

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

150 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134
(408) 278-6400 Main
(669) 220-1444 Fax



April 14, 2023

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 March 2022 and February 2023. The primary function of this report 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 targets detailed in the County's [2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness](#) (Community Plan). As shown in Chart 1, the County has housed 10,414 individuals since January 2020, 52% 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 (4,757 people) is used as a baseline. Inflow for the March 2022 to February 2023 reporting period is 3,651 households, nearly meeting the five-year goal to reduce the number of households completing their first assessment (since becoming unhoused) to 3,330 households.

Appendix B provides program capacity and utilization for the five program categories outlined above plus the Safe Parking (SP) initiative. As depicted in the Program Utilization chart in Appendix B, HP (116%) and Emergency Shelter programs (92%) have the highest

utilization for the reporting period. Utilization of HP programs over 100% means that the prevention system has served more households over the past year than the annual goal and households are staying enrolled in the program for a longer period.

While capacity across programs has remained relatively stable over the past year, there are 1,228 housing units in construction or approved by the Board of Supervisors and are in the pipeline. As these units are completed and approved for occupancy, PSH and RRH capacity will increase significantly.

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

- Chart 2 provides data on exits to permanent housing destinations by housing type and period. Seventy-one percent (71%) of households exiting RRH programs exited to permanent housing for the current reporting period, nearly meeting the 75% benchmark. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of households exiting ES programs moved on to permanent housing, exceeding the County's 30% performance goal. The system-wide exits to permanent housing destinations was 33% for the March 2022 through February 2023 study period. An analysis of total exits to permanent housing destinations shows the continued challenges low-income households face in maintaining permanent housing without a subsidy. The percent of clients who exited to rental housing without an ongoing subsidy decreased from 56% in the previous annual period to 43% in the current period. Due to the lack of affordable housing in the community, many unhoused individuals and families require rental assistance to obtain and maintain stable housing.
- Chart 3 provides data on the percentage of people in Permanent Housing Programs retaining their housing in the reporting year. This primarily represents PSH programs. Across the county, this number has remained near or above the benchmark of 95% for several years. The housing retention rate was 95.8% for the current reporting period.
- Chart 4 provides data on returns to homelessness after exiting a program to a permanent housing destination two years prior. Data for the March 2022 to February 2023 period shows decreases in returns at the six-month and one-year time frames compared to the 2020 period. Returns to homelessness within two years is slightly higher when compared to both the 2020 and the 2021 periods.

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 housing

assessment (inflow). Over the past one year, approximately 2,163 households have been permanently housed and 3,651 households have taken the Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) assessment for the first time (inflow). This means for every one household getting permanently housed, 1.7 households are getting assessed for their first time since becoming homeless. The inflow is classified by level of housing intervention – minimal intervention, RRH, or PSH.

The lower chart breaks down the housing placements by the type of project from which the household was receiving assistance. The higher inflow number in January 2023 was attributed to increased outreach related to the weather and the Point-in-Time Count, as confirmed by participating agencies. While the need remains high with 285 households becoming homeless for the first time in February 2023 as shown in the upper chart, and annual inflow increasing by 15% since February 2022, housing placements have increased by 11% over the same period with a greater proportion being families with children. The OSH will continue to monitor trends over the next several months as it relates to the number of households becoming homeless for the first time. As more housing developments are completed and additional emergency housing vouchers are utilized, the OSH expects placements into permanent housing to increase in the coming months.

Rapid Rehousing Programs

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. Seventy-six percent (76%) of RRH programs are focused on serving specific subpopulations. Accordingly, the RRH data provided is stratified by subpopulation. A few highlights:

- As shown in the table in at the top of Appendix E, RRH programs have the largest capacity to serve any adults (24%), families (22%), and veterans (22%).
- The lower chart in Appendix E indicates that 1,338 households - including 581 families with minor children - were permanently housed during the study period.
- Appendix F provides some RRH client outcomes and characteristics. Chart 1 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 the pre-pandemic average was nine to ten months. For March 2022 through February 2023, however, this average across all subpopulations was slightly over one year (376 days). The average days housed for families with children is highest at 1.5 years (541 days). While the pandemic is slowing down, economic

challenges continue for many due to inflation and rising interest rates. This has resulted in the continued need for programs to adjust to 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 March 2022 through February 2023 period, this target was nearly met for families with an average of 70 days in housing search (Chart 1). The highest average number of days in housing search for the period is seen for programs serving any adult (130 days) and reentry and single adult subpopulations (109 days). This reflects the multiple barriers to finding permanent housing that clients who are exiting jail or prison back into the community face.
- Chart 2 displays exit destinations by subpopulation after being housed in the RRH program. Exits to permanent destinations after a move-in date across all subpopulations nearly meet or exceed the 75% benchmark, ranging from 96% (reentry) to 62% (single adults). Nearly one-fourth (26%) of all exits occur before the household is housed by the program. This percentage goes up 36% for single adult and any adult programs (which are predominantly single adults). These exits without a program move-in date are primarily to temporary and unknown destinations with only 10% exiting to permanent destinations.
- Chart 4 shows disabilities reported during RRH program enrollment by subpopulation. Nearly half of single adult and any adult households reported chronic health conditions. Incidences of mental health disorders are highest for single adults (47%) followed by veterans (44%).
- The largest program in the “any adult” group is an RRH program funded via the State’s Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Currently, 97 households are housed in this program and 39 households exited in the past year. CARES RRH serves medically vulnerable households placed into hotels during the pandemic through Project Roomkey. Over 70% of the individuals served in the program are elderly (65 years old or above) and have chronic health conditions. This program launched in 2021, and most households that were enrolled and housed have not yet exited the program.

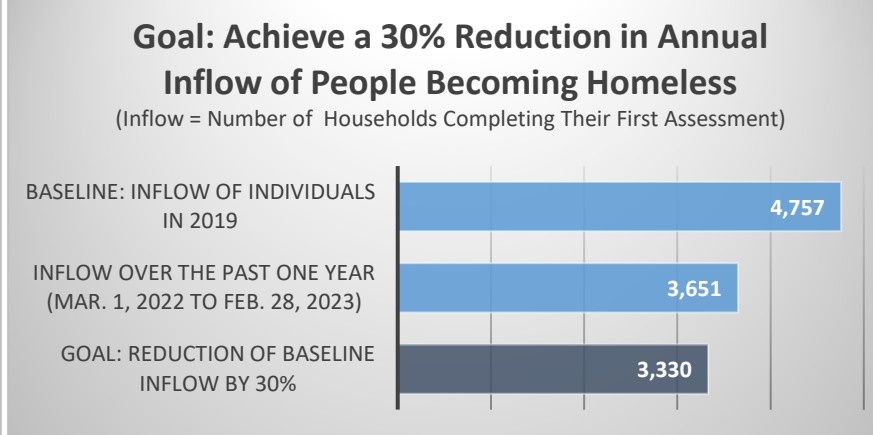
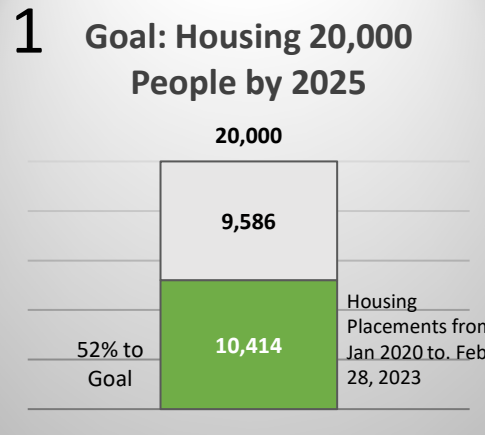


Office of Supportive Housing
 Supportive Housing System
 Dashboard
 March 1, 2022 –
 February 28, 2023

The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness

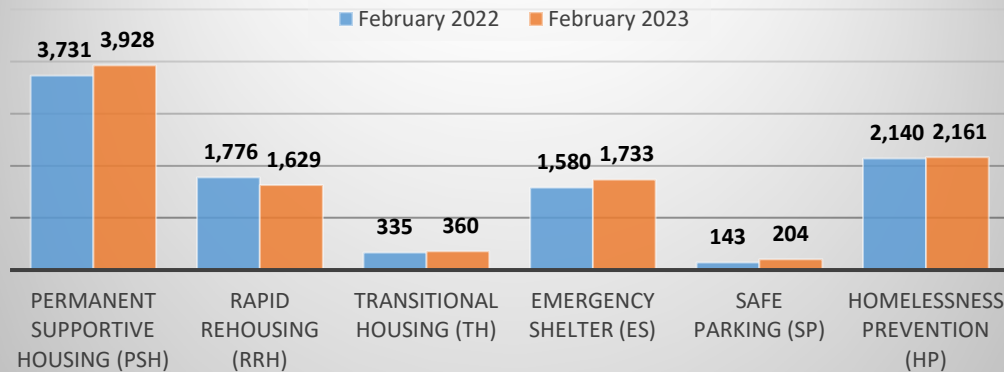
The county-wide plan is our roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County. The 2020-2025 plan set aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us one step closer to our collective goal of eliminating homelessness in our community. Appendix A highlights specific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

Appendix A: Community Plan Goals



Appendix B: Capacity and Utilization as of 2/28/2023

Program Capacity (Units or Households)

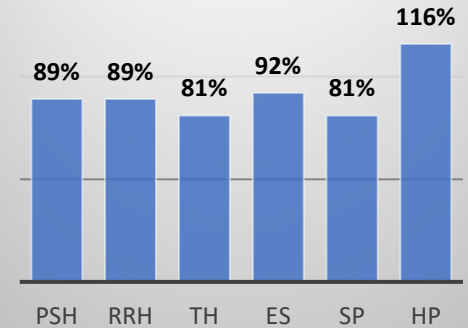


Under Construction or in the Pipeline Approved by the Board

1,228 Total Housing Units (546 PSH, 496 RRH, 82 VASH, and 104 I/DD)

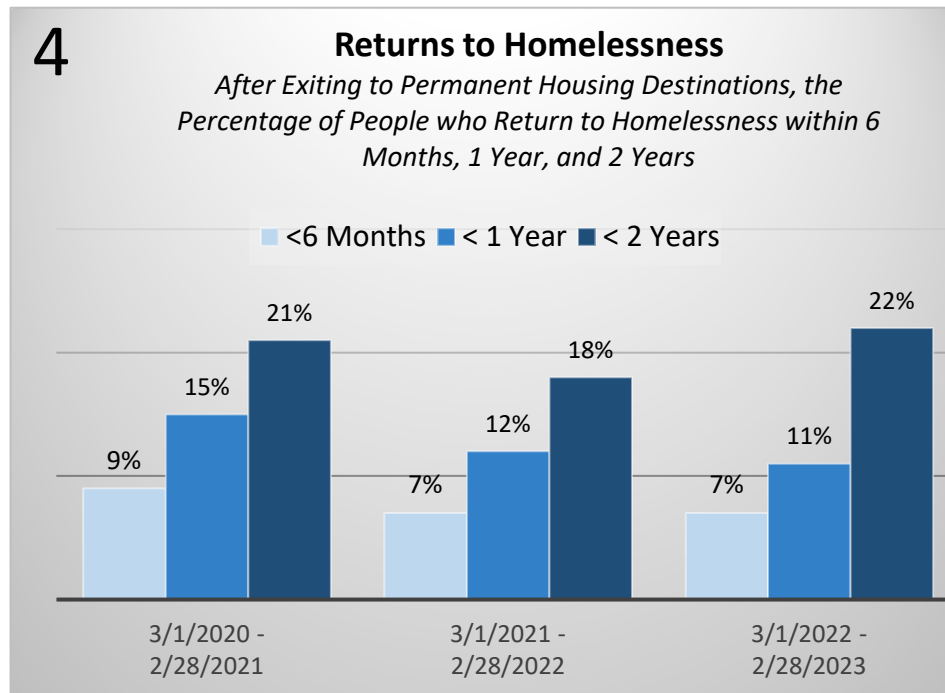
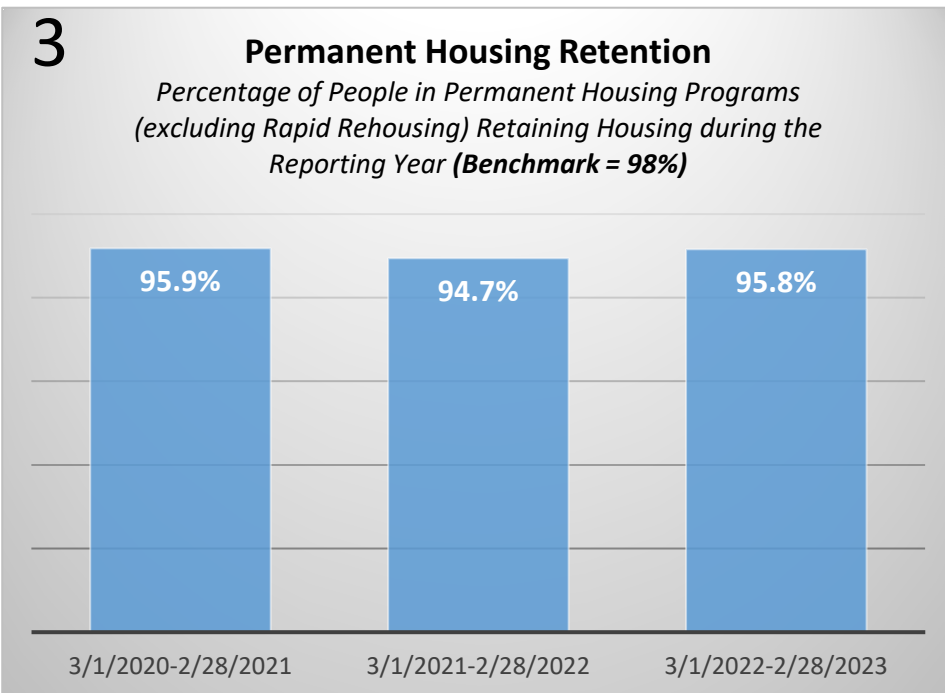
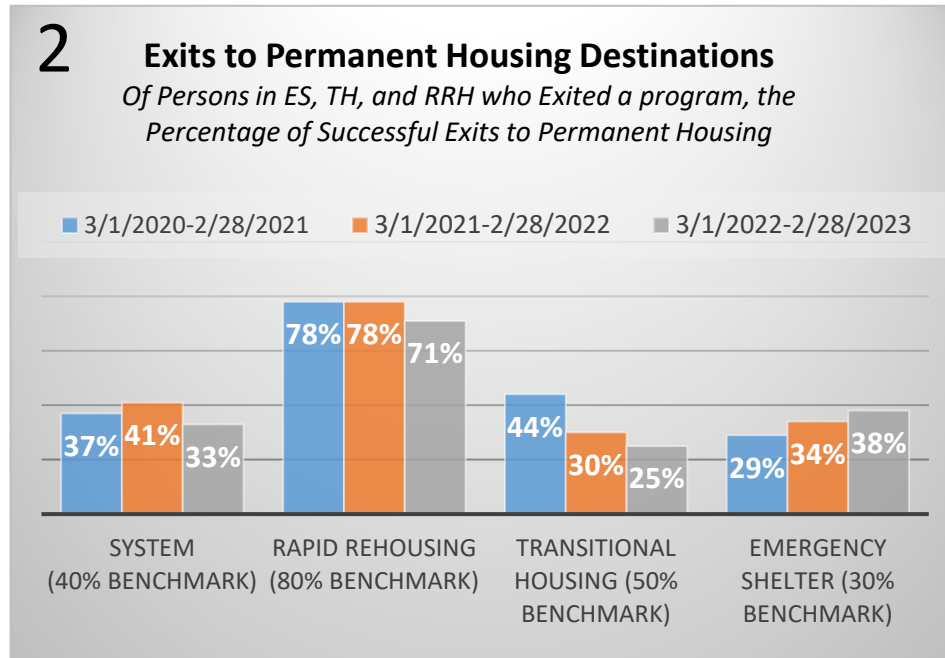
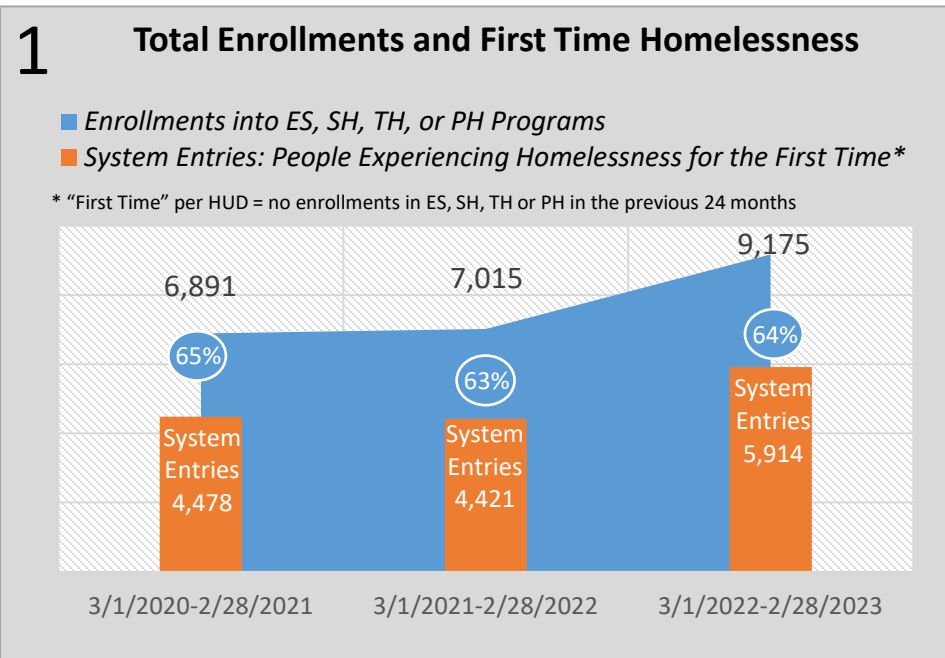


Program Utilization, February 2023



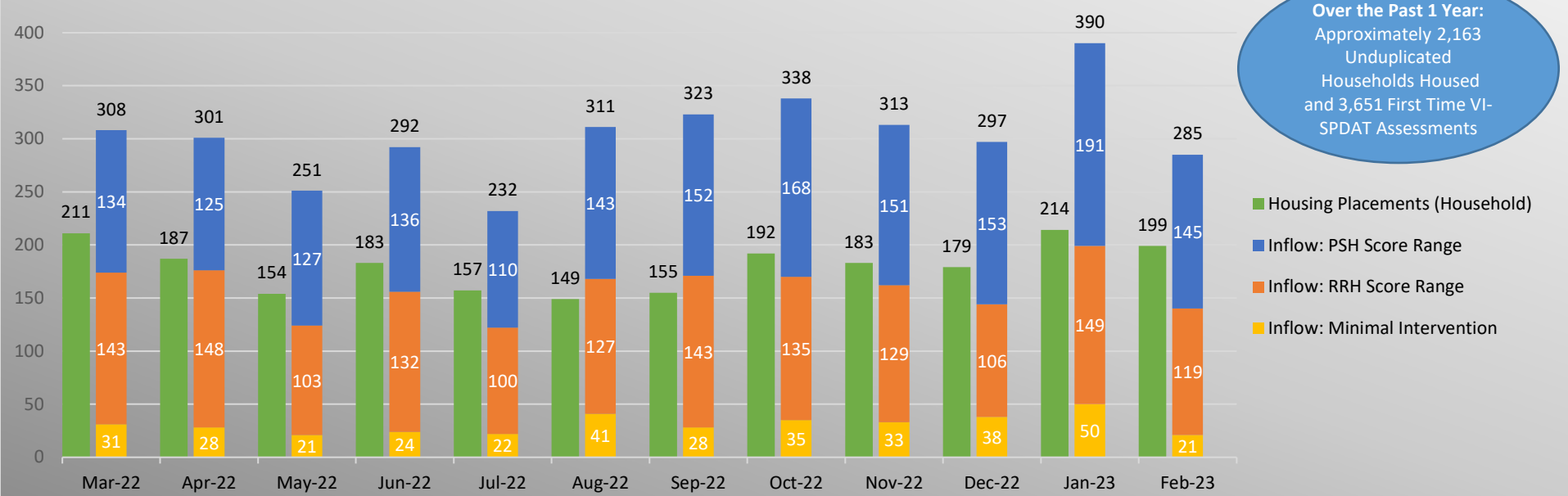
- Utilization: PSH, RRH are point-in-time utilization on February 28, 2023. TH and ES data reflects utilization for the month of February 2023, and SP and HP utilization are based on the last 12 months
- Program utilization is based on households enrolled in programs that are tracked in HMIS.
- PSH programs 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 50 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

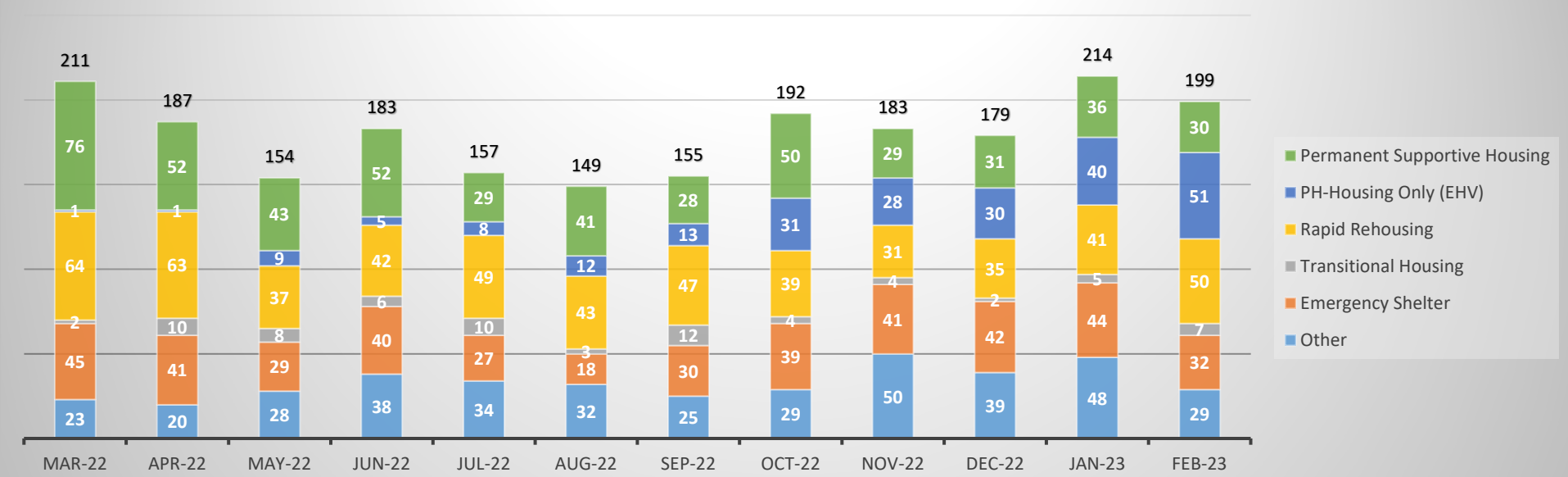


Appendix D: Housing Placements and Inflow by Month

Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow



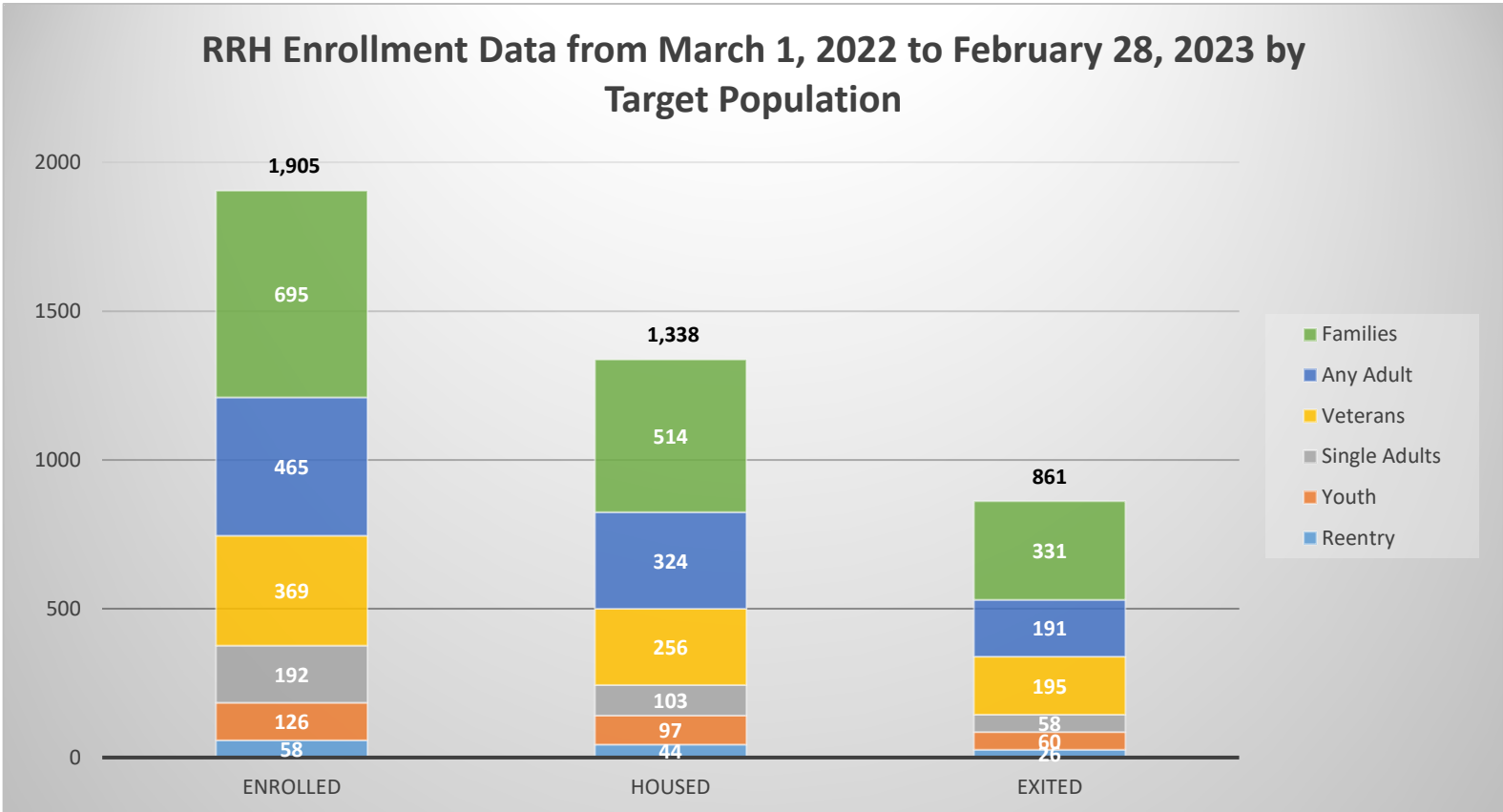
Monthly Housing Placements from Project Types



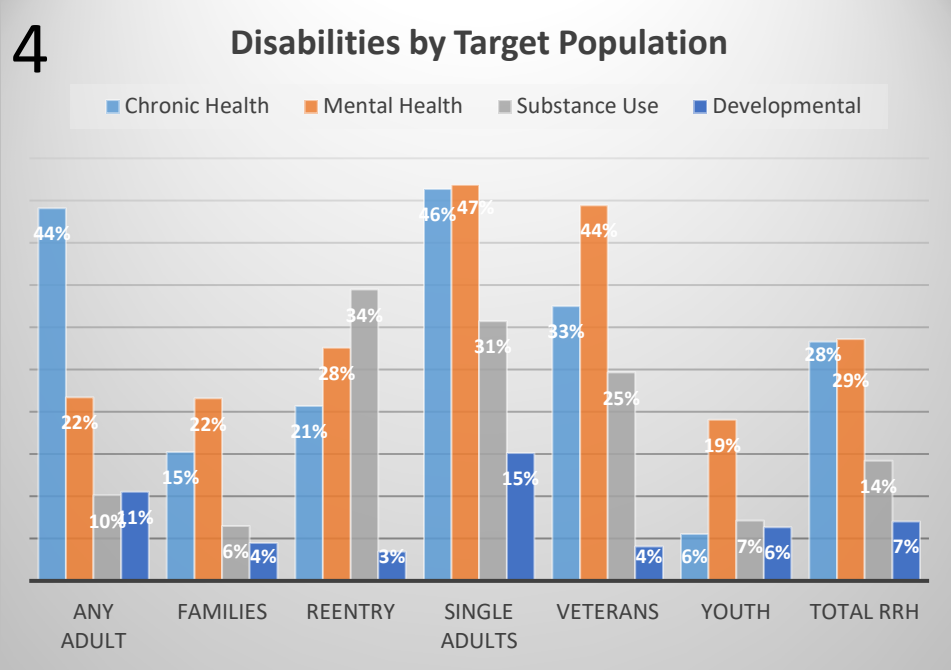
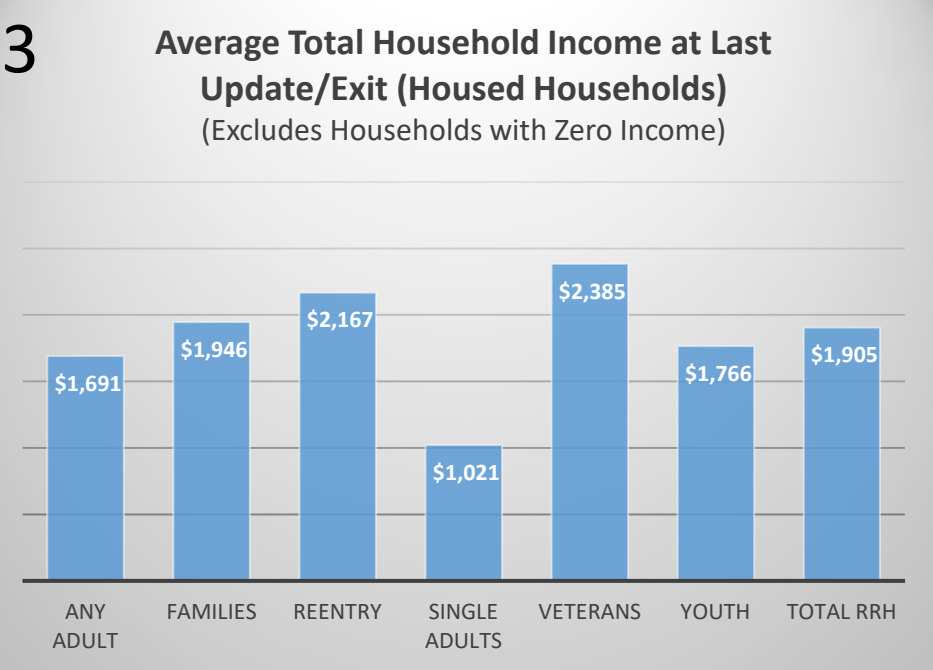
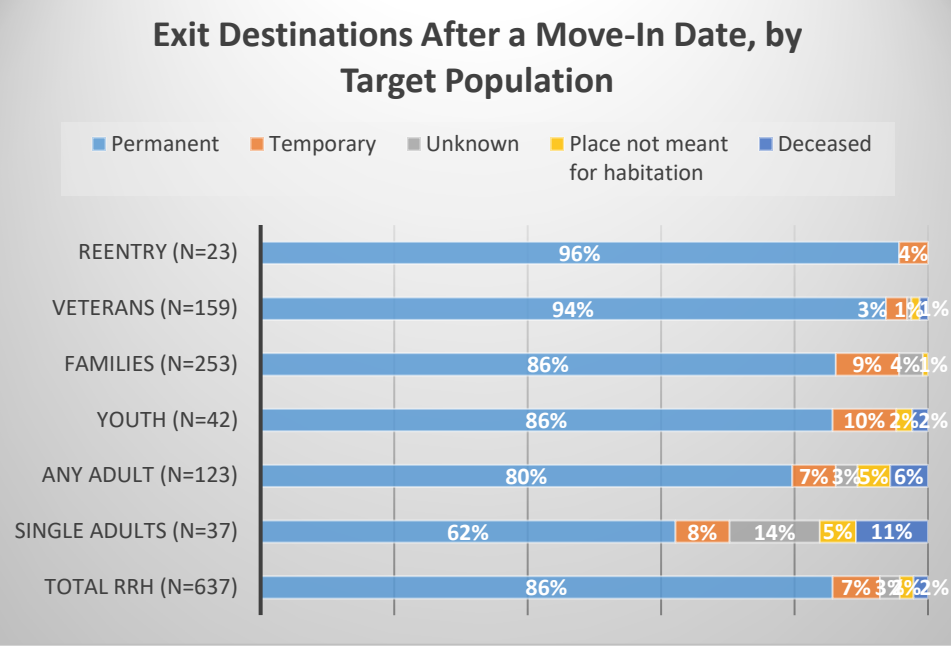
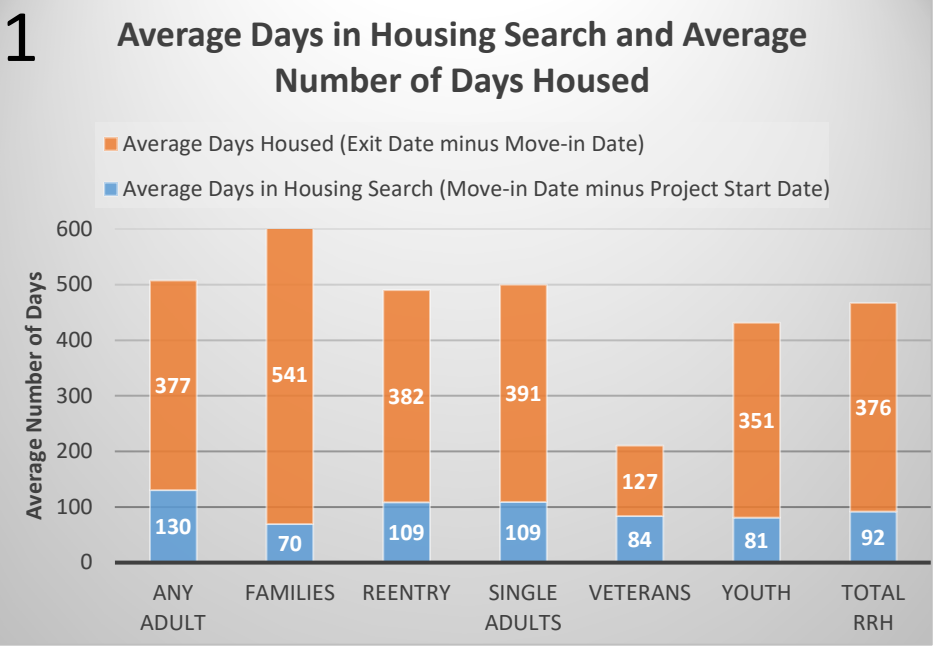
Appendix E: Rapid Rehousing Capacity and Enrollments - February 28, 2023

Target Population	Number of Programs	Annual Capacity (Units) as of 2/28/2023	Percentage of Total
Any Adult	6	395	24%
Families	8	363	22%
Veterans	4	355	22%
Single Adults	3	235	14%
Youth	5	126	8%
Reentry	2	80	5%
IPV Victims	3	75	5%
Total	31	1629	100%

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

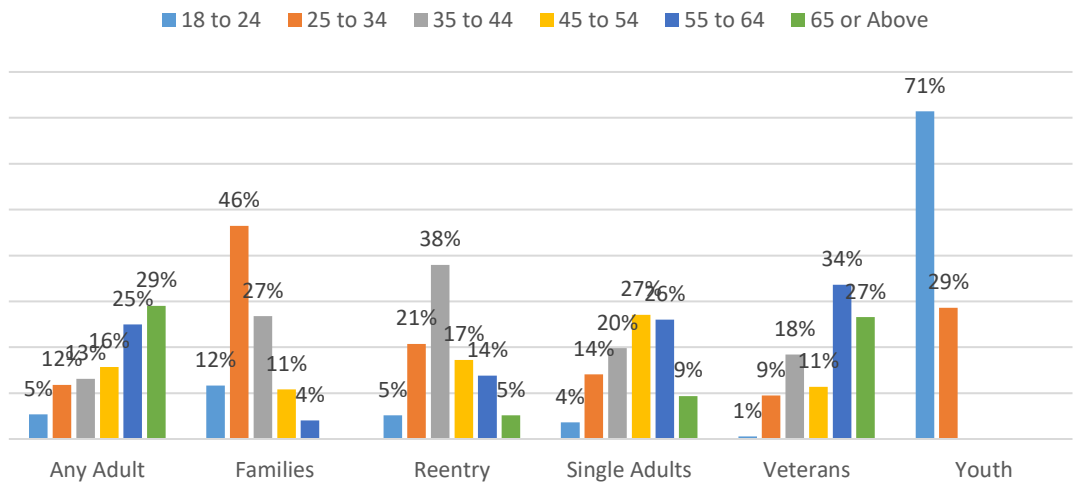


Appendix F: RRH Client Characteristics and Outcomes – Mar. 2022 to Feb. 2023

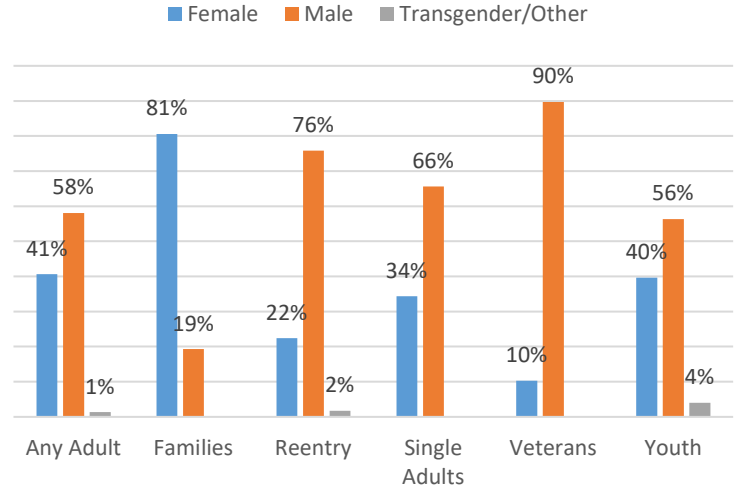


Appendix G: Demographics by RRH Target Population – Enrolled Mar. 2022 to Feb. 2023

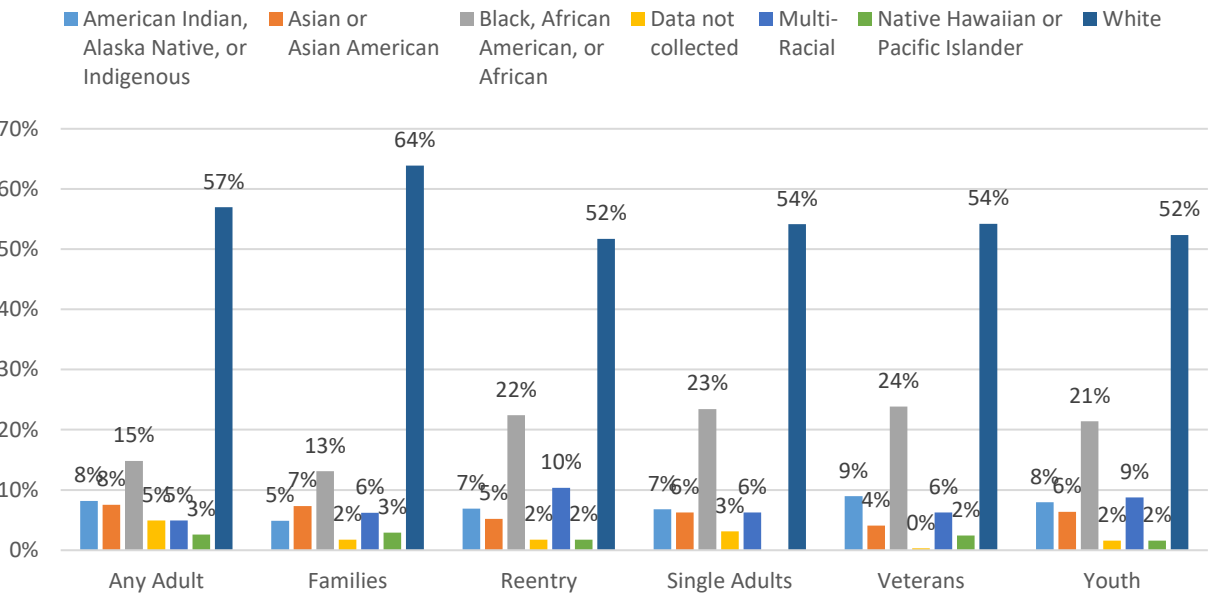
By Age Tier



By Gender



By Race



By Ethnicity

