Examining the Homeless Population of the United States:

Does Each State Have the Means to Support their Homeless?

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Problem:

In this study, I will determine if the United States is able to care for the homeless population from state to state. I will evaluate facilities from Continuum of Care (CoC), a program under the Department of Housing and Urban Development which aims to end homelessness. These facilities include regional or local planning bodies that coordinate housing and service funding for homeless families and individuals. Through careful investigation, I will be able to determine if States are equipped to provide for their homeless communities. This will also allow me to to inspect how these facilities have changed over the years, thus enabling me to evaluate their performances.

Audience:

The primary audience for this study is actually the same organization that provides the dataset, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), also known as nonprofits, can benefit from this study as well. The results of the study will help these organizations understand how to manage their resources to better tackle the homeless issue locally and nationwide.

Dataset:

I will be using multiple datasets to conduct this study. The datasets I will be using come from HUD and were collected between 2007 and 2017. There are two major datasets: Point-in-Time estimates of the homeless population (PIT) and the accompanying Housing Inventory Count (HIC). The raw data in these datasets are divided by either CoC or by state, thus it is unclear at this time which will be helpful in conducting this study.

https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3031/pit-and-hic-data-since-2007/