

Frequently Asked Questions

Point in Time Count (PIT) 2021

Last Revised: January 8, 2021

Question	Answer
<p>I'm concerned about how this may affect my funder expectations and my evaluation as an outreach provider.</p>	<p>We recognize that every CAN may have different ways to record and track unsheltered people, but we need to have a consistent approach to understand how many people truly are experiencing unsheltered homelessness across the state at any point in time. If you have an existing outreach or PATH project, use that. If you are in doubt as to which outreach project to use, <i>use the PIT Unsheltered project</i>. This is not tied to any funder and will not affect your performance measures, but it will enable us to see who is experiencing unsheltered homelessness.</p>
<p>I am a PATH worker and do not enter unsheltered people I encounter if they exceed my case limit.</p>	<p>If you are a PATH worker, you should continue to use your PATH projects to enter everyone who is unsheltered that you encounter. You can identify the person as either 'PATH Yes' if they are PATH-eligible or 'PATH No' if they do not qualify.</p>
<p>When can I start using the new PIT Unsheltered project in HMIS?</p>	<p>The PIT Unsheltered project is ready; contact the Nutmeg helpdesk at help@nutmegit.com if you do not see the 'PIT 2021 Unsheltered Count' in your list of 'Organizations'.</p>
<p>How do I get access to the new PIT Unsheltered project?</p>	<p>Contact the Nutmeg helpdesk at help@nutmegit.com if you do not see the 'PIT 2021 Unsheltered Count' in your list of 'Organizations'.</p>
<p>Do I only use the PIT Unsheltered project for this year's PIT?</p>	<p>We are piloting the PIT Unsheltered project for this year's PIT, however, we plan to assess if it should be modified to be included as a year-round option after the PIT. It is part of our overall effort to standardize how unsheltered people are recorded in our system.</p>
<p>When do we discharge clients from the PIT Unsheltered project?</p>	<p>Do not exit anyone from this program before February 11, 2021.</p>
<p>If I enroll someone today who gets housed before PIT, should they remain enrolled or should I exit to a housed destination?</p>	<p>The enrollment should always reflect the current status of the client. When the unsheltered client gets housed, close out any outreach project and indicate their appropriate exit destination. If the client remains unsheltered, keep the outreach project open until their status changes.</p>
<p>Do I use the PIT Unsheltered project only on the night of the PIT?</p>	<p>No, you can start using it ASAP and continue to use it to capture any unsheltered people you encounter if you do not have an existing Street Outreach or PATH project. We will explore how well this project worked, and make any modifications after the PIT so we can continue to use this year-round. More details to follow after the PIT.</p>
<p>Do you need to have the client consent to an ROI with the new PIT Unsheltered project?</p>	<p>Yes, the new PIT Unsheltered project includes an ROI. Verbal consent is all that is needed during COVID.</p>

Question	Answer
How do I find out who the Regional Coordinator is in my area?	The list of Regional Coordinators can be found on our website (cceh.org/pit/overview/) on the PIT page, as well as at the end of the PIT Training presentation.
How do I find out who the PATH and outreach workers are in my area?	Reach out to David Gonzalez Rice (drice@cceh.org) or Carl Asikainen (casikainen@cceh.org) to help make the connections.
How do I enter unsheltered people that I encounter who do not want to give their name?	Select 'Client Refused' in the field 'Name Data Quality' to enter an anonymous client.
Should I only count unsheltered people who are living outside on the night of PIT, or can I count them in other locations if I know they are living outside?	On a year-round basis, enter <i>everyone</i> who is unsheltered. When PIT rolls around each year, confirm who was unsheltered the night of PIT. We want everyone who is unsheltered to get into HMIS so we know about them and can get those people services.
We have several outreach projects that are 'Support Services Only'. Will these be included in the unsheltered count?	Only PATH, all street outreach projects, and the new PIT Unsheltered projects will be counted toward the unsheltered count. Each CAN may have unsheltered clients in different projects, such as SSO, but not all SSO enrollments may include unsheltered. You can copy these enrollments into a street outreach program, including the new PIT Unsheltered project.
If clients are in a hotel under a shelter enrollment versus in a hold under a seasonal program are those treated differently?	Most clients placed in hotels are considered sheltered. If you have questions about a specific hotel/shelter, please contact either Linda Casey (lcasey@cceh.org) at CCEH or the Nutmeg help desk (help@nutmegit.com) for additional assistance.
If we enter unsheltered clients into our regular street outreach program then discharge them back to homelessness after 2/10, won't that affect our outcomes? We have a street outreach program but would prefer to enter into PIT outreach program. Is that okay?	If you currently have a street outreach program, then continue to use those programs and only discharge clients who are no longer unsheltered. If you elect to enter new clients into the new PIT Unsheltered program, you can certainly do that but they will need to be transferred back into your 'regular' street outreach program after 2/10. <i>When in doubt, use the PIT Unsheltered program.</i>
Do warming centers count as unsheltered?	If you operate as an emergency shelter according to HUD, and open ES enrollments for your clients, and are on the HIC and enter your counts into the PIT database, you would be considered sheltered. If you offer a place for folks to get warm and perhaps get some food, yet do not provide typical shelter services, then you would be considered unsheltered.
Where would Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) enter their data?	You would enter your data in the PIT database on the night of PIT (January 26, 2021). You would continue to use your HMIS RRH project.