

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

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March 4, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors
Housing, Land Use, Environment and Transportation Committee (HLUET)
Committee

FROM: Consuelo Hernandez, Office of Supportive Housing (OSH)

SUBJECT: Supportive Housing System in Santa Clara County

The attached report highlights trends, successes, and challenges of the supportive housing system in Santa Clara County between February 2021 and January 2022. The report's primary function is to communicate how different programs are contributing to an overall reduction in homelessness. The supportive housing system includes housing programs that fall into five main categories: Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Homelessness Prevention (HP).

Supportive Housing System Trends and Highlights

Appendix A highlights data on four of the five overarching targets detailed in the County's [2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness](#) (Community Plan). As shown in Chart 1, the County has housed 6,353 individuals since January 2020, 32% toward the goal of housing 20,000 people by 2025. Chart 2 depicts progress toward the County's goal of reducing the number of newly homeless individuals and families each year by 30%. Inflow for calendar year 2019 (4,778 people) is used as a baseline. Inflow for the February 2021 to January 2022 reporting period is 3,181 households, exceeding the 5-year goal. The sharp reduction since 2020 may be related to increased financial assistance programs and/or eviction moratoria. The State ended the state-wide ban on evictions in October, but tenants were protected if they applied for assistance with the state. Beginning in April 2022, landlords will have the ability to file for evictions for rent owed moving forward. The OSH will monitor trends over the next several months to better understand the impacts of eviction moratoria.

Appendix B provides program capacity and utilization for the five program categories outlined above plus the Safe Parking (SP) initiative and the Cold Weather Shelters (CWS). While capacity across programs has remained relatively stable over the past year, there are 1,138 housing units in construction or approved by the Board and in the pipeline. As these units are completed and approved for occupancy, PSH and RRH capacity will increase significantly. As depicted in the Program Utilization chart at the bottom right, HP (98%) and PSH (93%) have the highest utilization for the reporting period.

Appendix C illustrates key system performance measures, benchmarks for which are determined in coordination with community partners on an annual basis. A couple of highlights for the reporting period are provided below.

- Chart 2 provides data on exits to permanent housing destinations by housing type and period. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of households exiting RRH programs exited to for the current reporting period, exceeding the 75% benchmark. Thirty-four percent (34%) of households exiting ES programs moved on to permanent housing, exceeding the County's 30% performance goal.
- Chart 3 provides data on the percentage of people in Permanent Housing Programs (excluding RRH) retaining their housing in the reporting year. This represents primarily PSH programs. Across the County, this number has remained near or above the benchmark of 95% for several years and the housing retention rate was 94.7% for the current reporting period.
- Chart 4 provides data on returns to homelessness after exiting a program to a permanent housing destination. Data for 2021 shows decreases in returns at 6-month, 1-year, and 2-year timeframes when compared to previous years. Returns to homeless 2-years after exiting a program to a permanent housing destination have decreased 3% from 2020 to 2021.

Appendix D presents data on housing placements and inflow by project type and month. The upper chart indicates the number of households that moved to permanent housing (housing placements), compared to the number of households completing their first assessment (inflow). The inflow is stratified by level of housing intervention – minimal, RRH, or PSH. The lower chart breaks down the housing placements by the type of project from which the household was receiving assistance. While the need remains high with over 200 households becoming homeless for the first time each month, the decreasing gap between the number of housing placements and inflow each month is a positive sign in the effort to decrease the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness. As more housing developments are completed and additional emergency housing vouchers utilized, the OSH expects the placements into permanent housing to increase in the coming months.

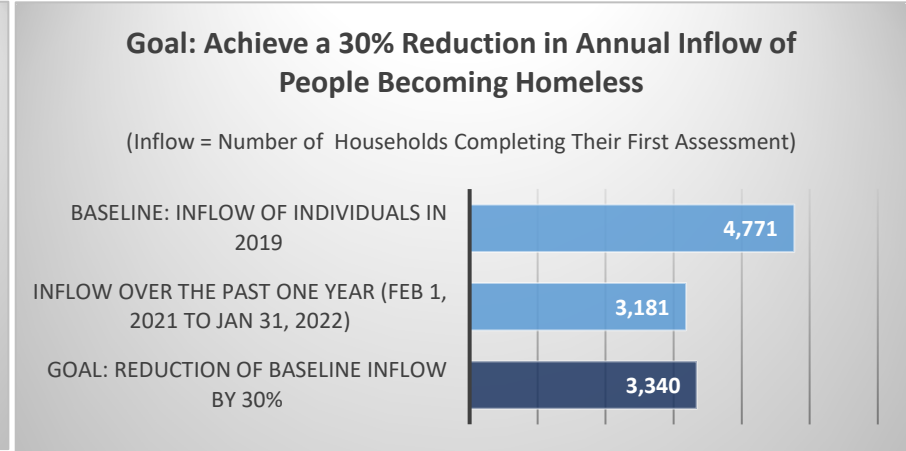
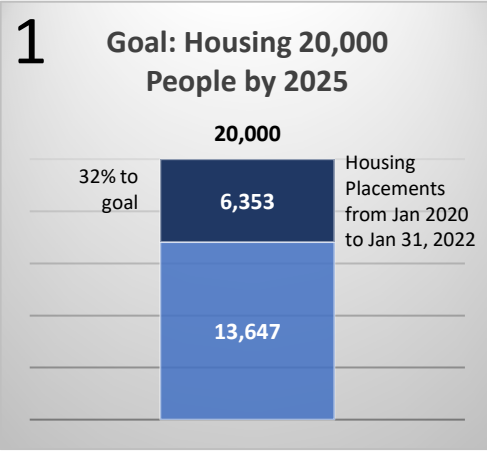


Office of Supportive Housing
 Supportive Housing System
 Dashboard
 February 1, 2021 –
 January 31, 2022

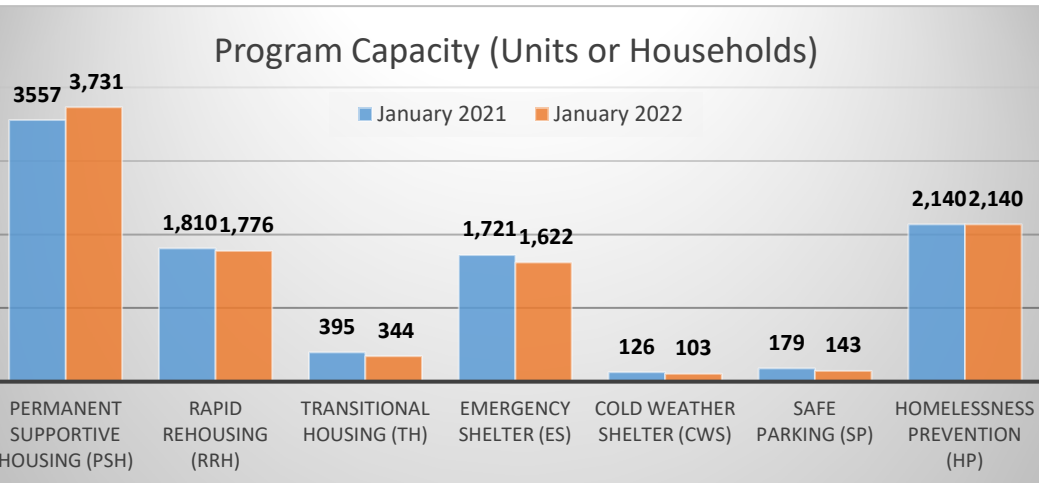
The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness

The county-wide plan is our roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County. The 2020-2025 plan sets aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us one step closer to our collective goal of eliminating homelessness in our community. Appendix A will highlight specific goals related to this plan.

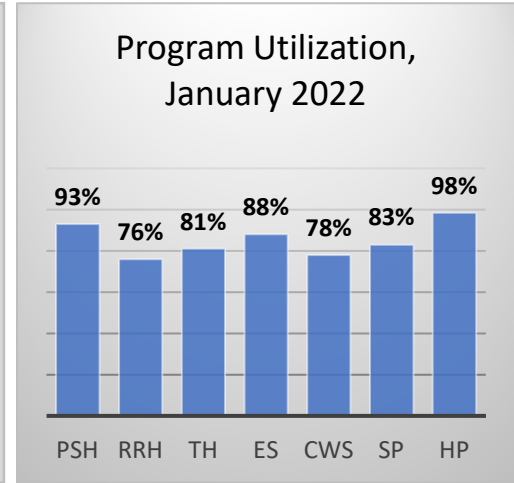
Appendix A: Community Plan Goals



Appendix B: Capacity and Utilization as of 1/31/2022

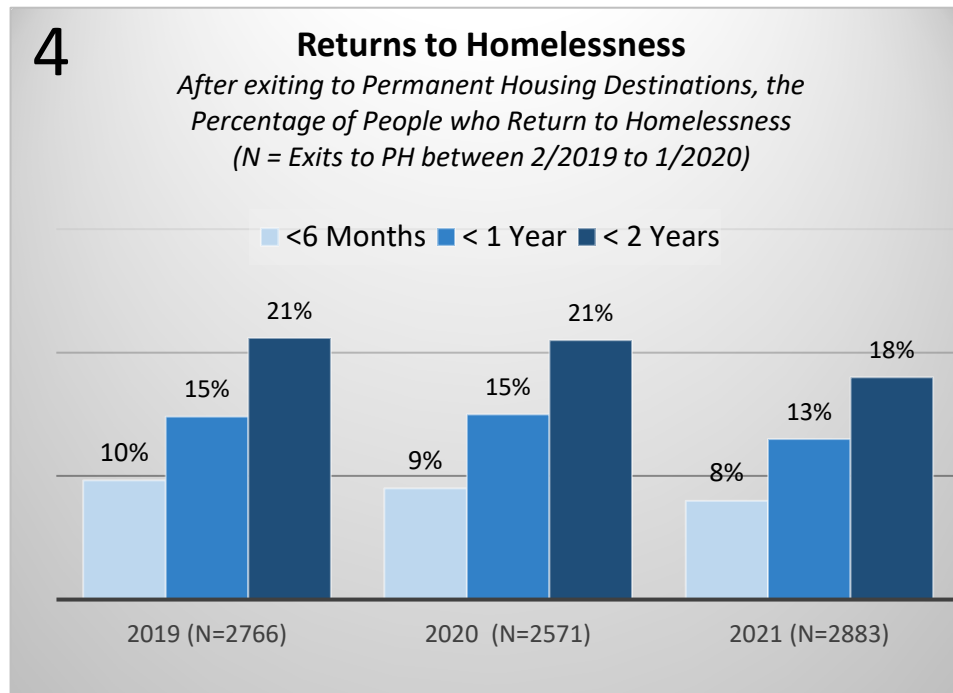
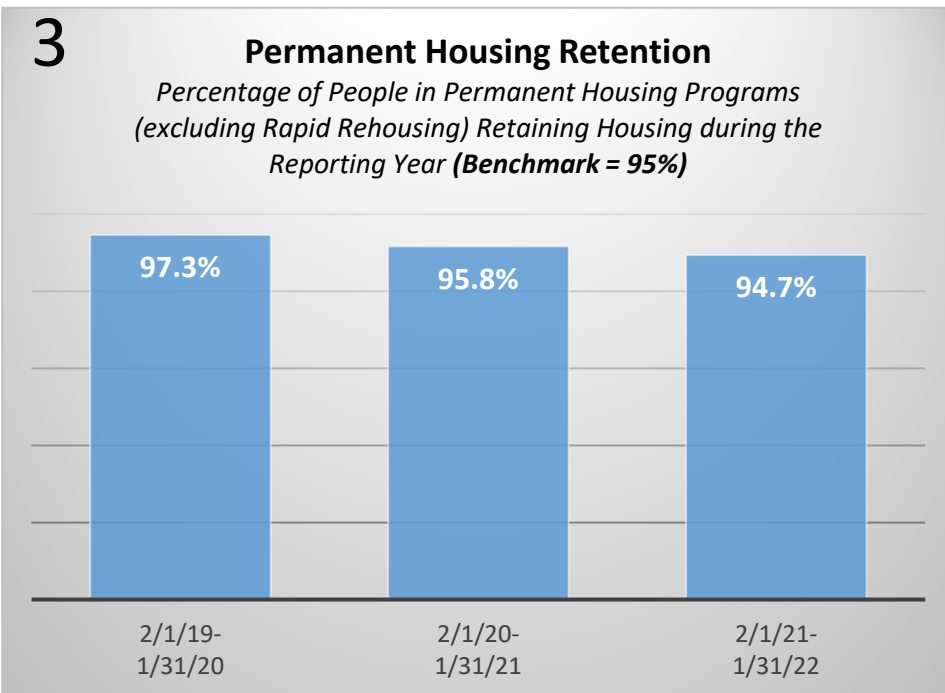
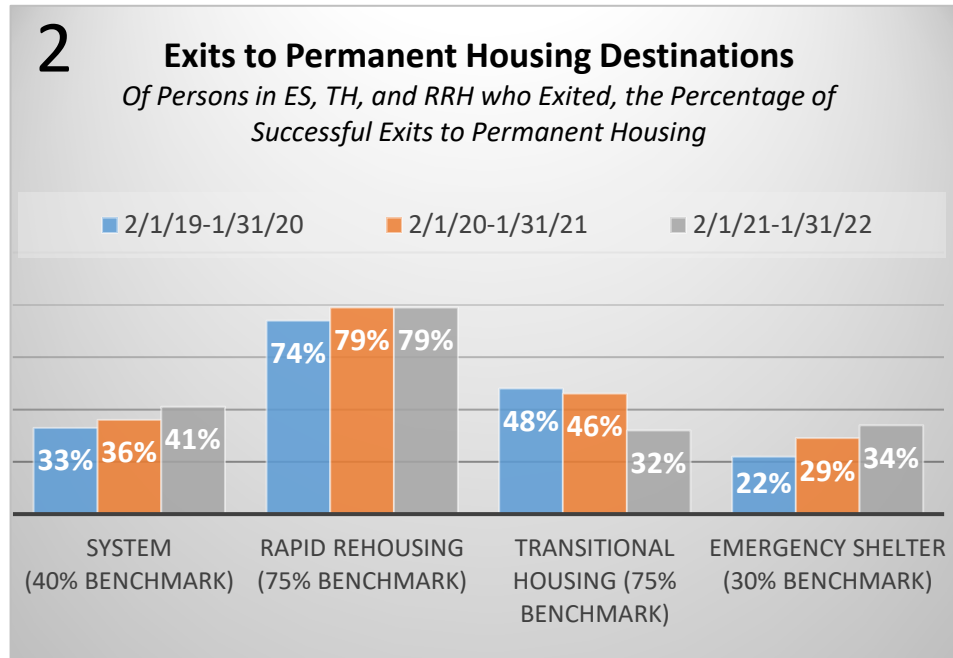
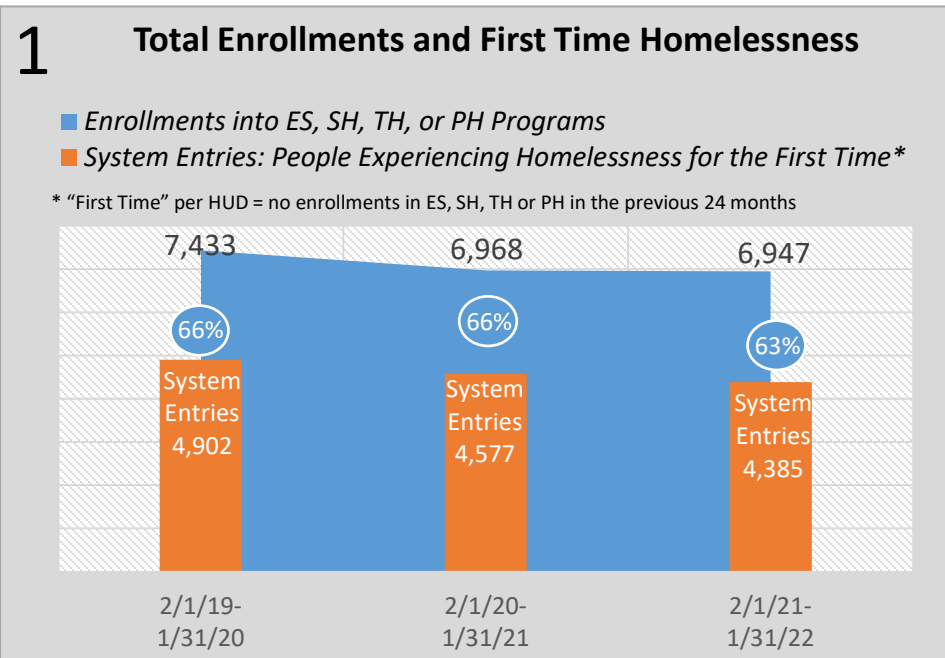


1,138 Total Housing Units (694 PSH, 369 RRH, and 75 VASH) Under Construction or in the Pipeline Approved by the Board



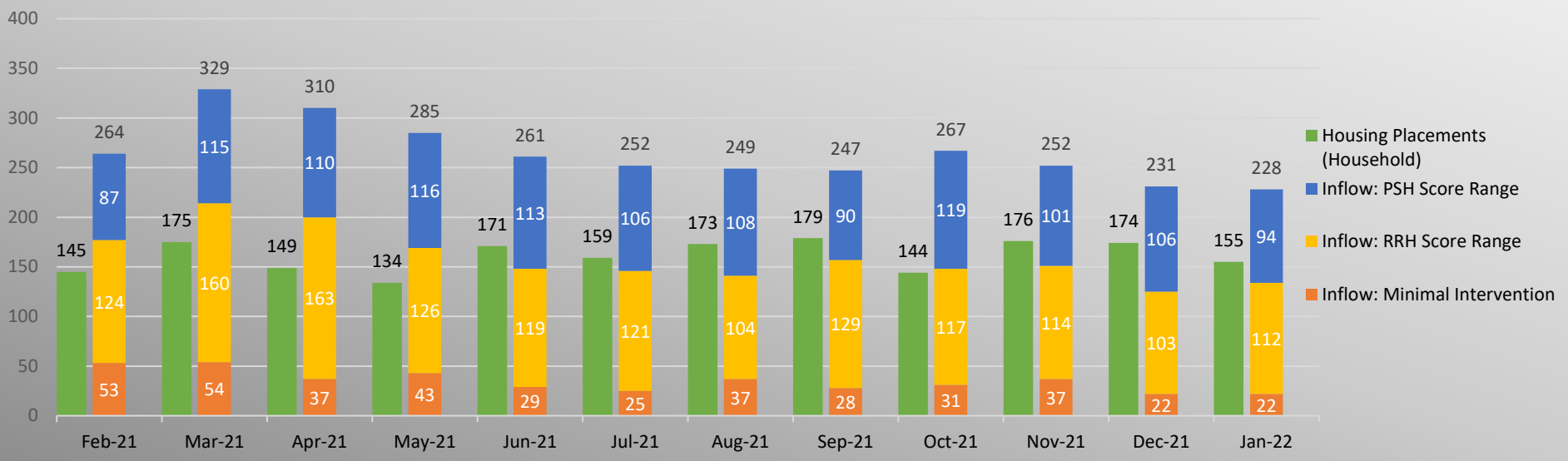
- Utilization: PSH, RRH are point-in-time utilization on January 31, 2022. TH and ES data reflects utilization for the month of January, and SP and HP utilization are based on the last 12 months
- Program utilization is based on households enrolled in programs that are tracked in HMIS.
- PSH programs that are not tracked in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) include HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), consisting of 1,222 units, and other programs which comprise 53 units. PSH capacity includes 40 units which are Permanent Housing with services (no disability required).
- For Safe Parking programs, one parking space is the equivalent of one unit of capacity with an estimated 2.5 individuals per vehicle.

Appendix C: System Performance Measures

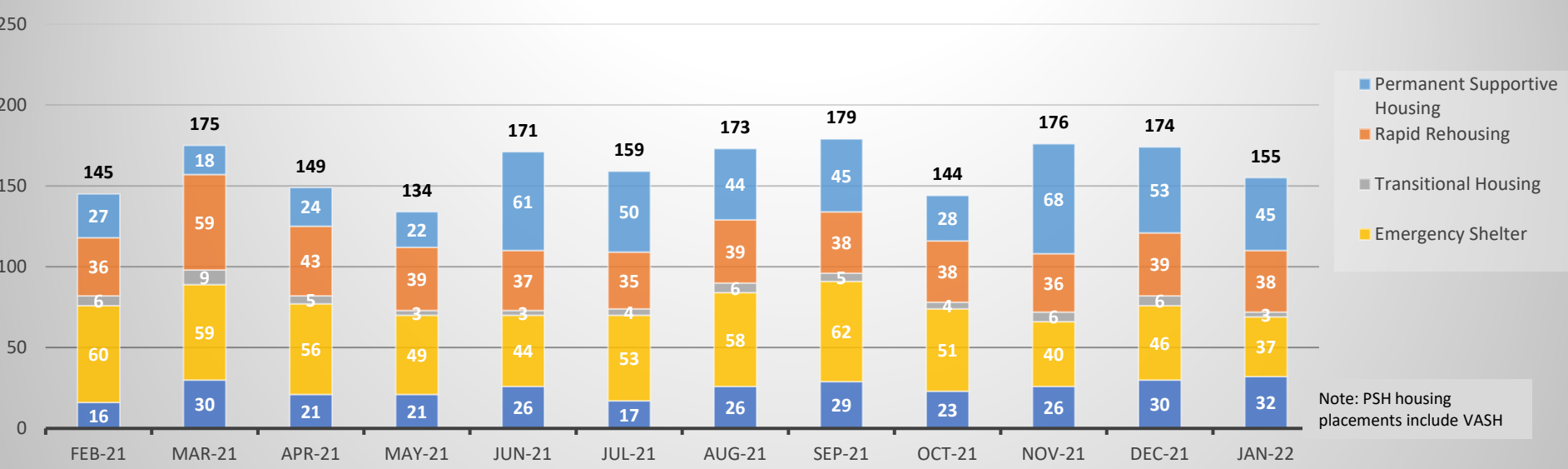


Appendix D: Housing Placements and Inflow by Month

Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow



Monthly Housing Placements from Project Types



Note: PSH housing placements include VASH