



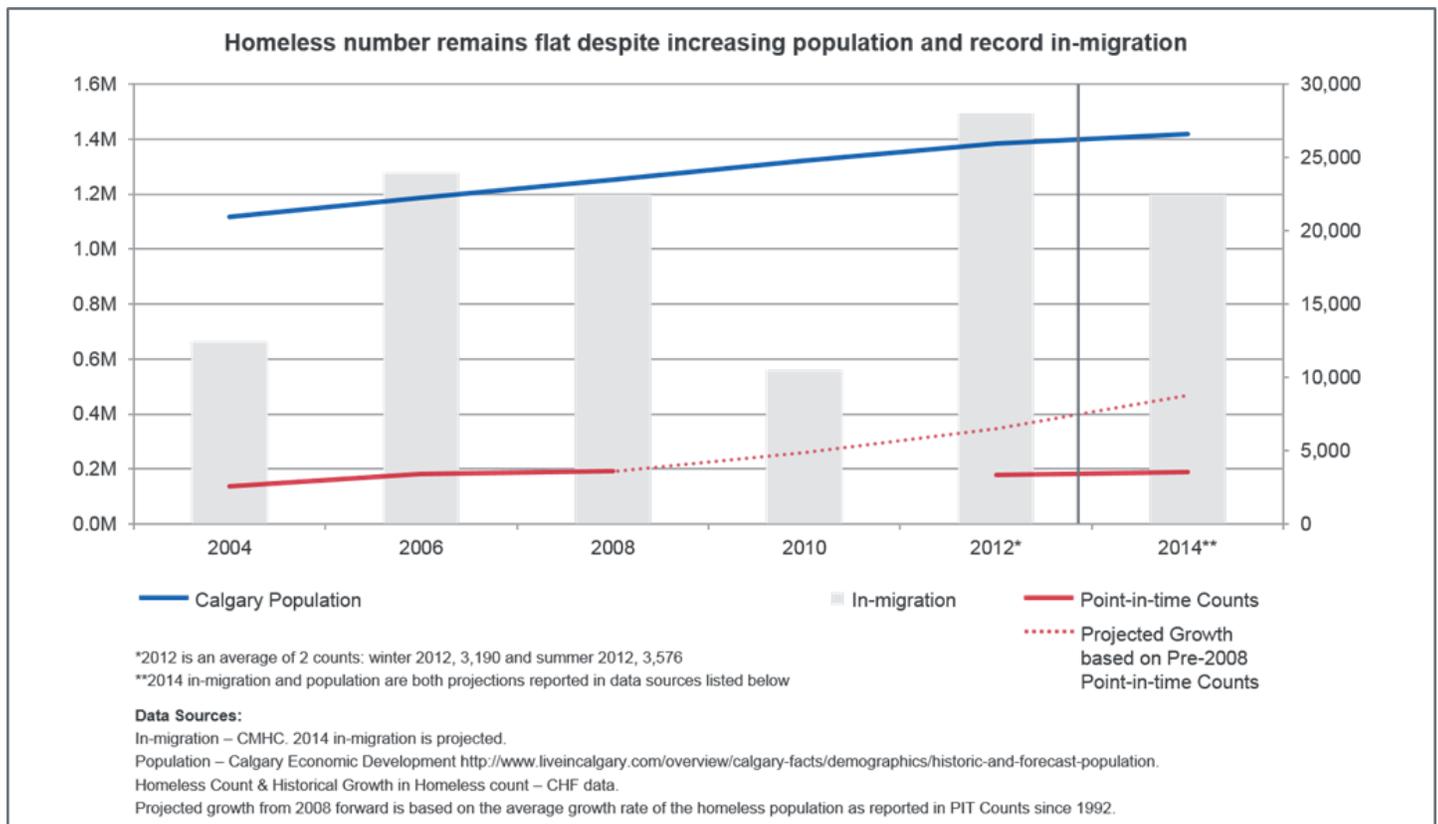
Media Release

For immediate release
February 20, 2014

Point-in-time count confirms growth in homelessness stopped since 10 Year Plan implemented

CALGARY, AB — The Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) announced that 3,533 people were counted as homeless on January 15, 2014, compared with 3,190 people in January 2012, 3,576 people in August 2012 and 3,601 people in 2008. Before the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness in Calgary (10 Year Plan) was implemented in 2008, the count number rose about 35% every two years. If this same trend continued, this year’s count would have seen 8,804 people homeless. Since the 10 Year Plan began, about 5,000 people were housed with support.

“As Calgary’s population grows, so do many public systems such as schools, hospitals and transit systems,” said Gerrad Oishi, interim President and CEO, CHF. “Given this reality and the affordable housing crisis, that there are fewer people homeless than in 2008 is remarkable.”



“The data we are getting from this count, shelters and programs shows Calgary’s homeless-serving system is working: it just needs to be scaled for size,” said Oishi.

The count was sponsored by Burnet, Duckworth and Palmer LLP. Counts are one day snapshots of homelessness that capture numbers and basic demographics of people staying in emergency shelters, short-term supportive housing (STSH), jails, hospitals, addictions treatment facilities and on the streets.

The CHF will compare this year’s findings with previous reports to determine trends and changes in demographics, number of people experiencing homelessness, etc. The following is a brief overview compared with the two counts in 2012 and the count in 2008. A final report will be released in the spring.

PIT Counts	May 2008	Jan. 2012	Aug. 2012	Jan. 2014
Emergency Shelter	1,512	1,715	1,703	1,892
Short-Term Supportive Housing ¹	1,224	1,260	1,351	1,224
System Homeless ²	296	151	189	202
Rough Sleepers	569	64	333	215
Total	3,601³	3,190	3,576	3,533

1. Short-term supportive housing is time-limited housing with support and includes addictions treatment facilities and facilities providing shelter/housing for domestic violence victims.
2. Systems homeless are those in various institutions, such as correctional facilities and hospitals
3. The original number in 2008 was 4,060; the CHF reclassified 459 short-term supportive housing beds as permanent supportive housing beds, therefore the reclassified count number for 2008 is 3,601.

A backgrounder on the count can be found [here](#).

The CHF leads implementation of Calgary's 10 Year Plan with agencies, the private sector, government, the faith community, other foundations and all Calgarians to end homelessness in Calgary once and for all. For more information, visit calgaryhomeless.com.

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BACKGROUND: WINTER 2014 COUNT

What is a point-in-time count?

Point-in-time (PIT) counts are one day snapshots of homelessness that capture numbers and basic demographics of people staying in emergency shelters, short-term supportive housing (STSH), jails, hospitals, addictions treatment facilities and on the streets.

A count provides baseline measurements that can be used for comparative information of year-over-year changes in the demographics and size of the homeless population. An accurate idea of how many people are homeless in Calgary on a given night is essential for planning programs and services within Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (10 Year Plan).

Counts were conducted by The City of Calgary every two years between 1992 and 2008. As the lead implementing agency of the 10 Year Plan, the Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) conducted the two previous counts in August and January 2012, as well as the latest count on Jan. 15, 2014.

Who is involved?

The count was sponsored by Burnet, Duckworth and Palmer LLP and included volunteers, elected officials, business people, people who are formerly and currently homeless and representatives from Calgary Police Service, City of Calgary Animal and Bylaw Services, Calgary Parking Authority, Calgary Transit, non-profit agency outreach teams, Canadian Pacific Railway, Calgary Stampede, the University of Calgary, SAIT, Mount Royal University and Fish Creek Park.

How was Calgary's 2014 winter count conducted?

Comprised of two parts, the volunteers enumerated people they encountered sleeping outside and offered assistance where possible. The second part of the count was compiled with data from the more than 70 facilities that provide emergency housing, including emergency shelters and temporary accommodations. As well, remand centres, hospital emergency rooms, police processing units and the Calgary Youth Offenders Centre provided data on how many people experiencing homelessness were under their supervision or care on that night.

What was the count on January 15, 2014?

The CHF compared this year's findings with previous reports to determine trends and changes in demographics, number of people experiencing homelessness, etc. The following is a brief overview compared with the two counts in 2012 and the count conducted by The City of Calgary in 2008. A final report will be released in the spring.

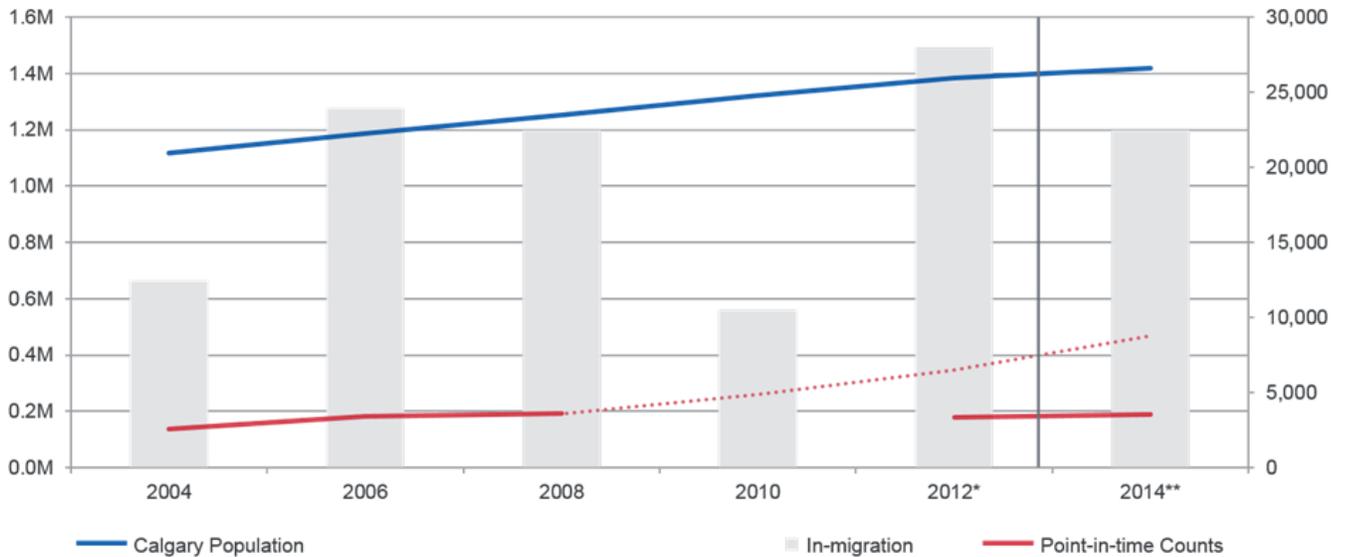
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Homeless number remains flat despite increasing population and record in-migration



*2012 is an average of 2 counts: winter 2012, 3,190 and summer 2012, 3,576

**2014 in-migration and population are both projections reported in data sources listed below

Data Sources:

In-migration – CMHC. 2014 in-migration is projected.

Population – Calgary Economic Development <http://www.liveincalgary.com/overview/calgary-facts/demographics/historic-and-forecast-population>.

Homeless Count & Historical Growth in Homeless count – CHF data.

Projected growth from 2008 forward is based on the average growth rate of the homeless population as reported in PIT Counts since 1992.