
Community and Economic Development

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Homeless Strategy

Last updated or reviewed on September 19, 2022

Need help with homelessness or housing?

- Call 2-1-1 or visit <https://nc211.org/> to connect with local resources.
- Access the City's **2021 Affordable Housing Guide** in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) for local rental properties.
- [Homelessness Resources Guide](#)

CODE PURPLE Calendar

Visit The Code Purple Calendar for Cold Weather Emergency Shelter

Current Funding Opportunities

The City of Asheville serves as the NC-501 Asheville-Buncombe Continuum of Care Lead and accordingly facilitates community access to funds for homeless and housing programs from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. Annual funding opportunities include the [Continuum of Care](#) and [Emergency Solutions Grant](#) cycles. For additional information please contact Emily Ball, Homeless Strategy Division Manager at eball@ashevillenc.gov.

Notice of Funding Opportunity: Emergency Solutions Grant

The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), Division of Aging and Adult Services has issued a Request for Applications for FY 2022 – 2023 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding. The NC-501 Asheville-Buncombe Continuum of Care is eligible for \$128,187. The City of Asheville serves as the NC-501 Asheville-Buncombe Continuum of Care Lead and is responsible for facilitating the application process and final submission.

Eligible Activities

NC ESG funds are intended to be used as part of a crisis response system using a low-barrier, housing-focused approach to ensure that experiences of homelessness are rare, brief, and occur only one time. Within that framework, eligible activities can include:

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Rapid Rehousing
- Homelessness Prevention
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or comparable database for Victim Service Providers

Eligible applicants are non-profit or local government agencies.

Funding Availability

A total of \$128,187 is available to our community. No more than 60% of funds (\$76,912) may be awarded to Emergency Services projects (Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter), and no less than 40% (\$51,275) may be awarded to Housing Stability Projects (Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention).

Process and Timeline

As the NC-501 Continuum of Care Lead, the City of Asheville facilitates the application process and final submission to NC DHHS. Project applications are included in the final submission based on recommendations from the [Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee](#), which serves as the governance board of the NC-501 Continuum of Care. NC DHHS will only consider recommended applications, will make final award decisions, and will contract directly with funded applicants. Funds will support services to be delivered during calendar year 2023.

All dates, except where noted, occur in 2022. All materials should be submitted to Emily Ball via email at eball@ashevillenc.gov.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| August 19 | Letter of Intent to Apply due describing anticipated application amount and eligible activity |
| September 9 | Project Applications due |
| September 15 | Applicants present to Finance Workgroup |
| September 16 | Applicants notified of Finance Workgroup recommendations |
| September 23 | Finance Workgroup presents recommendations to Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee for vote |
| September 27 | Revised project applications due as needed; applications recommended for full funding will not require revision or additional action |
| October 3 | City of Asheville submits all application materials to NC DHHS |
| November | NC DHHS announces funding decisions |
| January 2023 | NC DHHS initiates contracts with awarded applicants |

Additional Resources

Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to participate in one of the technical assistance sessions offered virtually by NC DHHS:

Tuesday, July 26, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3419260583995239696>

Thursday, July 28, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (new applicants)

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4865011721892815629>

Tuesday, August 2, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2908596806521244430>

How To Apply

Project applications and additional details are available [here](#).

All questions and application materials should be submitted to Emily Ball, Homeless Strategy Division Manager at eball@ashevillenc.gov.

Notice of Funding Opportunity: FY2022 Continuum of Care

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs published the [FY2022 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) on August 1, 2022, with submissions due September 30, 2022. Continuum of Care funding supports homeless and housing programs across the country; the City of Asheville serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the NC-501 Asheville-Buncombe Continuum of Care, so is eligible to facilitate the FY2022 Competition locally and to submit the Consolidated Application on behalf of the community. The [Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee](#) (HIAC) serves as the governance board for the NC-501 Continuum of Care, and its Finance Workgroup has reviewed, scored, and ranked all applications received by the August 31, 2022 local deadline.

At its September 13, 2022 meeting, HIAC voted to approve the Consolidated Application, which consists of the Continuum of Care Application and the Project Priority Listing, based on Finance Workgroup [recommendations](#), and recommended that the City of Asheville as the Collaborative Applicant submit the Consolidated Application to HUD by its September 30, 2022 deadline.

The HIAC-approved [Consolidated Application](#) is available for review and includes the:

- [Continuum of Care Application](#)
- [Project Priority Listing](#)

Projects recommended for funding in the Priority Listing are:

| Rank | Applicant | Project | Amount |
|------|-------------------|---|-------------|
| 1 | Helpmate | Housing Support for Domestic Violence Survivors (RRH) | \$172,622 |
| 2 | City of Asheville | HMIS | \$63,744 |
| 3 | Homeward Bound | Bridge to Recovery (PSH) | \$433,473 |
| 4 | Homeward Bound | Shelter Plus Care (PSH) | \$447,472 |
| 5 | Homeward Bound | Permanent Supportive Housing 2 | \$87,892 |
| 6 | Homeward Bound | Permanent Supportive Housing 3 | \$110,674 |
| 7 | Homeward Bound | Permanent Supportive Housing 5 | \$217,381 |
| 8 | Homeward Bound | Permanent Supportive Housing 1 | \$297,458 |
| 9 | Homeward Bound | Homeward Bound Rapid Rehousing 1 | \$91,724 |
| N/A | City of Asheville | Planning Grant | \$55,034 |
| | | | \$1,977,474 |

Updates

[Understanding Unsheltered Homelessness](#)

The City has partnered with Buncombe County and Dogwood Health Trust on a collaborative project to better understand and respond to unsheltered homelessness. That collaborative has contracted with the National Alliance to End Homelessness to lead the project, which began in June 2022 and will conclude in January 2023. To learn more, visit the [Understanding Unsheltered Homelessness project page](#).

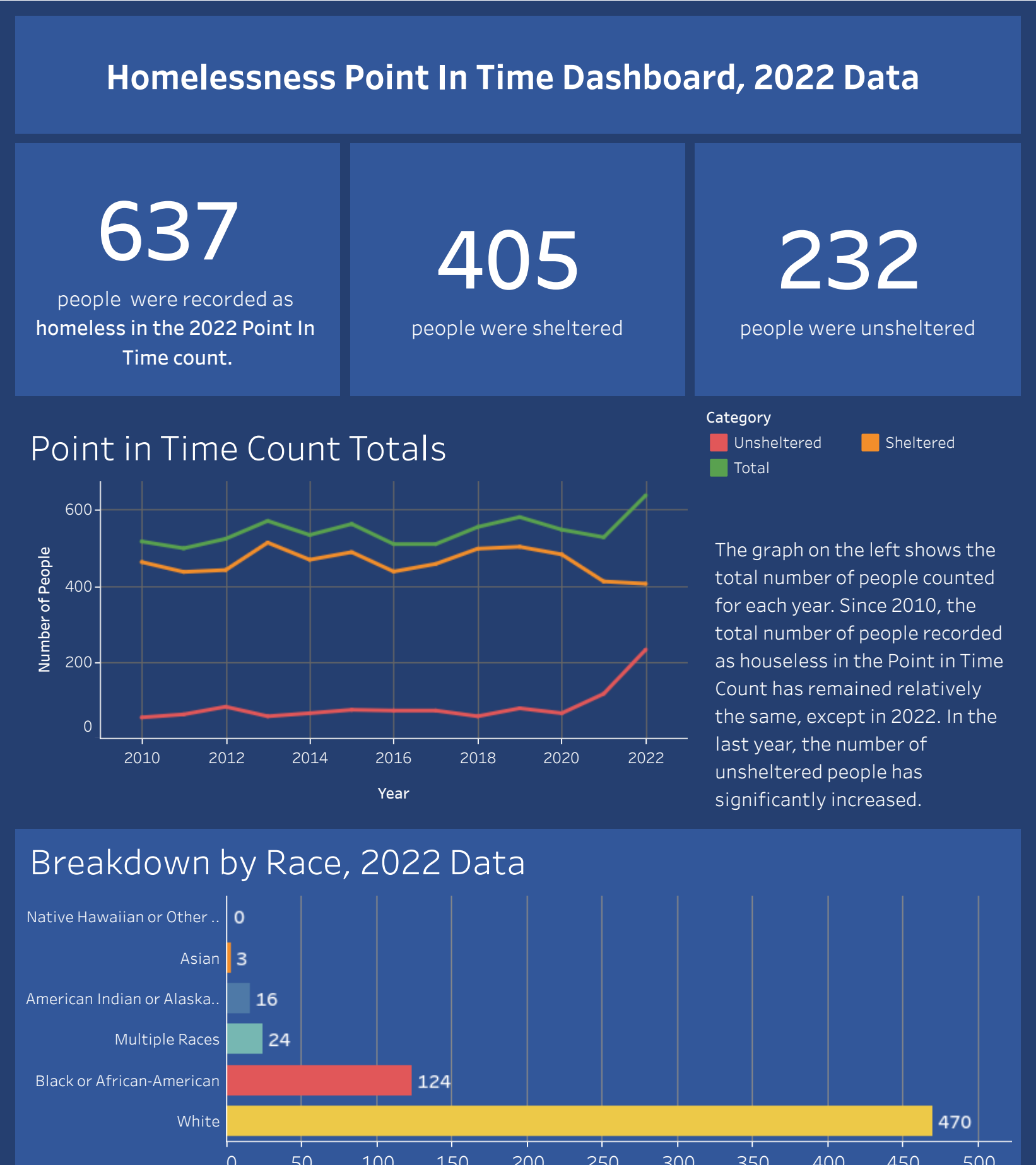
Data

Point-in-Time Counts

The United States Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) requires that all communities that receive HUD funding to address homelessness conduct a Point in Time (PIT) Count sometime in the last 10 days each January to identify how many people are experiencing homelessness on a given night.

The PIT count is a one night “snapshot” of the homeless population in Buncombe County, including those in emergency shelters, transitional housing or who are unsheltered, i.e., sleeping outside or in other locations not suitable for human habitation. It provides a picture over time of trends and changes in the population, such as increases in veterans, unsheltered people, or people who are chronically homeless.

The dashboard below shows data from the January 25, 2022 count. [Click here for detailed methodology and limitations](#).



050100150200250300350400450500

Number

The graph above shows the 2022 Point in Time Count broken down by race. American Indians or Alaska Natives, Black/African-Americans, and Multi-racial people are all over represented.

To explore breakdowns of the data by race, ethnicity, gender, age, sheltered status, chronically homeless, and number of families, click the button below.

Click Here to Explore All Data

To view the PIT count presented on May 10, 2022 please [click here](#).

System Performance Measures

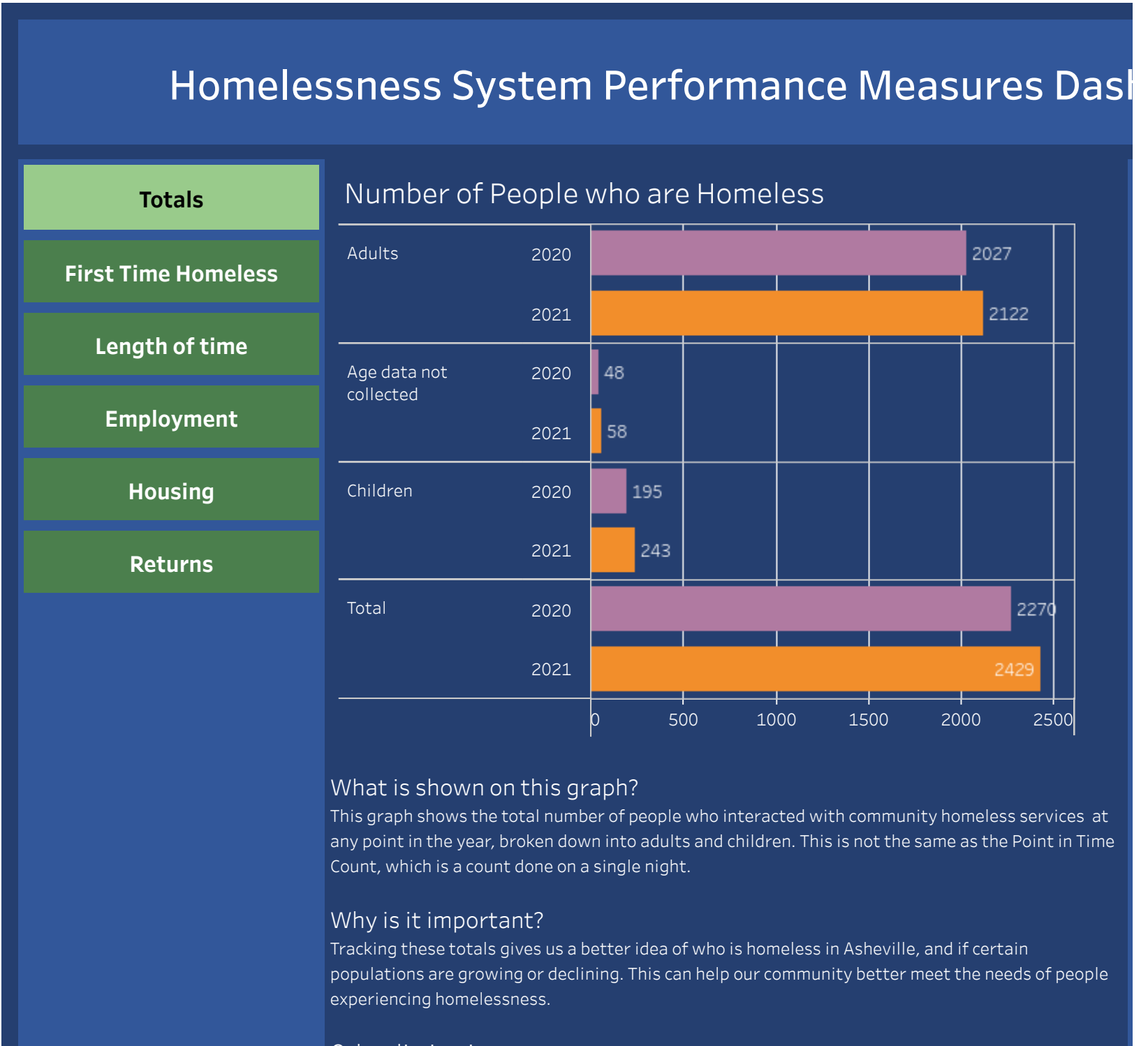
We use a Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) to capture data on who is experiencing homelessness in Buncombe County, what their characteristics and needs are, and how they interact with community services.

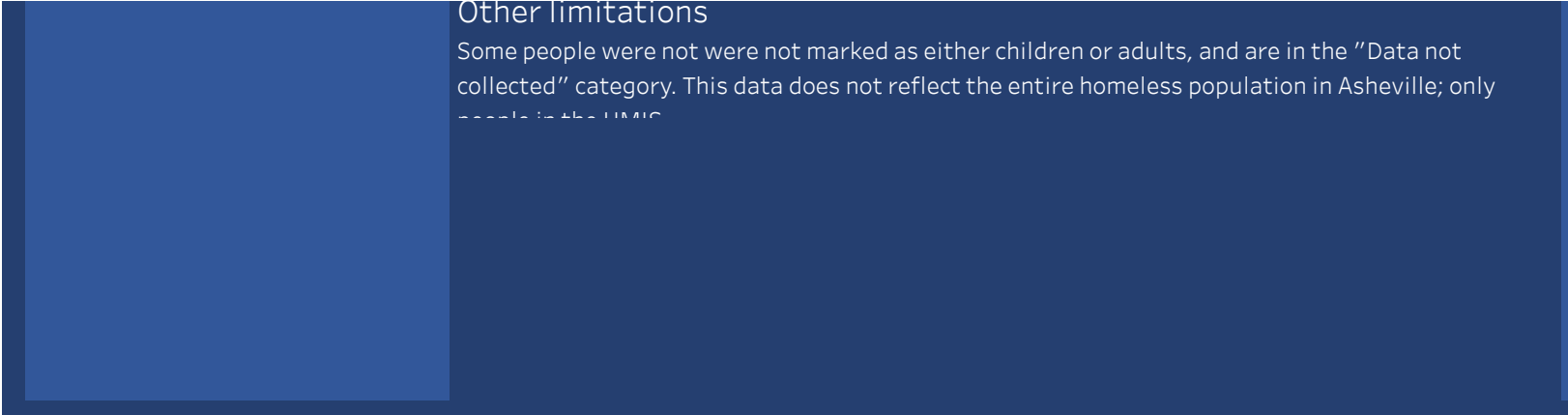
Many service providers participate in HMIS, contributing data which informs our understanding of homelessness in Asheville and Buncombe County. Service providers in our community can receive training on how to use this system and contribute their data; currently, approximately 66% of service providers in our community use the HMIS, which accounts for 59% of the total beds.

The service providers participating in HMIS are ABCCM, Eliada, FIRST at Blue Ridge (for 26 of their beds), Haywood Street Respite, Homeward Bound, Salvation Army, Sunrise (phasing out), and Trinity Place (phasing out).

The dashboard below explores HMIS data from our community, and highlights some of the key metrics used nationwide to track homelessness. However, because only approximately 66% of service providers in our community use the HMIS, the data below is incomplete, and only reflects a portion of Buncombe County. Given this, it should be interpreted with care. See [this document](#) for further information.

We hope that providing this data hub will encourage other service providers to use the HMIS. Our efforts go further when we are able to easily share information with each other. If you are a service provider and are interested in learning more about using HMIS, please contact Emily Ball at eball@ashevillenc.gov.





Note: All years in the dashboard refer to federal fiscal years, which run from October 1 through September 30.

Contact Information

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Tags:

Department Page

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