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## **2022 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT FAQs**

### **Q. When is the Point-in-Time Count?**

**A.** The sheltered count will be Feb. 24, followed by the unsheltered count Feb. 25-March 1 throughout Spokane County. The count was originally scheduled Jan. 27-Feb. 1, but was postponed after consulting with the Spokane Regional Health District and partners about the spike in virus cases. The U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) agreed to postpone the dates.

### **Q. What are the details about volunteering for the PIT Count?**

**A.** Sign up online at <https://my.spokanecity.org/endinghomelessness/point-in-time-count/> preferably before Feb. 18. Volunteers will work in pairs with a mobile app to ask the homeless population 23 survey questions that are required by HUD. Volunteer leads are also needed. Online training, KN95 masks, gloves, sanitizer and identification will be provided. Volunteers choose through the sign-up portal which day(s) they'd like to volunteer and certain hours can be requested. Hours are during the daytime. About 100 total volunteers from throughout Spokane County are needed. Volunteers can work in 2-, 4-, 6- or 8-hour shifts and should communicate that with their group leaders.

### **Q. Why is the PIT Count important?**

**A.** This annual snapshot estimate of Spokane County's homeless population required by HUD determines state and federal funding for local homeless services. The data is also used for regional homeless planning efforts to help people move into permanent housing and grant applications.

### **Q. What is on the surveys?**

**A.** The 23 questions required by HUD include name, gender, date of birth, race, how long in homelessness, reasons for becoming homeless and if they lived in Spokane County before becoming homeless. Answers are not mandatory. Surveys are conducted by government agency staffs and community volunteers.

### **Q. What have the impacts of the pandemic been on the PIT Count?**

**A.** The count was postponed earlier due to the spike in virus cases. Safety precautions for both volunteers and those taking the survey are being made based on the recommendations of City's Integrated Medical Services Manager and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention protocols. Volunteers must sign a waiver. Volunteers are also provided online training prior to the count.

**Q. Will the later PIT Count date mean that the data will also be postponed?**

**A.** No. Data is still required to be submitted to HUD by the end of April.

**Q. How many homeless people have been counted in Spokane County before?**

**A.** In 2020, the last year a full count was held due to the pandemic, 1,556 people were counted. A sheltered-only count was conducted in 2021. Past PIT Count data is posted at <https://my.spokanecity.org/chhs/cmris/reports/>.

**Q. When will the annual community-led Homeless Connect event that provides a variety of services and resources to the homeless be held?**

**A.** It will be held at the Spokane Convention Center on March 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in conjunction with the final day of the PIT Count. The event serves as a census-taking site for the count.

**Q. Who else is involved in the PIT Count?**

**A.** The City has several partners, including the regional Continuum of Care, providers, other jurisdictions such as the County and City of Spokane Valley, Eastern Washington University, businesses, citizens and others.

**Q. Where do I go for more information?**

**A.** Visit <https://my.spokanecity.org/endinghomelessness/point-in-time-count/>. If you have questions, email Amira Djulovic, PIT Count Coordinator, at [adjulovic@spokanecity.org](mailto:adjulovic@spokanecity.org) or Meagan Vincello, PIT Outreach Coordinator, at [mvincello@spokanecity.org](mailto:mvincello@spokanecity.org).