

City of Fayetteville/ Cumberland County

2018 Point in Time

Annual Homeless Count Report

Prepared in partnership with Cumberland County Community Development, The City of Fayetteville Economic & Community Development, and The Fayetteville / Cumberland County Continuum of Care

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for those experiencing homelessness in Cumberland County



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	Acknowledgements	3
	Overview	4-5
	Methodology	6-9
	Definitions	10-11
OUTCOMES	Demographics	12-14
	Subpopulations	15
	Key Findings	16
	Supplemental Data	17
CONCLUSION	Trends	18
	Additional Homeless Data	19
	Causes of Homelessness	20
	Closing Summary	21
APPENDIX	Data Sets	22-26
	Helpful Resources	27

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NC-511 Point-in-Time Agency Partnerships

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- Cumberland County Sheriff's Department
- Cumberland County Schools
- Cumberland Interfaith Hospitality Network/ Family Promise of Fayetteville
- Endeavors
- Fayetteville Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Fayetteville VA Medical Center
- Hope Mills Police Department
- Operation Inasmuch
- Myrover-Reese Fellowship Home
- Salvation Army of Fayetteville
- Spring Lake Police Department
- Veteran Empowering Veterans

A very special thank you to all of the volunteers who participated in administering the NC-511 2018 Point-in-Time survey and to all of the respondents who were willing to share their time, personal information, and experiences in order to help our community better understand and assist our homeless—ensuring our homeless community has a voice.

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OVERVIEW

The NC-511 Fayetteville/Cumberland County Continuum of Care (CoC) presents the 2018 Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Homeless Summary Report



The NC-511 Fayetteville/Cumberland County Continuum of Care 2018 Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Homeless Summary Report is intended to provide the community with vital information regarding the many different characteristics of our homeless population.

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandates every CoC throughout the United States to conduct a sheltered count yearly and an unsheltered count biennially; Fayetteville/Cumberland County chooses to conduct both every year. The sheltered portion consists of census data collected on all households and individuals residing in an emergency shelter or in transitional housing. The unsheltered portion is comprised of trained volunteers identifying homeless persons inhabiting places unfit for human habitation and conducting surveys as a method of counting.

This report draws attention to the 2018 PIT count results. While the ultimate goal is to contribute towards the understanding of who the homeless in our community are, it is important to consider that the data collected during the PIT survey is only a *snapshot* of those experiencing homelessness on one given night in January. As such, unsheltered counts should not be inferred as exact counts as they may not necessarily be reflective of an actual increase or decrease in our homeless population. Instead, it should be considered a tool for looking at aggregate trends, examining the many different characteristics of our homeless, and as a method to assist in identifying their needs.



As with any survey, there are limitations encountered. Counting those who are experiencing homelessness is not an easy task and utilization of surveys on a single night has historically undercounted the homeless population; it is not an exhaustive census. It is easy to *miss* persons experiencing homelessness. Changes to HUD's definitions on homelessness, inaccuracy of self-reported data, variables in housing classifications, limitations of counting only those who meet the HUD definition of homelessness, etc. are all characteristics of the PIT limitations.

Unsheltered individuals are particularly difficult to count, as they are often in places not easily recognized. Certainly there are known homeless encampments and frequented service locations, but many unsheltered homeless are transient. They live in vehicles, campgrounds, unknown wooded areas, abandoned buildings, or other unsuitable locations not intended for habitation; many do not want to participate in the PIT nor do they want to be located.

The sheltered portion of the count is contingent on the contribution of agencies and organizations who provide emergency shelter and transitional housing to our homeless individuals and families—either

OVERVIEW

through volunteering in the count or participating in the utilization of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).



Although there are limitations, the PIT is an invaluable tool. PIT count results, when in conjunction with data and reports throughout the year, provide the cumulative knowledge needed for the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Continuum of Care and the many organizations serving our homeless to make informed decisions. These decisions directly help address needs and develop strategies when creating goals and plans in the effort to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness in our community.



NC-511 Fayetteville/Cumberland County CoC

The Fayetteville/Cumberland County Continuum of Care (CoC) on homelessness was established in response to a mandate for the U.S. Department of housing and Urban Development (HUD) to facilitate the coordination of the community's human services agencies, and the community-at-large, in order to adequately set strategies for addressing the needs of Fayetteville and Cumberland County's impoverished populations; to include homeless persons and those persons at-risk of becoming homeless through the Continuum of Care system. The CoC is structured in accordance with the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), enacted into law on May 20, 2009, which codifies in law the Continuum of Care planning process (Section 1504) and the Continuum of Care Interim Rule, 24 CFR Part 578



DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

Fayetteville/Cumberland County CoC volunteers throughout the county collected PIT data from 06:00am January 24th, 2018 until 06:00am January 25th, 2018, referencing “where did (will) you be sleeping the night of Wednesday, January 24th, 2018.”

Method of Survey/Data Collection

In order to collect reliable data on total number and characteristics of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Cumberland County the evening of the 2018 PIT, the Fayetteville/Cumberland County CoC utilized a mixed method design which included census count/survey, provider-level surveys, and HMIS data.

Sheltered Population Count Method

The following data sources were used to produce the total number of people included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter or transitional housing) on the night of the count:

• HMIS Data	90%
• Provider-level Surveys	0%
• Client-level Surveys	10%
• Observation	0%
• Other	0%
• Total	100%

The CoC was able to collect information about the number of people being sheltered on the night of the count from all emergency shelters and transitional housing projects listed on the HIC utilizing both a complete census count and HMIS Data. The data collected included specific demographics (age, race, gender, ethnicity, etc.), subpopulation characteristics (disabilities, instances of domestic violence, veteran status, etc.), as well as various other statistically significant information. Sheltered individuals were not selected randomly, and every effort was made to include all sheltered people in emergency shelters and transitional housing required to report under the guidelines of HUD.

Unsheltered Population Count Method

For the unsheltered portion of the PIT, several approaches were used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count:

- “Night of the count” - known locations
- “Night of the count” - random sample

All unsheltered persons encountered in the canvassed areas were included in the count. Areas included for canvassing were not selected randomly, but an effort was made to use local knowledge to target

DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

known locations (e.g., areas with known concentrations of unsheltered homeless people). Certain areas within Cumberland County were specifically excluded because there was reliable confirmation that there were no unsheltered people in those areas. Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the PIT were used to collect demographic and subpopulation data. The data collected included specific demographic (age, race, gender, ethnicity, etc.), subpopulation characteristics (disabilities, instances of domestic violence, veteran status, etc.), as well as various other statistically significant information.

Duplication

Every effort was made to ensure each homeless individual was counted only once. Information and responses collected through interviews/surveys were thoroughly screened and the following methods were applied during the de-duplication process:

- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., canvassing of different areas occurred at the same time to avoid double counting)
- Interview/survey question (s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

Expanded Definitions of Homelessness (in relation to survey data collection)

“Sheltered” means:

- Emergency shelter, including:
 - Domestic violence shelter
 - Seasonal shelter
 - Hotel/motel vouchers paid for by an agency because the person is homeless
 - Transitional housing dedicated for homeless persons

“Unsheltered” means:

- A place not meant for human habitation
 - Car, park, abandoned building, streets, encampment, etc.

Services-based: In addition to counting those in the street, persons at service provider locations that homeless people rely on, such as soup kitchens, food banks, drop-in centers, Department of Social Services, and Libraries can be counted as well. A service-based count can continue up to 7 days after the PIT.

DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

Literally Homeless

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; OR
- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); OR
- Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution

The following **DO NOT** count under the HUD definition of literally homeless:

- People staying with family or friends (doubled-up/couch surfing)
- People living in hotels/motels they pay for themselves
- People in institutions (hospitals, mental health/substance use residential treatment, detox, jail/prison, foster care)
- People in any other type of facility not dedicated for homeless persons
- Children or youth who are under government custody (i.e. emergency foster care, wards of the state)

Imminent Risk of Homelessness

- Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
- Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- No subsequent residence has been identified; AND
- The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

At-Risk of Homelessness

- Someone who is at risk of homelessness has an income below 30% of Area Median Income (AMI), AND
- Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the “homeless” definition, AND

DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

- Meets at least one of the following conditions: Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; OR Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; OR Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; OR Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; OR Lives in an SRO or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than 2 persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room; OR Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; OR Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved Con Plan.

Chronically Homeless

A chronically homeless person is a homeless individual with a disability (serious mental illness, substance use disorder, developmental disability, PTSD, cognitive impairments from brain injury, chronic physical illness, and physical disability) who:

- 1) Lives in a shelter, safe haven, or place not meant for human habitation for 12 continuous months or for 4 separate occasions in the last three years (must total 12 months). Breaks in homelessness, while the individual is residing in an institutional care facility, will not count as a break in homelessness; OR
- 2) Resides in an institutional care facility for less than 90 days and meets the above criteria for chronic homelessness may also be considered chronically homeless; OR
- 3) Lastly, a family with an adult/minor head of household who meets the above mentioned criteria may also be considered chronically homeless, despite changes in family composition (unless the chronically homeless head of household leaves the family).

DEFINITIONS

Chronically Homeless

Unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

Emergency Shelter (ES)

Any facility that the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for the homeless in general or for a specific subpopulation of the homeless.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

A computerized data collection system that tracks services received by homeless people, helps identify gaps in services within the CoC, and allows for greater collaboration among service providers by providing a “history” of a person’s involvement in the system of care.

Homeless Parenting Youth

A youth who identifies as the parent or legal guardian of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over the age of 24 in the household.

Housing Inventory Chart (HIC)

A point-in-time inventory of provider programs within a Continuum of Care that provides beds and units dedicated to serve persons who are homeless

Permanent Housing (PH/PSH)

Provides long-term (not time-limited), safe, and decent housing for homeless persons with or without disabilities; enabling independent living.

Point-in-Time Count (PIT)

A one-day statistically reliable unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families in a specific area.

Rapid Rehousing (RR)

Places priority on moving a family or individual experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible, ideally within 30 days of the client becoming homeless or entering a program.



DEFINITIONS

Sheltered Homeless Persons

An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregated shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income households or individuals.

Unsheltered Homeless Persons

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, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camp-ground.

Transitional Housing (TH)

Supportive housing used to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. It is housing in which homeless persons may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently.



Veteran

A Veteran is a person who has served in the active military, naval or air service and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Persons under the age of 25 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping the same place as his/her child(ren). Unaccompanied youth are single youth, youth couples, and groups of youth presenting together as a household.

Victims of Domestic Violence (DV)

Adults who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.



DEMOGRAPHICS (Night of 2018 PIT)

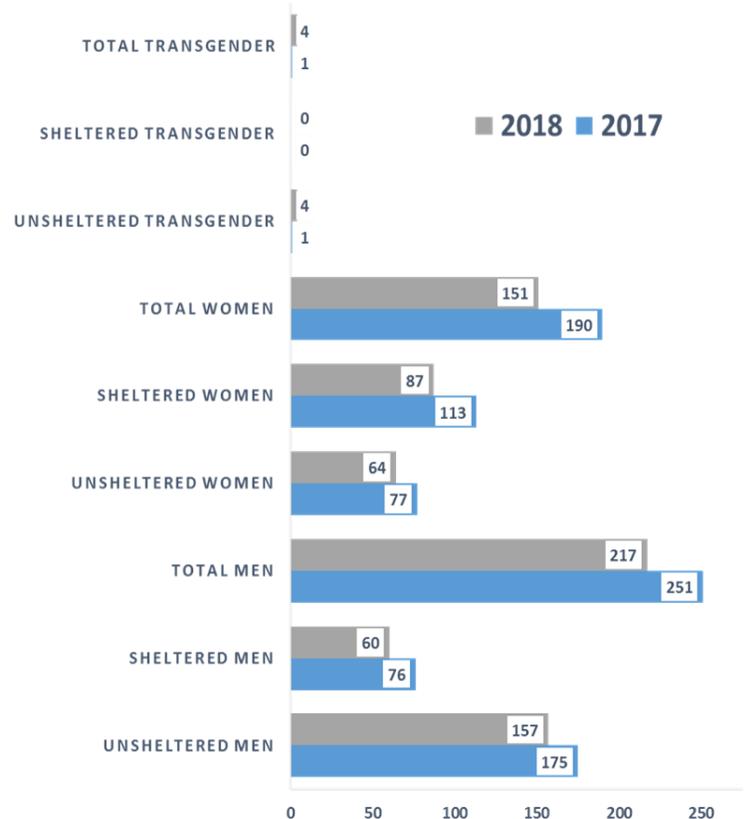
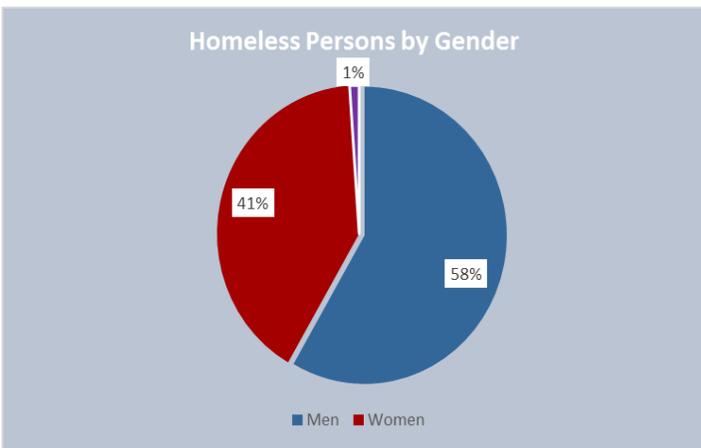
Total Estimated Homeless Persons



372

AT LEAST
PEOPLE WERE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
IN FAYETTEVILLE/CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NC

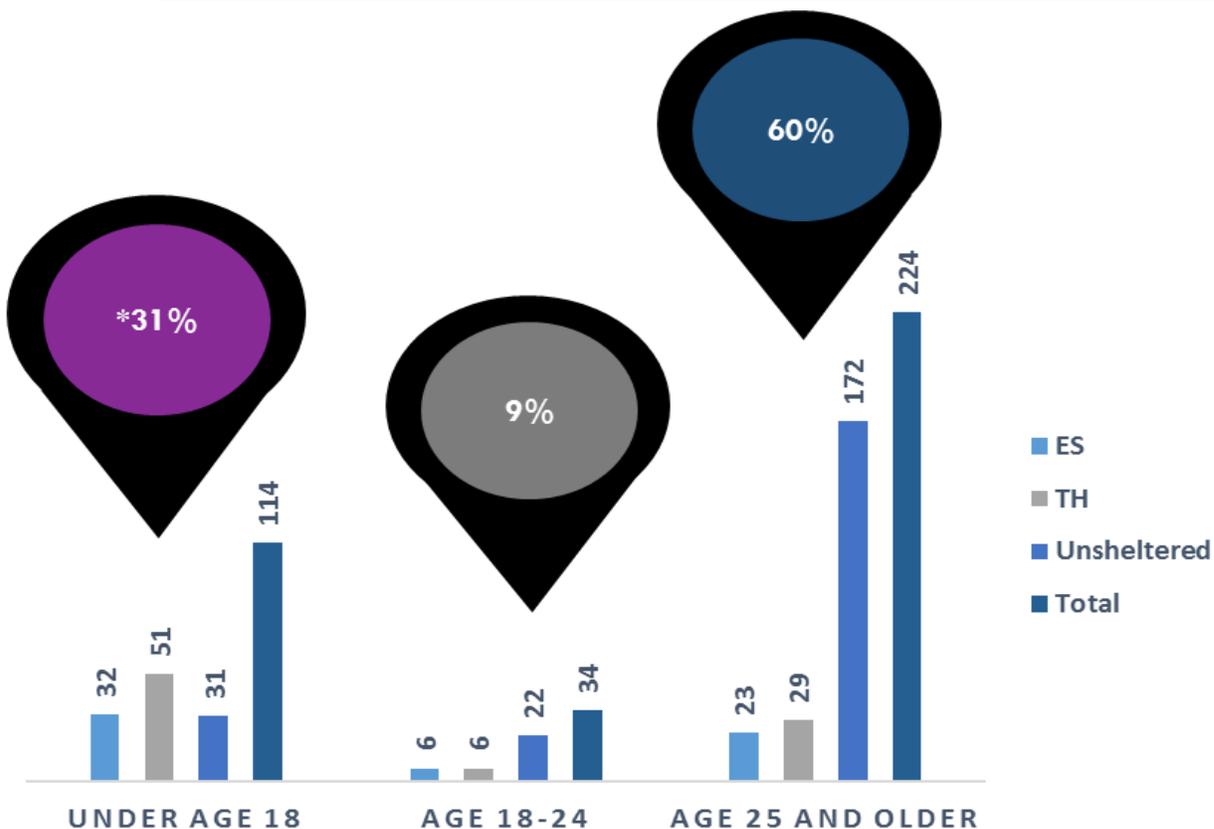
Gender





DEMOGRAPHICS (Night of 2018 PIT)

Age



***Please note—all persons presenting under the age of 18 were part of a homeless household (Adult/s with Children).**

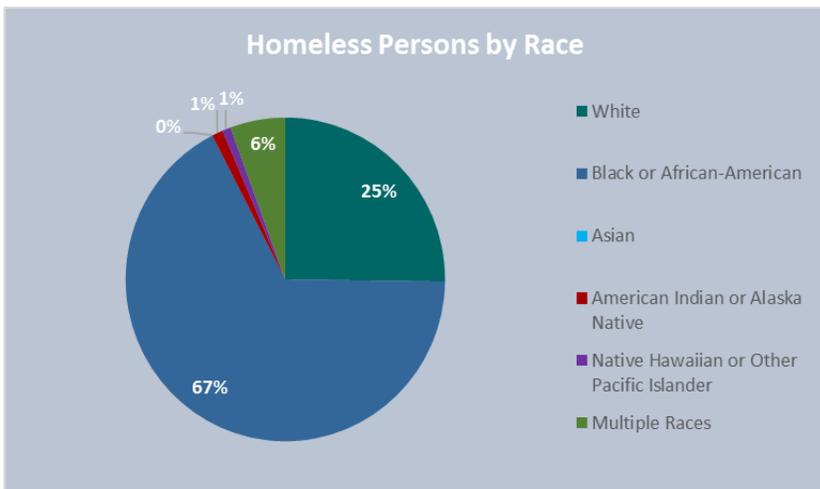
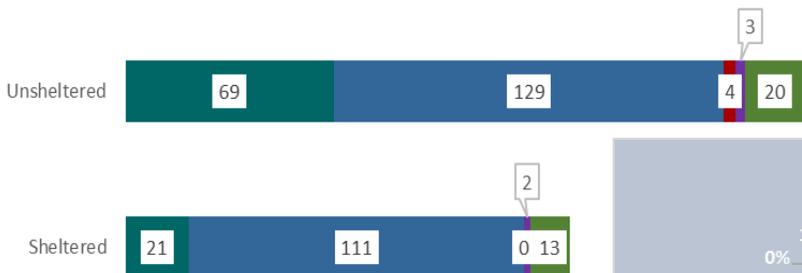




DEMOGRAPHICS (Night of 2018 PIT)

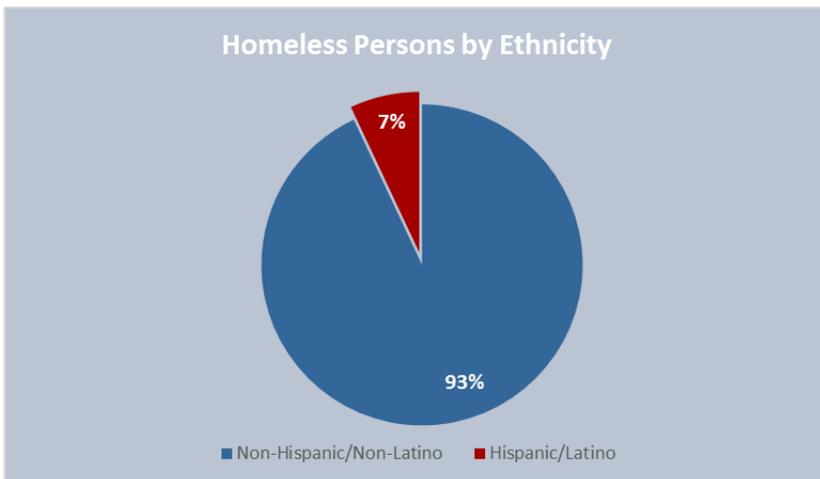
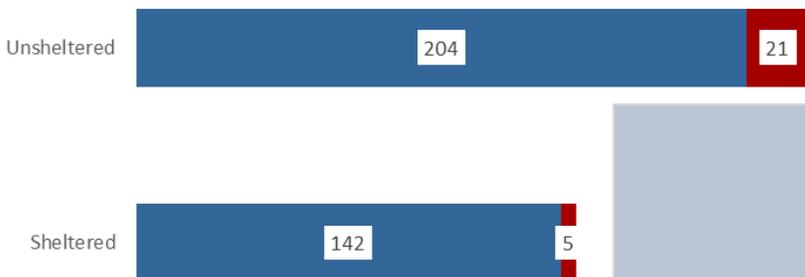


- White
- Black or African-American
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Multiple Races



Race

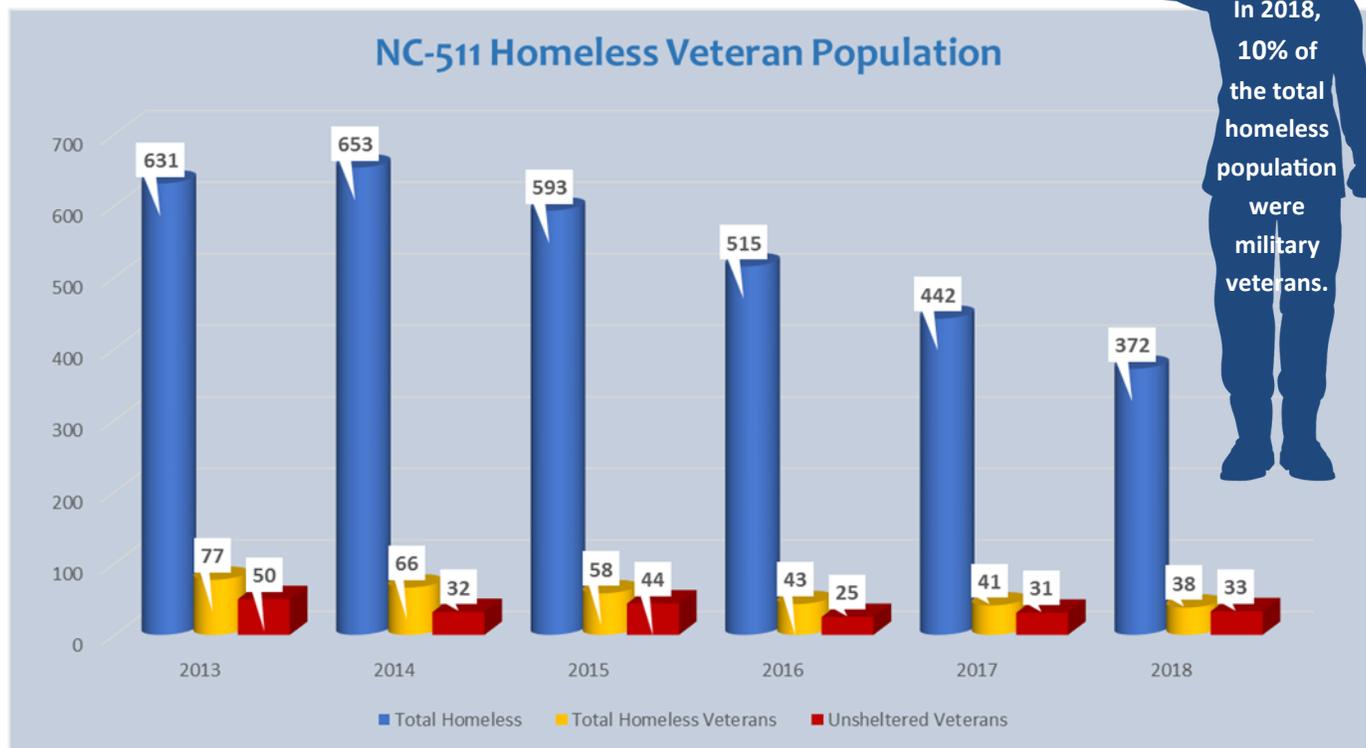
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
- Hispanic/Latino



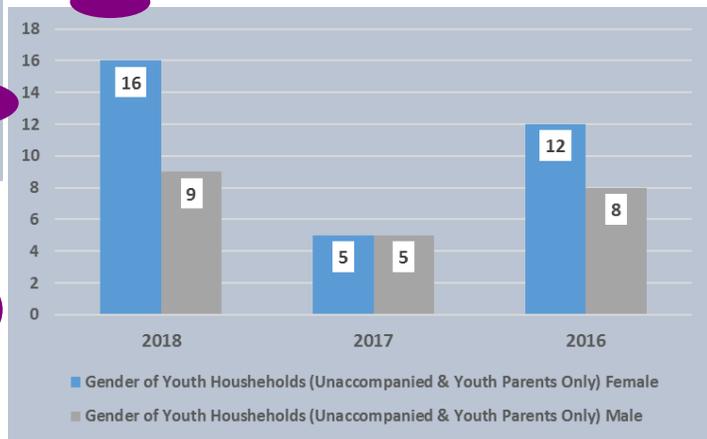
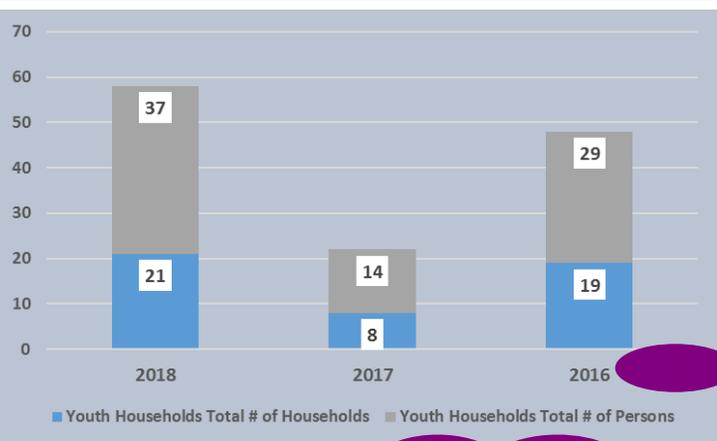
Ethnicity

SUBPOPULATIONS

Homeless Veterans



Youth Households

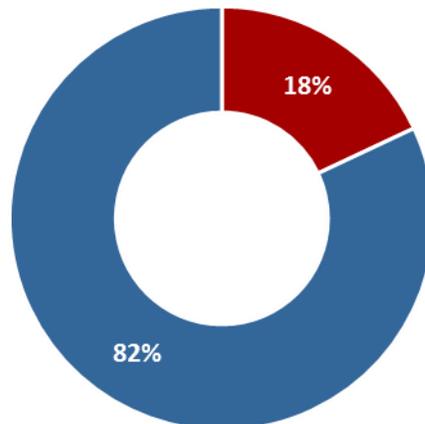


These numbers relate to youth only households and unaccompanied youth. They do not include children in households with adults.

KEY FINDINGS

Approximately **1** in 5 homeless individuals are considered chronically homeless.

■ Chronic Homelessness

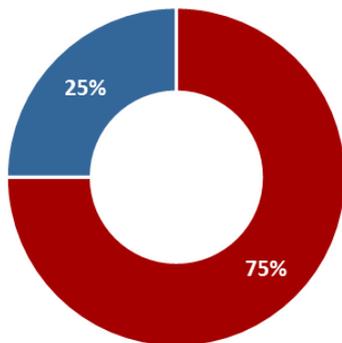


While Households w/ Children are **3** times more likely to be *sheltered*, Households w/out Children are **3** times more likely to be *unsheltered*.

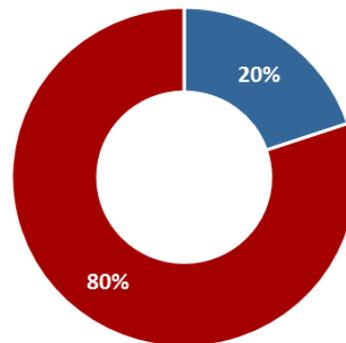
Sheltered Households

Unsheltered Households

■ Households w/ Children = 42
 ■ Households w/out Children = 14



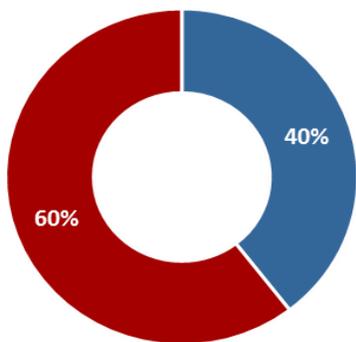
■ Households w/ Children = 31
 ■ Households w/out Children = 125



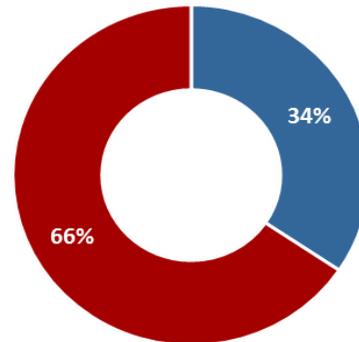
Total Homeless Persons

Total Households

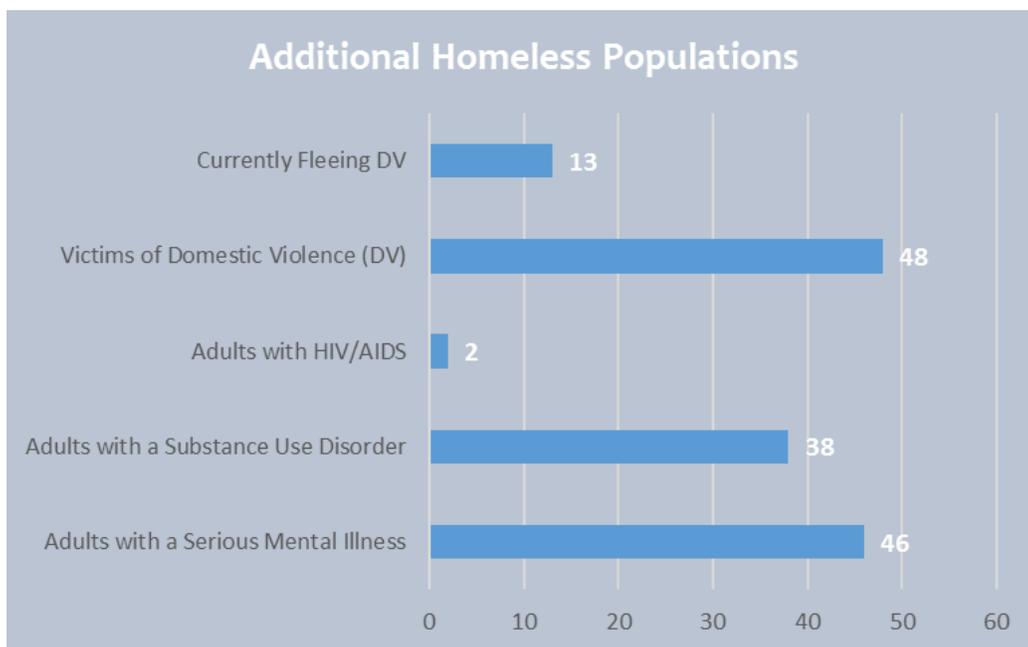
■ Sheltered = 147
 ■ Unsheltered = 225



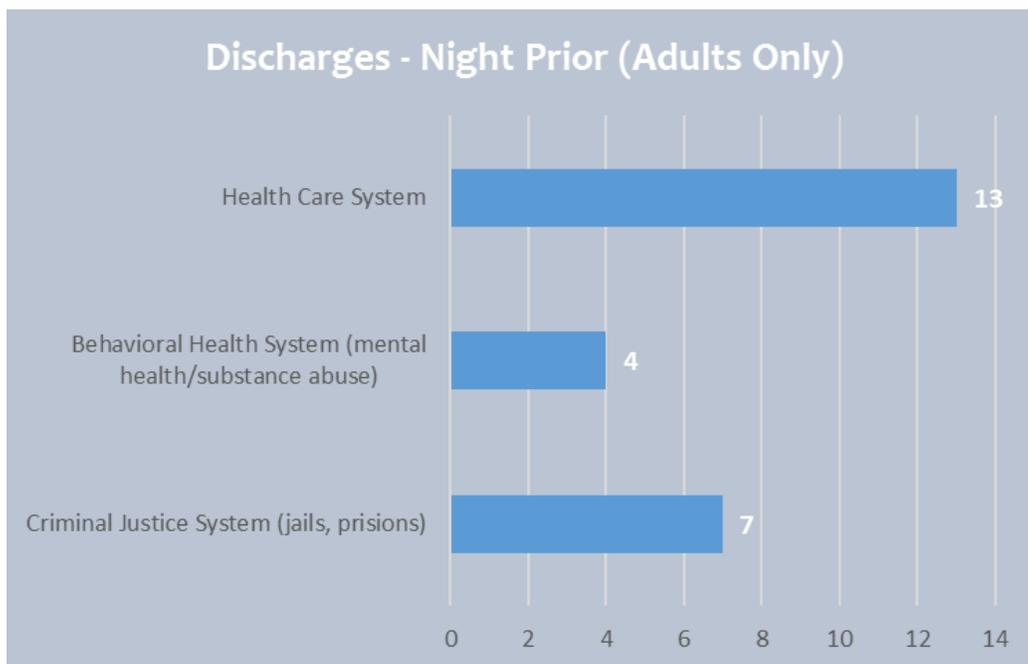
■ Households w/ Children = 73
 ■ Households w/out Children = 139



SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

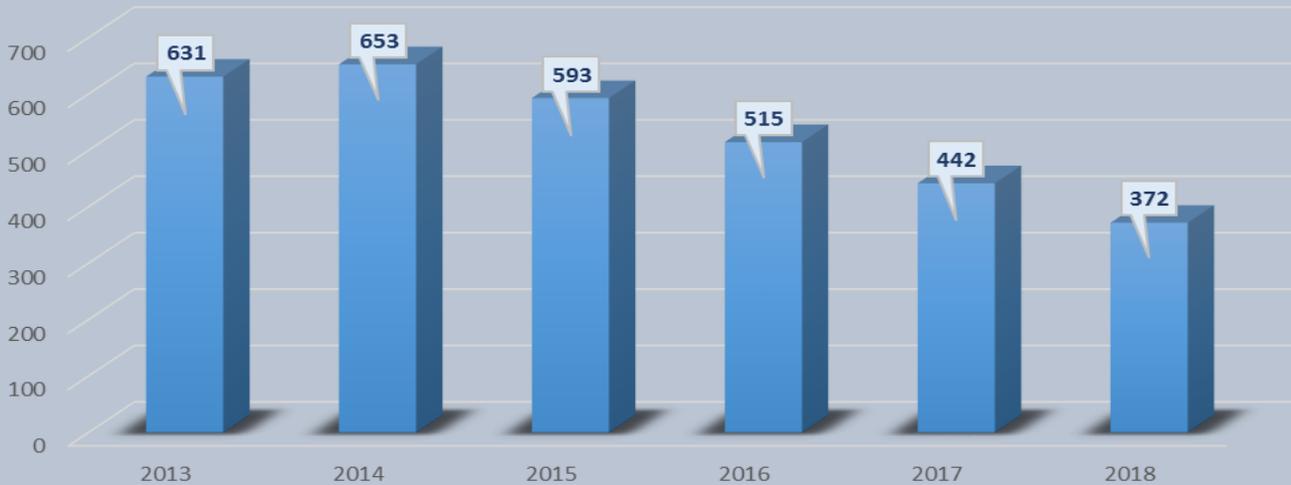


Supplemental questions are asked of the individual respondent. When households were encountered, the questions were asked of the head of household (HoH) only; it does not include data on additional members of a household

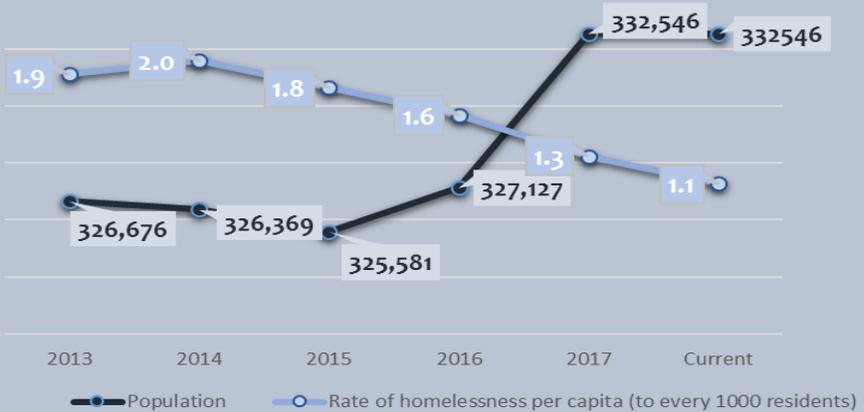


TRENDS

NC-511 Total Homeless 2013-2018



The per capita rate (homeless persons to every 1,000 Cumberland County resident), continues to decrease in Cumberland County.



We continue to see a median gap of 47% between the # of homeless persons and the number of available beds.

ADDITIONAL HOMELESS DATA

Total number of homeless persons served in programs who enter data into HMIS (between January 25, 2017 PIT—January 24, 2018 PIT):

1043

Number of homeless persons identified as sheltered during White Flag nights (between November 2017—February 2018):

1543

Number of homeless persons under the expanded McKinney-Vento Education Assistance Act as identified by the Cumberland County School System (2018 Count):

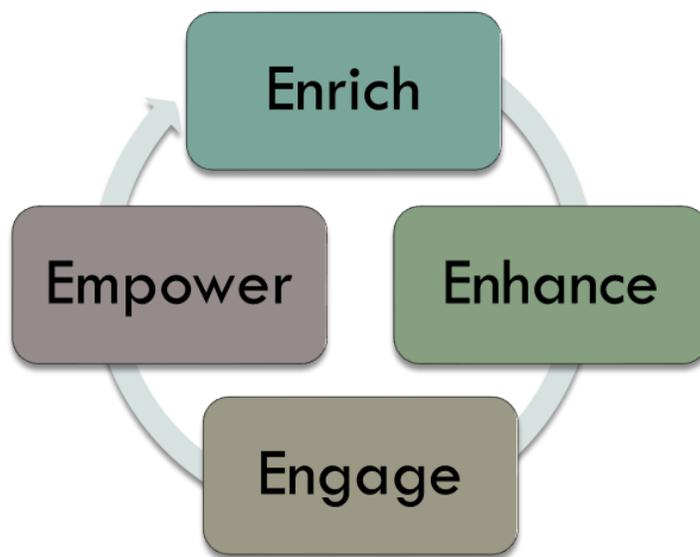
527

CLOSING SUMMARY

As a community, we are continuing the trend towards the overall reduction in our homeless population. A “count” is more than enumerating people who are experiencing homelessness – it is also about collecting quality data in an effort to answer the who and where questions of our homeless community...who is homeless and where are they located. Once finalized, PIT data is submitted to HUD for the nationwide aggregation of data. It is also made available to the CoC, homeless service providers, and community to assist with meeting the needs of our homeless and to ultimately end (significantly reduce) homelessness. There are many reason why we count :

- It is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirement
- To inform local and regional planning
- To obtain an accurate picture of homelessness in our community
- To identify unmet needs
- To obtain data required for funding applications
- To increase community awareness and involvement
- As a tool to advocate for our homeless community

Persistently working together as a community—service providers, citizens, advocates, educators, etc.—is crucial in our fight towards bringing an end homelessness. Functional zero is the goal. This does not mean we have completely ended homelessness, it means the number of homeless individuals and families are no greater than the monthly housing placement rate; and therefore homelessness becomes RARE, BRIEF, and NON-RECURRING.



DATA SETS

Households with at Least One Adult and One Child				
Total 2018 PIT Count				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Total number of households	15	27	31	73
Total number of persons	51	82	97	230
Number of persons (persons under age 18)	32	51	31	114
Number of persons (persons age 18-24)	5	6	8	19
Number of persons (persons over age 24)	14	25	58	97
Number of persons for which age is unknown	0	0	0	0
Gender (adults and children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Female	32	45	42	119
Male	19	37	53	109
Transgender	0	0	2	2
Gender Non-Conforming	0	0	0	0
Total number of persons for which gender is unknown	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity (adults and children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	46	82	85	213
Hispanic/Latino	5	0	12	17
Total number of persons for which ethnicity is unknown	0	0	0	0
Race (adults and children)				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
White	1	15	24	40
Black or African-American	41	61	63	165
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	1	0	2
Multiple Races	8	5	10	23
Total number of persons for which race is unknown	0	0	0	0

DATA SETS

Households without Children				
	Total 2018 PIT Count			
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Total number of households	10	4	125	139
Total number of persons	10	4	128	142
Number of persons (persons age 18-24)	1	0	14	15
Number of persons (persons over age 24)	9	4	114	127
Number of persons for which age is unknown	0	0	0	0
Gender				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Female	10	0	22	32
Male	0	4	104	108
Transgender	0	0	2	2
Gender Non-Conforming	0	0	0	0
Total number of persons for which gender is unknown	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	10	4	119	133
Hispanic/Latino	0	0	9	9
Total number of persons for which ethnicity is unknown	0	0	0	0
Race				
	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
White	4	1	45	50
Black or African-American	6	3	66	75
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	4	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	3	3
Multiple Races	0	0	10	10
Total number of persons for which race is unknown	0	0	0	0

DATA SETS

Total All Households					
Total 2018 PIT Count					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Total number of households		25	31	156	212
Total number of persons		61	86	225	372
Number of persons (persons under age 18)		32	51	31	114
Number of persons (persons age 18-24)		6	6	22	34
Number of persons (persons over age 24)		23	29	172	224
Number of persons for which age is unknown		0	0	0	0
Gender					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Female		42	45	64	151
Male		19	41	157	217
Transgender		0	0	4	4
Gender Non-Conforming		0	0	0	0
Total number of persons for which gender is unknown		0	0	0	0
Ethnicity					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino		56	86	204	346
Hispanic/Latino		5	0	21	26
Total number of persons for which ethnicity is unknown		0	0	0	0
Race					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
White		5	16	69	90
Black or African-American		47	64	129	240
Asian		0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native		0	0	4	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		1	1	3	5
Multiple Races		8	5	20	33
Total number of persons for which race is unknown		0	0	0	0

DATA SETS

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
	Total number of persons	2		65
Additional Homeless Populations (adults only)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
	Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	1	6	39
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	1	6	31	38
Adults with HIV/AIDS	0	0	2	2
Victims of Domestic Violence (optional)	12	14	22	48
Currently Fleeing Domestic Violence	9	1	3	13
Discharges (adults only)	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	ES	TH		
	Criminal Justice System (jails, prisons)	0	0	7
Behavioral Health System (mental health/substance)	0	0	4	4
Health Care System (hospitals)	3	0	10	13

DATA SETS

Total All Veteran Households					
Total 2018 PIT Count					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Total number of households		1	4	33	38
Total number of persons		5	4	48	57
Total number of veterans		1	4	33	38
Gender					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Female		0	0	4	4
Male		1	4	29	34
Transgender (male to female)		0	0	0	0
Transgender (female to male)		0	0	0	0
Total number of persons for which gender is unknown		0	0	0	0
Ethnicity					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino		1	4	30	35
Hispanic/Latino		0	0	3	3
Total number of persons for which ethnicity is unknown		0	0	0	0
Race					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
White		0	1	9	10
Black or African-American		1	3	22	26
Asian		0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native		0	0	2	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		0	0	0	0
Multiple Races		0	0	0	0
Total number of persons for which race is unknown		0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless					
		Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
		ES	TH		
Total number of persons		0		13	14

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- ⇒ <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/pit-hic/#general-pit-guides-and-tools>
- ⇒ <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-housing>
- ⇒ <http://nationalhomeless.org/about-homelessness/>
- ⇒ <https://hepnc.uncg.edu/>
- ⇒ <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/nc-emergency-solutions-grant-%E2%80%93-grantee-information>
- ⇒ <http://cumberlandcountycoc.org/>
- ⇒ <http://cumberland.lib.nc.libguides.com/c.php?g=256255&p=1710003>
- ⇒ <https://endhomelessness.org/>
- ⇒ <https://www.va.gov/homeless/>
- ⇒ <https://www.hud.gov/faqs/homeless>