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# 2016 Austin / Travis County Annual Count of People Experiencing Homelessness

## Preliminary Results

Count Date: January 22, 2016

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On the night of the annual count of people experiencing homelessness in Austin, volunteers found the homeless in all City Council districts and in every Travis County precinct.

“The Count confirms what we see ... people living on the streets in all corners of our community” said Judy Maggio, member of the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition Board of Directors.

Maggio took part in her first Count in January and was accompanied by a CNN producer who is scheduled to release a story later this month on Austin’s Point in Time Count.

“After all those years reporting Count numbers on homelessness, it was a wakeup call to witness the misery homeless people experience trying to sleep and trying to survive in the shadows of our society,” said the former TV news anchor.

Preliminary results for the 2016 Point-in-Time Count indicate a 20% increase in people experiencing homelessness when compared to the Count performed in January 2015. The Count is a snapshot of the people on the streets or in shelters on the very night of the Count.

<b>Austin / Travis County - Point in Time Count</b>			
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
2016*	1382	815	2197
2015	1165	667	1832
2014	1539	448	1987
2013	1325	765	2090
2012	1375	869	2244
2011	778	1584	2362
2010	731	1356	2087
2009	870	1771	2641

“Because these numbers reflect the number of people we count and the number of people we serve in programs for the literally homeless, it is impossible to know if the absolute number of



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people experiencing homelessness is up, or if we just counted and served more. What is absolutely certain is that we need more housing and support services to end the homelessness of every man, woman and child we do count and who does ask for help. We know how to do this. Non-profit agencies helped to house 1,834 households in 2015. We need to continue this momentum and keep connecting families and individuals to housing.

**Sheltered Count** - (people staying in Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)

The 19% increase in the number of persons experiencing sheltered homelessness is in part explained by increased shelter capacity (more beds in emergency shelter and transitional housing.) While adding capacity to get people off the streets is a good thing, HUD still counts these beds as homeless, so this drives our number up 54% of the 19% increase.

**Unsheltered** – (people found sleeping/staying outside, in cars, public restrooms, tents, etc.)  
Volunteers found people sleeping outside in every City Council district and County precinct.

2015		2016
District	Unsheltered Total	Unsheltered Total
1	69	79
2	18	31
3	82	116
4	65	47
5	41	41
6	23	24
7	74	53
8	16	15
9	265	356
10	9	7

Precinct	Unsheltered Total	City of Austin	Jonestown	Westlake Hills	Outside City Limits
1	118	118	0	0	0
2	150	145	0	0	5
3	290	282	4	1	3
4	193	193	0	0	0