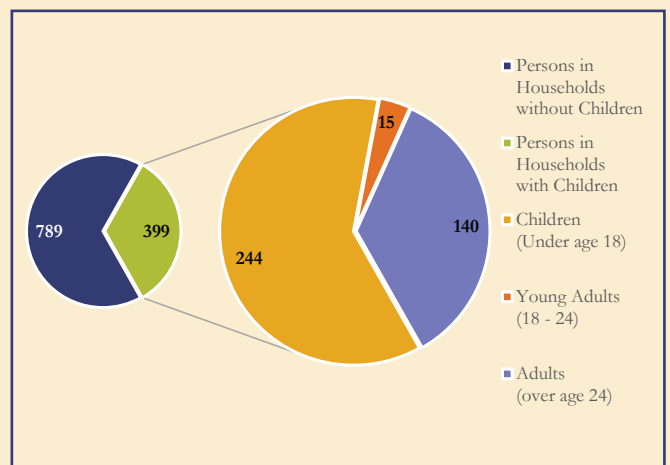
Targeted Subpopulations



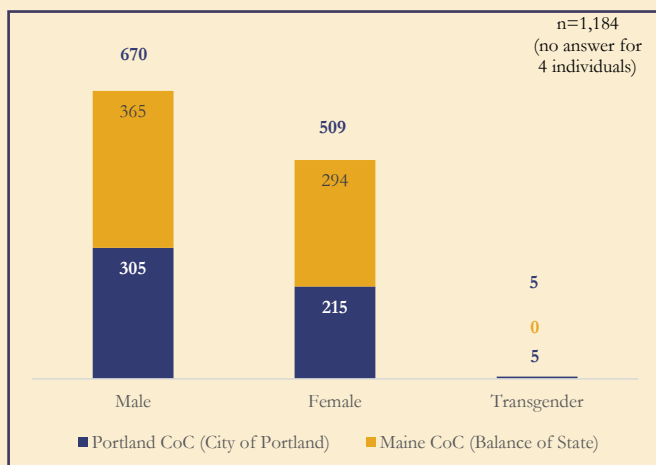
Total Homeless Youth



Persons in Households with at least one Child



Gender of Individuals



Note: "n=xxx" is the total number of persons represented in the category or section.

About the Survey

The HUD definition of homelessness is: "An individual or family who lacks fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning the individual or family has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation or is living in a publicly operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements."

All survey and/or intake information used for the PIT is self-reported by the client/respondent. Volunteers perform extensive outreach and planning before and during the PIT to find and count unsheltered individuals. MaineHousing processes all the data collected, both on surveys and through HMIS. HUD requires that communities receiving federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance funds conduct a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count of Emergency Shelters, Safe Havens, and Transitional Housing annually, and an Unsheltered PIT Count at least every other year. HUD uses information from the PIT Counts, among other data sources, in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress. This report informs Congress about the number of people experiencing homelessness in the U.S. and the effectiveness of HUD's programs and policies in decreasing those numbers. At the local level, PIT Counts help communities plan services and programs to address local needs, measure progress in decreasing homelessness, and identify strengths and gaps in a community's current homelessness assistance system.

For more information about MaineHousing programs, please contact us at:

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