

San Francisco

2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count



Agenda

- Review PIT Methodology for approval
- Discuss data collection tools
- Review feedback received on street count team composition
- Preview COVID mitigation strategies

PIT Methodology

Data Collection Tools

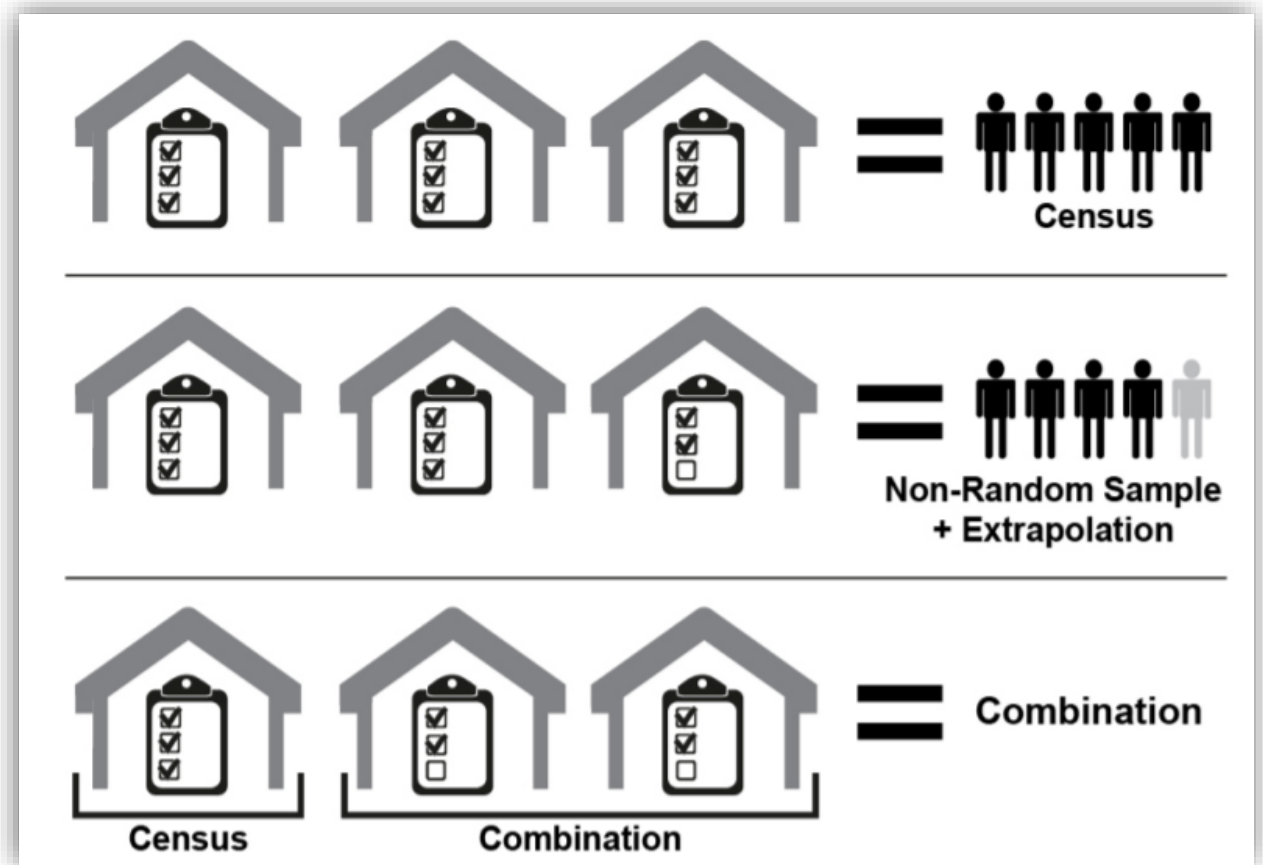
Street Count Team Composition

COVID Mitigation Strategies

2022 Methodology Recommendation

HSH recommends keeping methodology consistent with past years by using a **combined approach** consistent with HUD standards:

- A **complete census count** of homeless persons
- A **non-random sample** of homeless persons are surveyed to extrapolate demographics



Data Collection Tools

- HSH will bring draft data collection instruments to LHCB in December for review and approval
- Suggested changes include:
 - Updating demographic questions to match new HUD recommendations and 2022 HMIS standards
 - Removing “What was your sex at birth?”
 - Adding a follow-up question to identify if one’s primary cause of homelessness was related to COVID-19 or CA Wildfires



3. What is your gender?
 Male Female Trans male
 Trans female Not listed: (specify) _____
 Genderqueer/Gender Non-binary

4. What was your sex at birth?
 Male Female

5. Are you Hispanic or Latino?
 Yes No Don't know

6. Which racial group do you identify with most? (Shade all)
 White Black or African American Asian
 American Indian or Alaska Native Other
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

7. Do you consider yourself...?
 Straight/Heterosexual Questioning/Unsure
 Gay/Lesbian/Same gender loving Bisexual
 Not listed Not asked
 Declined to answer Incomplete/missing data

Street Count Team Composition

- Following feedback at the October LHCB meeting, HSH researched opportunities to reduce community volunteers in the street count
- Researched other west coast communities and reviewed HUD guidance
- Our Goals:
 - Prioritize count accuracy
 - Adopt best practices promoted by HUD and other communities
 - Leverage the PIT Count as a meaningful opportunity for community engagement and public awareness
 - Ensure health and safety of participants during COVID pandemic

PIT Methodology

Data Collection Tools

Street Count Team Composition

COVID Mitigation Strategies

Street Count Team Composition

- HSH is exploring the following strategies:

	PAST COUNTS	2022 COUNT (COVID)	FUTURE COUNTS (POST COVID)
<i>General Approach</i>	<i>Mostly volunteers</i>	<i>Reduce routes; Minimize general volunteers; maximize outreach workers; Pre-assign routes</i>	<i>Aim for teams with at least 1 skilled worker, 1 PEH, 1 volunteer</i>
Skilled Outreach Workers	Used for priority routes (~10% of total)	Incentivize to increase participation; maximize outreach worker-only routes	Incentivize to increase participation; cover priority routes and 1 per other routes
Persons Experiencing Homelessness (PEH)	Not specifically recruited for general count; PEH lead youth count	Do not specifically recruit for general count; PEH still lead youth count	Recruit and ensure 1 per team in general count; PEH still lead youth count
General Volunteers	Hundreds recruited for general count*	Recruit from City staff / CBOs specifically to ensure complete census; only recruit from general public if needed	Recruit and ensure at least 1 per team in general count

**City Staff and CBOs are targeted and heavily represented in general volunteer recruitment*



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Update on COVID Risk Mitigation

- HUD will incentivize communities to conduct a full count in 2022
- Updated safety guidance from HUD, the CDC, and National Healthcare for the Homeless Council will be issued soon
- HSH will continue to consult the following for best practices:
 - San Francisco Department of Public Health
 - Applied Survey Research (ASR)
 - HUD
 - Other Bay Area CoCs

Update on COVID Risk Mitigation

HSH is considering various strategies to ensure the health and safety of participants during the street count and survey, including:

- Consolidating routes, limiting team size, and pre-assigning routes
- Allowing volunteers to self-identify teams; minimize assigning mixed household teams
- Providing PPE (e.g. masks, hand sanitizer)
- Requiring self-screening questions for COVID symptoms or vaccine status
- Conducting trainings virtually when possible, outdoors with limits to group size if in person
- Using a mobile app for the street count to limit exchange of tally sheets and pens
- Adhering to DPH guidance when in vehicles (open windows, masks on, spacing)
- Socially distanced stations for surveys