

Continuum of Care

A consortium of agencies serving the homeless population in the Macon County Area.

The Point In Time Study is a bi-annual collection of data from individuals and families to determine the number of homeless individuals and families on a given day or point in time. The 2007 Point In Time Study was conducted for a 24-hour period on January 29 by the Homeless Council Continuum of Care and organized by the Point In Time Committee.

The Study was conducted at the following locations:

- Macon County Assistance Exchange Program (MAX)
- Good Samaritan Inn
- Salvation Army Food Pantry
- Salvation Army Emergency Shelter
- Heritage Behavioral Health Center
- North East Community Fund
- Oasis Day Center
- Community Health Improvement Center (CHIC)
- Catholic Charities Thrift Store
- Illinois Department of Human Services, Macon County office
- Water Street Mission Emergency Shelter
- Grace House
- God's Shelter of Love
- Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation (DMCOC)
- Dove, Inc. Domestic Violence Shelter
- Homeward Bound
- Macon County Health Department
- Macon County Department of Children and Family Services

2007 Totals	Homeless	Adults	Children
Single Individuals	81	81	0
Families w/Children	73	85	138
Families w/o Children	4	9	0
Chronically Homeless*	34	34	0
TOTAL	<u>347</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>138</u>

*The chronically homeless are single individuals with a disability who have been homeless for a year or longer OR have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. To be counted as chronically homeless during the 2007 Point in Time Study, the individual must have been on the streets or in emergency shelter on January 29, 2007.

2007 Totals	At Risk	Adults	Children
	<u>494</u>	286	208

Comparison of Total Numbers:	Year1 998	Year 2000	Year 2002	Year 2004	Year 2005	Year 2007
Homeless	253	381	357	364	377	347
At Risk	138	82	368	1187	Not determined	494

Comparison of Chronic Homeless Numbers:	2004	2005	2007
	47	54	34

* It is important to note that the very nature of chronic homelessness means that at any one point in time you will "find" less than the total population of the chronically homeless because on that particular day they may have somewhere to lay their head.

The following information is compiled from responses to the Point In Time Study questions. To facilitate process and encourage participation, demographic information was collected on the head of household only. Please note that all information is self-reported and in all probability under-reported.

The Chronically Homeless:

Avg. Age: 45

Gender: 26 Male

7 Female

1 Unknown

Veterans: 5 (14%), 1 VA insurance

0 Income from VA

Income: \$0/Month = 20 (59%)

Reported Income = 14 (41%)

Employed = 4

Township = 3

Social Security = 5

Day Labor = 1

Unemployment = 1

Avg. Income/Month = \$201.47

Food Stamps/Link = 19 (56%)

Disability*:

Physical = 14 (41%)

Mental = 12 (35%)

Substance Abuse = 23 (68%)

*A person must have a disability to be defined as chronically homeless.

Health Insurance:

Yes = 10 (29.5%)

No = 24 (70.5%)

ALL on the streets or in emergency shelter on January 29, 2007.

The Homeless:

Avg. Age*: 34

*Remember this is head of household only.

Gender*: 52 Male

103 Female

3 Unknown

Veterans: 7 (4.4%), 0 VA insurance

0 Income from VA

Individuals: 81

Families w/o children: 4, (9 Adults)

Families w/children: 73, (85 Adults and 138 Children)

Single Parent Families: 64

Two-adults in Families: 9

Income:

Individuals: \$0/Month = 50 (61.7%)

Reported Income = 31 (38.3%)

Avg. Income/Month = \$254.94

Families w/o children: \$0/Month = 1 (25%)

Reported Income = 3 (75%)

Avg. Income/Month = \$875

Families w/children: \$0/Month = 37 (51%)

Reported Income = 36 (49%)

Avg. Income/Month = \$328.08

Food Stamps/Link:

Individuals = 52 (64%)

Families w/o children = 3 (75%)

Families w/children = 55 (75%)

Reported Physical Health, Mental Health or Substance Abuse Issues:

Individuals: 45 (55.6%)

Families w/o children: 3 (75%)

Families w/children: 30 (41%)

Health Insurance:

Individuals

Yes = 16 (19.75%)

No = 65 (80.25%)

Families w/o children

Yes = 2 (50%)

No = 2 (50%)

Families w/children

Yes = 40 (55%)

No = 33 (45%)

Definition of Homeless:

1. An individual/family who lacks fixed, regular and adequate night time residence. This individual/family may reside on the street, under bridges, in a park, under a viaduct, etc.
2. An individual/family who stays in a shelter facility that provides temporary living accommodations, including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing.
3. An individual/family staying from house to house with friends/family. (Every night a different location)
4. An individual/family who stays in a public or private place not designated or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, for example: a church, bus station, all night diner, etc.

Definition of At Risk:

An individual/family who are one-step away from being forced out or fleeing their homes. For example:

Victim of Domestic Violence
Discharge from Institution with nowhere to go
Residence has been condemned
Unforeseeable crisis/disaster (Job loss, illness, etc.)
Behind on rent and/or utility payments