



KCRHA

King County Regional Homelessness Authority

2024 Unsheltered PIT

Updated: 11/1/23

5 Year Planning Model

53,532 People

State administrative data indicates that in 2022, over 53,000 people experienced homelessness in King County.



Agenda

- Background
- Overview for 2024
- Respondent Driven Sampling
- Lessons learned from 2022
- Timeline



Background

- Point-in-Time Count (PIT) required by HUD since 2007
- Aligns with the Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Unsheltered PIT required every-other year
- Standard Unsheltered PIT is a street count
- Widely understood to be an undercount



Background

- King County has been doing the PIT long before KCRHA
- KCRHA became system administrator in 2022
- Received methods exception for 2022 Unsheltered PIT
- Piloted Respondent Driven Sampling
 - Partnered with LEC, others with Lived Experience and researchers from UW



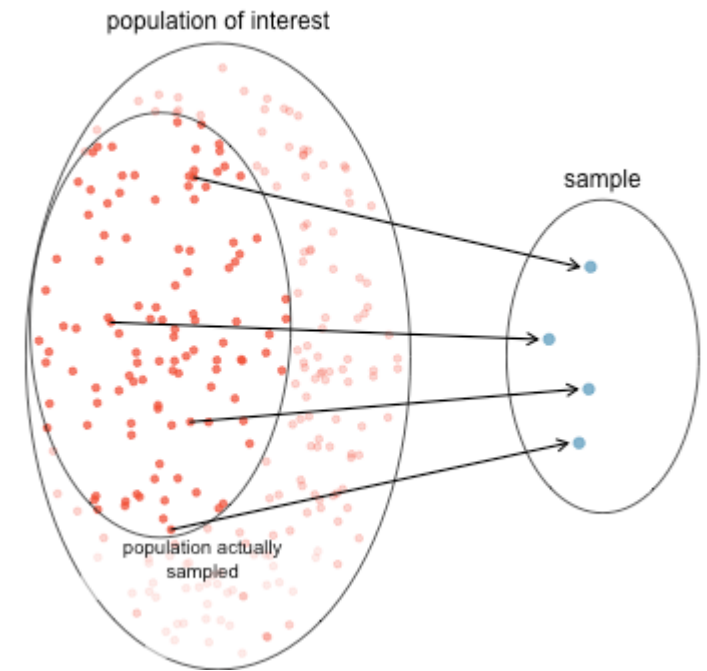
Overview of 2024

- Planning is well underway
- Seeking methods exception from HUD
- Respondent Driven Sampling (RDS)
- Build from lessons learned in 2022
- Partner with University of Washington
 - Data Sharing Agreement
 - Institutional Review Board (IRB)



Respondent Driven Sampling

- RDS is both a sampling strategy and set of statistical estimators
- Measuring hard to reach populations
- Key features:
 - Does not require sampling frame
 - Allows participants to remain anonymous
 - Leverages peer recruitment
 - Allows direct surveying of those sampled



Respondent Driven Sampling

- Staff a hub location from January 22 – Feb 2
 - Most surveys completed here
- Start “seeds” with street outreach on January 22
 - Partnering with providers
- Provide first respondent with three “coupons”
- Respondent gives those to people they know (“wave 1”)
- Those people come to hub with coupon to be surveyed
- Wave 1 folks are given three new coupons to give to wave 2



Respondent Driven Sampling

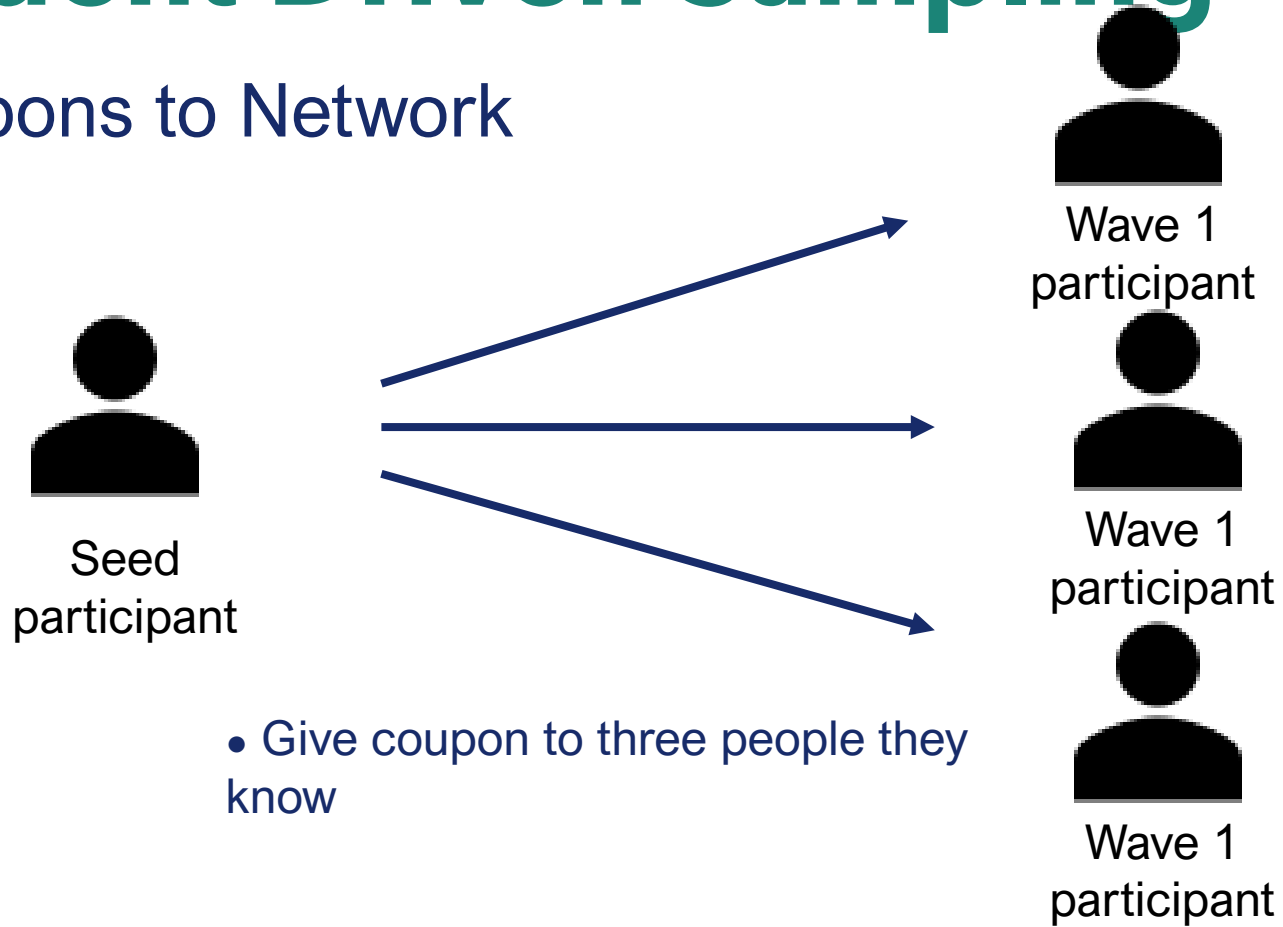
First Interview – in the field



- Ask person to complete survey
- Complete survey with respondent
- Give coupons packet to participant
- Ask participant to distribute coupons
- Provide compensation

Respondent Driven Sampling

Give Coupons to Network



Respondent Driven Sampling

Hub Interview

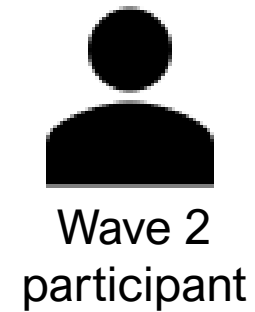
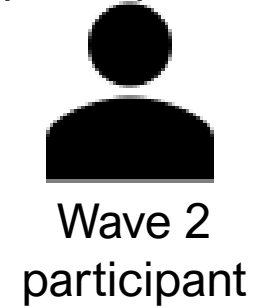
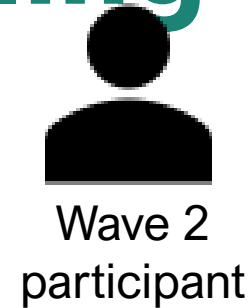
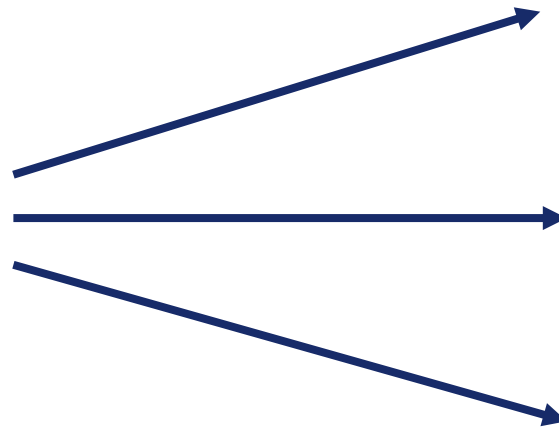
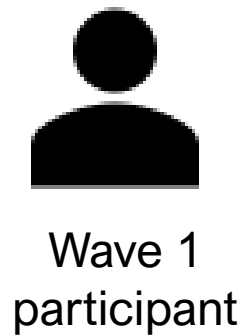


- Wave 1 participant comes to hub
- Complete survey
- Give coupons packet to participant
- Ask participant to distribute coupons
- Provide compensation to Wave 1
- Provide additional comp to Seed



Respondent Driven Sampling

Give Coupons to Network



- Give coupon to three people they know

Respondent Driven Sampling

Hub Interview



- Wave 2 participant comes to hub
- Complete survey
- Give coupons packet to participant
- Ask participant to distribute coupons
- Provide compensation to Wave 2
- Provide additional comp to Wave 1



Respondent Driven Sampling

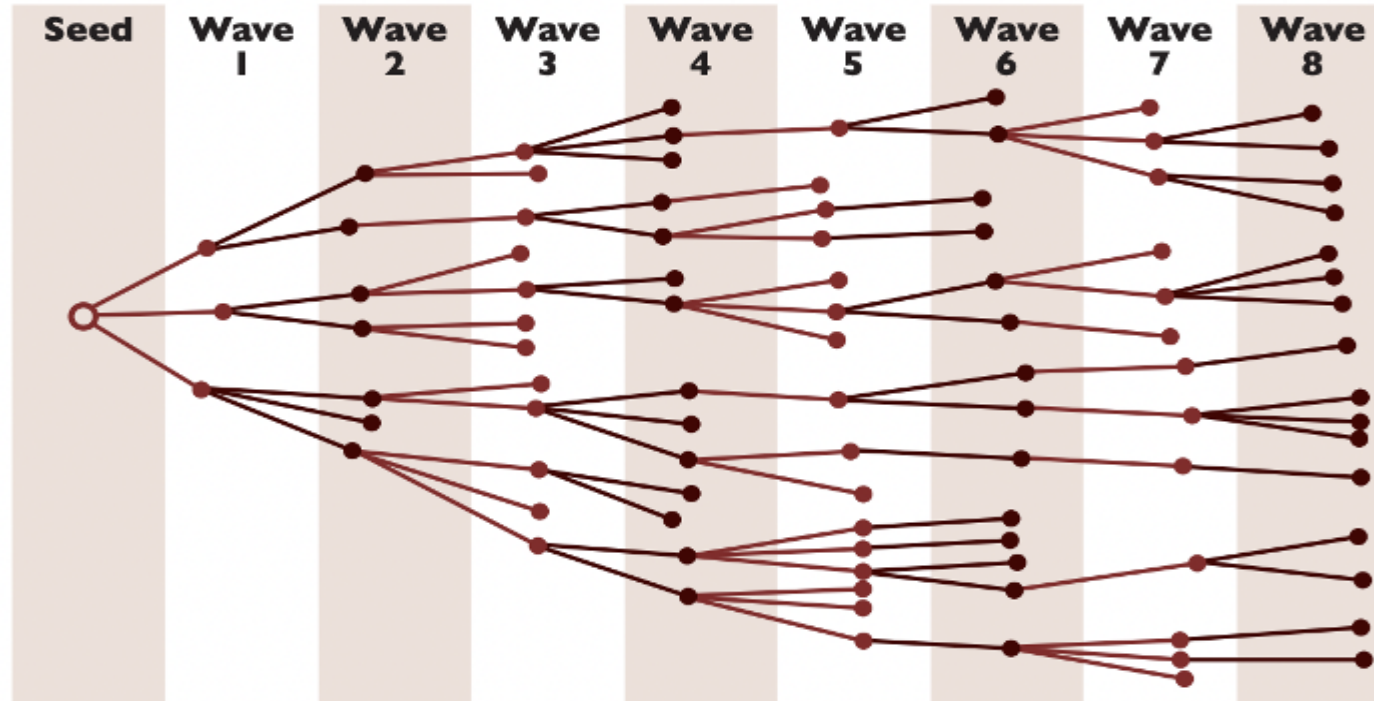


Figure 1.1 Recruitment chain of eight waves generated from one seed

Source: Johnston LG, Sabin K. Sampling hard-to-reach populations with respondent driven sampling. *Methodological Innovations Online*, 2010, 5(2):38–48.

Respondent Driven Sampling

RDS Estimator (Population Size)

Salganik-Heckathorn Estimator

$$\frac{N_u}{N} = \frac{d_s \cdot c_{su}}{d_u c_{us} + d_s \cdot c_{su}} = \mu$$

Where d_s is the average degree of Sheltered population and d_u is the average degree of the unsheltered population. c_{us} and c_{su} are the proportions of each group's relations that are shared with the other group. We estimate this with the observed proportions of cross-group referrals.

Noting,

$$N = N_u + N_s$$

And given that we know $N_s = 5084$, then we can rewrite this as

$$N_u = N_s \frac{\mu}{(1 - \mu)}$$

Where we can estimate μ from the RDS sample.



Lessons Learned

Burien and Auburn hubs were not representative of South King County



Will identify hub locations in Kent and Federal way

Only one rural hub in North Bend was hard to get to



Will add one additional rural hub, location to be determined

Staffing demands were greater than anticipated



Staffing plan is more robust, with clearer roles

Paper forms and hand-written coupons were difficult to manage



Forms will be filled out on a tablet with surveyors, use of a coupon tracking app to print coupons on site



Lessons Learned

American Indian Alaska Native Community under-represented

Families with children were under-represented

We under-communicated about new methodology

Pairing the PIT and qualitative data collection required significant logistics

Change how we collect race data, collaborate with Chief Seattle Club

Pilot phone-based RDS for families with Mary's Place Intake Line

Starting communication plan early, including more detail

We will only do data gathering for the PIT this year



Timeline

July-September 2023:

- Planning started
- Submit methods request to HUD
- Reestablish relationship with UW

October 2023:

- Continued planning
- Learnings from UW
- Identify hub locations
- Finalize budget

November 2023:

- Finalize methodology and staffing plan
- Submit methodology to Advisory Board
- Volunteer recruitment

January 2024:

- Finalize all logistics and supplies
- Volunteer training (completed by 12th)
- Data Collection Jan 22nd – Feb 2nd

February 2024:

- A short break to catch our breaths
- Data validation and analysis

March 2024:

- Data analysis complete (March 15th)

April 2024:

- Anticipated HUD submission: April 30th



November Updates

- Finalizing budget for PIT expenses
 - Confirming equipment and supplies needed
- Software application for ticketing and incentives in development
 - This will be housed in RHA secured cloud server
- Continued hub planning

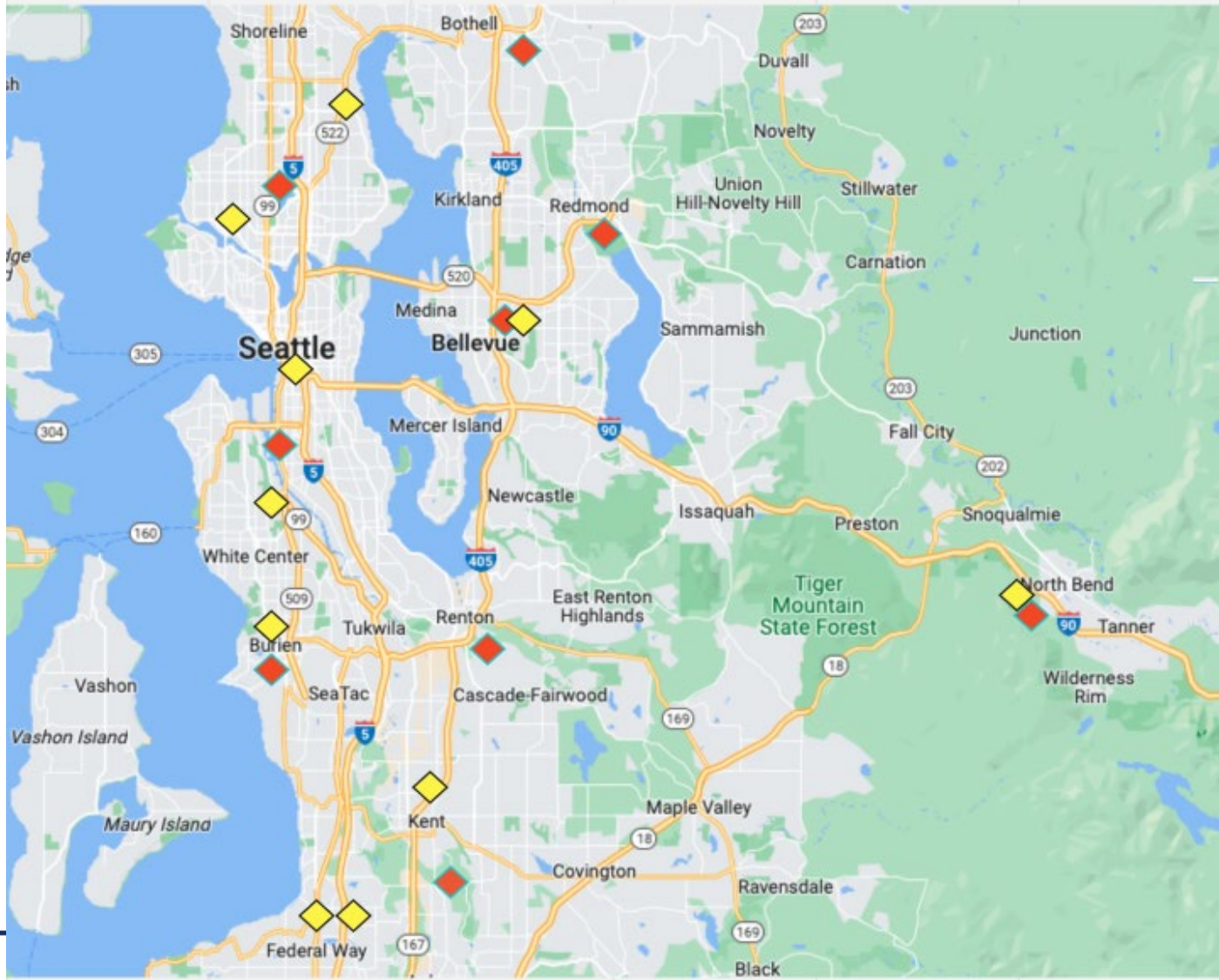


November Updates

- Continued planning engagements across KC, including:
 - Vehicle Residency Working Group
 - Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness
 - Chief Seattle Club
 - Subregional Partners (East, South, North, Rural) with SRP
 - Veteran Operations Leadership Team
 - Mary's Place
 - Youth Providers



- 2023 HUB
- 2022 HUB



November Updates

- Hub Criteria
 - Looking for 10-12 total
 - Generate a large number of respondents (ideally 30+)
 - May be specifically useful for a subpopulation
 - Has parking
 - Has accessible entrance and building
 - Proximity to other resources
 - Can hold 30 or so people at one time
 - Has accessible bathrooms
 - Has internet (or good hot-spot reception)



Hubs in Consideration

- Seattle Metro:
 - Ballard Food Bank
 - Vashon Island (short duration)
 - Georgetown st. Vincent de Paul
- Urban unincorporated:
 - Highline United Methodist Church
- North King County
 - Ronald Commons – Hope Link
- Southeast King County
 - Maple Valley Foodbank
- East King County
 - Together Center
 - Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank
- Snoqualmie Valley
 - Reclaim Day Center – River Street
 - Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank
- South King County
 - Federal Way Day Center
 - Kent Community Engagement Center
 - Arcadia Young Adult Shelter
- Pop specific
 - Seattle Veteran Center
 - Mary's Place Family Intake Line





KCRHA
King County Regional Homelessness Authority

Thank you.

Stay up to date by following us on social media and subscribing to our emails.

Scan this QR code to sign up for KCRHA emails →



@KingCoRHA



@KCRHA

