

Community-level COVID-19 Homelessness Planning and Response Dashboard Guide

The following instructions will help you determine what values to select on the dashboard to get a sense of how to best plan and respond to the COVID-19 epidemic in your local area.

If you prefer that THN calculate the numbers on your county's behalf, please email the request to **HMIS@thn.org**

1) % undercount of unsheltered population-

- This number is based off of the national average from [2019 AHAR](#) unsheltered count of persons observed during the Point-in-Time (PIT) count*
- If you have local information regarding the undercount, please use that percentage over the national average
- National average= 40%

2) Infection rate in the homeless population-

- To determine the numerator, utilize the number of positive cases confirmed in your county from the [Texas Department of State Health Services](#) website
- To determine the denominator, utilize the overall total from the county's 2020 PIT count
 - Please reach out to THN for the reference document
 - Reference document: utilize the county's "Combined 2020 PIT Report" and identify the number of "total persons"
- *Formula: # of positive confirmed cases/ overall PIT total*

3) % of homeless population with high risk of medical complications-

- To determine the numerator, filter the 2020 PIT data for those who answered "yes" to a chronic health condition question
 - Please reach out to THN for the reference document
 - Reference document: utilize your county "Raw Data 2020 PIT File" the question is highlighted in yellow
- To determine the denominator, filter the 2020 PIT data for all that responded to the chronic health condition question
 - Please reach out to THN for the reference document
 - Reference document: utilize your county "Raw Data 2020 PIT File" the question is highlighted in yellow and ensure that you only include those who responded "yes", "no", or "don't know" in your denominator
- *Formula: # of "yes" to chronic condition/ # who responded to chronic condition*

4) Annual turnover rate in sheltered homeless population-

- This number is based off the national data from the [2017 AHAR Part 2](#) and provides a national average
- If you have local information regarding the turnover rate, please use that number over the national average
- The numerator is determined by the number of individuals using shelter on an annual basis, 950,497
- The denominator is determined by the number of individuals using shelter on a given night, 193,190
- *Formula: 950,497/ 193,190= 4.92*

To obtain the reference documents or request assistance, please contact HMIS@thn.org

*Glynn, C. & Fox, E. B. Dynamics of homelessness in urban America. Ann. Appl. Stat. 13, 573–605 (2019) via the report, Estimated Emergency and Observational/ Quarantine Capacity of Needs for the US Homeless Population Related to COVID-19 Exposure by County; Projected Hospitalizations, Intensive Care Units and Mortality.