



## Prince William Area Continuum of Care (PWA CoC) 2024 Point in Time (PIT) Count HUD PIT Count Overview

- **What is the Point in Time Count (PIT)?**
  - The PIT count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires each Continuum of Care (CoC) receiving federal funds nationwide to conduct in the last 10 days of January each year.
    - [Click here to learn more from the HUD Exchange](#)
  
- **Why is the PIT Important?**
  - The PIT establishes the dimensions of the problem of homelessness and helps policymakers and program administrators track progress toward the goal of ending homelessness.
  - HUD uses this information from the local PIT counts, among other data sources, to prepare the congressionally mandated Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). This report informs Congress about the number of people experiencing homelessness in the US as well as the effectiveness of HUD programs.
    - [Click here to read the most recent AHAR from HUD](#)
  - On the local and regional level, the PIT counts help CoC's plan services and programs to appropriately address local needs, measure progress in decreasing homelessness, and identify strengths and gaps in their current system.
    - [Click here to read the most recent regional report from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments \(MWCOCG\)](#)
  
- **Who Should be Included in the PIT Count?**
  - Persons residing in:
    - Emergency Shelter
    - Transitional Housing
  - Persons living in places not met for human habitation such as:
    - Anywhere outside
    - Personal vehicles
    - Abandoned buildings
    - Bus/train/airport stations
    - Camping grounds