

**Fredericksburg Area Continuum of Care
Report on PIT Count Surveyed Population 2009**

On January 22nd and 23rd, 2009, members of the Fredericksburg Area Continuum of Care conducted a point-in-time (PIT) count of the homeless population. The data reported to HUD from that count contains only those individuals, adults and children, who meet the HUD-specified definition of homelessness: “Individuals and families in shelters, in transitional housing, and sleeping in places not meant for human habitation (parks, alleys, all night establishments such as restaurants, hospitals, Laundromats, in vehicles, etc.).” As part of this data collection activity, census-takers also administered surveys to adults at several locations, to learn more about the needs and characteristics of the local homeless population that night. Here are some of the primary findings from those surveys.

I. 2009 Summary:

145 adult HUD homeless (surveyed)
57 children HUD homeless
202 total HUD homeless

Another 401 children defined as homeless under McKinney-Vento which we should be able to count under the 2008 adopted HEARTH Act.

Of the 202,
52 adults are chronically homeless as defined by HUD
6 adults and 13 children are defined as chronically homeless under the 2008 adopted HEARTH Act
87 adults and 44 children were homeless, but did not meet either definition for chronically homeless

53 people who were not homeless during the PIT count, but are at-risk of homelessness, completed surveys

Homeless population by previous fixed address	adults	HUD children	subtotal	McKinney-Vento children	grand total
Total	145	57	202	401	603
Caroline	5	8	13	29	42
King George	4	1	5	21	26
Fredericksburg*	52	15	67	39	106
Spotsylvania	19	14	33	159	192
Stafford	24	8	32	153	185
Other VA	27	9	36	0	36
Outside VA	14	2	16	0	16

*A Fredericksburg mailing address could be located in portions of Stafford or Spotsylvania Counties.

II. Characteristics of the Homeless Population:
145 Survey Respondents

Gender: 40% Female 59% Male
Race: 56% White 35% Black
2% Asian 6% Mix/Other
Veterans: 19% (27)
Age: Minimum: 18 Maximum: 78
Average/Mean: 41

Number who have children under 18 with them:
20 total
Of these, 55% have 1 child with them (11)
45% have 2 or more children with them (9)

Location of Prior Residence:
36% Fredericksburg (52) 3% Caroline (5)
13% Spotsylvania (19) 19% Other Virginia (28)
17% Stafford (24) 8% Outside Virginia (11)
3% King George (4) 1% No answer (2)

Foster Care: 10% (15)
Of these, the majority (60%) left foster care for reunification or adoption (9)

Highest Level of Education Completed:
30% Less than high school completion (43)
30% High School Diploma (43)
9% GED (13)
19% Some college (28)
7% Bachelor's Degree (11)
3% More than Bachelor's degree (4)
2% Not Answered (3)

Enrolled in Special Education/Special Classes: 19% (27)

Transportation: 59% FRED (86) 3% Friend/Relative (5)
18% Walk (26) 3% Other/None (5)
14% Car (20)
2% Bike (3)

Employment: Unemployed: 56% (81)
Employed Part-time: 19% (27)

Employed Full-time: 13% (19)
 Day Labor: 12% (18)

Length of Time Living in This Area:

Minimum: 1 day Maximum: 59 Years
 Average/Mean: 11 years
 6 months or less: 14% (21) More than 10 years: 35% (51)
 6-12 months: 9% (13) Not answered: 4% (6)
 1-5 years: 30% (43)
 6-10 years: 7% (11)

Where Respondent Slept Last Night:

Cold Weather Shelter: 28% (40)	Hope House 5% (8)
Thurman Brisben 28% (40)	Motel 1% (2)
Outdoors 16% (23)	RCDV 3% (5)
Vehicle 3% (4)	Other 6% (9)
Friend/Relative 10% (14)	

Where Respondent Will Sleep Tonight:

Cold Weather Shelter: 31% (45)	Hope House 5% (8)
Thurman Brisben 28% (40)	Motel <1% (1)
Outdoors 13% (19)	RCDV 4% (6)
Vehicle 2% (3)	Unsure 10% (15)
Friend/Relative 1% (2)	Other 4% (6)

How Long has the Respondent been Homeless?

Minimum: 1 day Maximum: 31 years
 Average/Mean: 1.9 years
 Less than 1 month: 18% (26) 1-2 years: 18% (26)
 1-3 months: 23% (34) 3-5 years: 10% (14)
 4-6 months: 14% (20) 6-10 years: 3% (4)
 7-11 months: 7% (10) 10 years +: 4% (6)

First Time Homeless?

Yes: 57% (83) No answer: 5% (7)
 No: 38% (55)

How many times homeless in last 3 years?

1 time: 8% (12) 4-5 times: 5% (8)
 2-3 times: 14% (20) More than 5 times: <1% (1)

Chronically homeless 52 (40%)

9 people who have been homeless 4 or more times
 50 people who have been homeless more than 1 year
 33 of these are currently homeless for the first time, over 12 months

Factors Contributing to Homelessness: (not exclusive categories, can choose more than 1)

Unemployment	62% (90)	Criminal History	14% (21)
Wages/Underemployment	22% (32)	Credit	14% (21)
Eviction/Foreclosure	29% (42)	Death in Family	4% (6)
Domestic Violence	12% (18)	Substance Abuse	2% (3)
Divorce	8% (12)	Mental Illness	2% (3)
Illness	14% (21)	Choice	1% (2)

Number who said they need and/or have the following services:

Emergency Shelter	92	Disability Assistance	28
Permanent Housing	102	Dental	74
Transitional Housing	39	Medical	58
Legal Aid	21	HIV/AIDS services	3
Substance Abuse Services	24	Employment training	49
Mental Health	21	Social Security benefits	38
Domestic Violence	10	Unemployment benefits	25
Child care	17	TANF	13
Food	85		

III. Comparison of 2009 Survey Results with earlier years:

A. 2008 We had:

144 adult HUD homeless (surveyed)

50 children HUD homeless

194 total HUD homeless

376 children were defined as homeless under McKinney-Vento but this figure includes those counted in shelters. It is hard to say how many of these are already counted in 50 identified as HUD defined homeless above because their specific housing situation was not reported.

Of the 194, 54 adults are chronically homeless as defined by HUD

24 people who were not homeless during the PIT count, but are at-risk of homelessness, completed surveys

Compared to **2008**, the population captured by the PIT count survey this year is:

-slightly more female

-slightly fewer children under 18 present

-very similar in terms of race, education, employment, mental health service receipt, length of time in the area, times homeless before now

-length of time homeless has declined, from 2.7 years to 1.9 years

-Service demand is also quite stable between years –although the question is asked a bit differently this year, so hard to compare directly

-Overall, remarkable similarity in the characteristics of the people captured by this survey across the two years.

Location of Prior Residence:

32%	Fredericksburg (17)	3%	Caroline (2)
24%	Spotsylvania (11)	13%	Other Virginia (7)
9%	Stafford (5)	11%	Outside Virginia (6)
5%	King George (3)	3%	No answer (2)

Where Respondent Slept Last Night AND tonight:

Friend/Relative	53% (28)
Motel	13% (7)
Home	34% (18)

How Long has the Respondent been Homeless? (*Although not meeting the HUD definition of Homeless, 28 respondents reported themselves as homeless)

Minimum: 2 day	Maximum: 12 years
Average/Mean:	1 year 2 months

Chronically homeless 12 (22%):

1 person who has been homeless 4 or more times in past 3 years
12 people who have been homeless for more than 1 year
8 of these are homeless for the first time

Employment: Unemployed:	60% (32)	Day labor:	7% (4)
Employed Part-time:	15% (8)		
Employed Full-time:	17% (9)		

Number who said they need and/or have the following services:

Emergency Shelter	5	Disability Assistance	8
Permanent Housing	25	Dental	21
Transitional Housing	9	Medical	13
Legal Aid	7	HIV/AIDS services	2
Substance Abuse Services	6	Employment training	14
Mental Health	7	Social Security benefits	7
Domestic Violence	2	Unemployment benefits	11
Child care	1	Food	37