

Highlights of 2014 Homeless Census Point-in-Time Count for Louisiana – Region 9 Northlake Homeless Coalition

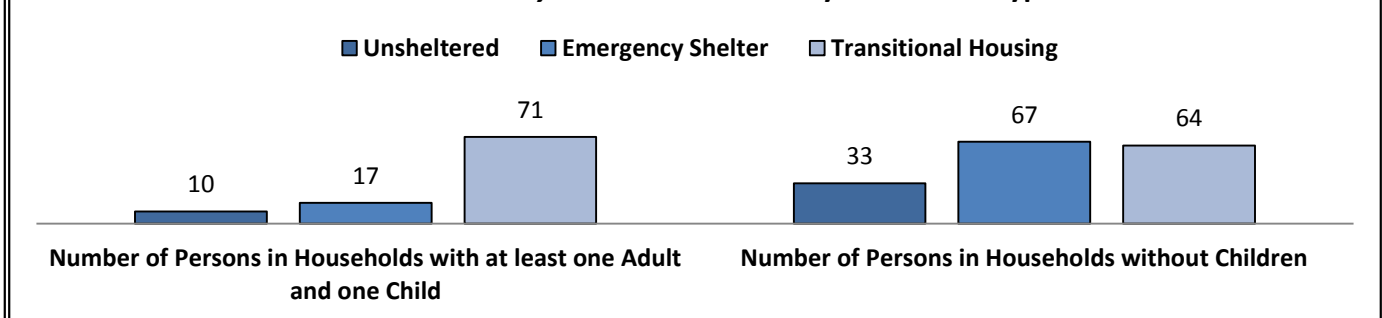
An annual count of the number of persons experiencing homelessness was conducted during the week of January 27th, 2014, wherein twenty-two partnering organizations of the Northlake Homeless Coalition surveyed persons within our community to identify those who are without permanent, stable housing on the night of Monday, January 27th. In conjunction with the 2014 statewide Homeless Census in Louisiana, Region Nine (9) counted two hundred sixty-two (262) 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: 2014 Region 9 Homeless Census: Summary of *Literally Homeless* Adults and Children

Household Type	Unsheltered ¹	In Emergency Shelter ²	In Transitional Housing ³	Total Count
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	3	6	21	30 [16% of households]
Total Persons in Households	10	17	71	98 [37% of persons]
Number of Households without Children	31	67	64	162 [84% of households]
Total Persons in Households	33	67	64	164 [63% of persons]
Total Number of Households	34 [18%]	73 [38%]	85 [44%]	192 [100% of households]
Total Persons in Households	43 [16%]	84 [32%]	135 [52%]	262 [100% of persons]

Chart 1: *Literally Homeless* Persons by Household Type



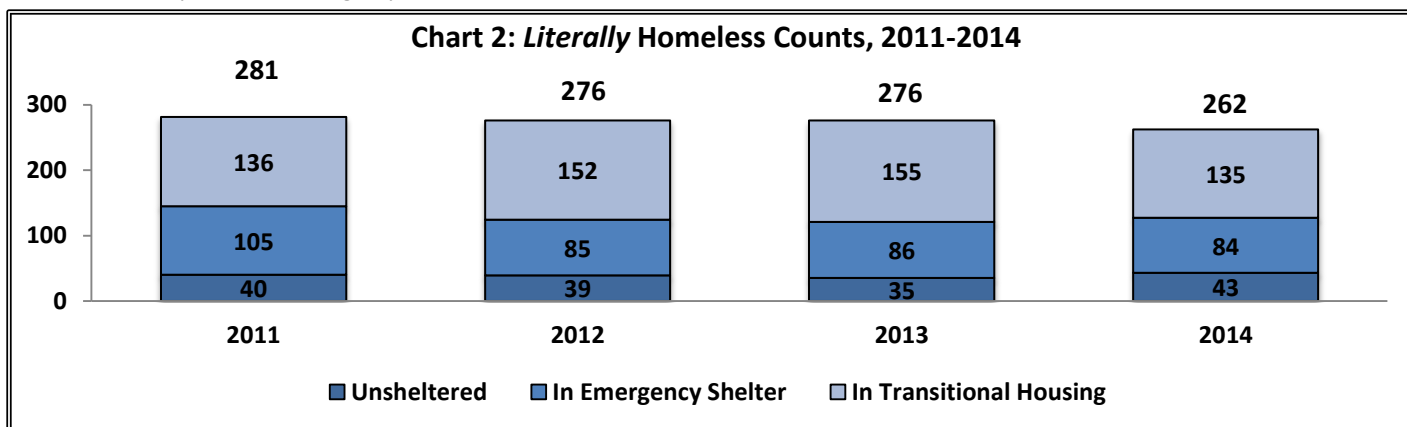
¹ Describes any location where a person may be residing that is not intended for human habitation; includes automobiles, wooded areas, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, barns, under bridges, etc.

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

³ 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 2014 Homeless Census was a slight decrease of five percent (5%) from the 2013 count and a seven percent (7%) percent reduction from the 2011 count. Twenty fewer persons were residing in transitional housing on the night of the 2014 Census than in the previous year, but it was relatively consistent with the number of persons in 2011. The number of persons in emergency shelter beds had a very slight decrease (2%) from the previous year, but it has remained relatively static over the past three counts. The greatest increase was seen in the number of persons who were residing in unsheltered conditions, with sixteen percent (16%) of the count in 2014 and thirteen percent (13%) in 2013. This was also the first reported uptick in the number of person residing in places not intended for human habitation since 2011.

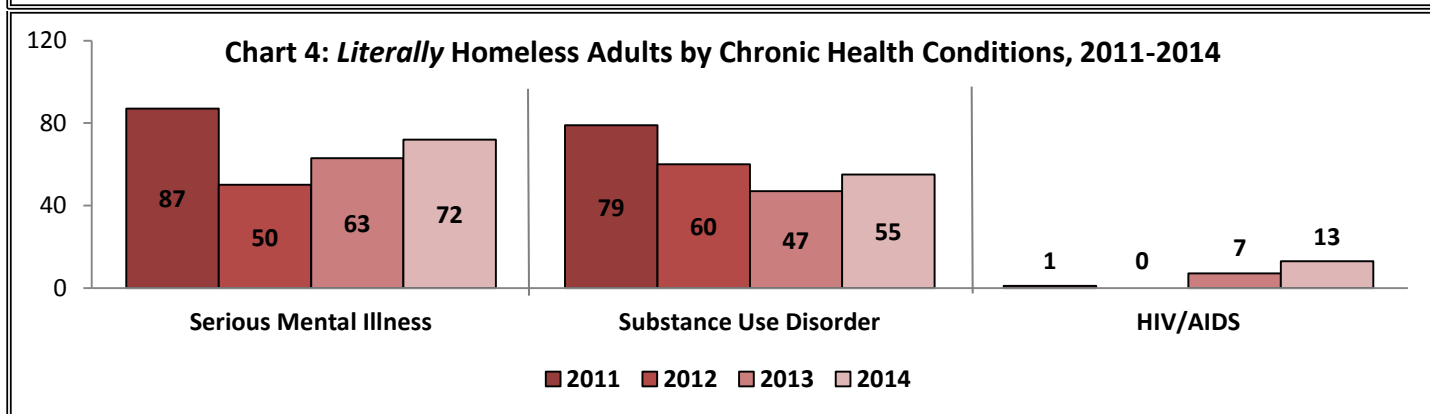
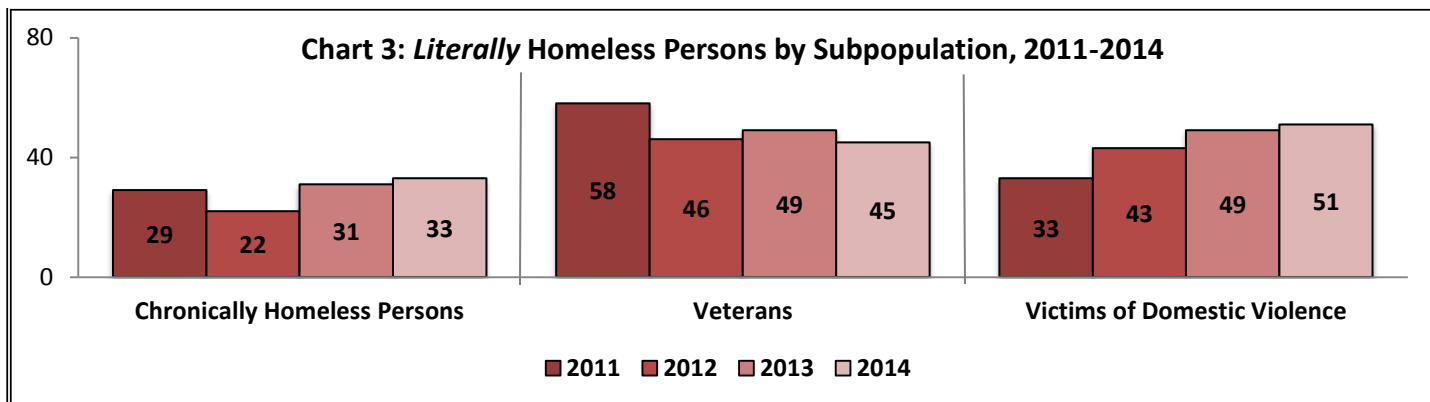


II. Subpopulations Data: In addition to identifying the total number of persons who were experiencing literal homelessness on the night of January 27th, survey participants were asked questions that allowed for identifying the number of persons that can be defined as members of special populations, or 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.

Table 2: Counts of Literally Homeless Adults by Subpopulations - 2014

Subpopulation	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Subpopulation Count	Total Population	Percentage of Total Population
Chronically Homeless Individuals ⁴	10	20	30	164 Individual Adults	18%
Chronically Homeless (CH) Families	1	0	1	30 Families	3%
Persons in CH Families	3	0	3	98 Adults and Children in Families	3%
Veterans	2	43	45	199 Adults	23%
Victims of Domestic Violence	3	48	51	262 Adults and Children	20%
Persons with Long-term Disabilities/Chronic Health Conditions					
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	16	56	72	199 Adults	36%
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	4	51	55	199 Adults	28%
Adults with HIV/AIDS	1	12	13	199 Adults	7%

⁴ 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-two human service agencies participated in the 2014 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.

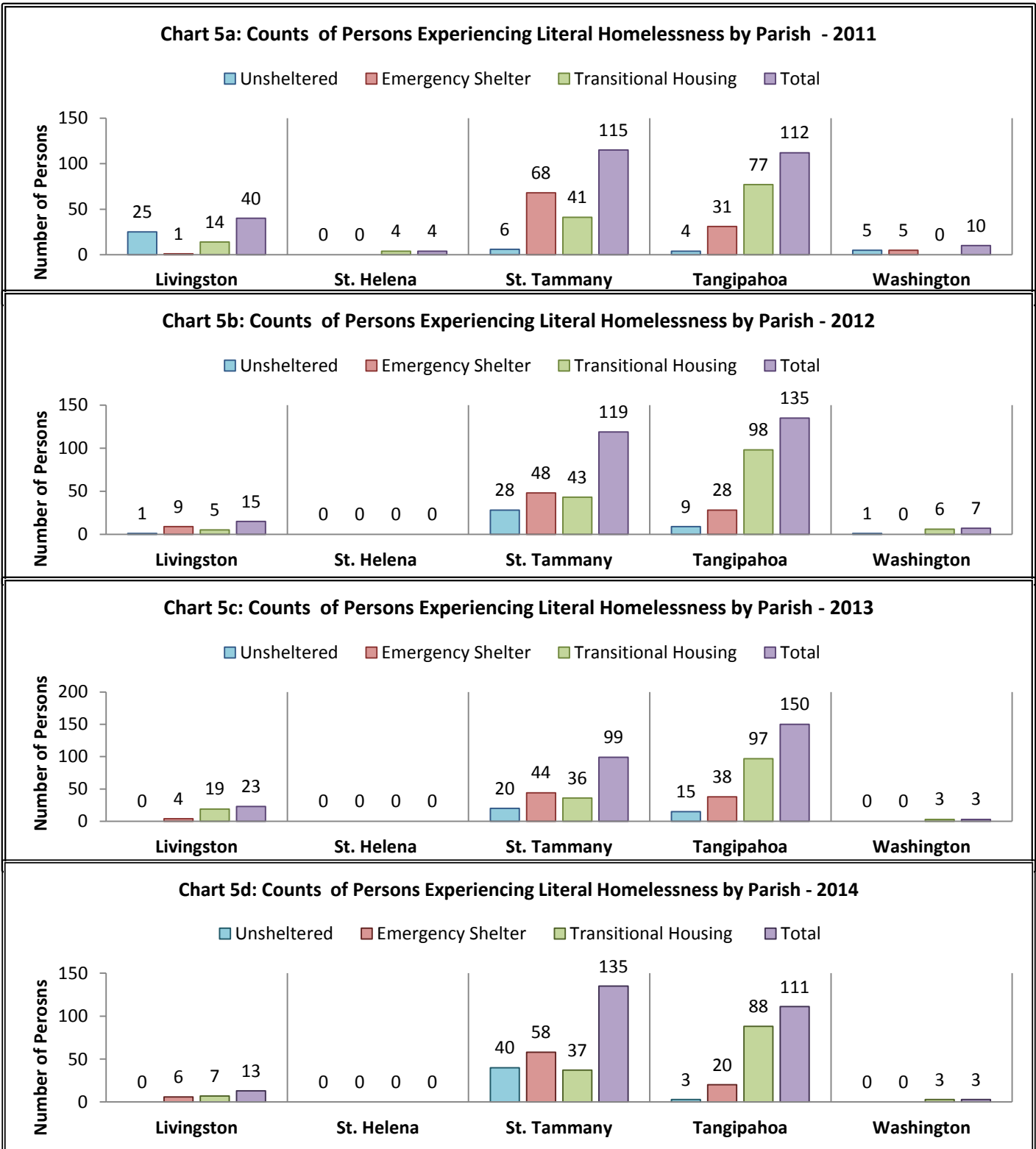
Table 3: 2014 Homeless Census Participating Organizations

Organization Name and Location	Parish of Survey Respondent				
	Livingston	St. Helena	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa	Washington
American Red Cross, Madisonville			X		
Caring Center of Slidell, Slidell			X		
Catholic Charities Northshore, Covington			X		
Community Christian Concern, Slidell			X		
Good Samaritan Ministry, Slidell			X		
Hammond Housing Authority, Hammond				X	
House of Serenity, Ponchatoula				X	
Lutheran Social Services Disaster Recovery, Covington			X	X	
Miramonte Center (CCC), Slidell			X		
NAMI St. Tammany			X		
Quad VETS, Hammond				X	
Safe Harbor, Mandeville			X		
Samaritan Center, Mandeville			X		
SAFE, Hammond	X			X	X
Soul's Harbor, Hammond				X	
Southeastern Louisiana University			X	X	
St. Genevieve Society of St. Vincent De Paul, Slidell			X		
St. Tammany Parish CAA, Slidell			X		
Trumpet of Truth, Slidell			X		
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs			X	X	
Volunteers of America GNO, Mandeville	X		X	X	X
Women Outreach Women, Denham Springs	X				

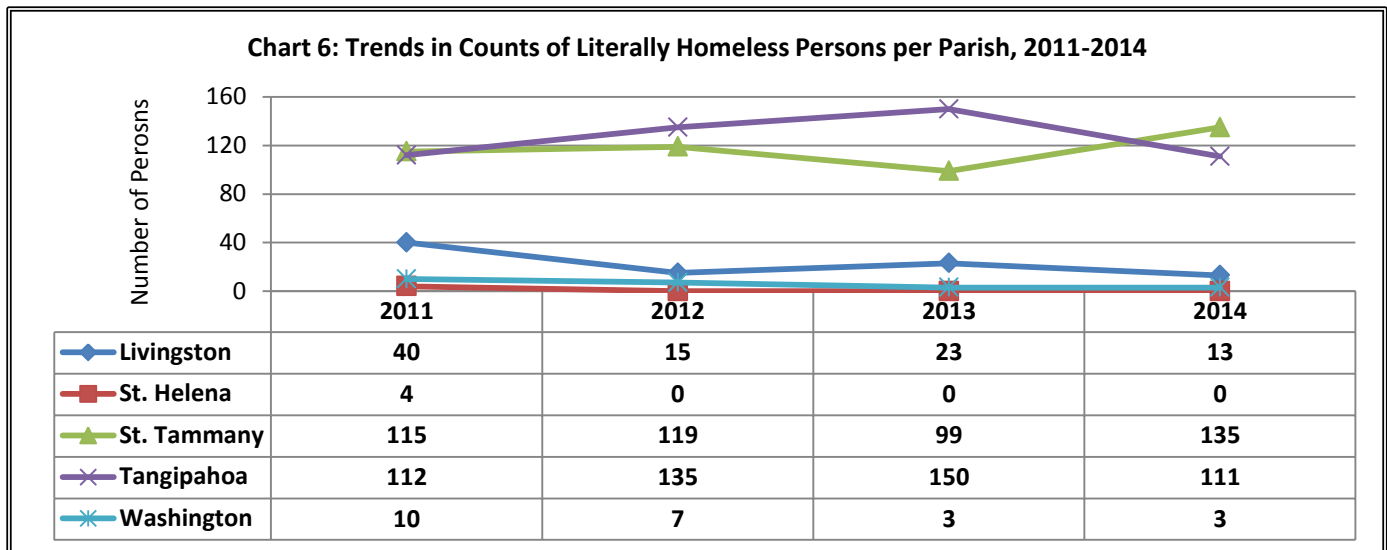
IV. Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Utilization on Night of Homeless Census: A component of the Homeless Census is the enumeration of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing stock by provider and the number of beds being utilized on the night of January 27th, 2014. The following table details 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.

Table 4: 2014 Housing Inventory of Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Beds								
Housing/Program Type	Parish	Populations Served	Households with Children		Households without Children # of Beds	Total # of Beds	# of Beds Occupied	Utilization Rate
			# of Units	# of Beds				
Emergency Shelter Beds and Units: Total			11	39	84	123	84	68%
American Red Cross Northshore	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM	0	0	10	10	7	70%
Caring Center of Slidell	St. Tammany	W, W+C	1	2	11	13	13	100%
Catholic Charities Northshore	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM	1	3	0	3	3	100%
Community Christian Concern	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM	1	1	1	2	2	100%
Good Samaritan Ministry – Slidell	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM	0	0	3	3	3	100%
House of Serenity	Tangipahoa	W, M, FAM	1	3	28	31	20	65%
SAFE (formerly SSAP)— Emergency Shelter for DV	Tangipahoa	W+C / DV	2	7	0	7	0	0%
Safe Harbor – Emergency Shelter for DV	St. Tammany	W, W+C / DV	3	18	2	20	6	30%
Timothy Trumpet of Truth	St. Tammany	M / SA	0	0	25	25	24	96%
Women Outreaching Women— Emergency Shelter for DV	Livingston	W, W+C / DV	2	5	4	9	6	67%
Transitional Housing Beds & Units: Total			34	118	85	203	135	67%
Hammond Housing Authority— Successful Transitions Program	Tangipahoa	W+C, M+C, FAM	11	44	0	44	36	82%
Miramonte Center – Community Christian Concern	St. Tammany	M	0	0	12	12	10	83%
NAMI — Wren Way Group Home	St. Tammany	W, M / SMI	0	0	12	12	11	92%
Quad Area CAA--Dorm- Quad VETS	Tangipahoa	M / VET	0	0	38	38	24	63%
Quad Area CAA--House - Quad VETS	Tangipahoa	M / VET	0	0	12	12	9	75%
SAFE --Transitional Housing for DV	Livingston	W+C / DV	6	21	2	23	6	26%
SAFE -- Transitional Housing for DV	Tangipahoa	W+C / DV	7	23	2	25	11	44%
SAFE -- Transitional Housing for DV	Washington	W+C / DV	2	7	0	7	0	0%
St. Tammany Parish Community Action-- Transitional Housing for Families	St. Tammany	W+C, M+C, FAM	6	18	0	18	16	89%
Volunteers of America, GNO— Transitional Housing for HIV/AIDS	Livingston	M, W, FAM / HIV	0	0	1	1	1	100%
Volunteers of America, GNO— Transitional Housing for HIV/AIDS	Tangipahoa	M, W, FAM / HIV	1	3	5	8	8	100%
Volunteers of America, GNO— Transitional Housing for HIV/AIDS	Washington	M, W, FAM / HIV	1	2	1	3	3	100%
Grand Total of All Beds & Units			45	157	169	326	219	67%
Populations Served Key = W: Adult Women; M: Adult Men; C: Children; FAM: Families; Subpopulations Served Key = DV: Domestic Violence Victims; VET: US Military Veterans; SMI = Severe Mental Illness; SA = Substance Abuse; HIV: HIV/AIDS Diagnoses								

V. Parish Data Comparison: Charts 5a-5d provide a comparison of total population counts residing in the three housing types and total for 2011-2014. The greatest growth between the 2013 and 2014 Census years was seen in St. Tammany Parish, with thirty-six (36) more persons identified as experiencing *literal homelessness*. Thirty-nine (39) fewer persons were identified in Tangipahoa Parish, and ten (10) fewer in Livingston Parish.



Trends in Parish Counts: Chart 6 demonstrates temporal changes in the counts of persons identified as experiencing literal homelessness on the night of the Homeless Census over the course of four years, 2011-2014.



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 2014 Homeless Census. The five parishes that comprise the NHC’s Continuum of Care are Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington. Please note that no persons were identified as literally homeless in St. Helena Parish during the Count.

Table 5a: Livingston Parish: Summary of Literally Homeless Adults and Children in 2014

Household Type	In Emergency Shelter			Total Count
	Unsheltered	In Emergency Shelter	In Transitional Housing	
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	2	2	4
Total Persons in Households	0	5	6	11
Number of Households without Children	0	1	1	2
Total Persons in Households	0	1	1	2
Total Number of Households	0	3	3	6
Total Persons in Households	0	6	7	13

Table 5b: St. Helena Parish: Summary of Literally Homeless Adults and Children in 2014

Household Type	In Emergency Shelter			Total Count
	Unsheltered	In Emergency Shelter	In Transitional Housing	
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	0	0	0	0
Total Persons in Households	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Households	0	0	0	0
Total Persons in Households	0	0	0	0

Table 5c: St. Tammany Parish: Summary of Literally Homeless Adults and Children in 2014

Household Type	In Emergency Shelter			Total Count
	Unsheltered	In Emergency Shelter	In Transitional Housing	
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	3	3	4	10
Total Persons in Households	10	9	16	35
Number of Households without Children	28	49	21	98
Total Persons in Households	30	49	21	100
Total Number of Households	31	52	25	108
Total Persons in Households	40	58	37	135

Table 5d: Tangipahoa Parish: Summary of Literally Homeless Adults and Children in 2014

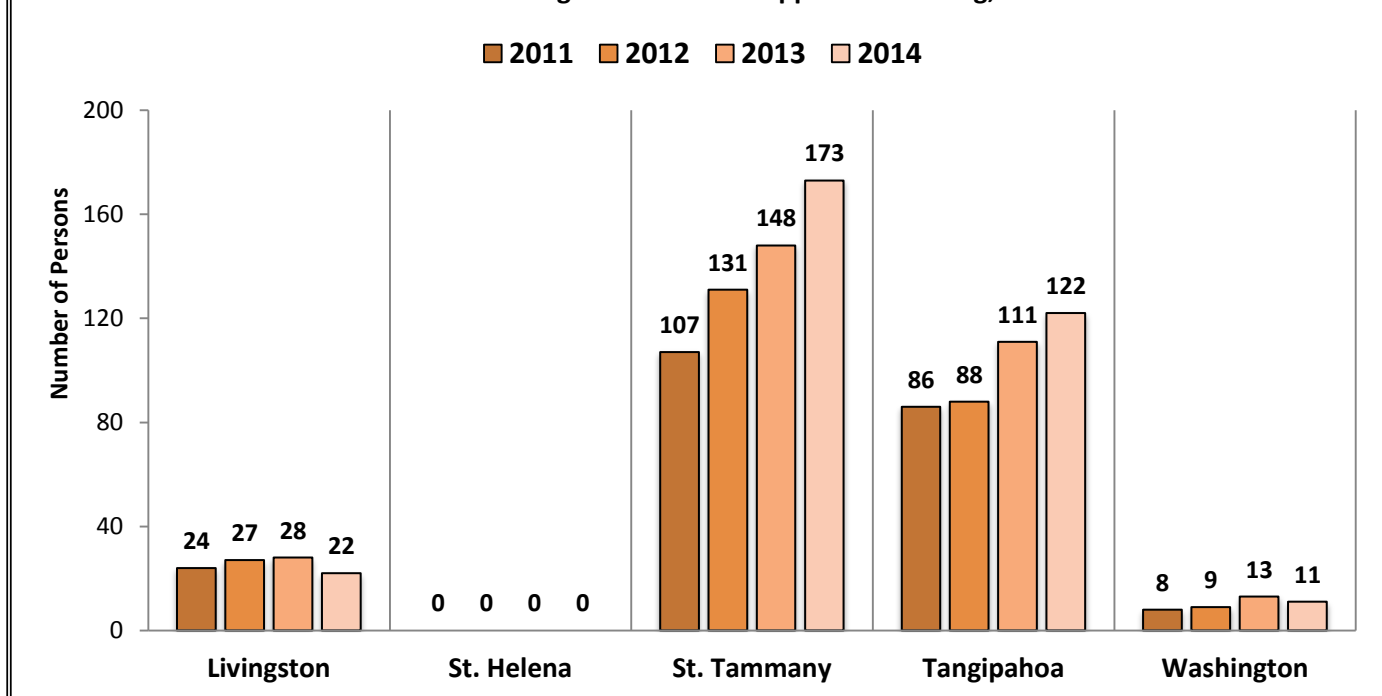
Household Type	In Emergency Shelter		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered			
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	1	14	15
Total Persons in Households	0	3	47	50
Number of Households without Children	3	17	41	61
Total Persons in Households	3	17	41	61
Total Number of Households	3	18	55	76
Total Persons in Households	3	20	88	111

Table 5e: Washington Parish: Summary of Literally Homeless Adults and Children in 2014

Household Type	In Emergency Shelter		In Transitional Housing	Total Count
	Unsheltered			
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	0	0	1	1
Total Persons in Households	0	0	2	2
Number of Households without Children	0	0	1	1
Total Persons in Households	0	0	1	1
Total Number of Households	0	0	2	2
Total Persons in Households	0	0	3	3

VI. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Data Comparison: In addition to identifying persons who are experiencing literal homelessness, during the same data collection period, 328 persons were identified as living in permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons who have disabling conditions. This is an increase of 28, or nine percent (9%), above the number of persons residing in Permanent Supportive Housing during the 2013 Census, and increase of 103 beds (46%) since 2011. Permanent Supportive Housing programs provide affordable, community-based housing for individuals and families who have been diagnosed with a physical or developmental disability, a severe mental illness, substance abuse problems or HIV/AIDS. Many persons who are in Permanent Supportive Housing programs have experienced long-term or chronic homelessness. PSH housing models include apartments, group homes or single-room occupancy housing. In addition to housing, these programs also provide the necessary supportive services, including case management, that help keep persons stabilized. The units of PSH in Region 9 are funded through HUD, as well as the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Chart 7: Persons Residing in Permanent Supportive Housing, 2011-2014



Counts of persons residing in Permanent Supportive Housing by Parish: The following chart details the number of persons that were residing in Permanent Supportive Housing during the 2014 Homeless Census. Fifty-three percent (53%) of residents were in St. Tammany Parish, thirty-seven percent (37%) were in Tangipahoa, seven percent (7%) in Livingston, and three percent (3%) in Washington. There were no formerly homeless persons residing in PSH units in St. Helena Parish during the 2014 Count.

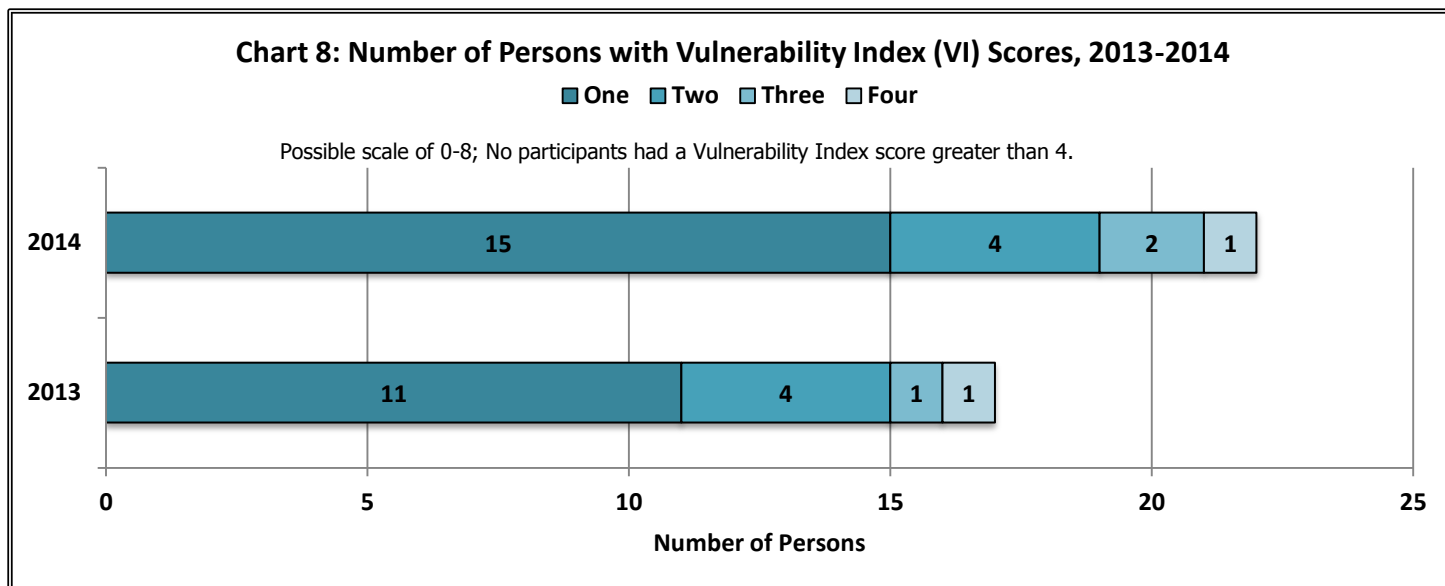
Household Type	Livingston	St. Helena	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa	Washington	Total
Number of Households with at least One Adult and One Child	4	0	20	16	2	42 [22% of households]
Total Persons in Households	15	0	70	64	8	157 [48% of persons]
Number of Households without Children	6	0	91	45	3	145 [78% of households]
Total Persons in Households	7	0	103	58	3	171 [52% of persons]
Total Number of Households	10 [5% of households]	0 [0% of households]	111 [59% of households]	61 [33% of households]	5 [3% of households]	187 [100% of households]
Total Persons in Households	22 [7% of persons]	0 [0% of persons]	173 [53% of persons]	122 [37% of persons]	11 [3% of persons]	328 [100% of persons]

Permanent Supportive Housing Utilization on Night of Homeless Census: A component of the Homeless Census is the enumeration of Permanent Supportive Housing stock by provider and the number of beds being utilized on the night of January 27th, 2014. The following table details the number of beds and units of PSH that comprise the housing inventory for the region, as of the Census date, and the respective rates of occupancy.

Housing/Program Type	Parish	Populations Served	Households with Children		Households without Children # of Beds	Households with Only Children # of Beds	Total Beds	# Beds Occupied	Utilization Rate
			# of Units	# of Beds					
Permanent Supportive Housing Beds & Units: Total			42	158	177	0	335	328	98%
NAMI -- Hummingbird Apartments	St. Tammany	W, M / SMI, CH	0	0	10	0	10	8	80%
NAMI -- Hummingbird Group Homes	St. Tammany	M / SMI, CH	0	0	8	0	8	8	100%
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – HUD-VASH	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM / VET, CH	7	29	10	0	39	39	100%
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – HUD-VASH	Tangipahoa	W, M, FAM / VET, CH	3	12	9	0	21	21	100%
Volunteers of America GNO	Livingston	W, M, FAM / DIS, CH	4	16	7	0	23	22	96%
Volunteers of America GNO	St. Tammany	W, M, FAM / DIS, CH	13	42	78	0	120	118	98%
Volunteers of America GNO	Tangipahoa	W, M, FAM / DIS, CH	13	51	52	0	103	101	98%
Volunteers of America GNO	Washington	W, M, FAM / DIS, CH	2	8	3	0	11	11	100%

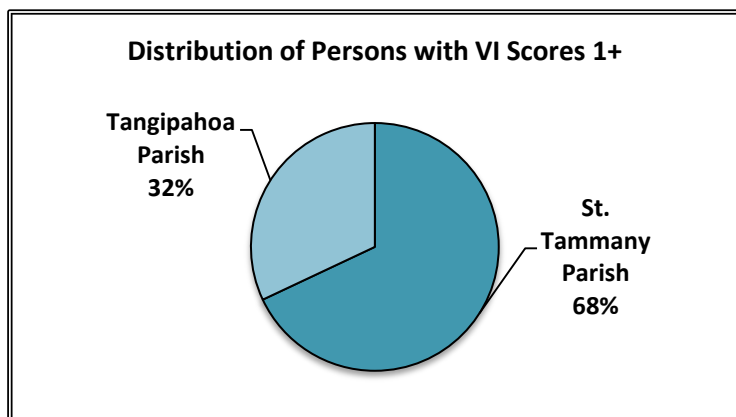
Populations Served Key = W: Adult Women; M: Adult Men; C: Children; FAM: Families;
Subpopulations Served Key = DV: Domestic Violence Victims; VET: US Military Veterans; SMI = Serious Mental Illness; DIS = Non-specific disabling condition; CH = Chronically Homeless

VII. VULNERABILITY INDEX: The 2014 Homeless Census also incorporated questions that allowed for respondents to be assessed for medical fragility, using the Vulnerability Index. The Vulnerability, or VI, is a nationally recognized tool⁵ for identifying who is most at risk of dying by remaining unsheltered, or in Emergency Shelters in an intermittent basis. For individuals who have been homeless for at least six months, one or more of the following markers place them at heightened risk of mortality: (1) More than three hospitalizations or emergency room visits in a year; (2) More than three emergency room visits in the previous three months; (3) Aged 60 or older; (4) Cirrhosis of the liver; (5) End-stage renal disease; (6) History of frostbite, immersion foot, hypothermia OR Heat stroke; (7) HIV/AIDS; (8) Tri-morbidity: co-occurring psychiatric, substance abuse, and chronic medical condition, lived on the streets for more than six months, as well as series of health conditions. Using these eight risk factors, a score on a scale of zero to eight is assigned to the respondent. Rank is ascending, with zero indicating the least vulnerable to mortality and eight having the greatest risk. Communities can use this data to prioritize who may benefit the most, health wise, by being placed in permanent housing. Within Louisiana, several of the Continua are using Vulnerability Index findings to help focus decision-making around limited permanent housing program funds.



Overall in the 2014 Homeless Census, twenty-two (22) persons were identified as having a VI score of one or greater, which is five more persons than were identified during the 2013 count. The majority of these persons had a score of one.

Count of Persons with Vulnerability Index Score by Parish: In 2014, Nineteen (19) persons in Emergency Shelters and three (3) persons residing on the street comprise the 2014 Vulnerability Index report. Twenty-two (22) persons total, with a 68% count of those in St. Tammany Parish and 32% in Tangipahoa. Eighty-six percent (86%) of those most vulnerable were residing in emergency shelters and fourteen percent (14%) were unsheltered. It should be noted that thirty-nine percent (39%) of the total count of literally homeless persons, or 101 persons, were assessed for vulnerabilities.



⁵ The Vulnerability Index is practical application of research into the causes of death of homeless individuals living on the street conducted by Boston’s Healthcare for the Homeless organization, led by Dr. Jim O’Connell. The Boston research identified the specific health conditions that cause homeless individuals to be most at risk for dying on the street.

⁶ 100,000 Homes. (2010). Retrieved September 4, 2012, from <http://100khomes.org/>