

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

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October 1, 2021

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 September 2020 and August 2021. 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). Additionally, this report provides supplementary data focusing on the County's RRH programs.

Supportive Housing System Trends and Highlights

Appendix A highlights data on two of the five overarching goals detailed in the County's [2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness](#). As shown in Chart 1, the County has housed 5,021 individuals since January 2020, 25% 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 in a given year by 30%. This target was based on annual inflow prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Inflow for calendar year 2019 (4,778 people) is used as a baseline. Inflow for the September 2020 to August 2021 yearly reporting period is 3,346 households, decreasing by about 2% since last month. The long-term impacts of the pandemic are difficult to predict, but staff expects this number to rise as the state eviction moratorium ends and the recovery period continues.

Appendix B provides program capacity and utilization for the five program categories plus the Safe Parking (SP) initiative. As depicted in the Program Utilization chart, HP (97%) and

PSH (93%) are currently the most utilized programs as it relates to capacity for this reporting period.

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

- Chart 1 depicts the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time (system entries) compared to the number of clients enrolled in a housing program during the same period. While system entries (4,402) and program enrollments (7,057) decreased for the September 2020 through August 2021 period compared to prior years, both increased by 3% from last month's reporting period.
- Chart 2 provides data on exits to permanent housing destinations by housing type and period. Exits to permanent housing from RRH remained steady at 80% for the current study period, exceeding the 75% benchmark. Twenty-nine percent of households exiting ES programs moved on to permanent housing, just short of the County's 30% performance goal. Overall program exits to permanent housing remained steady at 40%, also meeting the County's system-wide benchmark.
- Chart 3 in Appendix C illustrates that PSH retention remains high at 96.4% for the current reporting period, exceeding the system-wide 95% benchmark.

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. Inflow and placements held steady for August 2021, with inflow at 246 households and 175 households placed.

Rapid Rehousing

Appendices E through G include data related to the County's RRH Programs. RRH programs provide time-limited rental assistance and supportive services to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and remain stably housed. Most RRH programs are focused on serving specific subpopulations. Accordingly, the RRH data provided is split by program subpopulation. A few highlights:

- As shown in the table in at the top of Appendix E, RRH programs have the largest capacity to serve veterans and families.

- The lower chart in Appendix E indicates that 1,330 households - including 511 families with minor children - were permanently housed during the study period.
- Appendix F provides some RRH client outcomes and characteristics. Chart 1 shows illustrates the average number of days from program enrollment to housing and the average number of days housed in the RRH program by subpopulation. The average number of days housed represents the length of time a household receives a rent subsidy before they achieve self-sufficiency and exit the program. Previous years' data indicates that this average was nine to ten months. For September 2020 through August 31, 2021, however, this average across all subpopulations was almost one year (351 days). Since the start of the pandemic, program participants have experienced loss of wages and challenges in both obtaining and/or increasing employment and accessing benefits and other resources. This has resulted in the need for programs to adjust in order to accommodate these circumstances, providing longer-term subsidies.
- The community benchmark for finding permanent housing for a household enrolled in an RRH program is 60 days. For the September 2020 through August 2021 period, this target was met for families (see Chart 1). The highest average number of days to housing for the period is seen for programs serving the reentry and single adult subpopulations (113 days). This reflects the multiple barriers to finding permanent housing that clients exiting jail or prison back into the community face. This subpopulation also has a high rate of program exits to homelessness (Chart 2), as well as much higher incidences of reported mental health disabilities and substance abuse (Chart 4) compared to other subpopulations. Reentry RRH programs are designed to assist in addressing and overcoming these barriers.



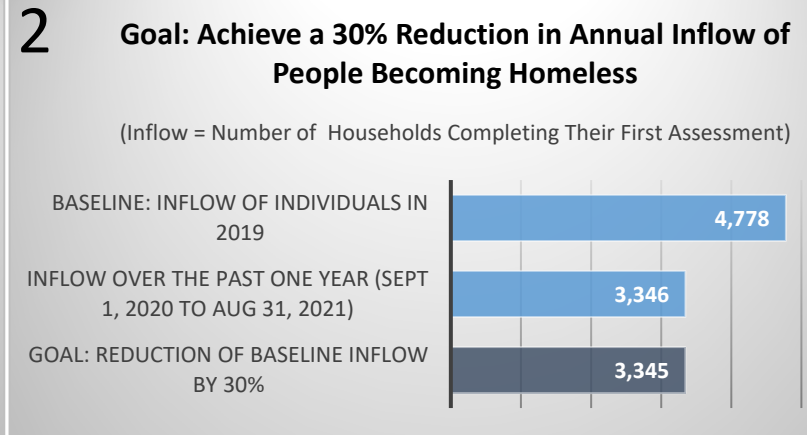
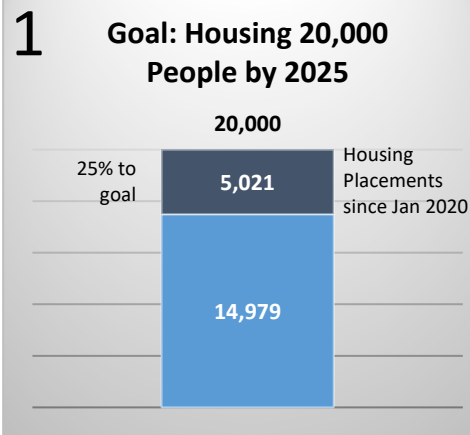
Office of Supportive Housing
Supportive Housing System
Dashboard

September 1, 2020 –
August 31, 2021

The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness

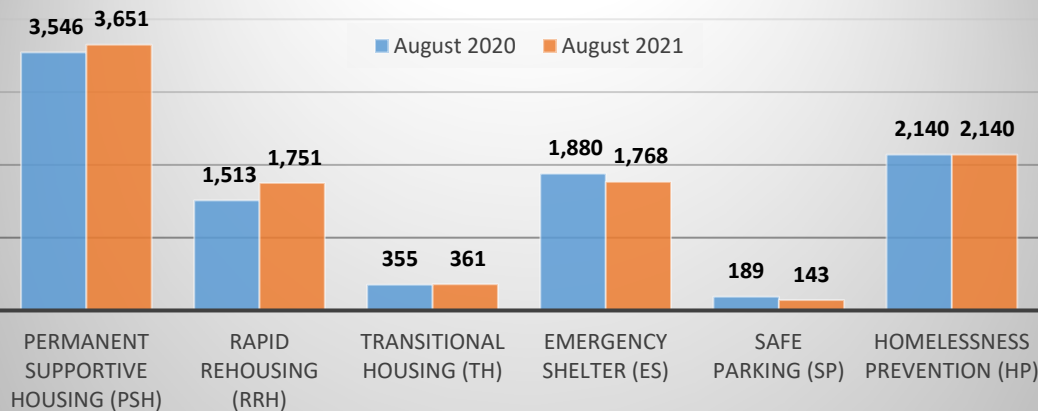
The county-wide plan is our roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County. The 2020-2025 plan sets aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us one step closer to our collective goal of eliminating homelessness in our community. Appendix A will highlight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

Appendix A: Community Plan Goals



Appendix B: Capacity and Utilization as of 8/31/2021

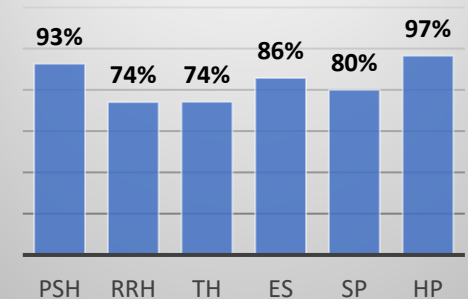
Program Capacity (Units or Households)



1,475 Total Housing Units (949 PSH, 347 RRH, and 179 VASH) Under Construction or in the Pipeline Approved by the Board

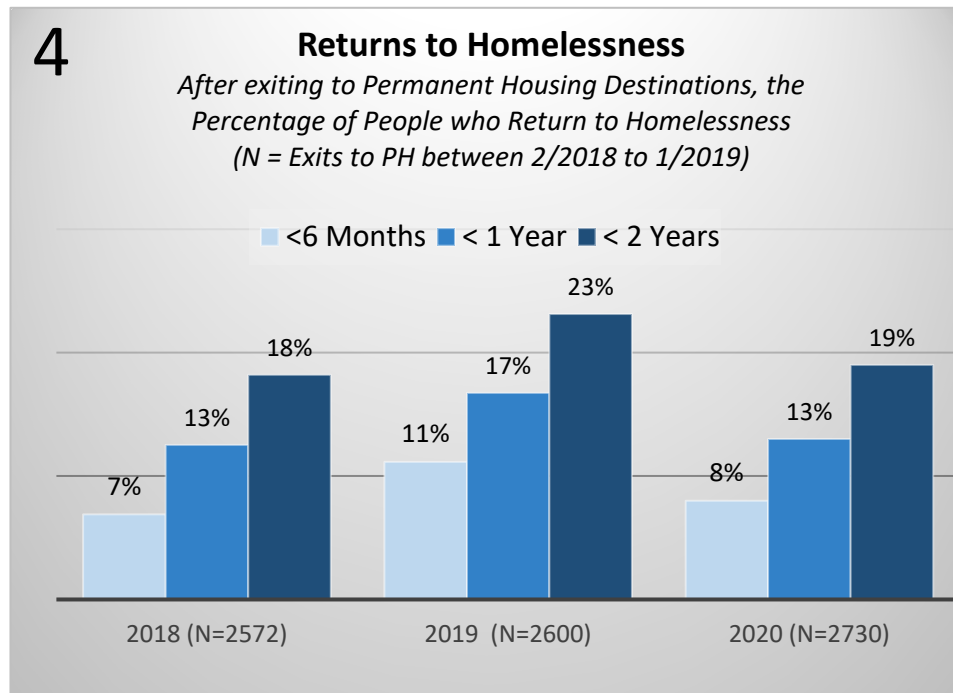
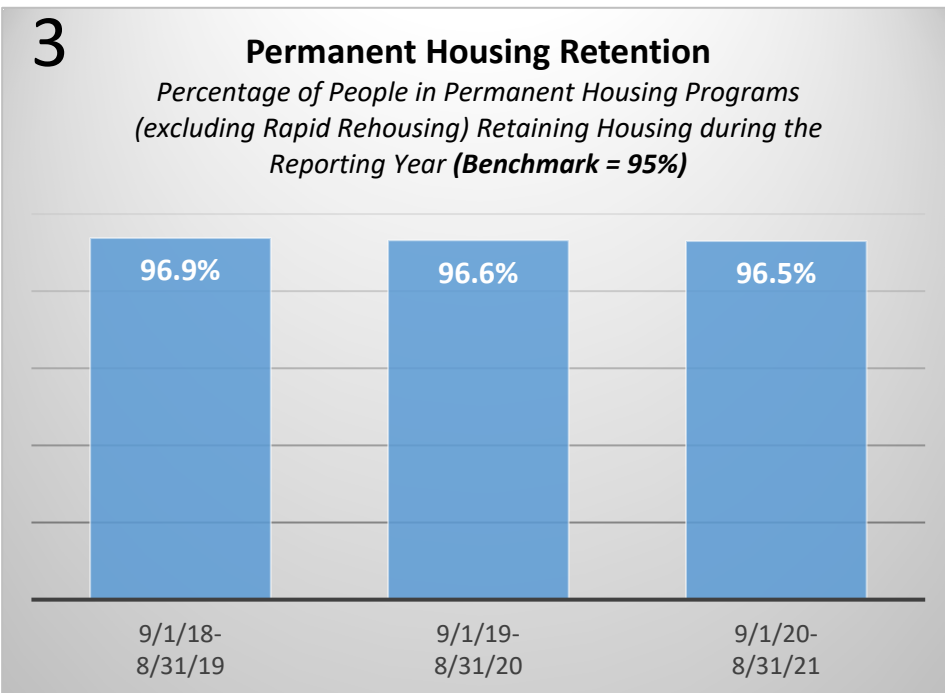
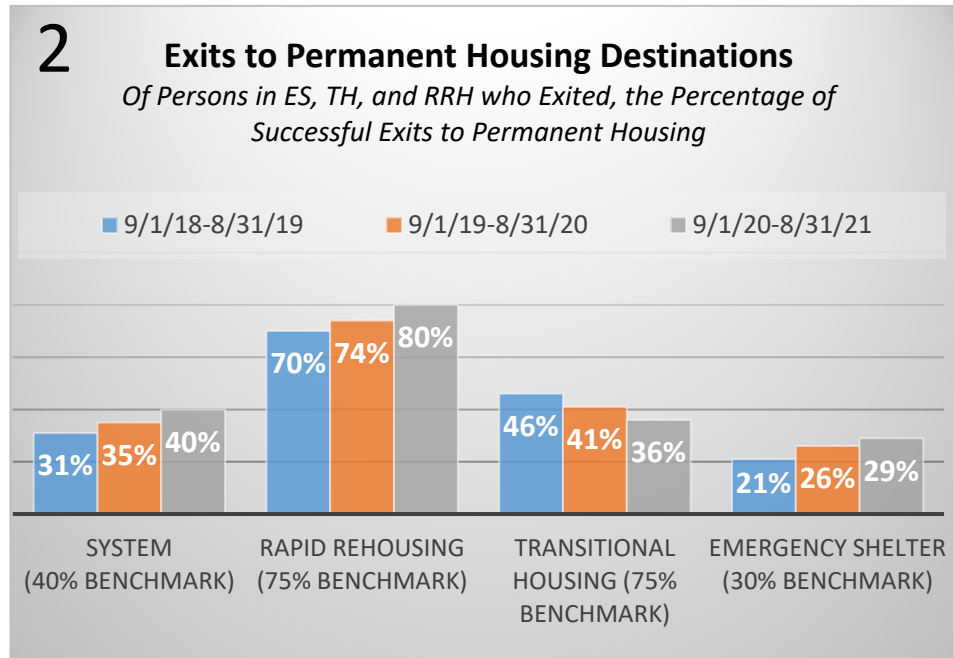
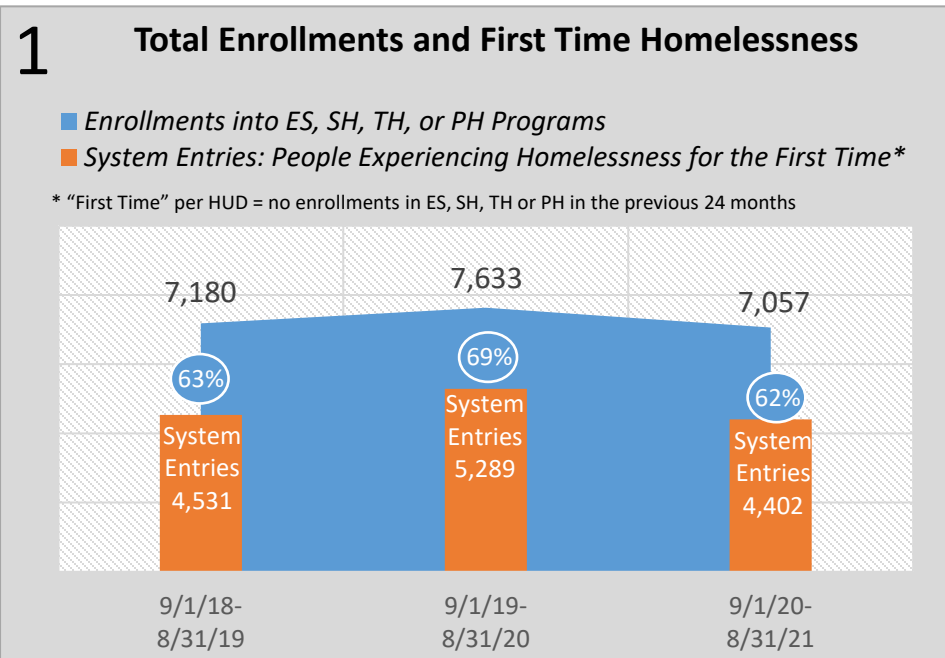


Program Utilization, August 2021



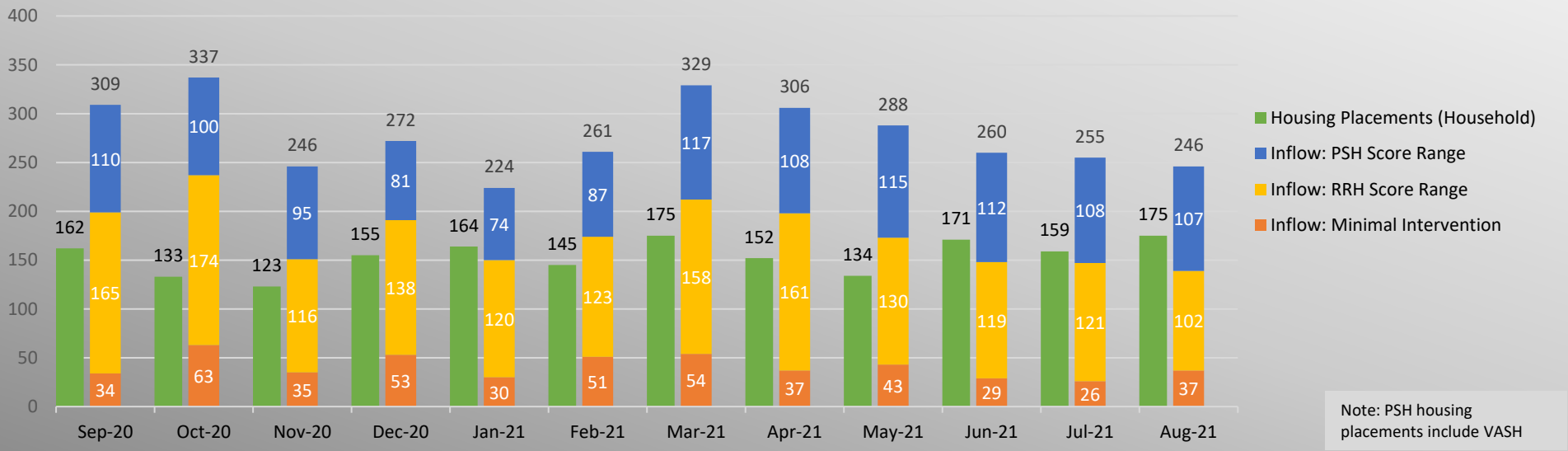
- Utilization: PSH, RRH are point-in-time utilization on August 31, 2021. TH, ES, and SP data reflects utilization for the month of August, and HP utilization is based on the last 12 months
- Program utilization is based on households enrolled in programs that are tracked in HMIS.
- PSH programs that 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 67 units. PSH capacity includes 73 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

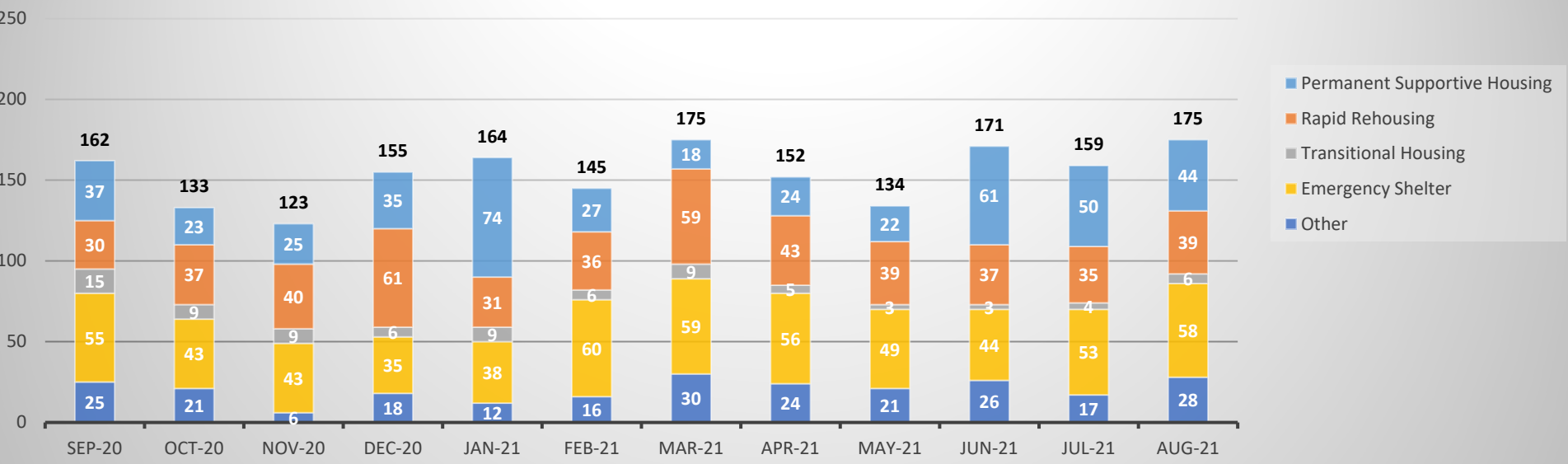


Appendix D: Housing Placements and Inflow by Month

Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow



Monthly Housing Placements from Project Types

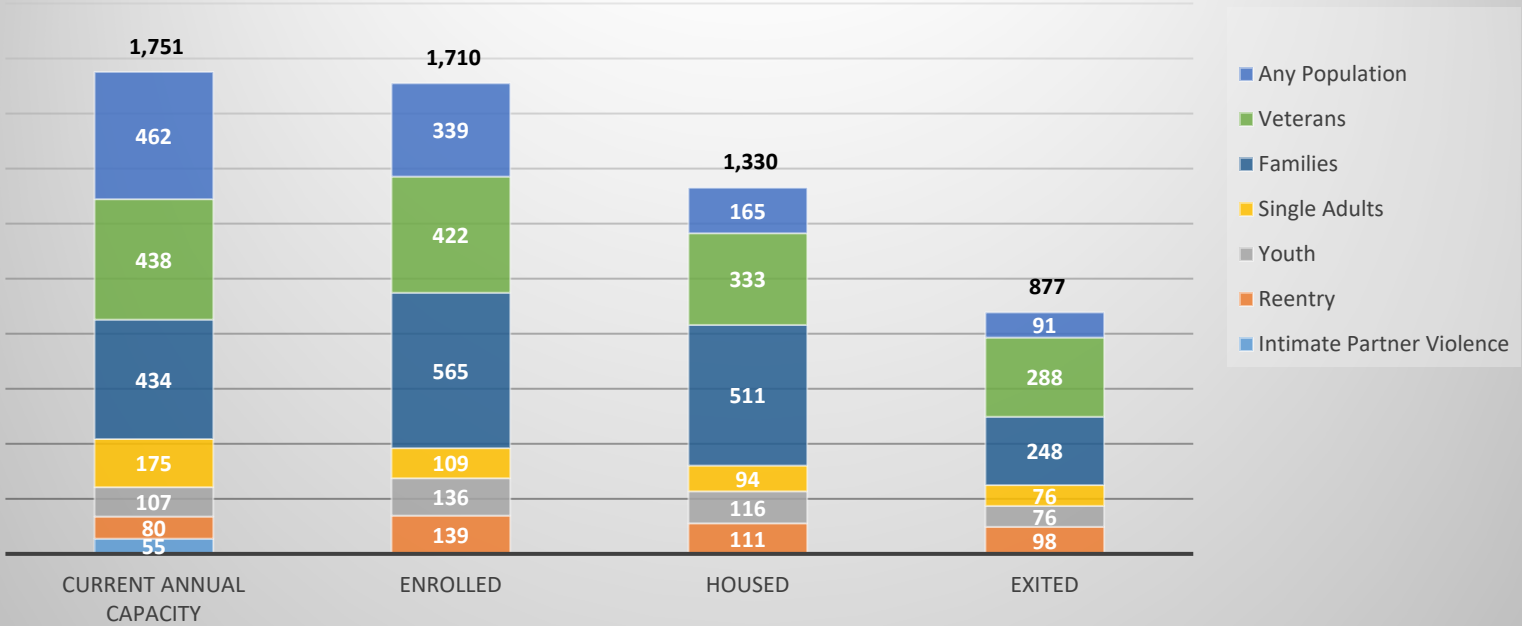


Appendix E: Rapid Rehousing Capacity and Enrollments - August 31, 2021

Target Population of RRH Program	Number of Programs	Annual Capacity (Units) as of August 31, 2021
Veterans	4	438
Families	8	434
Any Population	5	462
Single Adults	3	175
Youth	4	107
Reentry	2	80
Intimate Partner Violence	2	55
Total	28	1,751

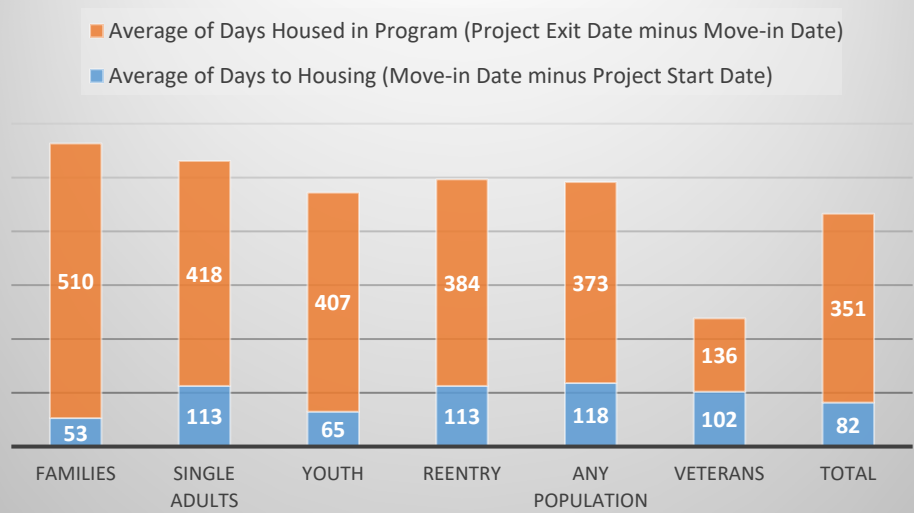
Note: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) program data is not recorded in the HMIS.

Enrollment Data from Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021 by Program Target Population

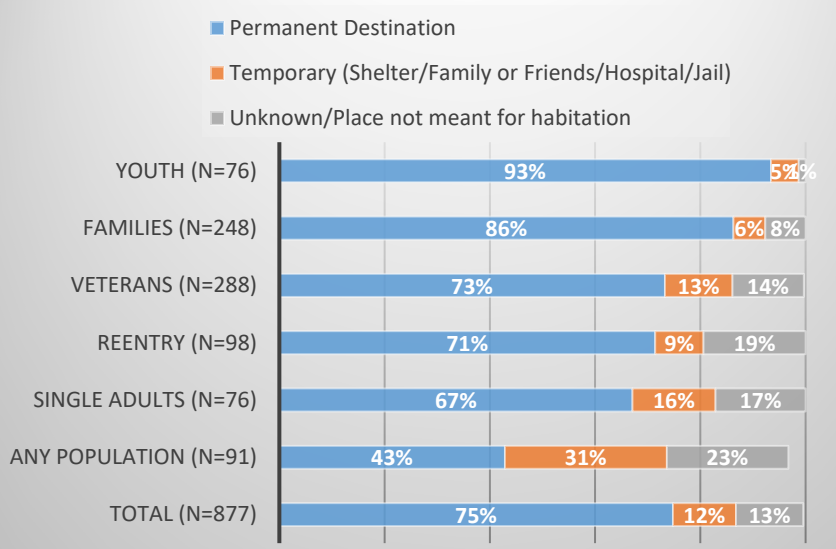


Appendix F: RRH Client Characteristics and Outcomes – Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021

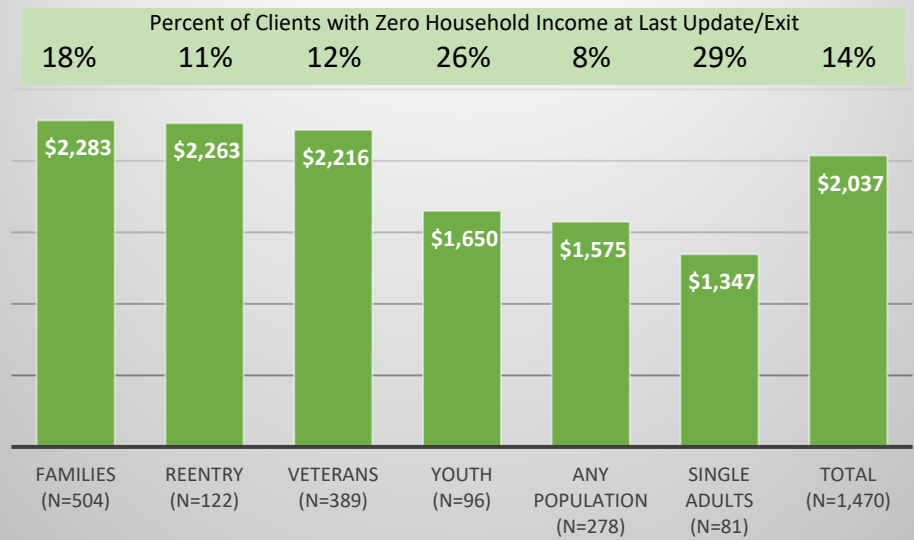
1 Average Days to Housing and Average Number of Days Housed



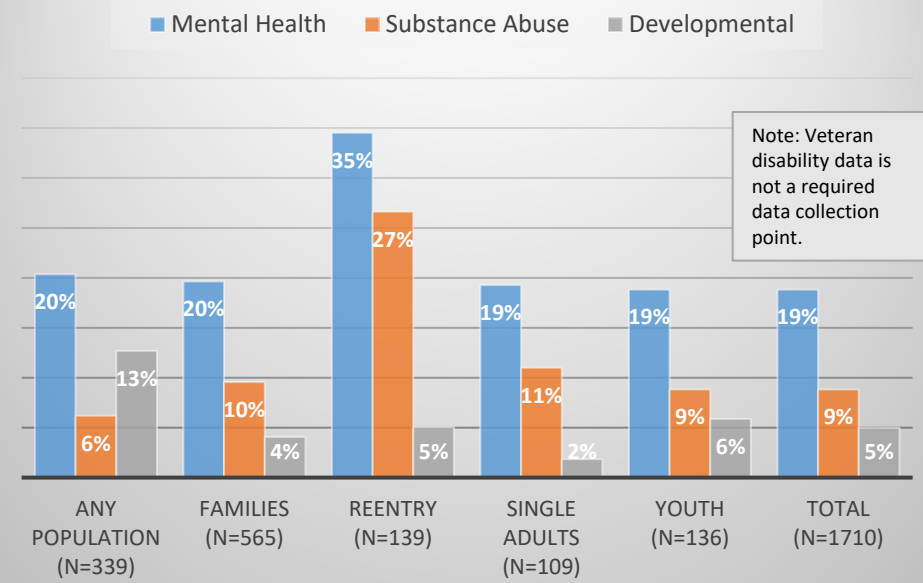
2 Program Exit Destinations by Target Population



3 Average Total Household Income at Last Update/Exit (Excludes Zero Income)

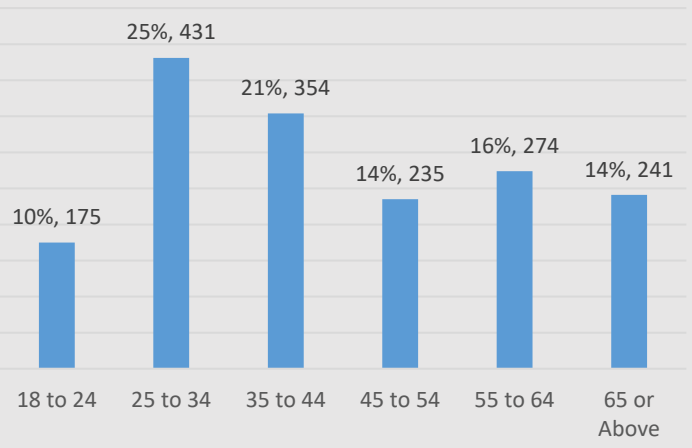


4 Disability by Target Population

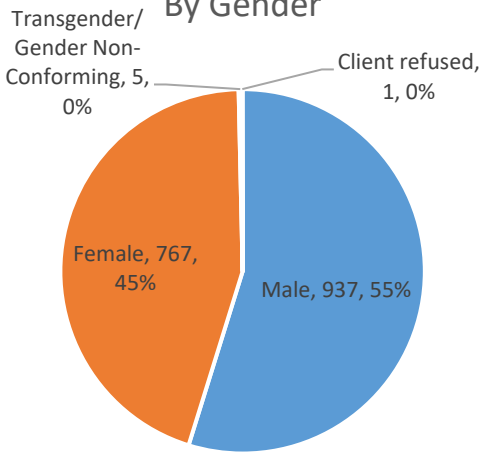


Appendix G: RRH Demographic Information – Enrolled September 2020 to August 2021

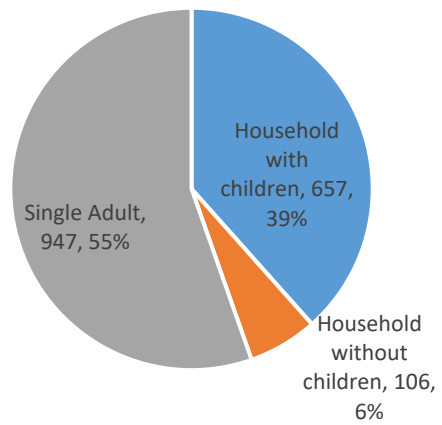
By Age Tier



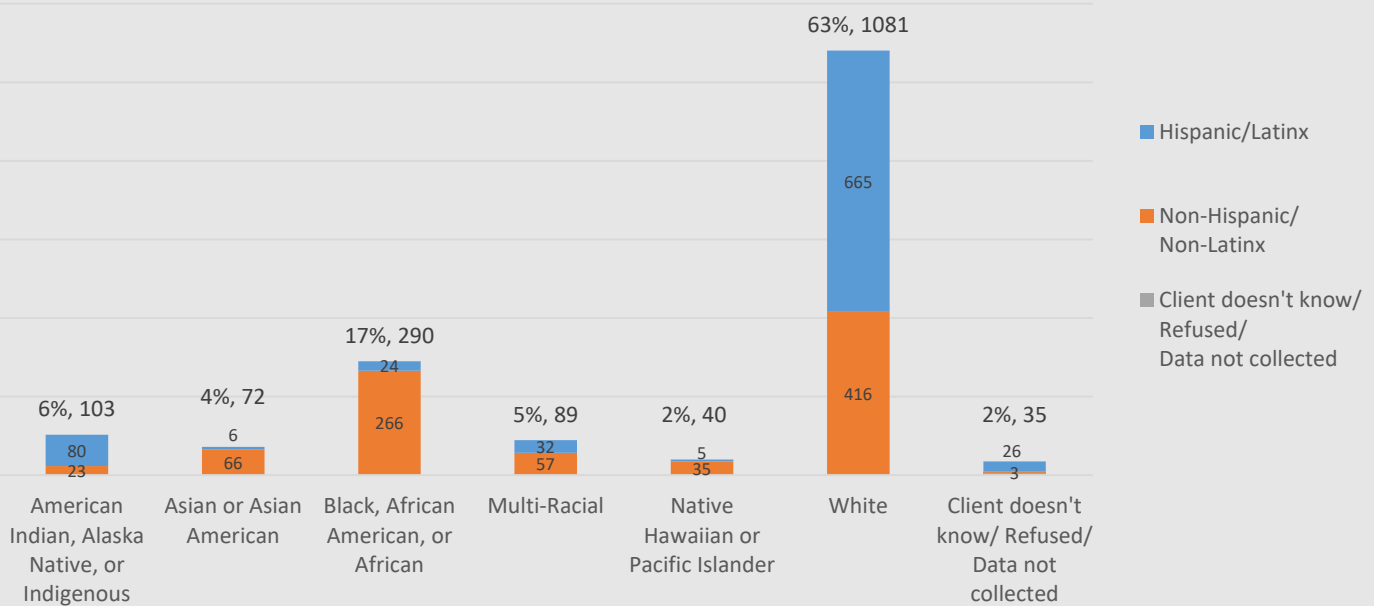
By Gender



By Household Type



Race by Ethnicity



By Ethnicity

