



# BrainGain@PEC

Date: December, 2014

Brought to you by the PEC Policy Department

For more information, email [Policy Department](mailto:Policy@pec.org).



BrainGain@PEC provides brief summaries of research or publications on family homelessness and related issues. Previous issues of BrainGain@PEC can be found at [http://www.pec-cares.org/index.php?page=be\\_informed](http://www.pec-cares.org/index.php?page=be_informed)

## Data Report on Pennsylvania’s Families Experiencing Homelessness Using 2014 Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Reports

This report summarizes Pennsylvania-based data on families from the recent release from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of the **Housing Inventory Chart (HIC)** and the **Point in Time (PIT)**<sup>i</sup> counts.

Both HIC and PIT are two of many data collection tools used as measures of homelessness.

HIC tracks the number of units available, which can be an estimate of the size of the homeless system.

The PIT count estimates the number of people as homeless (generally, people in emergency or transitional housing or identified as living outside generally between the hours of 11 PM and 3 AM) during a single night in wintertime. On one winter night in 2014, 6,881 “persons in families”<sup>ii</sup> were identified in 2,736 units of emergency or transitional housing, and 93 were found living outdoors.

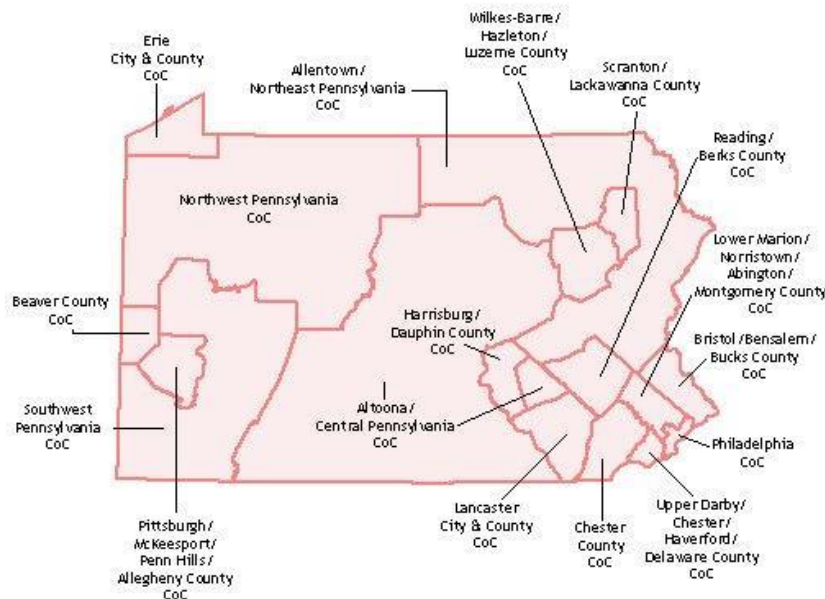
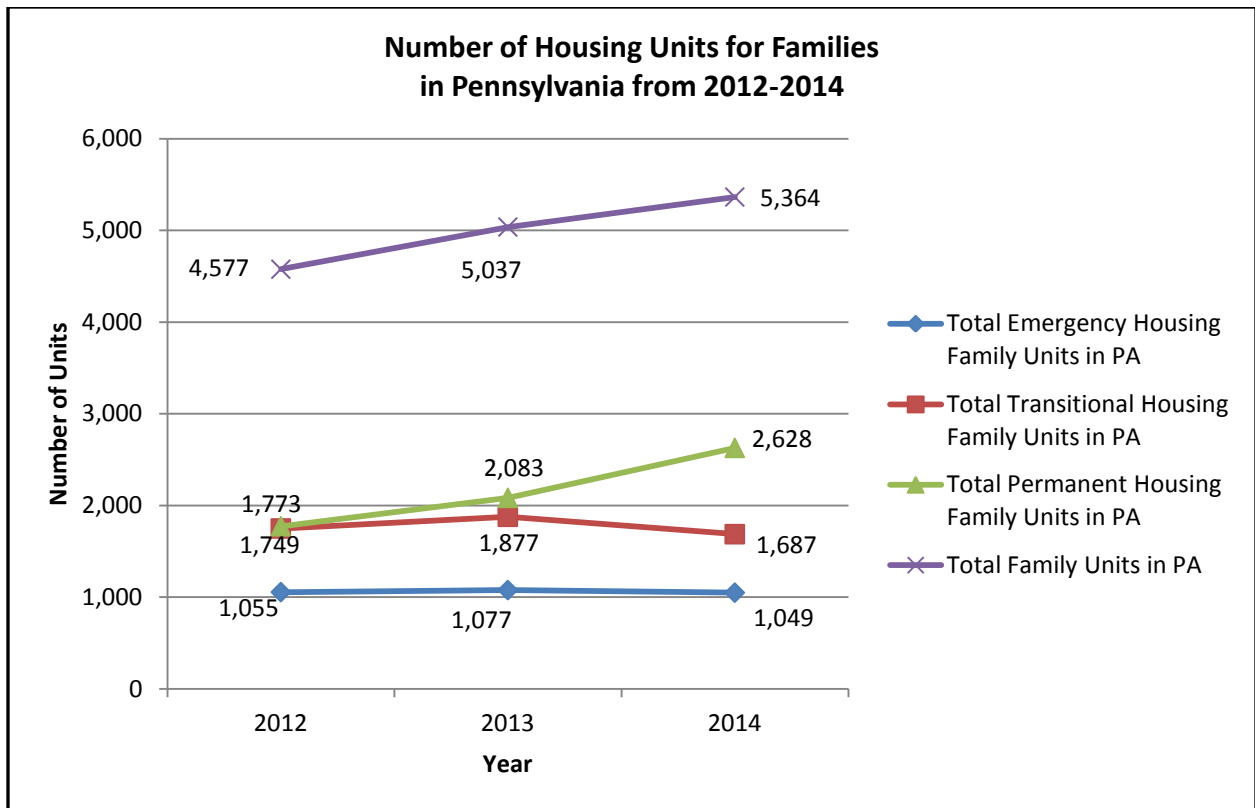


Figure 1: Pennsylvania’s 18 Continuum of Care regions organized to address homelessness

<b>Trends in Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Relating to Pennsylvania's Families Experiencing Homelessness</b>					
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change from '12-'14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '12-'14 (%)</b>
<b>HIC: Total Emergency</b> Family Housing Units	1,055	1,077	1,049	-6	-0.6%
<i><b>PIT: Persons in Households with Adults and Children in Emergency Housing</b></i>	2,996	2,736	3,012	16	0.5%
<b>HIC: Total Transitional</b> Housing Units	1,749	1,877	1,687	-62	-3.5%
<i><b>PIT: Persons in Households with Adults and Children in Transitional Housing</b></i>	4,348	4,224	3,869	-479	-11.0%
<b>HIC: Sum number of Emergency and Transitional</b> Housing Units for Persons in Families	2,804	2,954	2,736	-68	-2.5%
<i><b>PIT: Sum of all Persons in Households with Adults and Children in Emergency and Transitional Housing</b></i>	7,344	6,960	6,881	-463	-6.3%
<b>HIC: Total Permanent Supportive</b> Housing <sup>iii</sup> Family Units	1,773	2,083	1,863	90	5.1%
<b>HIC: Number of Rapid Re-Housing</b> Units	363	iv	347	-16	-4.4%
<b>HIC: Total Other Permanent</b> Housing <sup>v</sup> Family Units	Na	Na	413	Na	na
<b>Seasonal and Overflow/Voucher</b> <sup>vi</sup>	1,112	1,182	1,400	288	20.6%
<b>PEC Analysis:</b> Overall, there were fewer emergency and transitional housing for families, but more permanent supportive and Seasonal-Overflow/Vouchers for families.					



**NOTE:** The HUD sources for both the HIC and PIT data do not provide commentary on why the numbers of units or numbers of families counted increased or decreased over time. The numbers can fluctuate due to a variety of reasons, including:

- Funding cuts that closed programs
- Improvement to data collection and data quality
- New data standards
- New programs
- Conversion of programs from one category to another
- Family size
- Flexibility within a program that can shift resources between families and singles
- Some programs do not have emergency housing units, but a large space with 20 or more beds. This would account for changes in numbers of persons.

**The best source to learn what is happening in each region is to contact the leaders of the local Continuum of Care.**

HUD requires CoCs to include all housing programs serving the homeless in the HIC, even if they don't participate in HMIS. CoCs have to certify that they have included all programs that are known to the CoC. If Motel/hotel vouchers are paid for through a homeless assistance provider, then they are included in the count, e.g. families in hotel rooms funded by OSH would be included in the count. However, there may be some programs that refuse to share information.

This report does not include “Safe Haven” housing; it only reports the overall summary of “Seasonal” and “Overflow/Voucher” housing. It is not organized by Continuum of Care because the data does not distinguish between family and individuals for this type of housing.

Readers are cautioned that the data posted by HUD may be different than what the Continuum of Care providers experienced (i.e., the 18 geographical programs in Pennsylvania who lead efforts to serve and end homelessness). Each year, HUD and the Continuums improve the data collection process.

### Housing Inventory Count (HIC) for family units:

EMERGENCY HOUSING UNITS FOR FAMILIES,*							
<i>Pennsylvania FY 2012, 2013, 2014</i>							
Regions	2012	2013	2014	Change from '12 - '14 (#)	Change from '12 - '14 (%)	Change from '13 - '14 (#)	Change from '13 - '14 (%)
<b><i>Pennsylvania</i></b>	1,055	1,077	1,049	-6	-0.6%	-28	-2.6%
<i>Philadelphia</i>	446	516	459	13	2.9%	-57	-11.0%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	28	26	28	0	0.0%	2	7.7%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	57	53	44	-13	-22.8%	-9	-17.0%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	8	8	8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	25	25	28	3	12.0%	3	12.0%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	16	18	24	8	50.0%	6	33.3%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	15	20	20	5	33.3%	5	33.3%
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	116	90	104	-12	-10.3%	14	15.6%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	10	9	9	-1	-10.0%	0	0.0%
<i>Allentown/Northeast Pa</i>	63	61	65	2	3.2%	4	6.6%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	34	39	36	2	5.9%	-3	-7.7%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	26	4	9	-17	-65.4%	5	125.0%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	49	54	62	13	26.5%	8	14.8%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	48	48	40	-8	-16.7%	-8	-16.7%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	45	38	44	-1	-2.2%	6	15.8%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	9	14	15	6	66.7%	1	7.1%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	34	27	27	-7	-20.6%	0	0.0%
<i>York Co.</i>	26	27	27	1	4%	0	0.0%
* HIC reports do not offer commentary on why numbers might change from year to year. Readers are encouraged to contact local offices for explanations.							

### Three-Year Trends--Family Housing Emergency Units:

- Overall changes were slight, as there were 6 fewer family emergency units.
- 9 regions expanded their inventory
- 7 regions decreased their inventory
- 2 regions neither expanded or decreased

### One-Year Trend-- Family Housing Emergency Units:

- 10 regions expanded
- 4 regions decreased
- 4 regions neither expanded or decreased

<b>TRANSITIONAL HOUSING UNITS FOR FAMILIES,  <i>Pennsylvania FY 2012, 2013, 2014</i></b>							
Family Transitional Housing Units	2012	2013	2014	Change from '12-'14 (#)	Change from '12-'14 (%)	Change from '13-'14 (#)	Change from '13-'14 (%)
<b><i>Pennsylvania</i></b>	<b>1,749</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,687</b>	<b>-62</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>-190</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	492	663	480	-12	-2.4%	-183	-27.6%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	43	45	48	5	11.6%	3	6.7%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	70	65	86	16	22.9%	21	32.3%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	22	29	25	3	13.6%	-4	-13.8%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	66	70	49	-17	-25.8%	-21	-30.0%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	74	41	44	-30	-40.5%	3	7.3%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	58	63	63	5	8.6%	0	0.0%
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	136	141	143	7	5.1%	2	1.4%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	47	44	46	-1	-2.1%	2	4.5%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	140	138	128	-12	-8.6%	-10	-7.2%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	88	67	90	2	2.3%	23	34.3%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	96	98	101	5	5.2%	3	3.1%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	207	218	180	-27	-13.0%	-38	-17.4%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	76	80	81	5	6.6%	1	1.3%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	44	36	42	-2	-4.5%	6	16.7%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	9	6	7	-2	-22.2%	1	16.7%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	56	48	48	-8	-14.3%	0	0.00%
<i>York Co.</i>	25	25	26	1	4.0%	1	4.0%

### Three-Year Trends-- Family Housing Transitional Units:

- 9 regions expanded their inventory by 49 units

- 9 regions decreased their inventory, but 4 counties accounted for reducing the number of transitional housing units by 86 of the 99 that were eliminated
- 0 regions neither expanded or decreased

**One-Year Trend--Family Housing Transitional Units:**

- 11 regions expanded
- 5 regions decreased
- 2 regions neither expanded or decreased

<b>PERMANENT HOUSING UNITS FOR FAMILIES,*</b>							
<b><i>Pennsylvania FY 2012, 2013, 2014</i></b>							
Region	2012	2013	2014	Change from '12-'14 (#)	Change from '12-'14 (%)	Change from '13 - '14 (#)	Change from '13 - '14 (%)
<i>Pennsylvania</i>	1,773	2,083	2,628	855	48.2%	545	26.2%
<i>Philadelphia</i>	878	972	1,087	209	23.8%	115	11.8%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	15	17	30	15	100.0%	13	76.5%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	41	47	55	14	34.1%	8	17.0%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	59	44	66	7	11.9%	22	50.0%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	20	25	38	18	90.0%	13	52.0%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	29	19	244	215	741.4%	225	1184.2%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	56	68	57	1	1.8%	-11	-16.2%
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	51	51	89	38	74.5%	38	74.5%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	0	8	9	9	n/a	1	12.5%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	54	63	100	46	85.2%	37	58.7%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	20	22	31	11	55.0%	9	40.9%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	6	8	25	19	316.7%	17	212.5%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny</i>	345	441	468	123	35.7%	27	6.1%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	69	93	100	31	44.9%	7	7.5%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	55	79	119	64	116.4%	40	50.6%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	17	21	25	8	47.1%	4	19.0%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	53	98	78	25	47.2%	-20	-20.4%
<i>York Co.</i>	5	7	7	2	40.0%	0	0.0%

\* includes Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid-Rehousing, and "Other" housing

**Three-Year Trends-- Permanent Supportive Housing Units:**

- Overall, Pennsylvania expanded its inventory.
- All regions expanded their inventory

### **One-Year Trend -- Permanent Supportive Housing Units:**

- Overall, Pennsylvania increased its inventory
- All regions but 1 region expanded their inventory

---

## **Point in Time (PIT) Counts: Persons in Households with Adults and Children who Experienced Homelessness**

The PIT count does not include all who experienced homelessness on the night of the survey and therefore caution should be taken about the reported results. The PIT might not include:

- Some persons experiencing homelessness who were served by non-HUD funded programs due to lack of cooperation. Each CoC works to include data from all known homeless assistance programs. If a program does not participate in the Homeless Management Information System, CoCs can collect the data from surveys.
- Persons sheltered in buildings not fit for human habitation, i.e., in parks or under bridges deemed dangerous for PIT counters to be involved. Also, PIT counters are not supposed to wake up anyone sleeping outside to determine if they are homeless.
- Individuals and families living doubled and tripled up in the homes of acquaintances and family members.
- People living on the street or in cars that are missed by the volunteer counters.
- Persons in extremely hard-to-access places.
- A comparison of who was counted in one year and missed in successive years. Some of these individuals and families are still homeless, but less visible than before.

PIT's accuracy can be positively or negatively affected by:

- Weather – a very cold season might reduce the number of volunteers who count and of those who might sleep outside
- Budget cuts that reduce capacity
- Accuracy of data collection
- Establishment of new programs or elimination of current programs
- Conversion of one type of housing to another type
- Positive or negative changes in the quality of reporting

**NUMBER OF PERSONS IN FAMILIES IN EMERGENCY HOUSING,\*  
Pennsylvania, FY 2012, 2013, 2014**

<b>Regions</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change from '12 - '14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '12 - '14 (%)</b>	<b>Change from '13 - '14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '13 - '14 (%)</b>
<b><i>Pennsylvania</i></b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>2,736</b>	<b>3,012</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>10.1%</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	1,467	1,394	1,512	45	3.1%	118	8.5%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	60	64	63	3	5.0%	-1	-1.6%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	193	127	111	-82	-42.5%	-16	-12.6%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	16	23	24	8	50.0%	1	4.3%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	106	77	90	-16	-15.1%	13	16.9%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	37	39	60	23	62.2%	21	53.8%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	29	55	64	35	120.7%	9	16.4%
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	236	228	247	11	4.7%	19	8.3%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	27	25	39	12	44.4%	14	56.0%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	173	155	164	-9	-5.2%	9	5.8%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	72	73	95	23	31.9%	22	30.1%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	68	50	45	-23	-33.8%	-5	-10.0%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	107	116	183	76	71.0%	67	57.8%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	109	109	101	-8	-7.3%	-8	-7.3%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	98	56	57	-41	-41.8%	1	1.8%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	17	17	29	12	70.6%	12	70.6%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	104	61	58	-46	-44.2%	-3	-4.9%
<i>York Co.</i>	77	67	70	-7	-9.1%	3	4.5%

\* PIT reports do not offer commentary on why numbers might change from year to year. Readers are encouraged to contact local offices for explanations.

**Three-Year Trends:**

- 10 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 8 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families

**One-Year Trend:**

- 13 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 5 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families



**NUMBER OF PERSONS IN FAMILIES IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING,  
Pennsylvania FY 2012, 2013, 2014**

<b>Regions</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change from '12 - '14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '12 - '14 (%)</b>	<b>Change from '13 - '14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '13 - '14 (%)</b>
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>4,224</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>-479</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>	<b>-355</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	1,337	1,181	1,117	-220	-16.5%	-64	-5.4%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	89	97	96	7	7.9%	-1	-1.0%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	167	168	141	-26	-15.6%	-27	-16.1%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	68	36	53	-15	-22.1%	17	47.2%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	165	203	153	-12	-7.3%	-50	-24.6%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	178	104	113	-65	-36.5%	9	8.7%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	86	137	157	71	82.6%	20	14.6%
<i>Altoona/Central Pa</i>	340	357	335	-5	-1.5%	-22	-6.2%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	141	135	131	-10	-7.1%	-4	-3.0%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	326	306	288	-38	-11.7%	-18	-5.9%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	249	186	146	-103	-41.4%	-40	-21.5%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	246	265	263	17	6.9%	-2	-0.8%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	453	549	395	-58	-12.8%	-154	-28.1%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	196	219	222	26	13.3%	3	1.4%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	99	101	112	13	13.1%	11	10.9%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	26	24	22	-4	-15.4%	-2	-8.3%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	111	90	76	-35	-31.5%	-14	-15.6%
<i>York Co.</i>	71	66	49	-22	-31.0%	-17	-25.8%

**Three-Year Trends:**

- 5 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 13 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families

**One-Year Trend:**

- 5 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 13 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families

**COMBINING FAMILIES IN EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING,  
Pennsylvania FY 2012, 2013, 2014**

<b>Persons in Households with Adults and Children in Emergency and Transitional Housing</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change from '12-'14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '12-'14 (%)</b>	<b>Change from '13-'14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '13-'14 (%)</b>
<b><i>Pennsylvania Total</i></b>	<b>7,344</b>	<b>6,960</b>	<b>6,881</b>	<b>-463</b>	<b>-6.3%</b>	<b>-79</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	2,804	2,575	2,629	-175	-6.2%	54	2.1%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	149	161	159	10	6.7%	-2	-1.2%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	360	295	252	-108	-30.0%	-43	-14.6%
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	84	59	77	-7	-8.3%	18	30.5%
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	271	280	243	-28	-10.3%	-37	-13.2%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	215	143	173	-42	-19.5%	30	21.0%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	115	192	221	106	92.2%	29	15.1%
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	576	585	582	6	1.0%	-3	-0.5%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	168	160	170	2	1.2%	10	6.3%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	499	461	452	-47	-9.4%	-9	-2.0%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	321	259	241	-80	-24.9%	-18	-6.9%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	314	315	308	-6	-1.9%	-7	-2.2%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	560	665	578	18	3.2%	-87	-13.1%
<i>Southwest PA</i>	305	328	323	18	5.9%	-5	-1.5%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	197	157	169	-28	-14.2%	12	7.6%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	43	41	51	8	18.6%	10	24.4%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	215	151	134	-81	-37.7%	-17	-11.3%
<i>York Co.</i>	148	133	119	-29	-19.6%	-14	-10.5%

**Three-Year Trends:**

- Overall, Pennsylvania experienced a decrease in the number of family members counted
- 7 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 11 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families

**One-Year Trend:**

- 7 regions increased their count of persons in families
- 11 regions counted fewer numbers of persons in families

<b>RAPID RE-HOUSING UNITS FOR FAMILIES<sup>vii</sup>, Pennsylvania FY 2012 and 2014*</b>				
<b>Regions</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Change from '12- '14 (#)</b>	<b>Change from '12- '14 (%)</b>
<b><i>Pennsylvania</i></b>	<b>363</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	184	134	-50	-27.2%
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin Co.</i>	40	1	-39	-97.5%
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	0	7	7	n/a
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	0	4	4	n/a
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	8	12	4	50.0%
<i>Chester Co.</i>	29	55	26	89.7%
<i>Berks Co.</i>	0	17	17	n/a
<i>Altoona/Central PA</i>	20	18	-2	-10.0%
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	25	1	-24	-96.0%
<i>Allentown/Northeast PA</i>	13	15	2	15.4%
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	12	7	-5	-41.7%
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	15	17	2	13.3%
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	0	38	38	n/a
<i>Southwest PA</i>	11	9	-2	-18.2%
<i>Northwest PA</i>	5	7	2	40.0%
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	1	0	-1	-100.0%
<i>Erie Co.</i>	26	3	-23	-88.5%
<i>York Co.</i>	0	2	2	n/a

\*No 2013 data reported on HUD website

<b>UNSHelterED PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN, Pennsylvania FY 2014</b>	
<b>Total Persons in Households with Children</b>	<b>2014 Unsheltered</b>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	n/a
<i>Harrisburg/Dauphin</i>	n/a
<i>Delaware Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Luzerne Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	n/a

<i>Chester Co.</i>	8
<i>Berks Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Central Pa</i>	23
<i>Lackawanna Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Northeast Pa</i>	9
<i>Lancaster Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Bucks Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Pittsburgh/Allegheny Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Southwest Pa</i>	9
<i>Northwest Pa</i>	n/a
<i>Beaver Co.</i>	n/a
<i>Erie Co.</i>	24
<i>York Co.</i>	20
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>93</b>

The **People’s Emergency Center’s** mission is to nurture families, strengthen neighborhoods and drive change in West Philadelphia. Through a community of more than 240 housing units and five educational centers offering job training, parenting and early childhood education, financial education and planning, life skills and technology coursework, PEC seeks to change the life trajectory for the women and children who seek its services and inspire them to aspire to new heights. This report was written by Julia Levin and Joe Willard. All inquires can be sent to [policy@pec-cares.org](mailto:policy@pec-cares.org).

<sup>i</sup> The Point in Time Count (PIT) and the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) are data collection methods by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in partnership with county-based entities known as “Continuum of Care” programs. Data in this report can be found at <https://www.hudexchange.info/manage-a-program/coc-homeless-populations-and-subpopulations-reports/>. The PIT count is an unduplicated one-night calculation or estimate of sheltered and unsheltered homeless adults, children, and teens. HUD requires homeless-service providers across the country to complete a one-night PIT count at least every two years during the last ten days of January. (Pennsylvania’s seventeen Continuum of Care programs also conduct annual counts.) Communities use the data as a guide to organize responses to homelessness and make decisions on allocating resources. The count also helps determine how much federal funding will be awarded from HUD for homeless service programs. People were counted as homeless if they were living in emergency or transitional housing, on the street, or in such locations as cars or abandoned buildings. The HIC is an unduplicated count of the number of housing units for people experiencing homelessness who are served by agencies providing data to HUD’s Homeless Management Information Systems. Its purpose is to help communities obtain a picture of the capacity of their homeless systems and make decisions on the allocation of resources. See <http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewHomelessRpts>

<sup>ii</sup> Term used by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to mean parent(s) plus children

<sup>iii</sup> Families in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) are not considered homeless but formerly homeless. PSH is considered a part of the housing inventory.

<sup>iv</sup> HUD does not report a figure for 2013.

<sup>v</sup> Families in “Other Permanent Housing” consists of housing with services and housing only, as identified in the 2014 HMIS data standards. This is a distinction that was not shown in previous years.

<sup>vi</sup> **Seasonal:** beds not available during the whole year, but instead are available on a planned basis, with set start and end dates, during an anticipated period of higher demand. **Overflow:** beds are available on an ad hoc or temporary basis during the year in response to demand that exceeds planned (year round or seasonal) bed capacity. Both seasonal and overflow are for emergency housing only. **Voucher:** For emergency shelters voucher beds are located in a hotel or motel and made available by the homeless assistance program through vouchers or other forms of payment. For transitional housing, the voucher bed type is selected for beds where the program provides a time-limited subsidy in conventional rental housing that clients may continue to occupy after they exit the program.

---

<sup>vii</sup> Rapid re-housing projects provide supportive services and/or short-term (up to 3 months) and/or medium-term (3 to 24 months) rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family, with or without disabilities, move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing