

What is the Homeless Point-in-Time Count?

- The Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is a snap shot of the Tompkins County's Homeless population during a designated 24 Hr period.
- The PIT Count includes a census of homeless persons in the emergency shelter, transitional housing and unsheltered

Why do we do a PIT Count?

- A PIT count is required at a minimum of every year by HUD for communities receiving funding through the Continuum of Care.
- The PIT Count provides the CoC with the opportunity to take an annual snapshot of the number of homeless persons in the winter.
- The PIT Count also serves as an opportunity to cross check and validate the quality of data maintained in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

What kind of information do we gather during the PIT Count?

- The number of current homeless persons in the county and the location they are staying.
- The number of homeless individuals and the number of homeless families.
- The number of homeless persons designated in special populations e.g. chronically homeless, severely mentally ill etc.

How did we collect this information for the PIT Count?

- First, we designated the 24-hour time period during which the PIT Count will take place. This year it was from 7PM January 28, 2016 to 7 AM January 29, 2016.

For Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing

- HMIS Information
- Cross-Check with Provider Census Data

How did we collect this information for the PIT Count?

For Unsheltered Persons:

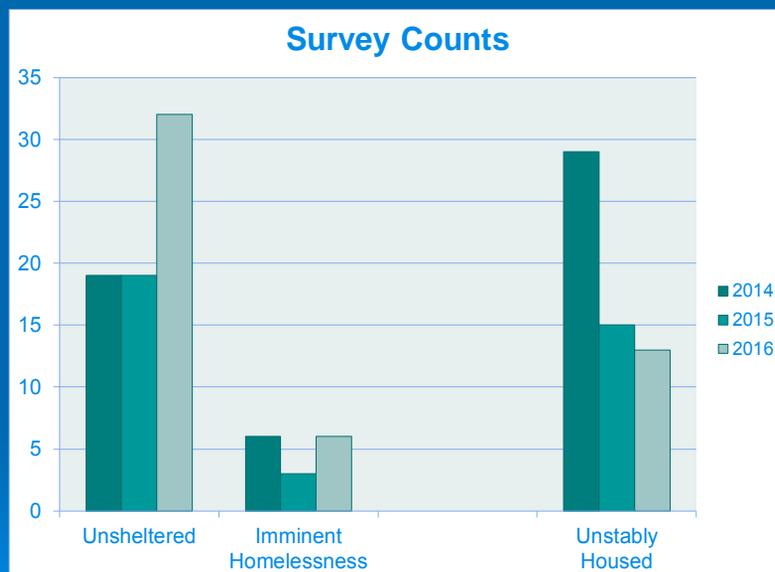
- Outreach Night of PIT Count
- Ride Alongs
- Warming Station
- Service Provider Surveys

Outline of the Data to be Presented

- Survey Counts of Unsheltered Homeless Persons
- Persons in Emergency Shelters
- Persons in Transitional Housing
- Total Homeless Persons
- Homeless Youth
- Special Populations

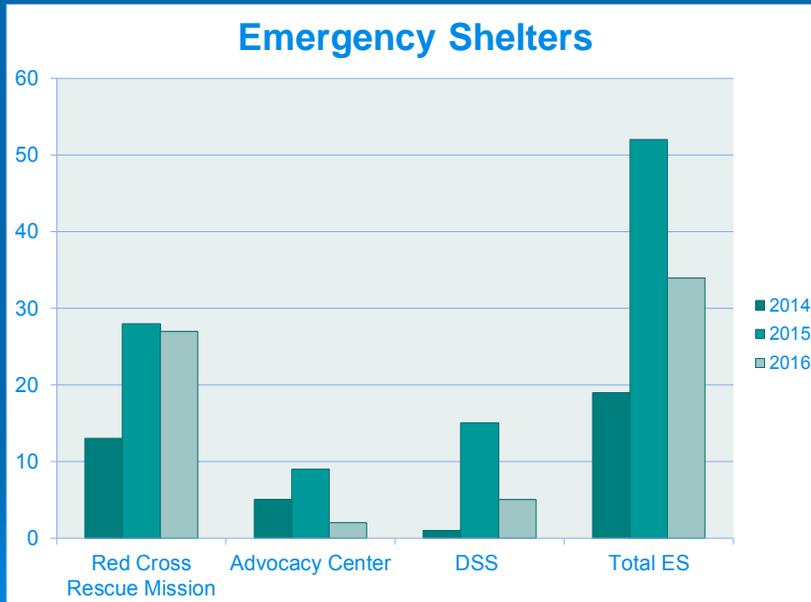
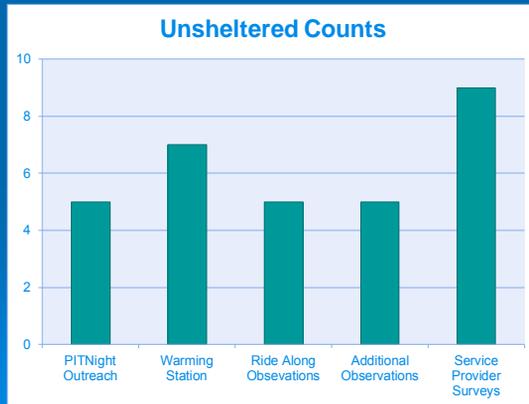
Homeless Definitions

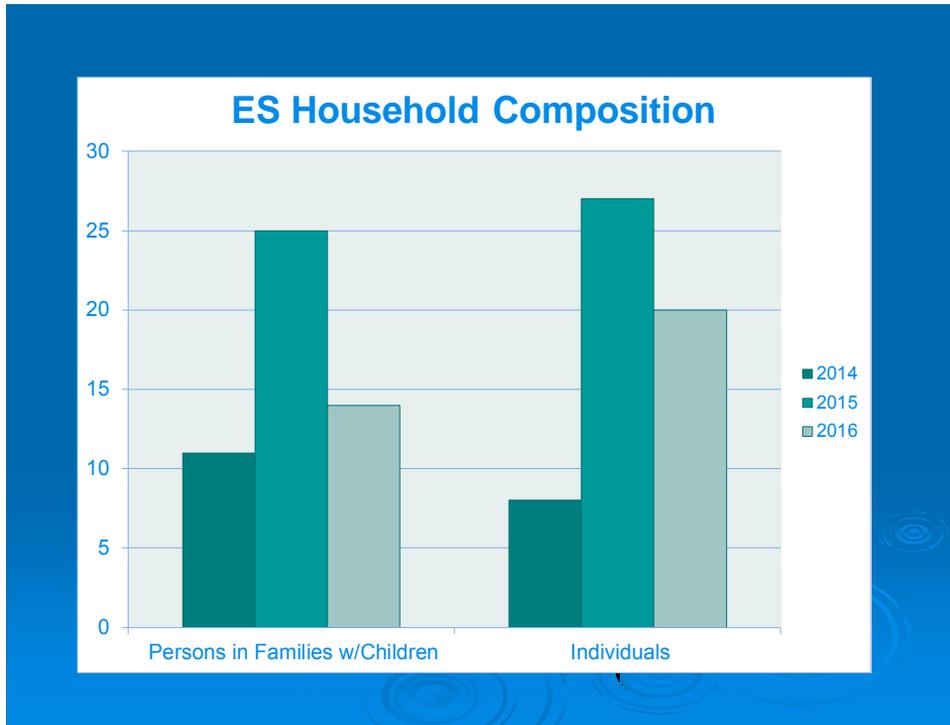
- Literally Homeless: Living in a place not meant for habitation, e.g. car, abandoned building, laundromat
- Imminently Homeless: eviction \leq 14 days
- Unstably Housed (Couch Surfing): two or more moves in less than 60 days



Changes in PIT Survey Counts

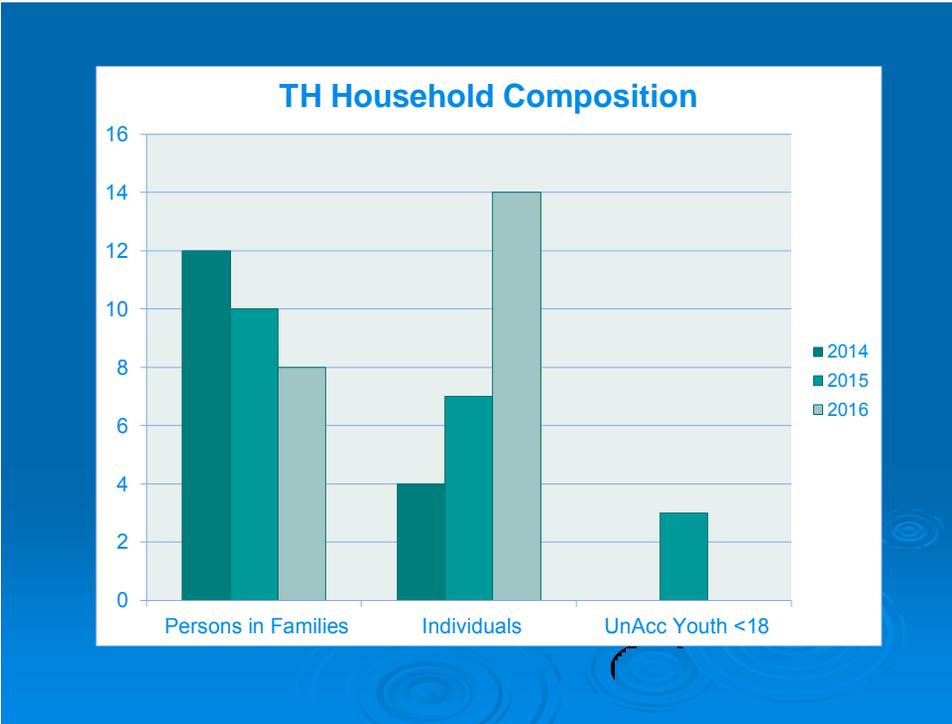
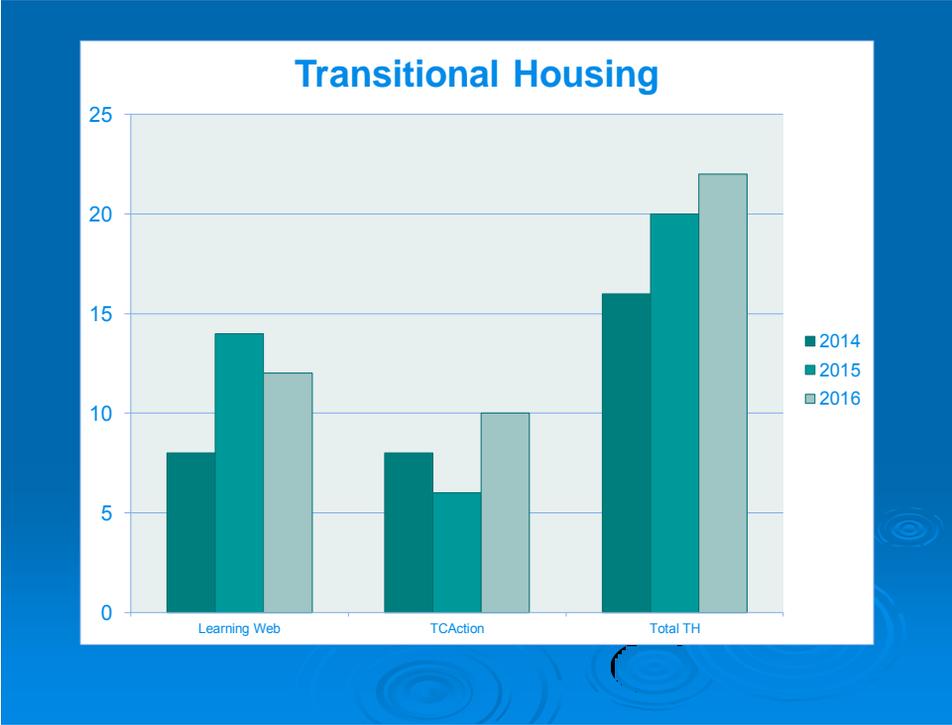
- The increase in the number of literally homeless is largely due to improved outreach methods the PIT Count such as ride alongs, warming station and observations.





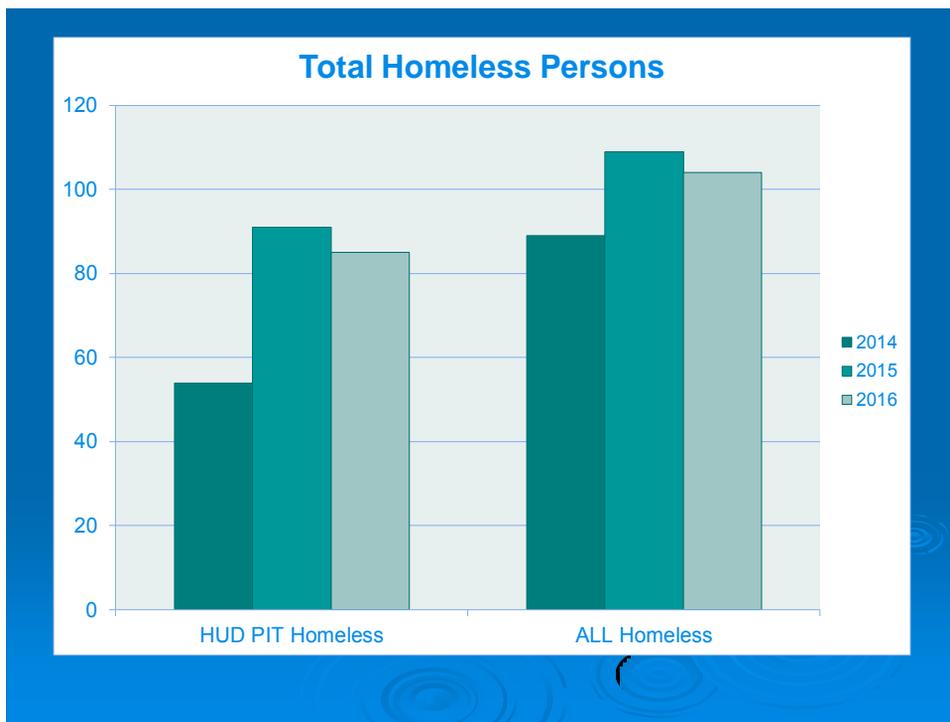
Changes in Emergency Shelter Counts

- There was decrease in persons placed in all three shelters: Rescue Mission, DSS and Advocacy Center.
- In all these shelters, there was a decrease in the number of persons in families as well as a decrease in the number of individuals in the Rescue Mission.
- These decreases may reflect a somewhat milder winter this year compared to last.



Changes in Transitional Housing

- There was a slight decrease in the number of persons housed in Learning Web TH Program and increase in the TCAction TH program. These changes overall likely reflect normal fluctuations in the number of persons housed in the programs.
- The increase in the number of individuals as compared to persons in families reflects that at that time only individuals were housed in Learning Web Program. Also one household in TCAction program included pregnant mother which is counted as an individual until the child is born.

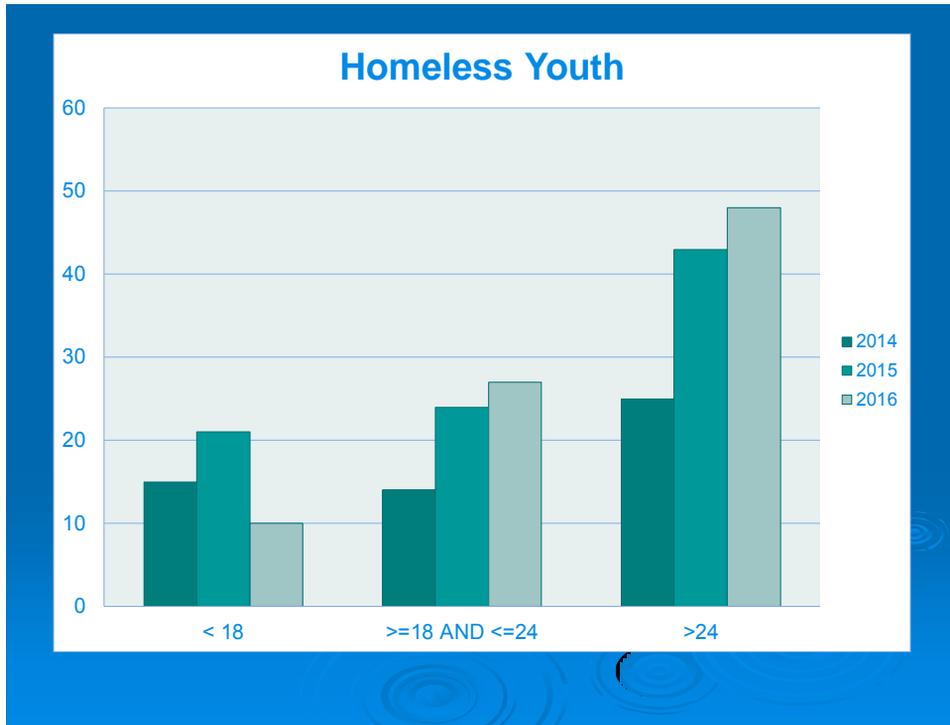


Changes in Total Number of Homeless Persons

- For the PIT Count, HUD only counts those persons who are literally homeless (unsheltered + sheltered). There was an overall small decrease even though there was an increase in the number of unsheltered persons. This largely reflects decreases in the number of persons in ES and TH.
- For the community PIT Count which also includes persons that are imminently homeless and unstably housed, there was an overall small decrease. Again, this largely reflects decreases in the number of persons in ES and TH as well as decreases in imminently homeless and unstably housed.

Homeless Youth

- HUD has the goal of specifically counting homeless youth as this has been a population identified as having unique needs. Hence, we gathered information on literally homeless persons in different ages groups.
- < 18 yo (includes children in families)
- >=18 yo and <= 24 yo
- > 24 yo

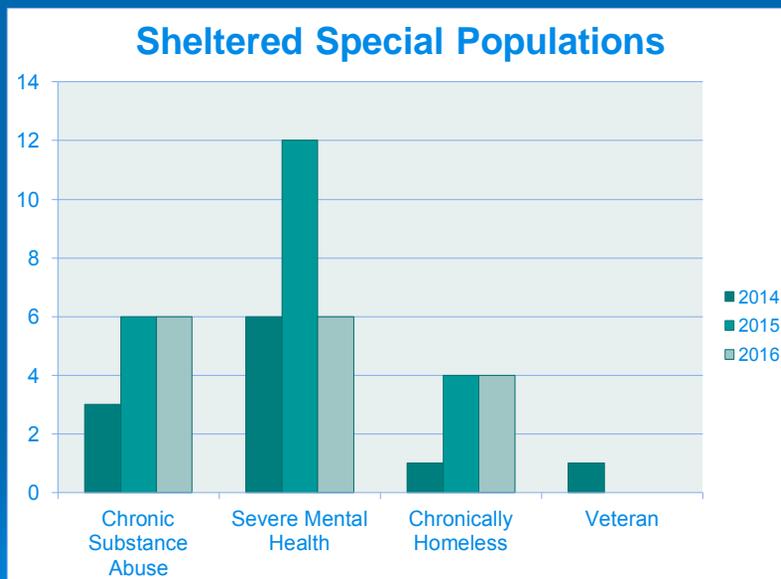


Homeless Youth

- The decrease in number of homeless persons <18 y.o. reflects decrease in number of homeless families with children.
- The increase in number of youth 18-24 reflect increases of the this age group in ES.

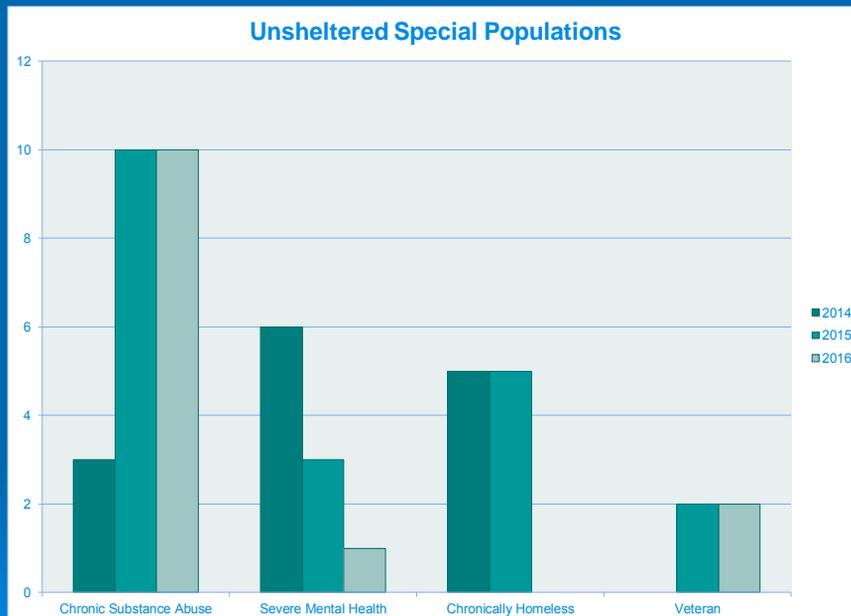
Special Populations

- As part of the PIT Count we gather information of special populations including persons with severe mental health, chronic substance abuse, veterans, victims of domestic violence and chronically homeless.
- Chronically Homeless defined a persons with a disability who has been literally homeless ≥ 1 year or experienced 4 episodes of literal homelessness in the past 3 years with total duration ≥ 1 year



Changes in Sheltered Special Populations

- There was a large decrease in the number of sheltered homeless persons with severe mental health.
- One possible reason for these decrease is that improved in funding of various case management and supportive services for this population through Medicaid Re-Design.
- Another possibility is that fewer people are willing to identify as having a mental health disorder.



Changes in Unsheltered Special Populations

- Again, there was a large decrease in the number of sheltered homeless persons with severe mental health.
- One possible reason for these decrease is that improved in funding of various case management and supportive services for this population through Medicaid Re-Design. Another possibility is that fewer people are willing to identify as having a mental health disorder.
- There was also a decrease in the number of chronically homeless persons, this may also reflect persons not being willing to identify as having a disability.

Summary of PIT Results

- There was a large increase in the number of unsheltered persons. This is likely due to the improved methods of outreach for the unsheltered count.
- There was large decrease in the number of persons using the emergency shelter largely due to decreases in the number of persons housed by DSS and Advocacy Center.
- There was decrease in the number of homeless children largely reflecting decrease in number of homeless families.

Summary of PIT Results

- The number of sheltered and unsheltered persons with severe mental health decreased significantly.
- This may reflect improved services to this population or also reluctance of persons to identify as having a mental health disorder.
- Summing across all categories there was a small decrease in the number of all homeless persons for both of HUD PIT homeless count and CoC homeless count reflecting the decreased number of persons in Emergency Shelter.