



# 2023 PIT Count Office Hours

October 27, 2022

3:00-4:00pm ET



# Housekeeping

- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within a few business days.
- Materials from this session, along with the recording and materials from prior PIT Count Office Hours Sessions, can be found on the HUD Exchange [here](#).
- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:

**+1-415-655-0002**

**Access code: 2430 298 6825**

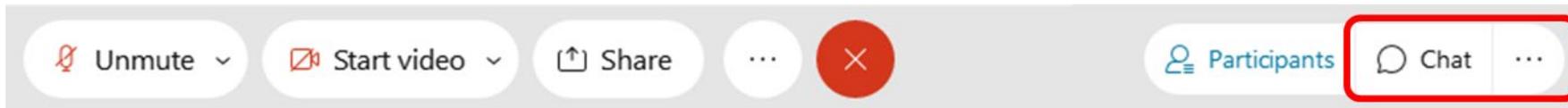
**Password: PIT (748)**

(If you need to call in toll-free, call 1-855-797-9485)



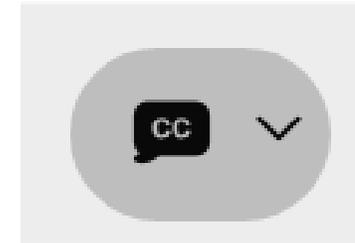
# Chat Feature

Select the Chat icon to make a comment or ask a question.



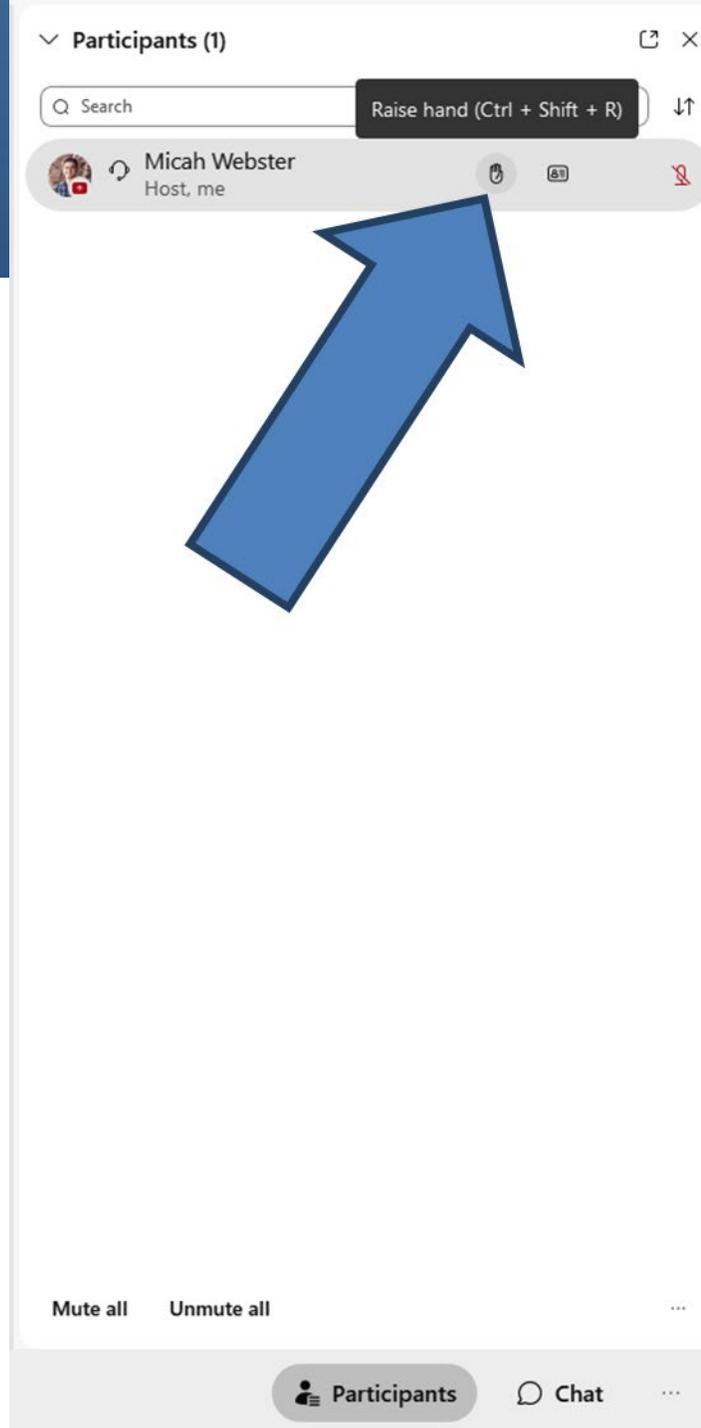
# Closed Captioning

Closed captioning is enabled for this event. To hide captions, click the ‘Closed captions’ button on the lower left-hand side of your screen



# Want to Ask a Question Verbally?

1. Select the Participant list icon at the bottom of this screen.  
*It looks like this:* 
2. Hover your mouse next to your name and select the Raise Hand icon. Alternatively, you can click the 'Raise hand' icon at the bottom of your screen: 
3. We will call on you, then unmute you to ask the question, and put you back on mute.  
*\*\*Click the hand icon again to lower your hand after you have asked a question\*\**
4. Call-in users can raise their hand by dialing \*3 and unmute/mute by dialing \*6.



# Speakers & Resource Advisors

## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- William Snow, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (he/him/his)

## Abt Associates

- Caroline Roddey (she/her/hers)
- Shantae Smith (she/her/hers)
- Alyssa Andrichik (she/her/hers)
- Meghan Henry (she/her/hers)

# Agenda

- Anticipated changes to the 2023 HIC and PIT Count
- PIT count safety considerations
- Reflections on PIT counts conducted during COVID-19
- Review of sampling guidance and tools
- Q&A

# Anticipated Changes for 2023 HIC and PIT Count

The only anticipated change is an expansion to the age categories for the PIT count.

## Current Response Options

- 1) Under 18
- 2) 18-24
- 3) 25 and Older



## Anticipated Changes to Response Options

- 1) Under age 18
- 2) 18-24
- 3) 25-34
- 4) 35-44
- 5) 45-54
- 6) 55-64
- 7) 65 and older

# Is 2023 a Required Count Year?

- The regulatory requirement for the PIT count is to conduct a **full count – sheltered and unsheltered - every *other* year.**
- If your CoC conducted a full count in 2022 it is not required to conduct a full count in 2023.
- Most CoCs choose to conduct a full count every year.
- HUD strongly encourages CoCs to conduct a full count each year.

# Reminders: Safety Considerations for Counting During COVID-19



# COVID-19 Safety Guidance for the PIT Count

HUD's [Safety Guidance document](#) considers the need to maintain safety while collecting sufficient data to make life-saving decisions about serving people experiencing homelessness. It includes guidance on:

- Vaccination status for people conducting the count
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Social distancing
- Volunteers
- Homeless service provider staff
- Remote PIT count training
- Partnerships
- Sampling
- Mobile count applications

# Reflecting on Lessons Learned from PIT Counts Conducted During COVID-19



# Positive takeaways

- New partnerships from COVID-19 allow for new voices and perspectives in the planning and counting process
- Different ways to train volunteers – using technology
- More extensive use of mobile apps
- More CoCs using HMIS as a starting place for the count and for validating data on the backend
- Heavy use of existing staff, especially staff outreach

# Review of Sampling Guidance and Tools



# What is Sampling?

Sampling is a way to account for information about a whole group of people by only collecting data about a portion of that full group.

In the context of an unsheltered PIT count, this means that a community could estimate the number and characteristics of all people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by counting only some sub-regions of its full geography and then extrapolating for uncounted areas.

Full Census Count



*If sampling is done accurately, both these methods can produce accurate estimates of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.*



Sampling



# Sampling Considerations

## Benefits of Sampling



Requires less time than a full census count.



Requires fewer staff and volunteers



Increases safety for people experiencing homelessness and staff/volunteers

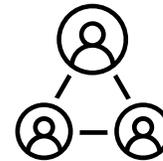
## Drawbacks of Sampling



Relies on assumptions based on limited information.



May not be as precise as a full census count.



If demographics are not accounted for in developing a sampling approach, extrapolated information about demographics may not be valid.

# Preparing for Sampling

CoCs can begin planning for the sampling process by:

1. Identifying a **local research partner** to help CoCs refine sampling approaches, implement sampling, and clean and analyze the data.
2. Dividing the CoC's geography into **smaller regions (or subareas) based on the expected density** or number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (i.e., high, medium/low, none/rare).

# Sampling Guidance and Tools

1. **[How to Use Sampling within a CoC to Conduct an Unsheltered PIT Count](#)**: a guidance document that provides an overview of sampling and how to use sampling to conduct an unsheltered PIT count.
  - The [December 3, 2020 PIT count office hours](#) provides more details to the guidance document. It is highly recommended to review the office hours if you are considering sampling.
2. **[PIT Count Sampling Tool](#)**: this tool helps CoCs develop a sampling approach to estimate a total count of the number of people within their geographies experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the night of the PIT count.
  - The [December 15, 2021](#) PIT count office hours provides greater detail about what sampling is and includes a walkthrough of the PIT count sampling tool.
3. **[PIT Count Estimating Tool](#)**: this tool helps CoCs that already conducted the unsheltered PIT count, using a sampling approach, to estimate a total unsheltered PIT count.
4. **[PIT Count Data Extrapolation Tool](#)**: this tool helps CoCs extrapolate for demographic data within their PIT counts, also available on the [Point-in-Time Count Implementation Tools page](#).

# General PIT Count Resources

- [PIT Count and HIC Landing Page on HUD Exchange](#)
- [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#)
- [PIT Count Sampling Guidance and Tools](#)
- [PIT Count Office Hours Recordings](#)
- [PIT Count Survey Tools](#)
- The HUD Exchange HDX [Ask a Question \(AAQ\)](#) Desk
  - Note that the HUD Exchange HDX AAQ inbox **will no longer answer policy questions, including those about planning for or implementing the HIC or PIT count.** Instead, policy questions should be sent to [HICPITCount@hud.gov](mailto:HICPITCount@hud.gov).
  - The HUD Exchange HDX AAQ inbox will continue to **answer questions about technical assistance tools to assist communities with their HIC or PIT counts or how to submit data in HDX 1.0.**

# Q & A



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