

Acknowledgements

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I. Executive Summary

There were 1,887 persons who were homeless on January 28, 2016 according to the San Bernardino 2016 Homeless Count and Survey Final Report. The previous homeless count and subpopulation survey was completed in 2015 during which 2,140 persons were counted. A comparison of the last two counts reveals that 253 fewer persons were counted in 2016 which represents a decrease of 12%.

Table 1. Comparison of 2015 and 2016 Homeless Counts

	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
2015 Homeless Count	838	1,302	2,140
2016 Homeless Count	696	1,191	1,887
Variance:	142 (17%)	111 (8.5%)	253 (12%)

The following table provides a breakdown of the total number of sheltered and unsheltered persons counted in 2016 by jurisdiction.

Table 2. Total Number of Sheltered and Unsheltered Persons by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Shelter	Transitional Hg		
Adelanto	13	48	10	71
Apple Valley	6	0	39	45
Barstow	28	5	47	80
Big Bear	8	0	9	17
Bloomington	0	0	0	0
Chino	0	0	41	41
Chino Hills	0	0	0	0
Colton	0	0	50	50
Fontana	3	0	84	87
Grand Terrace	0	0	0	0
Hesperia	8	0	4	12
Highland	0	0	6	6
Joshua Tree	8	9	18	35
Lenwood	0	0	0	0
Loma Linda	0	0	17	17
Lytle Creek	0	0	0	0
Montclair	0	0	10	10

Jurisdiction	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Shelter	Transitional Hg		
Morongo Valley	0	0	0	0
Muscoy	0	0	0	0
Needles	0	0	7	7
Ontario	44	24	65	133
Rancho Cucamonga	0	0	11	11
Redlands	14	0	134	148
Rialto	7	0	48	55
San Bernardino	142	181	241	564
Twenty Nine Palms	0	0	32	32
Upland	0	82	82	164
Victorville	37	29	198	264
Yucaipa	0	0	10	10
Yucca Valley	0	0	28	28
Total:	318	378	1,191	1,887

Table 3 notes that more than three-fourths (76%) or 1,440 homeless adults and children were counted within six cities which include San Bernardino, Victorville, Upland, Ontario, Fontana, and Barstow. Also, these six cities had 71% of the unsheltered population as well as 84% of persons counted in shelters and transitional housing.

Table 3. Jurisdictions with Largest Number of Homeless Persons

Jurisdiction	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Shelter	Transitional Hg		
County	318	378	1,191	1,887
San Bernardino	142	181	241	564
Victorville	37	29	198	264
Upland	0	82	82	164
Redlands	14	0	134	148
Ontario	44	24	65	133
Fontana	3	0	84	87
Barstow	28	5	47	80
Total:	268	321	851	1,440

Unsheltered Persons

Of the 1,887 persons counted in 2016, 1,191 or 65% were unsheltered, which is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as

“An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning: (i) An individual or family 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.”

HUD also requires that the total number of unsheltered and sheltered adults be broken down by various subpopulations. Of the 1,191 unsheltered persons count, 1,129 were adults, 18 were unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 44 were children under age 18 in families. For a breakdown of unaccompanied youth under age 18 and families see pages 30 – 35.

It is also important to note that HUD requires that

“CoCs must collect and report on the age, gender, race, and ethnicity of persons included under each household category. The total number of people reported for each demographic characteristic must equal the total number of persons reported in the household category overall.”

and that

“CoCs must use a statistically reliable method for estimating the demographic characteristics of people for whom data are missing to ensure a complete count. CoCs should consult the PIT Count Methodology Guide for additional guidance.”¹

Thus, in the tables regarding gender, ethnicity, race, and age below, extrapolation was the process used to produce estimates for missing data.

¹2016 Housing Inventory Count and Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Persons: Data Submission Guidance, February, 2016.

Gender

The following table provides a breakdown by gender for adults, unaccompanied youth under age 18, and children in families under age 18. HUD requires the summary to consist of men, women, and transgender.

Table 4. Breakdown by Gender*

Gender	Adults		Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18		Children in Families Under Age 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Men	812	71.9	12	66.7	18	40.9
Women	316	28.0	6	33.3	26	59.1
Transgender	1	00.1	0	0.0	-	-
Total:	1,129	100	18	100	44	100

*Gender was not recorded for 45 of the 1,129 adults, 0 of the 18 unaccompanied youth under age 18, and one of the 44 children in families under age 18. Extrapolation was the process used to produce estimates for missing data.

Ethnicity

Table 5 offers a breakdown by ethnicity. HUD requires the summary to consist of Hispanics or Latinos and non-Hispanics or Latinos.

Table 5. Breakdown by Ethnicity*

Ethnicity	Adults		Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18		Children in Families Under Age 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Hispanic or Latino	309	27.4	6	33.3	15	34.1
Non-Hispanic or Latino	820	72.6	12	66.7	29	65.9
Total:	1,129	100	18	100	44	100

*Ethnicity was not recorded for 129 of the 1,129 adults, 0 of the 18 unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 0 of the 44 children in families under age 18. Extrapolation was the process used to produce estimates for missing data.

Race

Table 6 provides a breakdown by race. It is important to note that instructions from HUD were to include Hispanics or Latinos in the race categories listed below because the designation “Hispanic or Latino” does not denote race.

Table 6. Breakdown by Race*

Race	Adults		Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18		Children in Families Under Age 18	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	47	4.2	0	0.0	8	16.7
Asian	19	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Black or African American	209	18.5	3	16.7	10	23.3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	8	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
White	786	69.6	15	83.3	13	30.0
Multiple Races	60	5.3	0	0.0	13	30.0
Total:	1,129	100	18	100	44	100

*Race was not recorded for 300 of the 1,129 adults, five of the 18 unaccompanied youth under age 18, and 14 of the 44 children in families under age 18. Extrapolation was the process used to produce estimates for missing data.

Age

The next table offers a breakdown by age for adults.

Table 7. Breakdown by Age for Adults*

	2016	
	#	%
Youth Ages 18 - 24	105	9.3
Adults Age 25 - 61	923	81.8
Seniors Age 62+	101	8.9
Total:	1129	100

*Age was not recorded for 108 of the 1,129 adults. Extrapolation was the process used to produce estimates for missing data.

Other Subpopulations

Table 8 provides a breakdown of other subpopulations for adults including youth ages 18 – 24. For a separate breakdown of youth ages 18 – 24 and unaccompanied youth under age 18 see pages.

Table 8. Breakdown by Subpopulations

	2016	
	#	%
Chronically Homeless Adults	360	31.9
Families including Chronically Homeless Families*	22	2.4**
Persons w/HIV/AIDS	26	2.3
Persons w/ Mental Health Problems	228	20.2
Substance Users	277	24.5
Veterans***	92	8.2
Victims of Domestic Violence	230	20.4
Youth 18 – 24	105	9.3
Persons Released from Prisons & Jails	263	23.3
Persons w/ Chronic Health Conditions	345	30.6
Seniors Age 62+	101	8.9
Total:	1129	100

*Of the 22 families, eight (8) were chronically homeless.

**The total number of adults in families was 27 and represent 2.4% of the total adult population of 1,129.

*** 47% or 43 veterans were Chronically Homeless Individuals

Sheltered Persons

Of the 1,887 persons counted in 2016, 696 persons or 36.9% were sheltered. Of these 696 persons, 318 were counted in shelters or received a motel voucher and 378 were counted in transitional housing programs. HUD states that persons living in shelters or transitional housing programs on the night of the count must be included in the homeless count and subpopulation survey.

As required by HUD, the sheltered count included the number of persons and households sleeping in emergency shelters (including seasonal shelters), transitional housing, and Safe Haven programs (of which the County has none) that were listed on the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). In addition, any persons staying in hotels or motels as a result of receiving a voucher from a social service agency were included in the sheltered count per HUD's instructions if the voucher program was listed on the HIC.

HUD also requires that the total number of sheltered persons be broken down by pre-designated subpopulations. The total number of sheltered persons by the pre-designated subpopulations for 2016 are listed in the table below.

The HIC was submitted by the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) staff to HUD in May, 2015. Prior to the homeless count, the HIC was specifically left undated to include any new programs or exclude any programs no longer operational by OHS staff and Key Person Task Force members. A few changes were made to the HIC prior to the count.

HUD encourages the use of Homeless Management Information Services (HMIS) data to generate sheltered counts and subpopulation data for programs with 100% of beds participating in HMIS. Thus, HMIS was used to gather the total number of occupied beds and the number of persons for each subpopulation. A “Data Collection Instrument” was used to collect the total number of occupied beds and the number of persons for each subpopulation for non-participating HMIS programs and for HMIS participating agencies that do not have their HMIS data complete and correct. The same questions used to collect subpopulation data through HMIS were used for the data collection instrument. Thus, sheltered count data for all sheltered programs was gathered either through a data collection sheet or HMIS.

The following table provides a breakdown of the sheltered population (696 adults and children) by the subpopulations required by HUD.

Table 9. Sheltered Population by Subpopulations

Subpopulation	Number	Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	14	2%
Asian	11	2%
Black/African American	226	32%
Chronically Homeless Families (# of families)	2	<1%
Chronically Homeless Families (total persons)	4	<1%
Chronically Homeless Individuals	16	2%
Chronically Homeless Veteran Individuals	1	<1%
Female	344	49%
Hispanic/Latino	270	39%
Households (total number)	423	61%
Male	351	50%
Multiple Races	29	4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	13	2%
Non-Hispanic/Latino	426	61%
Number of Persons in Households	696	100%
Persons Over Age 24	373	54%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	9	1%
Persons with Mental Health Problems	66	9%
Persons with Substance Abuse Problems	71	10%

Transgender	1	<1%
Veterans	29	4%
Victims of Domestic Violence	52	7%
White	403	58%
Youth Ages 18 - 24	67	10%
Youth Under Age 18-Households w/only children	7	1%

*There were 423 households that made up the total number of sheltered persons which was 696.

Next Steps

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) asked Continuums of Care (CoC) around the nation in the recently submitted 2015 Continuum of Care application if they “intend to meet the (goals and) timelines for ending homelessness as defined in Opening Doors,” the federal strategic plan to prevent and end veteran homelessness by 2015, chronic homelessness by 2017, youth homelessness by 2020, family homelessness by 2020, and set a path to end all homelessness by 2020. The San Bernardino County Continuum of Care responded as follows:

End Veteran Homelessness by 2015	Yes
End Chronic Homelessness by 2017	Yes
End Family Homelessness by 2020	Yes
End Youth Homelessness by 2020	Yes
Set a path to end all homelessness by 2020	Yes

Section IV Subpopulation Summaries provides a breakdown of each of the following unsheltered subpopulations listed in the table above by other subpopulations:

- Veterans;
- Chronically homeless;
- Families;
- Youth ages 18 – 24; and
- Unaccompanied Youth Under Age 18.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are aligned with the County of San Bernardino 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness and are also aligned with several evidence-based and best practices that have helped achieve unprecedented decreases in the total number of homeless

persons, particularly among families, chronic homeless persons, and veterans, across the country since 2005.

- **Recommendation 1:** End homelessness among veterans at the end of 2016

Homelessness among veterans has decreased significantly (31.3%) in San Bernardino County during the past year.

Table 10. Comparison of Homelessness Among Veterans: 2015 and 2016

	Unsheltered		Sheltered		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
2015	145	82.4	31	17.6	176	100
2016	92	76.0	29	24.0	121	100
Variance (+/-)	-53	-36.6	-2	-6.5	-55	-31.3

Homelessness among veterans has decreased significantly across the country and in San Bernardino County because of the following evidence-based and best practices

- The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics;
- The Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program is designed to assist homeless persons and very low-income households among veterans. The VA awards grants to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives in order to provide outreach, time-limited rental assistance, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits, which may include child care, health care, housing counseling, legal, and transportation services in order to help veterans and veteran families with obtaining and/or maintaining permanent housing.

As noted in this report, there were 92 unsheltered homeless veterans of which 43 or 47% were chronically homeless. The HUD-VASH voucher program should be targeted for chronically homeless veterans and their families and the SSVF Program for non-chronically homeless veterans and their families.

- **Recommendation 2:** Continue to implement a Housing First approach for chronically homeless persons and families while placing them in permanent supportive housing

A Housing First approach will continue to provide homeless people with permanent supportive housing quickly and then providing services as needed. By providing housing assistance, case management and supportive services responsive to individual or family needs (time-limited or long-term) after an individual or family is housed, communities can significantly reduce the time people experience homelessness and prevent further episodes of homelessness. A central tenet of the Housing First approach is that social services to enhance individual and family well-being can be more effective when people are in their own home.

Permanent Supportive Housing provides long-term affordable rental housing and a broad range of on-site and/or off-site wrap-around supportive services. The goal is to increase independent living skills of residents who pay no more than 30% of their monthly income for rent so that they are able to maintain their housing. Those persons without permanent disabling conditions may ultimately become self-sufficient while living in affordable housing and may eventually pay 100% of their rent and may or may not need supportive services.

- **Recommendation 3:** Continue to implement a Rapid Rehousing approach primarily for non-chronically homeless persons and families

Rapid re-housing is an approach that focuses resources on helping families and individuals quickly move out of homelessness and into permanent housing, which is usually affordable housing in the private market. Priority is placed on helping individuals and families move into permanent housing as rapidly as possible and providing services to help them maintain housing. Services to support rapid re-housing include housing search and landlord negotiation, short-term financial and rental assistance, and the delivery of home-based housing stabilization services, as needed.

- **Recommendation 4:** Provide permanent housing assistance for homeless Youth ages 18 - 24

Permanent housing assistance should include a Rapid Rehousing approach primarily for non-chronically homeless youth ages 18 – 24 and include permanent supportive housing with a Housing First approach for chronically homeless youth ages 18 – 24.

- **Recommendation 5:** Reunify unaccompanied homeless youth under age 18

If safe and appropriate, focus on reunifying unaccompanied youth under age 18 with immediate family or other family supports through agencies that can assist youth such as County of San Bernardino Children and Family Services, Our House, South Coast Community Services, Victor Family Vision, EMQ, Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health Healthy Homes and Transitional Age Youth programs.

- **Recommendation 6:** Encourage each city to adopt their unsheltered homeless count numbers as noted in Appendix A.

Each city should be encouraged to adopt the results of the unsheltered homeless count in their jurisdiction as noted in Appendix A. After adopting their numbers, each city should take appropriate steps to collaborate with the county-wide efforts to end homelessness among veterans, chronically homeless individuals and families, and youth ages 18 – 24 and unaccompanied youth under age 18 within their jurisdiction.