

This section describes the PIT Count Methodology Guide.

The PIT count is a HUD-mandated count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. Detailed instructions for the Housing Inventory Count, also known as the HIC, and the PIT count can be found in a Notice that HUD releases and posts on the HUD Exchange each year.

In September 2014, HUD released the PIT Count Methodology Guide. This guide is meant to assist all Continuums of Care, also known as CoCs, in developing a process for collecting high-quality data on the number and characteristics of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people. The PIT Count Methodology Guide also offers guidance to ensure that PIT counts adhere to the PIT count minimum standards. The 14 minimum standards for planning, data collection, and data quality ensure that CoCs across the country conduct consistent and accurate PIT counts.

This online training is not meant to provide a thorough understanding of the minimum standards. Rather, it acts as an introduction to the minimum standards. Please be sure that people responsible for planning the PIT count in your CoC thoroughly review the PIT count guidance and standards.