

Prior Living Situation and Length of Time Homeless Questions

HUD 3.917 Data Standard Question	Instructions	Tips
Residence Prior to Project Entry	Record where the head of household and other household members were residing just prior to project entry (where they slept “last night”). For projects that serve housed clients, the “last” living situation will be the same as the current living situation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Homeless Situation 2. Institutional Situation 3. Transitional and Permanent Housing 4. Don’t Know, Refused, or data not collected
Length of Stay in Prior Living Situation	Record the length of time the client was residing in just their previous place of stay (in the Residence Prior to Project Entry)	A picklist from one night to a year or longer
On the night before did you stay on the streets, ES or SH?	<p>If the stay was less than 90 days you may be asked to answer this question.</p> <p>One the night before did you stay on the streets, camped out, or in an Emergency Shelter?</p>	<p>Yes or No</p> <p>If Residence Prior was not a Homeless Situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If No, there will be no more Length of Time Homeless Questions • If Yes or a Homeless Situation, Continue
Approximate date homelessness started:	<p>Record the Approximate date this episode homeless situation began. Help the client look back to the date of the last time the client had a place to sleep that was not on the streets, encampment or in an Emergency Shelter and enter that date.</p> <p>An episode is created by a break of 7 days or more in any type of housing, including non-voucher motel stays or staying with friends or family.</p>	It helps to have a 36 month calendar handy
Number of times the client has been on the streets, in ES, or SH in the past three years including today (regardless of where they stayed last night)	<p>Help the client identify the months in the past 36 months where they had a place to stay for more than 7 days in any type of housing, including non-voucher motel stays or staying with friends or family and where they were in Emergency Shelters, on the streets or encampment, etc.</p> <p>If this is the first time the client has been homeless in the past three years then the response is One Time</p>	Use a 36 month calendar as a tool to help the client identify when they were housed.
Total number of months homeless on the street, in ES or SH in the past three years	<p>The number of cumulative, but not necessarily consecutive, months spent homeless.</p> <p>Any month in the past 36 months where the client was homeless for at least one day counts as a month.</p>	36 month calendar