



For Immediate Release
May 15, 2017

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2017 Statewide Homeless Count Results

PIERRE, S.D. – The 2017 Statewide Point-in-Time Homeless Count revealed that 955 individuals were homeless in South Dakota on Jan. 24, 2017. The count conducted within a 24-hour time period, includes sheltered individuals who are staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing or motels paid for by a non-profit and unsheltered individuals who are staying in vehicles, on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation.

Of the 955 homeless individuals counted, 91 percent (866 people) were surveyed to provide the following information:

- 69 percent were adults over the age of 24, 24 percent were children under 18, and 7 percent were young adults 18 to 24 years of age
- 91 percent of those surveyed were sheltered on the night of the count and 9 percent of those surveyed were unsheltered on the night of the count
- 130 persons were veterans compared to 106 in 2016, an increase of 23 percent; of the veterans counted, 95 percent were sheltered
- 201 persons were children compared to 339 in 2016, a decrease of 40 percent; 7 children were unsheltered
- 378 females and 476 males

Compared to the 2016 count of 1,186, the 2017 count represents a 19 percent decrease. While a decrease is usually celebrated, these one-day snapshots tend to be undercounted and are heavily influenced by factors such as the severe winter storm South Dakota experienced the morning of the count.

The Point in Time Homeless Count was conducted by the South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium (SDHHC) in collaboration with community agencies and homeless service providers.

Detailed information on the 2017 and prior years' homeless counts can be found at www.housingforthehomeless.org. For 2017, SDHHC utilized a mobile application for the homeless count resulting in changes being made to the survey questions.

SDHHC is a statewide organization created to address homelessness in our state. Individuals or organizations interested in learning more about SDHHC are encouraged to visit the website www.housingforthehomeless.org and attend the 12th Annual Homeless Summit being held June 6 – 7, 2017, in Oacoma. Registration for the Homeless Summit can be found at <https://www.regonline.com/homelesssummit2017>.

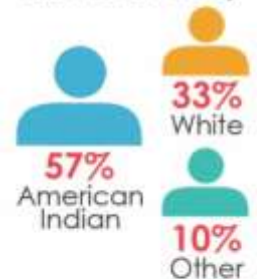


201
Homeless Children

Age



Ethnic Diversity



Veterans





The South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium was created in 2001 to help unify the people who provide services to the homeless. Throughout the years, the Consortium has identified gaps and created programs and services that make it easier for people to make it on their own. Since its initiation, the Consortium has received federal funding exceeding \$19.6 million to provide development, operations and supportive services to a variety of homeless programs across the state.