



Community and Homeless Management Information System

AHAR Update

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What is the AHAR?

- ◆ The Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) is a report to the U.S. Congress on homelessness in America. It has become the central resource for national data on homelessness, used by federal, state, and local policymakers to understand trends in homelessness and inform their policies.

Why do we participate?

- ◆ AHAR is the primary source of annual data on the extent and nature of homelessness nationwide and provides federal and local policymakers with a deeper understanding of how homelessness changes over time.
- ◆ Locally, this provides a data driven understanding of the community's homeless population to assist with planning efforts (coordinated assessment system planning, consolidated plans, strategic plans to end homelessness, and funding applications).
- ◆ Participation in the AHAR is a scoring factor in the CoC application for funding.

Where does the data come from?

- ◆ The report is based primarily on Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data about persons who experience homelessness during a 12 month period from October 1 through September 30.
- ◆ CoC data is submitted to HUD via the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX) with a general deadline of early to mid December of the reporting year.

How is the SN CoC included?

- ◆ Bitfocus, Inc. compiles program and housing data from the Nevada Clarity HMIS, reviews the quality of the data and works closely with local providers to help resolve any quality, capacity, or utilization issues prior to submitting on behalf of the SN CoC in HDX.
- ◆ HUD selected a research team (Abt Associates) to analyze the aggregate data submitted and who work closely with our team to confirm the quality and accuracy of the information provided to determine acceptance for the annual report.

Required AHAR Data

- ◆ The AHAR is based on local data from Point-in-Time (PIT) counts, Housing Inventory Counts (HIC), and HMIS data such as demographics, program entry/exit, and housing bed nights provided.
- ◆ All HMIS data are reported in the aggregate. Personally identifiable client level data is *never* shared with the research team.
- ◆ HMIS data accounts for each person spending at least one night in an emergency shelter, transitional housing program, or permanent supportive housing program during the 12 month reporting period.

AHAR Categories

- ◆ Emergency Shelter for Families (ES-FAM)
- ◆ Emergency Shelter for Individuals (ES-IND)
- ◆ Transitional Housing for Families (TH-FAM)
- ◆ Transitional Housing for Individuals (TH-IND)
- ◆ Permanent Supportive Housing for Families (PSH-FAM)
- ◆ Permanent Supportive Housing for Individuals (PSH-IND)
- ◆ Summary of all Categories reporting information on persons using multiple programs during the reporting year.

Category Details

- ◆ These reporting categories are submitted separately for all people in these programs for “All Persons” and for veterans only in the “Veterans” category. The data elements are the same for veterans but only include adults who identified as veterans in the regular “All Persons” AHAR.
- ◆ In addition, HUD invited 102 jurisdictions to submit data as sample sites. Clark County is submitted as an AHAR sample site and only clients served within the geographic area are reported under these categories.
- ◆ The reporting period and data collection deadlines for Veterans data are the same as those for the All Persons submission, including Clark County sample site data.

Southern Nevada Total Categories

Southern NV	Clark County Sample Site
ES-FAM – All Persons / Veterans ES-IND – All Persons / Veterans	ES-FAM – All Persons / Veterans ES-IND – All Persons / Veterans
TH-FAM – All Persons / Veterans TH-IND – All Persons / Veterans	TH-FAM – All Persons / Veterans TH-IND – All Persons / Veterans
PSH-FAM – All Persons / Veterans PSH-IND – All Persons / Veterans	PSH-FAM – All Persons / Veterans PSH-IND – All Persons / Veterans
Summary – All Persons / Veterans	Summary – All Persons / Veterans
Total:	28 separate categories submitted

Acceptance Thresholds

- ◆ Each reporting category is assessed independently for data quality, using three thresholds:
 - ◆ 50% HMIS **bed coverage rate**, which is a hard cutoff; we will be unable to use any categories where less than 50% of beds in a category are in HMIS.
 - ◆ Reasonable **bed utilization rates**, typically between 65-105%. Bed utilization rates above 105% or below 65% may indicate data quality issues.
 - ◆ Missing data rates. **Missing data rates** above 5% may indicate data quality issues and CoCs are encouraged to provide complete data to the AHAR.

How are we doing?

SPECTACULAR!!!

Usable/Submitted AHAR Data	2012	2016
Southern Nevada- All	4/7	7/7
Southern Nevada- Veterans	4/7	7/7
Sample Site – Clark County-All	1/7	7/7
Sample Site – Clark County- Veterans	0/7	7/7
Total:	9/28 (32%)	28/28 (100%)

Southern Nevada Superheroes



The phenomenal success of the SN AHAR submissions would not be possible without the unwavering commitment of our local providers and CoC leadership. Their continued dedication to HMIS data quality allows us all to shine!

Thank you!