A total of 9,232 individuals accessed homeless services from the 17 KnoxHMIS partner agencies, which is a 6% decrease from 2013 (n=9,806).

Thirty-nine percent of active clients were new to KnoxHMIS (n=3,570). This is a 3% decrease in new clients added in 2013 (n=3,665). Forty percent of persons new to homelessness initiated services through emergency shelter, whereas 29% sought homeless prevention services.

Characteristics of active clients are summarized as follows:

- 22% were chronically homeless
- 13% were veterans
- 7% were female single parents
- 14% of women reported primary reason for homelessness as “domestic violence victim”
- 25% of men reported primary reason for homelessness as “loss of job”
- The average age for all active clients was 39, with the peak age concentration women being 24 years younger than the peak age concentration of men
- 25% reported having a disability and 55% of those indicating a disability reported experiencing mental health problems
- 9% were street homeless
- 7% were seniors
- 14% were children under 18
- 7% were youth ages 18—24, of which 29% had a residence prior of “Staying/Living with Friends/ Family”
- 74% reported their last permanent address in Knox or a surrounding county

KnoxHMIS is an empirical window into homelessness in Knoxville-Knox County.
SERVICES:
There was a 14% increase in services added to KnoxHMIS which is attributable to additional partner agencies utilizing service entry and partner agencies including new services categories to their list of services. In other words, more agencies are capturing more information on the services provided.

COORDINATION & OUTCOMES

CASE MANAGEMENT:
Twelve percent of all active clients had case notes entered (n=1,291). This is a 2% decrease in clients with case notes from 2013. Twenty-nine percent of persons enrolled in programs (n=4,107) have case notes recorded. Of those enrolled in programs, 61% are engaged in case management. These data suggest that case managers are not utilizing case notes to document their work with clients and to coordinate services.

HOUSING:
The average length of stay in an emergency shelter was 27 days and 201 days in transitional housing. According to the 2014 Housing Inventory Count there were 727 permanent housing beds in Knoxville-Knox County, of which 94% were occupied during the 2014 PIT, thus leaving 44 placements unoccupied. In 2014, there were 6,841 persons who were homeless and in need of housing.

EXIT OUTCOMES:
• 52% (n=1,612) of active clients exiting programs (n=3,085) were placed in positive housing (i.e. owning, renting, permanent housing, or living with family/friends permanent tenure)
• 3% (n=53) were placed in “permanent supportive housing for the formerly homeless,” meaning housing designated for those who were chronically homeless and who have been diagnosed with a disability of long duration.
• The average duration of program enrollment to exit was 184 days or 6 months.
• Of those placed in positive housing (n=1,612), 18% were enrolled in multiple programs (n=285).
• Of those placed in positive housing, there was 26% recidivism rate, meaning those individuals had an emergency shelter stay post positive program exit.