



FRESNO MADERA CONTINUUM OF CARE

2020 FMCoC PIT Count - Context

OVERVIEW

As required by HUD, the FMCoC conducted a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count in January 2020. Despite the FMCoC's successful efforts to expand its housing and services, the overall count of the number of persons experiencing homelessness increased significantly compared to the 2019 PIT Count. This document lays out information that helps put the increase in context.

FIRST-TIME HOMELESSNESS

In 2019 the FMCoC had **1,215 unique clients** enter an Emergency Shelter (ES), Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, or Permanent Supportive Housing program who had no prior enrollments in HMIS, the homeless services database. This is a significant fraction of the 3,641 people counted in the 2020 PIT Count, nearly a third of the total who may have experienced homelessness for the first time.

SUCCESSFUL EXITS

Although the total count of people experiencing homelessness has increased, many people during the past year have exited homelessness through FMCoC programs to permanent housing. During the 2019 calendar year, the FMCoC successfully helped 1,284 people exit to permanent housing. This includes 75% of the people who were served by the FMCoC's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), and Transitional Housing (TH) programs.

	Served	Perm Exits	Total Exits	% of Exits that were Permanent
Permanent Supportive Housing	827	114	192	59%
Rapid Rehousing	1127	520	635	82%
Transitional Housing	253	104	157	66%
Emergency Shelter	1116	382	934	41%
Homeless Prevention	269	164	197	83%
TOTAL	3592	1284	2115	61%

PSH + RRH + TH	738	984	75%
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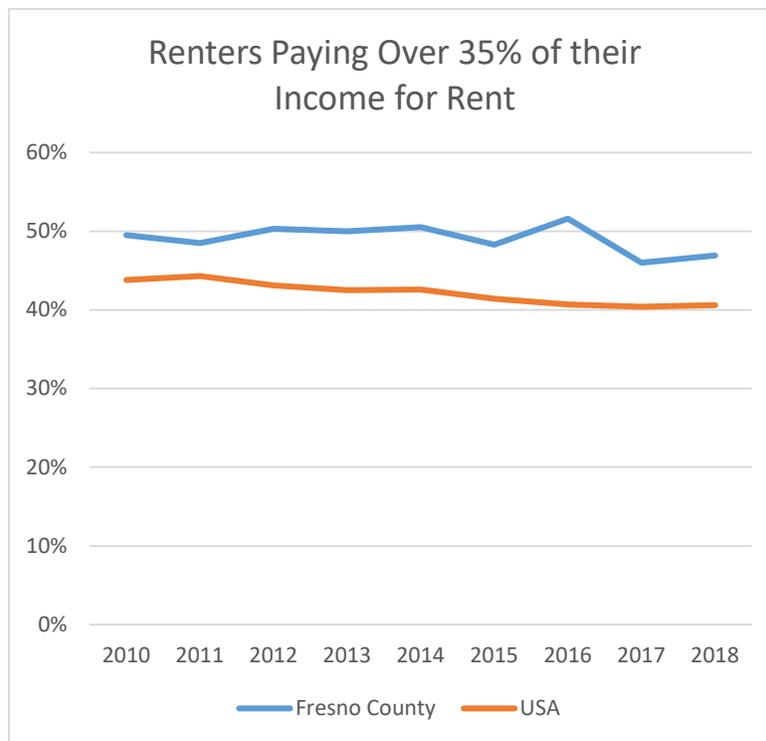
Including those in Permanent Supportive Housing who remained housed within the program and did not re-enter homelessness, the PSH positive outcome is 91% and increases the overall positive outcome for all programs to 70%.

INCREASE IN SHELTERED POPULATION

Much of the increase in the total 2020 PIT Count is driven by an increase in the population of the FMCoC's emergency shelters. In 2019, the sheltered population count was 439 and in 2020, it was 588. This was achieved by increasing the number of emergency shelter beds in 2019, thus bringing people off the streets allowing the rehousing process to begin.

WHY ARE MORE PEOPLE HOMELESS? RENT BURDEN

The American Community Survey produced by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2018 reported Fresno County had 27,154 people earning \$20,000 or less and paying more than 50% of their income toward rent. These people suffer from a severe rent burden – many only one unexpected repair bill or one missed paycheck away from losing their homes. If 5% of the people in this category become homeless each year, that would account for the increase in homelessness since the 2019 PIT Count. As shown below, the fraction of people with a high rent burden is much higher in Fresno County than in the rest of the United States.



WHY ARE MORE PEOPLE HOMELESS? LOW RATE OF RENTAL VACANCIES

Rental vacancy rates in Fresno County are much lower than in the rest of the United States meaning there are fewer rentals available. As of 2018, only 3.6% of homes that were on the rental market in Fresno County were currently available compared to 6.3% in the U.S.