The 2019 Everybody Counts Point-in-Time Count effort is one way that the City of Spokane strives to utilize data and knowledge for action, in order to improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens throughout the region.
This presentation is designed to share data collected during the 2019 Everybody Counts campaign’s Point-in-Time Count. This data provides a snapshot that captures the circumstances and situations of people experiencing homelessness in our region.
TODAY’S DISCUSSION

- The Methodology
- The Data
- The Knowledge
- The Action
The count date was January 24th
- This date aligns with the rest of the state
- The count of unsheltered homeless lasted for seven days from January 24th, however the surveys reflected where people stayed on the night of the count
- The count is focused on two main categories for persons experiencing homelessness:
  - Sheltered during the night of the count (emergency shelter, transitional housing)
  - Unsheltered, or out-of-doors during the night of the count
Last year, we trained nearly 100 volunteers and had participation from three-quarters of them on campaign activities, including the count and donation drive efforts. This year, we held nine trainings for 142 people. More than two-thirds of those trained helped with counting events, while others became engaged in other ways.

For the second year, we utilized an app developed by Simtech Solutions. The app was updated and improved based on feedback provided from last year. Data collected is combined with HMIS data to give us a fuller landscape.

We coordinated with 79 service agencies and all outreach teams, worked with County rural outreach centers, and expanded our known location list. This year, we counted in 211 locations (38 more places than 2018).

This year, we held four youth-focused events to meet youth and young adults in places they already go and incentivize their participation. These events were designed and led by youth service providers and young people.

From mid-November to January, the City held a donation drive for winter clothing and essential needs items to distribute to people experiencing homelessness during the Count. In total, 4,021 items were donated by community members and 1,956 items were purchased by the City to create “Care Bags”.

The Methodology (What Stayed The Same)

Volunteer Support
- Community Involvement

Mobile Data Collection
- Technology

Expanded Outreach
- Service Connections

Youth-Focused Count
- Targeted Efforts

Donation Drive
- Engaged Citizens
Questions Revised

Improved Connection

Questions were added this year to learn more about reasons for homelessness and to better align with questions being asked in the HMIS work flow.

Additional Locations

More Opportunity

We added additional counting locations for critical services serving people experiencing homelessness, such as The Needle Exchange, meal sites, and clothing banks.

Veteran-Focused Event

Targeted Outreach

For the first time, we held a Magnet Event to ensure effective counting veterans. This event partnered with veteran service agencies, offering targeted resources and services, as well as provided a hot meal to incentivize participation.

Homeless Connect

Increased Access

While we overlapped with the Homeless Connect last year, this year we finished the Count with the Connect (rather than starting with it). This allowed us to better count people living in certain unsheltered locations, such as vehicles, etc.
THE DATA

Understanding the landscape of homelessness throughout Spokane County.
1,309 people
which make up
1,070 households
WHO WAS COUNTED
(All People)

1,309 PEOPLE

People in HH
with Adults Only, 985, 75%
People in HH
with Children Only, 22, 2%
People in HH
with Adults and Children (Families), 302, 23%

Average Household Size

Households with Adults and Children: 3.1
Households with Adults Only: 1
Households with Children Only: 1.2
People in Households with Adults and Children (Families)
- Emergency Shelter, 154, 51%
- Transitional Housing, 129, 43%
- Unsheltered, 19, 6%

People in Households with Adults Only
- Emergency Shelter, 613, 62%
- Transitional Housing, 77, 8%
- Unsheltered, 1, 5%

People in Households with Children Only
- Emergency Shelter, 13, 59%
- Transitional Housing, 8, 36%
- Unsheltered, 1, 5%

TRENDS (All People)

- Total People in HH with Adults and Children
- Total People in HH with Adults Only
- Total People in HH with Children Only


Data Points:
- 2009: 556
- 2010: 673
- 2011: 650
- 2012: 630
- 2013: 523
- 2014: 428
- 2015: 452
- 2016: 523
- 2017: 667
- 2018: 897
- 2019: 985
**DEMOGRAPHICS**
(All People)

- **Gender**
  - Male, 789, 60%
  - Female, 511, 39%
  - Transgender, 6, 1%
  - Gender Non-Conforming, 3, 0%

- **Age**
  - Under 18, 192, 15%
  - 18 to 24, 106, 8%
  - 25 and Over, 1011, 77%
SHELTER TYPE BY AGE
(All People)

- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Unsheltered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Emergency Shelter</th>
<th>Transitional Housing</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 and Under</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 24</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 and Over</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RACE (All People)

SPOKANE COUNTY

White, 89.30%
Asian, 2.40%
Multi-Racial, 4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.60%
Black or African American, 2%
American Indian and Alaska Native, 1.80%

ALL PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

White, 73%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 2%
Multi-Racial, 8%
Asian, <0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native, 8%
Black or African American, 9%

SHELTER TYPE BY RACE
(All People)

- **White**
  - Emergency Shelter: 560
  - Transitional Housing: 160
  - Unsheltered: 236

- **Black or African American**
  - Emergency Shelter: 76
  - Transitional Housing: 25
  - Unsheltered: 20

- **American Indian and Alaska Native**
  - Emergency Shelter: 50
  - Transitional Housing: 16
  - Unsheltered: 33

- **Asian**
  - Emergency Shelter: 3
  - Transitional Housing: 0
  - Unsheltered: 0

- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander**
  - Emergency Shelter: 20
  - Transitional Housing: 6
  - Unsheltered: 3

- **Multi-Racial**
  - Emergency Shelter: 71
  - Transitional Housing: 7
  - Unsheltered: 23
ETHNICITY
(All People)

SPOKANE COUNTY

- Hispanic/Latino, 6%
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino, 84%

ALL PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- Hispanic/Latino, 8%
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino, 92%
85 Veterans were counted, representing a 11.5% decrease from 2018.
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS
231 chronically homeless were counted, representing a 6.5% decrease from 2018.

- **Sheltered, 147, 64%**
- **Unsheltered, 84, 36%**

1. Minor youth, under 18, identified as chronically homeless and was staying in an Emergency Shelter.
2. Veterans identified as chronically homeless, 13 stayed in Emergency Shelter and 10 were Unsheltered.

- **Households with Adults Only, 231, 97%**
- **Households with Children, 7, 3%**
TRENDS
(Chronically Homeless)

Sheltered

Unsheltered

Total Chronically Homeless

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sheltered</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>136</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>147</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Chronically Homeless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One Spokane.
FAMILIES
FAMILIES

302 people in families with minor children were counting, representing an 8% decrease from 2018

Families are considered chronically homeless, of those: 6 families were in Emergency Shelter and 1 family was Unsheltered.
FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

White, 59%

Multi-Racial, 9%

Japanese, <0.1%

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 8%

American Indian and Alaska Native, 9%

Black or African American, 2%

American Indian and Alaska Native, 1.80%

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.60%

Multi-Racial, 4%

Asian, 2.40%

White, 89.30%

SPOKANE COUNTY

Families (Families)
One Spokane.

TRENDS
(Families)

Year | Emergency Shelter | Transitional Housing | Unsheltered
---|---|---|---
2009 | 42 | 23 | 18
2010 | 23 | 18 | 38
2011 | 18 | 38 | 5
2012 | 18 | 5 | 281
2013 | 18 | 281 | 252
2014 | 163 | 203 | 177
2015 | 136 | 177 | 119
2016 | 136 | 177 | 119
2017 | 136 | 177 | 119
2018 | 136 | 177 | 119
2019 | 136 | 177 | 119

Legend:
- Green: Emergency Shelter
- Blue: Transitional Housing
- Orange: Unsheltered
SPOKANE COUNTY

White, 89.30%
Black or African American, 2%
American Indian and Alaska Native, 1.80%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.60%
Multi-Racial, 4%

MINOR YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

White, 86%
Multi-Racial, 14%
Asian, <0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native, 0%
Black or African American, 0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0%
YOUNG ADULTS
**Household with Children and Adults**, 18, 17%

**Households with Adults Only**, 87, 83%

**Gender**
- Male, 51, 48%
- Female, 52, 49%
- Transgender, 2, 2%
- Gender Non-Conforming, 1, 1%

**DEMOGRAPHICS**
(Young Adults)

**One Vision. One Plan. One Voice.**
One Spokane.

**Everyday Counts**
SAFER. SMARTER. HEALTHIER.

RACE (Young Adults)

- White, 71%
- Black or African American, 12%
- American Indian and Alaska Native, 7%
- Asian, <0.1%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 1%
- Multi-Racial, 9%

SPOKANE COUNTY

- White, 89.30%
- Black or African American, 2%
- American Indian and Alaska Native, 1.80%
- Asian, 2.40%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 0.60%
- Multi-Racial, 4%

YOUNG ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- White, 71%
- Black or African American, 12%
- American Indian and Alaska Native, 7%
- Asian, 2.40%
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 1%
- Multi-Racial, 9%

One Spokane.

SHELTER/HOUSEHOLD TYPE
(Young Adults)

- Emergency Shelter, 43, 41%
- Transitional Housing, 26, 24%
- Unsheltered, 37, 35%
- Households with Children, 26, 25%
- Households with Adults Only, 80, 75%
## DEMOGRAPHICS
(Young Adults)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Minor Youth (17 and under)</th>
<th>Young Adults (18 to 24)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
55+
**DEMOGRAPHICS**

(55+)

**GENDER**

- Male, 158, 72%
- Female, 60, 28%

**VETERAN STATUS**

- Not a Veteran, 123, 56%
- Veteran, 50, 23%
- Missing Information, 36, 17%
- Don't Know, 5, 2%
- Client Refused, 4, 2%
One Spokane.

SHELTER TYPE (55+)

- Emergency Shelter, 34, 81%
- Transitional Housing, 3, 7%
- Unsheltered, 5, 12%
OTHER POPULATIONS
318 adults counted reported experiencing serious mental illness

159 adults counted reported having a substance abuse condition

8 people counted reported living with HIV/AIDS or related illness

125 people counted reported being survivors of domestic violence
One Spokane.

SHELTER TYPE
(Other Populations)

ADULTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

Sheltered, 240, 75%
Unsheltered, 78, 25%

ADULTS WITH A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Sheltered, 107, 67%
Unsheltered, 52, 33%
One Spokane.

SHELTER TYPE
(Other Populations)

ADULTS WITH HIV/AIDS

- Sheltered, 4, 50%
- Unsheltered, 4, 50%

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

- Sheltered, 67, 66%
- Unsheltered, 35, 34%
TRENDS
(Other Populations)

- Severe Mental Illness
- Chronic Substance Abuse
- Living with HIV/AIDS
- Survivors of Domestic Violence
SHELTERED HOMELESS
UNSHeltered Homeless
315 Unsheltered Individuals (1.6%)
TRENDS
(Unsheltered Homeless)

All People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

2009: 157
2010: 172
2011: 138
2012: 130
2013: 60
2014: 155
2015: 132
2016: 172
2017: 138
2018: 310
2019: 315
TRENDS
(Unsheltered Homeless)

Unsheltered Families
Unsheltered Adults
Unsheltered Children
PRIMARY REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS
(Unsheltered Homeless)
OTHER REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS
(Unsheltered Homeless)

- Aged out of Foster Care: 5
- Alcohol Use: 28
- Choose to be Homeless: 7
- CPS Involvement: 3
- Discrimination: 16
- Don't Know: 16
- Drug Use: 58
- Evicted: 46
- Family Conflict: 27
- Family Rejection: 24
- Fleeing Domestic Violence: 15
- Fire: 1
- Illness: 13
- Juvenile Justice: 25
- Lack of Affordable Housing: 73
- Lack of Income: 94
- LGBTQ Status: 4
- Lost Job: 37
- Mental Health: 70
- Moved: 19
- Other: 23
- Partner Substance Abuse: 16
- Physical Disability: 11
- Refused: 33
- Substandard Housing: 16
TOP 10 REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS
(Homeless System)

- Alcohol Use: 28%
- Drug Use: 63%
- Evicted: 45%
- Family Conflict: 77%
- Fleeing Domestic Violence: 35%
- Lack of Affordable Housing: 37%
- Lack of Income: 74%
- Lost Job: 28%
- Mental Health: 25%
- Other: 31%
WHERE PEOPLE ARE FROM
LAST PERMANENTLY HOUSED BY STATE
(Unsheltered Homeless)

- Washington - Spokane County: 184
- Other Parts of Washington: 40
- Idaho: 14
- All Other States: 43
LAST PERMANENTLY HOUSED BY WA COUNTY
(Unsheltered Homeless)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Spokane, 132</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Spokane &amp; Spokane County, 12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Spokane &amp; Spokane Valley, 14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spokane County, 8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spokane County &amp; City of Airway Heights, 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spokane County &amp; City of Spokane Valley, 8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Jurisdiction</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spokane County</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Spokane Valley</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS

Sheltered

Unsheltered
Point-in-Time Count data provides snapshot estimates used to inform collaborative solutions. The following slides include early impressions of successes and challenges.
For the second year in a row, Spokane County has seen a reduction in chronically homeless (21% decrease from 2017 to 2019). Of those, fewer people are unsheltered and more are coming inside and utilizing the shelter system.

8% fewer families are experiencing homelessness than in 2018.

Despite a slight increase in youth homelessness in 2019, 100% more young people are in transitional housing than in the previous year. Transitional housing, while not a permanent housing solution, is a safe and stable place for young people to stay for up to 2 years.

Spokane County continues to see a decrease in Veteran homelessness (28% since 2017), as we employ new best practice methodologies to end Veteran homelessness.
Over the last decade, Spokane County has seen a 46% increase in homelessness among single adults. Nearly one-third of single adults experience unsheltered homelessness, compared to only 6% of families and 5% of youth.

30% of those surveyed were experiencing homelessness for the first time.

Racial minorities (specifically Black or African American, American Indian and Alaskan Natives, and Multi-Racial) make up a disproportionate share of the homeless population when compared to U.S. Census Data for the County.

While Veteran homelessness has decreased in Spokane County, homelessness among female Veterans has increased. This mimics a national trend.

21 young adults reported being survivors of domestic violence. That equates to 17% of all those surveyed.
What is next given what we have learned this year.
Improved access and coordination:

- Revisiting and redesigning the Coordinated Entry System
- Moving to a Diversion-First Model
- Spokane Resource Center: A HUD EnVision Center
- Outreach as a tool to prevent homelessness

Training and support for the entire Continuum of Care on racial equity, bias, and sensitivity

Engaging people with lived homeless experience to enhance the system and ensure it meets needs and is accessible to those who utilize it

Offering more targeted services to meet individualized needs
The Homeless Crisis Response System is exiting more people into permanent housing each year over the last three years. The challenge is new people entering homelessness for the first time. Focused attention on poverty reduction and homelessness prevention is critical.