

Summer 2010 Point In Time/Community Homeless Count for Charlotte-Mecklenburg With Definitions for Homelessness

(Total count exceeds 8,000 but includes some duplicate counting among agencies serving the same clients. Best estimate of non-duplicated total exceeds 6,800 homeless).

1. **HUD** (2,713 individuals counted) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
- an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is — a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill); an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized or; a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- The term “homeless” or “homeless individual” does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained.

2. **McKinney Vento** (4,437 homeless children counted by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools for school year ending June 2010, which includes some duplicates as it is a full school year cumulative count. Please see comments below about this increased number reported by CMS).

- Lacks a regular, fixed and adequate nighttime residence (sub standard housing).
- Is sharing housing due to economic struggles (doubled-up).
- Is living in a shelter, hotel or motel.
- Is living in a public place not designed for sleeping (cars, parks).
- Is an unaccompanied youth.
- Is a child or youth awaiting foster care placement.
- Is a child or youth abandoned in a hospital.
- Is a migrant child who qualifies under any of the above.

3. **Community Others Local** (1,003 counted)

- Homeless jail inmates
- Homeless hospital inpatients
- Recently foreclosed and evicted
- Other homeless served by homeless service agencies not included in count above

Here are key highlights for the Summer 2010 Count:

- The total summer 2010 community homeless count exceeds 6,800, which is a conservative estimate. The count was 6,500 in July 2009, showing an estimated increase of 5 percent this past year.
- The total count includes three categories: **HUD defined homeless** (2,713 this year, up from 2,397 in July 2009, a 13 percent increase), **CMS McKinney Vento** Federal definition homeless children (4,437 this year). This is a much larger number than reported last year (2,989) but represents a full school year total which may include some duplicate counting as this is a cumulative number and not point in time. CMS homeless children numbers are reported with the community count because the HUD Point In Time only counted 416 children, about 10 percent of the CMS documented full school year number. The third category is the “**community other**” count (1,003) which is slightly down from last year and includes jail inmates, hospital homeless, foreclosed and evicted, and agencies not counted in other above categories.
- We are working with CMS to refine the McKinney Vento counting and reporting process in the future for use with our summer and winter community homeless counting.
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department continues to report a significant number of street homeless in camps and outdoor settings. The summer 2010 camp count is 737. Last summer it was 703, a 5 percent increase. CMPD indicates there may be some duplicate counts in this number, but also believe they did not count all the street and camp homeless.
- In February 2010, the Urban Ministry Center partnered with New York City-based Common Ground and other service providers to complete a vulnerability index in our community, to identify chronically homeless individuals. This initiative surveyed 807 chronically homeless individuals in Charlotte, many of whom are street homeless. This Vulnerability Study documented that nearly half had a high mortality risk and pose a very significant challenge to our homeless service community.
- The combined community count of homeless persons (excluding CMS) for summer 2010 is up 46 percent from summer 2007, a period of three years.
- Overall, the numbers and needs of homeless persons in Charlotte-Mecklenburg have continued to increase.

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