2022 Stanislaus County Homeless Point-In-Time Count

Executive Summary

Background

Every two years, during the last ten days of January, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires communities to conduct a Point-In-Time (PIT) count of people experiencing homelessness. The goal is to measure the prevalence of homelessness in communities across the country.

The PIT count is an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. With the help of volunteers, the count is organized by the Stanislaus Community System of Care (CSOC) made up of local governments, non-profit organizations, and homeless providers.

HUD also requires a count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night.

The count data is critical to determine the scope of homelessness, define existing resources, and identify any gaps in services in Stanislaus County.

When was the PIT Count?

Due to health concerns from the rapid transmission of the COVID-19 Omicron variant and direction from the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency Public Health Department, the January count was rescheduled to late February. The Sheltered Count was conducted on February 23 and the Unsheltered Count on February 24, 2022.

CSOC requested and was granted an exemption from HUD to change the date of the count.

What are the Findings of the PIT Count?

The PIT count identified 1,857 homeless individuals in Stanislaus County, a decrease of 1,070 from last year when 2,927 people were counted. But the 2022 count is generally consistent with past yearly numbers reported before the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020, there was a traditional count where volunteers counted 2,107 homeless people across the county. And in 2019, volunteers counted 1,923 homeless people.

The 2022 Sheltered Count found 911 homeless individuals, an increase of 26% from 2021. The count in 2021 was 726 people. The record freezing temperatures on the night of the count forced many homeless people to seek shelter and shelter alternatives such as staying with friends or family.

More information collected from the snapshot survey can be found on the attached Homeless Point-In-Time Count Data Summary.

Why the Unsheltered Count Decrease from 2021?

Several factors contributed to the fewer number of homeless being counted.

- Different data collection method - Last year, due to the pandemic and health concerns, there was not a full unsheltered PIT Count with volunteers fanning out across communities to count the number of homeless people. HUD approved CSOC to use the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as an alternative data strategy for the count. HMIS is a database used by homeless providers to collect client-level data and data on the provision of homeless services.

- Weather Factors - Fewer homeless people were outside due to temperatures dipping below 35 degrees the morning of the Unsheltered Count on February 24, 2022.

- Scheduling Concerns - Postponing the traditional late January count to late February posed challenges for volunteers who had to attend mandatory trainings to ensure they knew how to do the count and engage with homeless individuals. A total of 300 volunteers had signed up for trainings for the January count but only 197 volunteers actually participated when the count was moved to February. This accounted for a less than 49% drop in volunteers.

- Fewer Volunteers - When the January count was rescheduled to February, many volunteers chose to not participate for reasons including the scheduling concerns addressed above. A total of 197 volunteers assisted with the count.

- Homeless Encampment Sweeps - Prior to the February PIT unsheltered count, there were several homeless encampment sweeps in Stanislaus County. Outreach and engagement teams were not able to locate homeless individuals on the day of the count.

What are the Next Steps?

The data has been released to HUD and will be shared with community stakeholders in Stanislaus County. The data is used to help determine the amount of funding available to communities to develop housing and supportive services for people moving from homelessness to independent living.

2022 Stanislaus County
Homeless Point-in-Time Count Data Summary

First Became Homeless

77%

Stanislaus County

Are you experiencing homelessness as a direct result of Covid-19 *n= 1384*

11% Homeless as a Result of Covid-19

Sheltered/Unsheltered

49%Sheltered

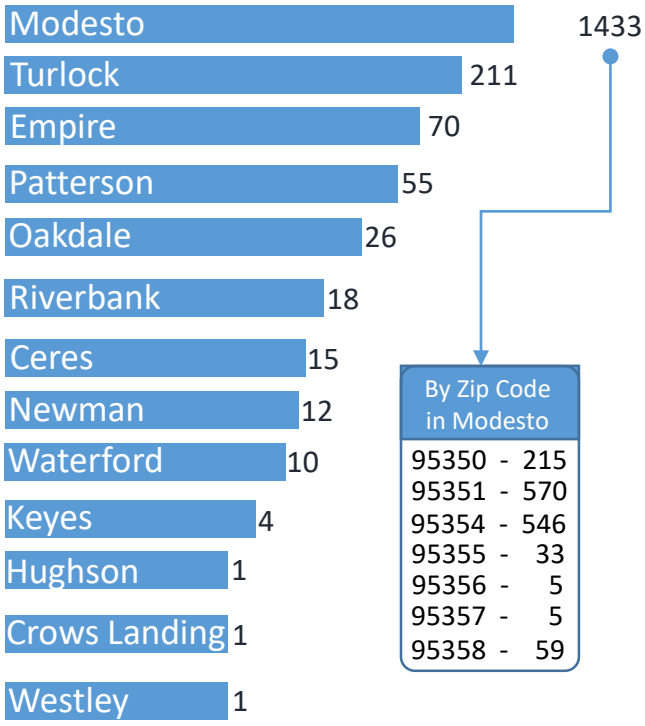
n=911

51% Unsheltered

n=946

Sheltered/Unsheltered Population by City

Total: 1,857



By Zip Code in Modesto

95350	215
95351	570
95354	546
95355	33
95356	5
95357	5
95358	59

Top 6 Reasons for Becoming Homeless

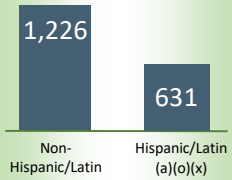
n=1517

- **Unable to Pay Rent** *21%*
- **Asked to Leave** *18%*
- **Lost Job** *16%*
- **Alcohol/Substance Abuse** *16%*
- **Illness Self/Family** *15%*
- **Abuse Violence at Home** *14%*

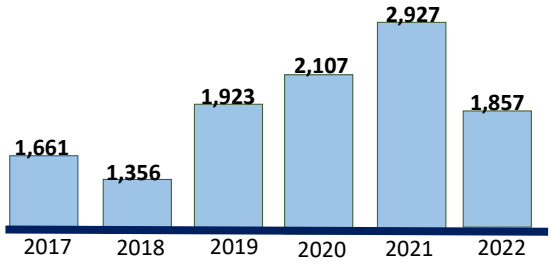
Other Homeless Subpopulation *n=700*

Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	**47%**
Adults with a Substance User Disorder	**30%**
Adults with HIV/AIDS	**1%**
Currently Experiencing Homelessness and Fleeing Domestic Violence	**22%**

Ethnicity



PIT Count Longitudinal Trend



Obstacles Accessing Services *n=594*

Lack of Transportation	*No ID or Documents*	*Did Not Know Where to Go*	*Put on Waitlist and Never Contacted*
33%	**25%**	**23%**	**19%**

Have You Ever Been In *Top 5 Responses n=1376*

12% Foster Care	**2%** Human Trafficking	**13%** Juvenile Detention Center	**23%** Treatment Center	**50%** Jail

Data Legend:

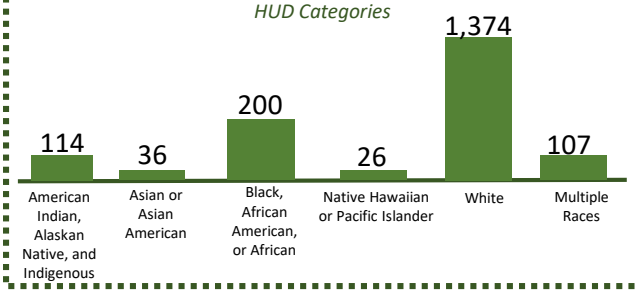
N= - This is the number of people who responded to this question in the PIT survey.
(a)(o)(x) - These letters stand for Latina, Latino, and LatinX.
Blank "Observation" – Volunteers observed but were not able to engage with homeless individual.

Count of sleeping location *n=911*

Abandoned Buildings	*18*
Bus, Train station, Airport	*4*
Other	*66*
Outdoor Encampment	*197*
Park	*67*
Street or Sidewalk	*133*
Under Bridge/Overpass	*32*
Vehicle/Boat/RV	*75*
Blank "Observation"	*353*

Race

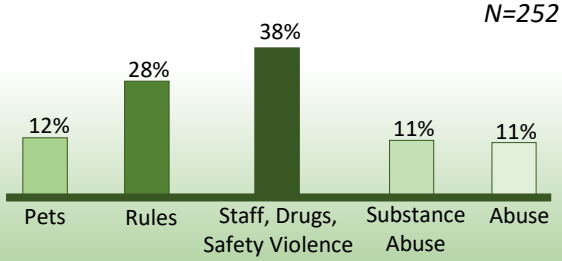
HUD Categories



46% of 1,674 Adults reported having some source of income and/or benefits

Reasons Declined Shelter Services

N=252



Household Breakdown

Total Number of Households n=1,607

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
557	139	911

Total Number of Persons *n=1,857*

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
701	210	946

Total of Children (under age 18) *n=183*

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
122	57	4

Total of Persons (18 to 24) n= 92

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
31	25	36

Total of Persons (over age 24) *n= 1,582*

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
548	128	906

Total Number of Households and Persons – Veterans n=108

Emergency	*Transitional*	*Unsheltered*
48	19	41

Age

Under 18: 183 (10%)

18-24: 92 (5%)

Over 24: 1582 (85%)

Gender

Male: 1207 (65%)

Female: 638 (35%)

Transgender: 0

A gender other than singularly female or male: 9 (<1%)

Questioning: 3 (<1%)

Chronically Homeless Population

493

197 Emergency/ 296 Unsheltered