

## Highlights of 2016 Homeless Census Point-in-Time Count for Louisiana – Region 9 Northlake Homeless Coalition

An annual count of the number of persons experiencing homelessness was conducted during the week of January 25th, 2016, wherein twenty-one partnering organizations of the Northlake Homeless Coalition surveyed persons within our community to identify those who are without permanent, stable housing on the night of Monday, January 26th. In conjunction with the 2016 statewide Homeless Census in Louisiana, Region Nine (9) counted two hundred seventy-five (275) men, women, and children who were *literally homeless* in the parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines a person as literally homeless only when he/she resides in:

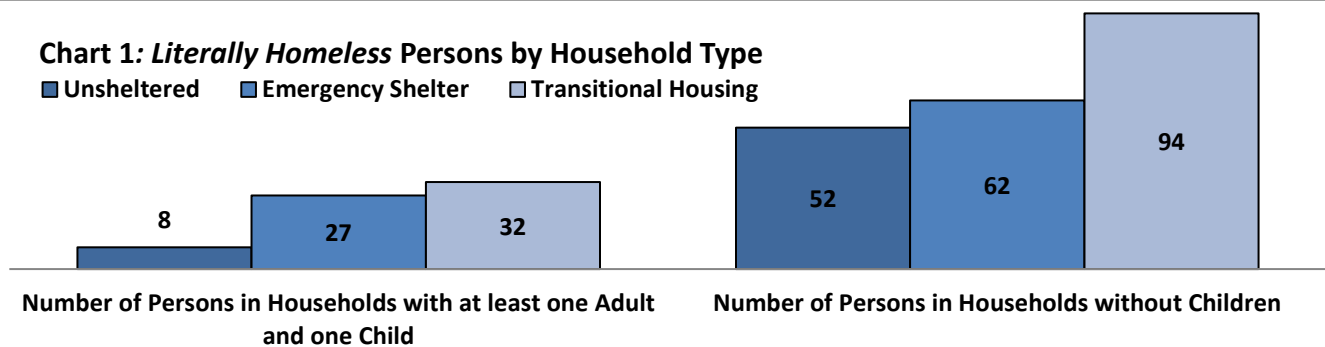
- A place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, etc.
- An emergency shelter,
- Or a transitional housing program for persons who were unsheltered or residing in an emergency shelter prior to entering the program.

**Table 1: 2016 Region 9 Homeless Census: Summary of *Literally Homeless* Adults and Children**

Household Type	Unsheltered <sup>1</sup>	In Emergency Shelter <sup>2</sup>	In Transitional Housing <sup>3</sup>	Total Count
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	3	8	10	21 [9.3% of households]
Total Persons in Households	8	27	32	67 [24.4% of persons]
Number of Households without Children	49	62	94	205 [90.7% of households]
Total Persons in Households	52	62	94	208 [75.6% of persons]
Total Number of Households	52 [23.0%]	70 [31.0%]	104 [46.0%]	226 [100.0% of households]
Total Persons in Households	60 [21.8%]	89 [32.4%]	126 [45.8%]	275 [100.0% of persons]

**Chart 1: *Literally Homeless* Persons by Household Type**

■ Unsheltered ■ Emergency Shelter ■ Transitional Housing



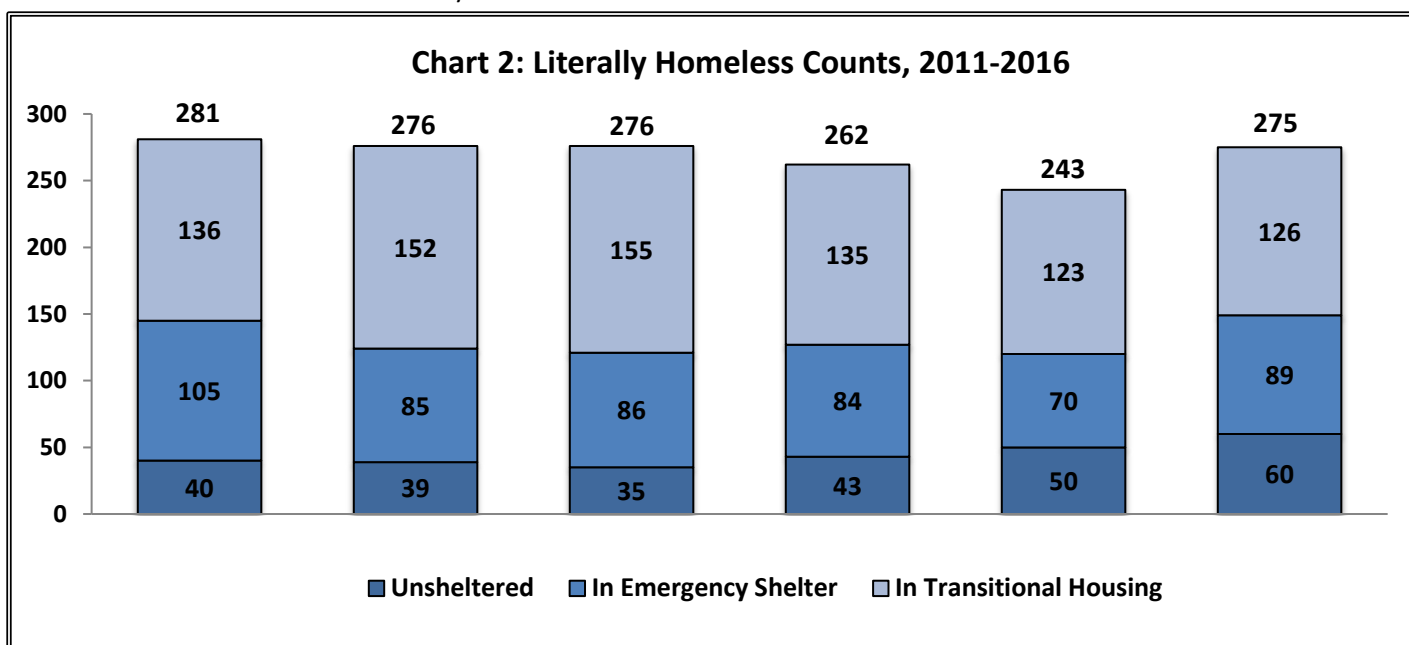
<sup>1</sup> Describes any location where a person may be residing that is not intended for human habitation; includes automobiles, wooded areas, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, barns, under bridges, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Emergency shelters provide a temporary places to stay for newcomers, travelers, people who are in crisis, or homeless individuals in the community

<sup>3</sup> Transitional Housing for formerly homeless persons provide extended shelter stays and supportive services for homeless individuals and/or families with the goal of helping them live independently and transition into permanent housing; stays are generally longer than two weeks but typically 60 days or more and, in many cases, up to two years or more; may be configured for specialized groups within the homeless population such as people with substance abuse problems, homeless mentally ill, homeless domestic violence victims, veterans or homeless people with AIDS/HIV.

**Why the Homeless Census Matters:** Data derived from the Homeless Census provides the community partners of the Northlake Homeless Coalition with a critical “snapshot” of homelessness and the services that are in place to respond. This information is imperative to better understand how homelessness is changing, to inform the public at large, and to measure our progress towards preventing and ending homelessness. Single points in time also allow for communities to concentrate efforts for consistent data collection and integration from all service providers within the catchment area.

**I. Populations Data:** The total number of persons who were identified as literally homeless on the night of the 2015 Homeless Census was a slight decrease of seven percent (7%) from the 2014 count. Since 2011, we have seen a 14% decrease in the number of persons identified as experiencing literal homelessness. Of note, the reductions are visible in the number of persons in sheltered conditions, specifically with a 10% reduction in the number of persons in Transitional Housing for homeless persons and a 33% reduction in the number of persons in Emergency Shelters. Known factors in the most recent decreases are reflective of the temporary closure of a 13 bed emergency shelter and the change in program type for a Transitional Housing project. It is also important to recognize that the number of persons who were identified as residing in unsheltered conditions has increased by 25% since 2011.



**II. Subpopulations Data:** In addition to identifying the total number of persons who were experiencing literal homelessness on the night of January 25<sup>th</sup>, survey participants were asked questions that allowed for identifying the number of persons that can be defined as members of special populations, or sub-populations, as stated by HUD. Areas of interest include certain long-term disabling health conditions, chronic homelessness, Veterans of the United States Military, and persons fleeing domestic violence.

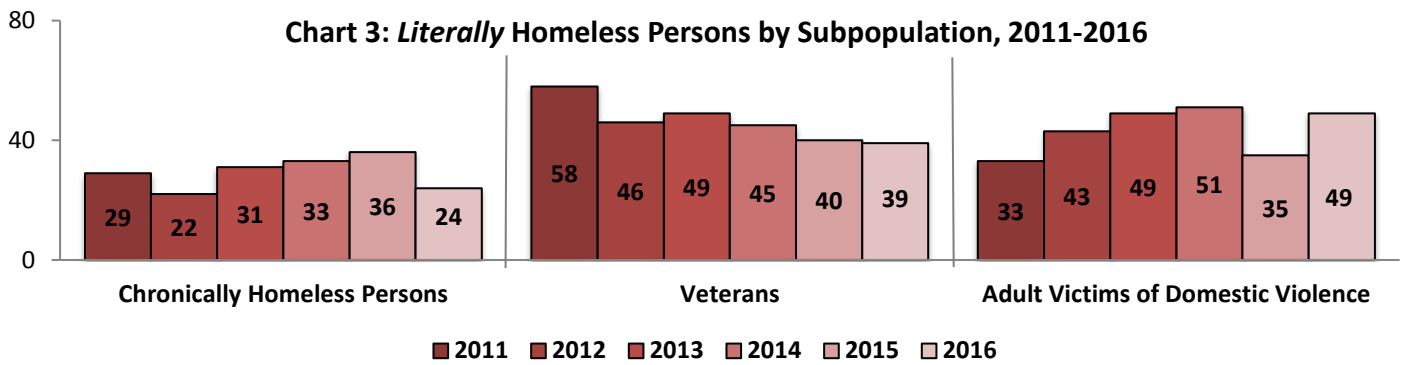
Specific findings of interest include,

- The fewest number of persons since 2012 were identified as experiencing chronic homelessness, with a decrease of thirty-three percent (33%) from the previous count.
- The number of veterans identified as experiencing literal homelessness has declined every year since 2011. Approximately seventeen percent (17%) of all adults included in the count were military Veterans.
- Almost twenty-one percent (21%) of adult participants identified as having experienced episodes of domestic violence, including seven of the respondents who were in unsheltered at the time of participation.
- Twenty-one adults and children were residing in Youth Only Households, wherein everyone in the household is under the age of 25. This includes unaccompanied young adults (18-24) and parenting youth. They comprised approximately eight (8)% of the total population.
- Approximately 1 out of 3 participants self-identified as having a severe and persistent mental health condition.

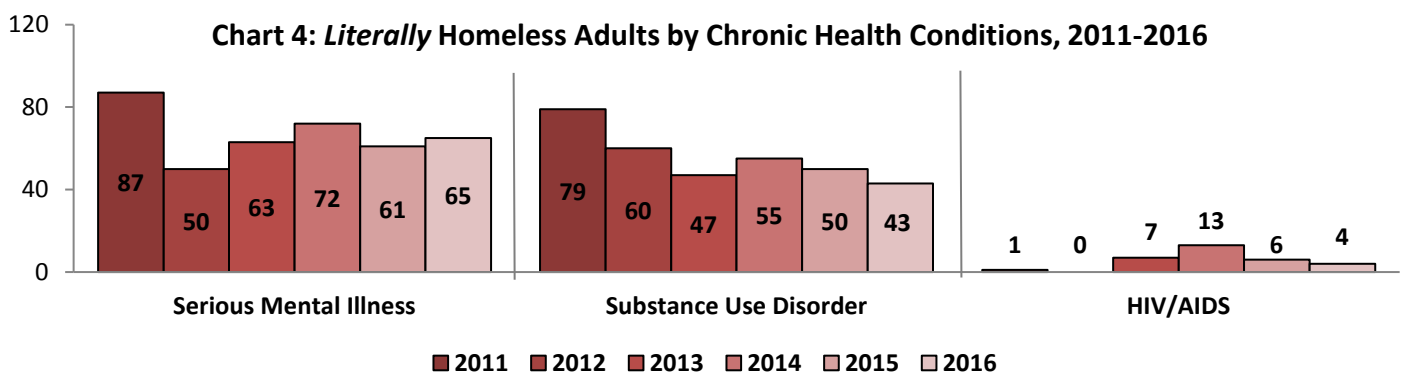
**Table 2: Counts of Literally Homeless Adults by Subpopulations - 2016**

Subpopulation	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Subpopulation Count	Total Population	Percentage of Total Population
Chronically Homeless Individuals <sup>4</sup>	15	9	24	234 Individual Adults	10.3%
Chronically Homeless (CH) Families	0	0	0	21 Families	0.0%
Persons in CH Families	0	0	0	67 Adults and Children in Families	0.0%
Individual Veterans	6	33	39	234 Individual Adults	16.7%
Veterans in Families	0	0	0	0 Families	0.0%
Persons in Veteran Families	0	0	0	67 Adults and Children in Families	0.0%
Victims of Domestic Violence	9	40	49	234 Adults	20.9%
<b>Persons with Long-term Disabilities/Chronic Health Conditions</b>					
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	19	46	65	234 Adults	27.8%
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	2	40	43	234 Adults	18.3%
Adults with HIV/AIDS	0	4	4	234 Adults	1.7%

**Chart 3: Literally Homeless Persons by Subpopulation, 2011-2016**



**Chart 4: Literally Homeless Adults by Chronic Health Conditions, 2011-2016**



<sup>4</sup> An individual or adult family member who has a long-term disabling condition, and has been homeless in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation for more than one year or at least four times in the past three years.

**III. Participating Organizations:** Twenty-one human service agencies participated in the 2016 Census by directly surveying persons seeking/accessing their assistance, or welcoming volunteers to conduct interviews with their consumers, during the week of the Count. These service providers included emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, feeding programs, motel voucher programs, and Permanent Supportive Housing programs.

**Table 3: 2016 Homeless Census Participating Organizations**

Organization Name and Location	Parish of Survey Respondent				
	Livingston	St. Helena	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa	Washington
Caring Center of Slidell			X		
Community Christian Concern, Slidell			X		
Family Promise of St. Tammany, Slidell			X		
Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, Multiple				X	
Freedom Worship Ministry, Slidell			X		
Good Samaritan Ministry, Slidell			X		
Habitat for Humanity - STW, Covington			X		
House of Serenity, Ponchatoula				X	
Miramonte Center (CCC), Slidell			X		
Mount Olive Feeding Ministry, Slidell			X		
NAMI St. Tammany, Mandeville			X		
New Orleans Mission Project Hope, Lacombe			X		
Northlake Homeless Coalition, Multiple	X	X	X	X	X
Quad VETS, Hammond				X	
Safe Harbor, Mandeville			X		
Samaritan Center, Mandeville			X		
SAFE, Hammond	X			X	X
Southeastern Louisiana University	X	X	X	X	X
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Multiple			X	X	
Trumpet of Truth, Slidell			X		
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Multiple	X		X	X	
Volunteers of America GNO, Multiple			X	X	X

**IV. Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Utilization on Night of Homeless Census:** A component of the Homeless Census is the enumeration of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing stock by provider and the number of beds being utilized on the night of January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The following table details the number of beds and units of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing that comprise the housing inventory for the region, as of the Census date, and the respective rates of occupancy.

<b>Table 4: 2016 Housing Inventory of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Beds</b>								
Housing/Program Type	Parishes Served/ Location of Services	Populations Served / Eligible Subpopulations	Households with Children		Households without Children # of Beds	Total # of Beds	# of Beds Occupied	Utilization Rate
			# of Units	# of Beds				
<b>Emergency Shelter Beds and Units: Total</b>			<b>8</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>73.6%</b>
Caring Center of Slidell	ST	W, W+C	1	3	10	13	10	76.9%
Community Christian Concern – Motel Vouchers	ST	W, M, FAM	1	2	3	5	5	100.0%
Family Promise St. Tammany	ST	FAM	1	14	0	14	10	71.4%
House of Serenity	T	W, M, FAM	1	3	28	31	23	74.2%
SAFE (formerly SSAP)— Emergency Shelter for DV	L, SH,T, W	W+C / DV	1	4	0	4	4	100.0%
Safe Harbor – Emergency Shelter for DV	ST	W, W+C / DV	3	18	2	20	9	45.0%
Timothy Trumpet of Truth	ST	M / SA	0	0	34	34	28	82.4%
<b>Transitional Housing Beds &amp; Units: Total</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>73.3%</b>
Miramonte Center – Community Christian Concern	ST	M	0	0	12	12	4	33.3%
Freedom Worship Ministry	ST	M	0	0	7	7	7	100.0%
NAMI – Wren Way Group Home	ST	W, M / SMI	0	0	12	12	8	66.7%
New Orleans Mission Project Hope	ST	M	0	0	46	46	46	100.0%
Quad Area CAA--Dorm- Quad VETS	T	M / VET	0	0	27	27	20	74.1%
Quad Area CAA--House - Quad VETS	T	M / VET	0	0	7	7	5	71.4%
SAFE --Transitional Housing for DV	L, SH,T, W	W, W+C / DV	6	51	4	55	30	54.5%
Volunteers of America, GNO— Transitional Housing for HIV/AIDS	L, SH,T, W	M, W, FAM / HIV	1	3	3	6	6	100.0%
<b>Grand Total of All Beds &amp; Units</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>73.4%</b>
<b>Parishes Served /Location of Services Key =</b> L: Livingston; SH: St. Helena; ST: St. Tammany; T: Tangipahoa; W: Washington <b>Populations Served Key =</b> W: Adult Women; M: Adult Men; C: Children; FAM: Families; <b>Subpopulations Served Key =</b> DV: Domestic Violence Victims; VET: US Military Veterans; SMI = Severe Mental Illness; HIV: HIV/AIDS Diagnoses								

**V. Counts by Parish:** The following series of charts exhibits the number of persons identified as literally homeless, with the counts organized by the parishes where respondents resided during the night of the 2016 Homeless Census. The five parishes that comprise the NHC's Continuum of Care are Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington.

Household Type	In Emergency		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered	Shelter		
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	0	4	4
Total Persons in Households	0	0	16	16
Number of Households without Children	1	0	0	1
Total Persons in Households	1	0	0	1
Total Number of Households	1	0	4	5
Total Persons in Households	1	0	16	17

Household Type	In Emergency		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered	Shelter		
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	0	0	0
Total Persons in Households	0	0	0	0
Number of Households without Children	1	0	0	1
Total Persons in Households	2	0	0	2
Total Number of Households	1	0	0	1
Total Persons in Households	2	0	0	2

Household Type	In Emergency		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered	Shelter		
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	1	6	1	8
Total Persons in Households	3	19	2	24
Number of Households without Children	38	43	63	144
Total Persons in Households	40	43	63	146
Total Number of Households	39	49	64	152
Total Persons in Households	43	62	65	170

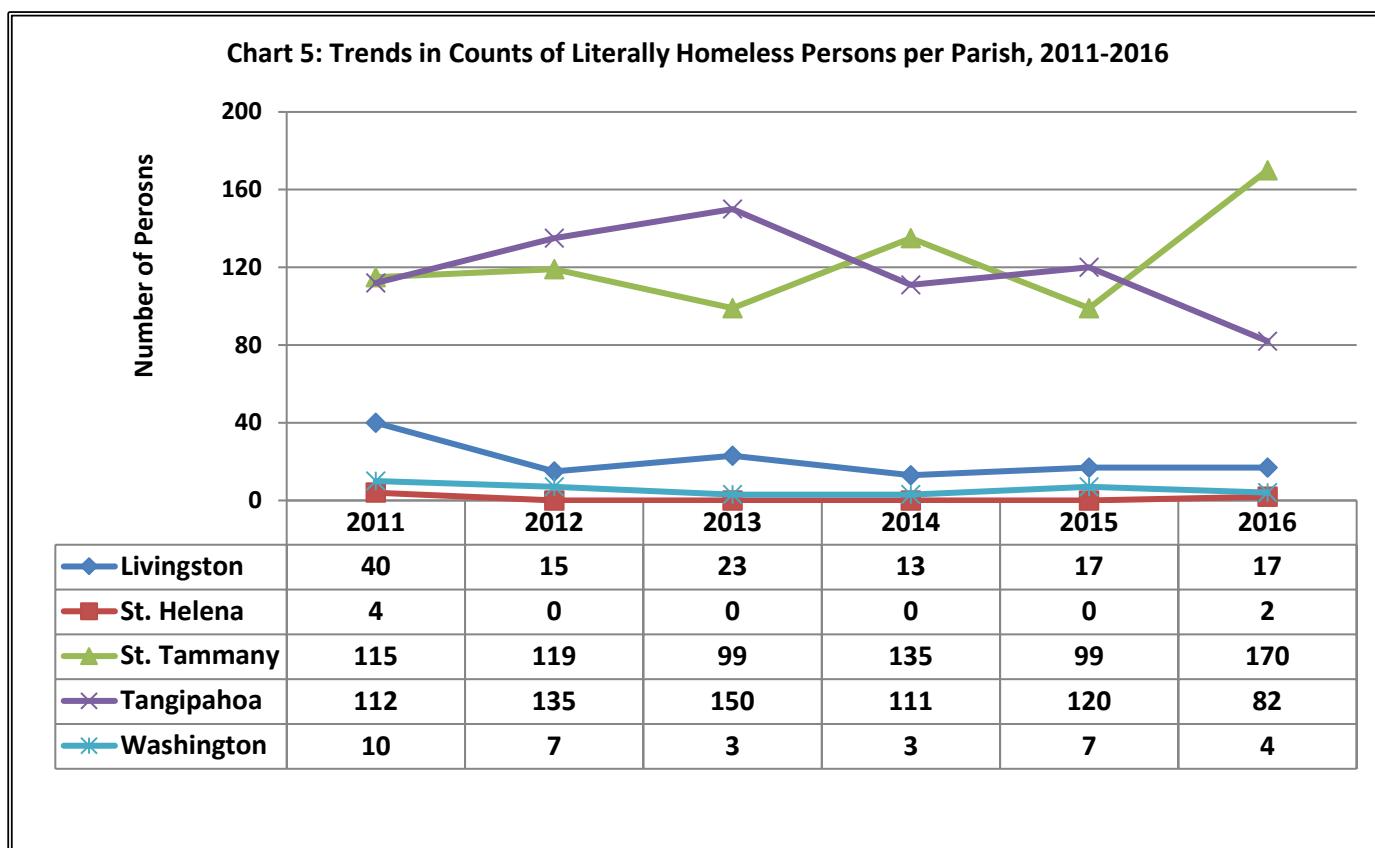
Household Type	In Emergency		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered	Shelter		
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	2	2	5	9
Total Persons in Households	5	8	14	27
Number of Households without Children	6	19	30	55
Total Persons in Households	6	19	30	55
Total Number of Households	8	21	35	64
Total Persons in Households	11	27	44	82

Household Type	In Emergency		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered	Shelter		
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	0	0	0
Total Persons in Households	0	0	0	0
Number of Households without Children	3	0	1	4
Total Persons in Households	3	0	1	4
Total Number of Households	3	0	1	4
Total Persons in Households	3	0	1	4

The majority of persons identified as experiencing literal homelessness were in St. Tammany Parish, with approximately sixty-three percent (63%) of the total count in the southeast corner of the region. In addition, the largest number of unsheltered persons were identified in St. Tammany Parish, with approximately two-thirds of all persons residing in places not intended for human habitation. The largest decrease was found in Tangipahoa Parish, where the total number of literally homeless persons decreased by 38 persons. This can be primarily attributed to the temporary closure of a transitional housing project that served households with at least one adult and one child and fewer persons. Other findings from the 2016 census include,

- In Livingston Parish, sixteen of the the 17 (16 of 17) persons were in a transitional housing project for persons fleeing domestic violence.
- In St. Helena Parish, both identified persons were residing in unsheltered conditions.
- In Washington, three of the four (3 of 4) persons identified were without shelter, and one person (1) was in transitional housing.

Chart 5 provides a temporal comparison of total population counts residing in unsheltered and sheltered conditions for 2011-2016. In looking at the number of persons identified as experiencing literal homeless per parish, persons were identified in all 5 parishes, with the greatest numbers in St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes, which is where there is also have the greatest concentration of service providers. This has remained the case throughout the previous counts.



**VI. Permanent Housing Data Comparison:** In addition to identifying persons who are experiencing literal homelessness, during the same data collection period, 490 persons were identified as living in permanent housing. Of these men, women, and children, one hundred sixty-one (161) persons were residing in Rapid Rehousing projects, and three hundred twenty-nine (329) persons were in Permanent Supportive Housing for persons with long-term disabling conditions. Overall, this is an increase of one hundred one (101) persons, or a twenty-six percent (26%) growth in the the number of persons residing in Permanent Housing from the previous census. The growth is primarily reflective of the addition of a new Rapid Rehousing project and an increase in the number of formerly homeless Veterans utilizing HUD-VASH vouchers within the region. Persons enrolled in Permanent Housing are no longer identified as experiencing literal homelessness.

**Table 6: 2016 Housing Inventory of Permanent Housing Beds**

Housing/Program Type	Parishes Served/ Location of Services	Populations Served / Eligible Persons	Households with Children		Households without Children # of Beds	Total # of Beds	# of Beds Occupied	Utilization Rate
			# of Units	# of Beds				
<b>Rapid Rehousing Beds and Units: Total</b>			<b>38</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
HOPE Center SSVF	ST, T, W	W, M, FAM/VET	2	7	11	18	18	100.0%
Northlake Homeless Coalition	L, SH, ST, T, W	FAM	18	67	0	67	67	100.0%
St. Tammany Parish CAA - CoC	ST	FAM	6	27	0	27	27	100.0%
St. Tammany Parish CAA - ESG	ST	W, M, FAM	4	12	5	17	17	100.0%
Tangipahoa Parish Sect 8 - ESG	SH,T,W	W, M, FAM	8	29	3	32	32	100.0%
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing Beds &amp; Units: Total</b>			<b>43</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>95.4%</b>
Bogalusa PHA - VASH	W	W, M, FAM/VET	1	3	0	3	3	100.0%
Covington PHA - VASH	ST	W, M, FAM/VET	8	24	6	30	30	100.0%
Hammond PHA - VASH	T	W, M, FAM/VET	1	7	16	23	23	100.0%
LA Housing Corp – S+C	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM	7	27	65	92	92	100.0%
NAMI — WW Apts	ST	W, M / SMI	0	0	10	10	10	100.0%
NAMI —WW GH	ST	W, M / SMI	0	0	8	8	7	87.5%
Ponchatoula PHA – VASH	T	W, M, FAM/VET	0	0	1	1	1	100.0%
Slidell PHA – VASH	ST	W, M, FAM/VET	1	3	6	9	9	100.0%
Tangipahoa PHA – VASH	T	W, M, FAM/VET	1	7	5	12	12	100.0%
VOAGNO—6040	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM	6	27	14	41	36	87.8%
VOAGNO —7000	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM/ SMI	3	8	8	16	14	87.5%
VOAGNO—7050	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM/ SMI	2	7	11	18	16	88.9%
VOAGNO —7150	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM	7	23	30	53	50	94.3%
VOAGNO —7170	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM/ VET	1	6	2	8	6	75.0%
VOAGNO —7190	L, SH, ST, T, W	W, M, FAM	5	18	3	21	20	95.2%
<b>Grand Total of All Permanent Housing Beds &amp; Units</b>			<b>81</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>96.8%</b>

Parishes Served /Location of Services Key = L: Livingston; SH: St. Helena; ST: St. Tammany; T: Tangipahoa; W: Washington  
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