

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

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November 7, 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 October 2021 and September 2022. 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 Veteran Housing 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 8,655 individuals since January 2020, 43% 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 (4,771 people) is used as a baseline. Inflow for the October 2021 to September 2022 reporting period is 3,248 households, exceeding the five-year goal. The sharp reduction since 2020 may be related to increased financial assistance programs and the eviction moratoria. The Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) will continue to monitor trends over the next several months to better understand the impacts of the eviction moratoria.

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 (126%) and PSH (98%) 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.

While capacity across programs has remained relatively stable over the past year, there are 1,109 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-three percent (33%) of households exiting ES programs moved on to permanent housing, exceeding the County's 30% performance goal. The system-wide benchmark of 40% has decreased slightly to 34% for the October 2021 through September 2022 study period.
- Chart 3 provides data on the percentage of people in Permanent Housing Programs (excluding RRH) 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 95.7% 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 compared to 2020 and the levels are mostly consistent when compared to 2019.

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, 2,226 households have been permanently housed and 3,242 households have taken the VI-SPDAT assessment for the first time (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 323 households becoming homeless for the first time in September as shown in the upper chart, the average gap between the number of housing placements and inflow each month has decreased by 28% from the previous year, mainly due to an increase in housing placements. 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 utilized, the OSH expects placements into permanent housing to increase in the coming months.

Veterans Housing Programs

Appendices E, F, and G include data related to veterans served in the County's homelessness system. The County, in collaboration with the City of San José, the Housing Authority, and Destination: Home, initiated the *All the Way Home* campaign in 2015. This collaboration continues to partner with the community's consortium of service providers with the aim of ending veteran homelessness. Veterans are housed using a variety of supports and initiatives, including landlord incentives and federal programs such as the Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Program (VASH) and the Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) program.

Highlights from the County's efforts to end homelessness for veterans include the following:

- As illustrated in Chart 1 of Appendix E, since November 2015, 2,444 veterans in Santa Clara County moved from homelessness to housing. Just over half of veterans who were housed received assistance from the VASH program, and more than 20% were supported via the SSVF program.
- Chart 2 in Appendix E indicates that overall, veterans exited homeless programs into permanent housing at higher rates than the system-wide population (58% versus 34%, respectively). This may be due to more housing resources in the County being available to the homeless veteran population per capita when compared to the homeless population as a whole.
- Chart 3 in Appendix E shows that overall returns to homelessness for veterans is at 17% which is slightly lower than the overall population (19%). Returns to homelessness after exiting from Emergency Shelter programs is highest for veterans (26%) and for the overall population (25%).
- Chart 1 in Appendix F shows that the number of veterans placed into permanent housing consistently exceeds the number of homeless veterans seeking assistance for the first time. In the last 12 months, 126 veterans (an average of 10 per month) have sought housing assistance for the first time. During the same period, 243 veterans (an average of 20 per month) have been placed in permanent housing. This trend reflects the County's continuing robust efforts to end veteran homelessness.

- Charts 2 and 3 in Appendix F show characteristics of 199 veterans who are currently on the Community Housing Queue which is 69 less than 6 months ago. 40% reported having chronic health issues and about 30% reported a mental health issue or concern and physical disability. Over half of veterans on the queue score in the PSH level of intervention based on their most recent assessment score. Additional demographics of veterans on the queue are shown in Appendix G.



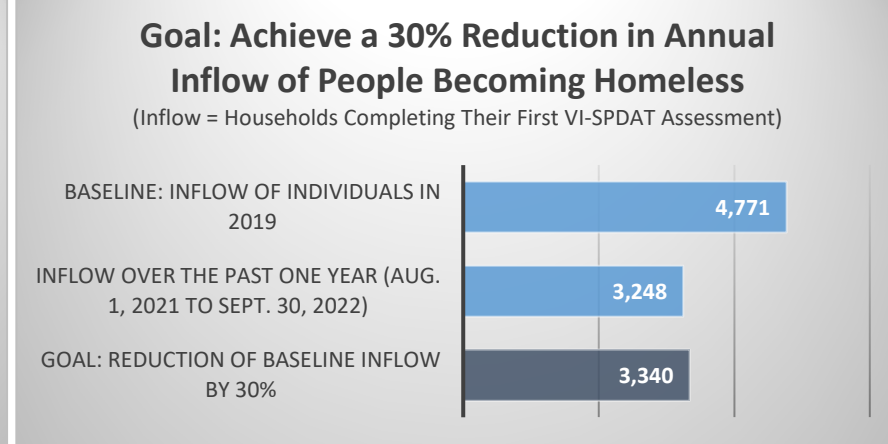
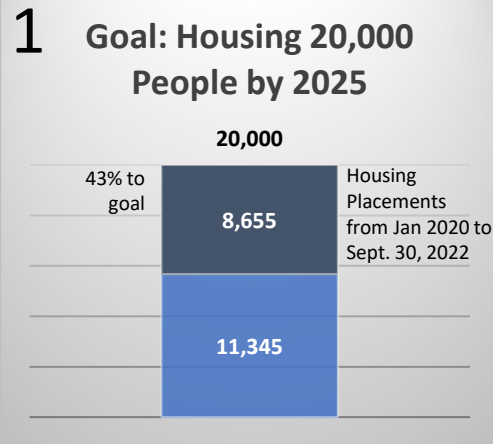
Office of Supportive Housing
Supportive Housing System
Dashboard

October 1, 2021 –
September 30, 2022

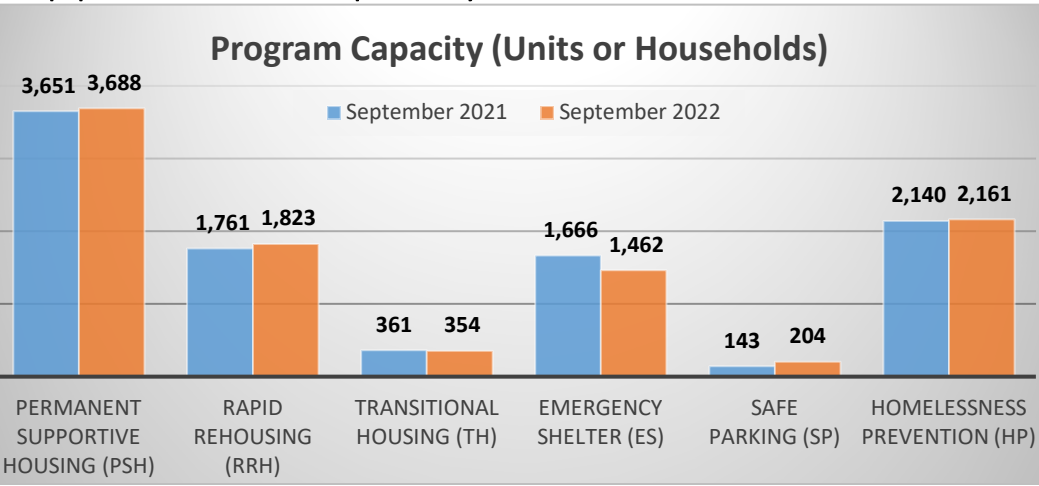
The 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness

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 9/30/2022

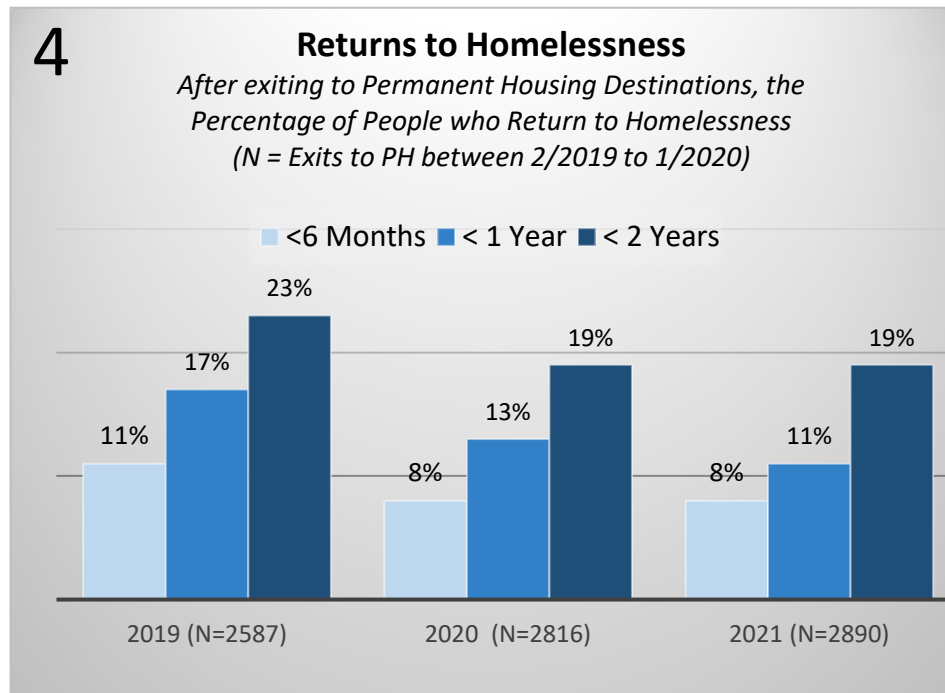
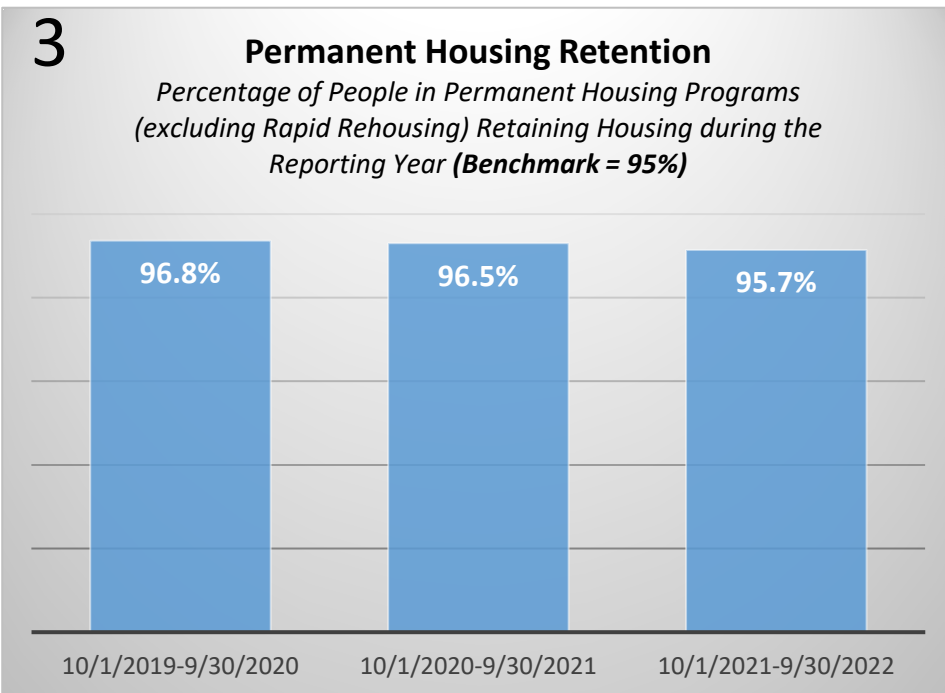
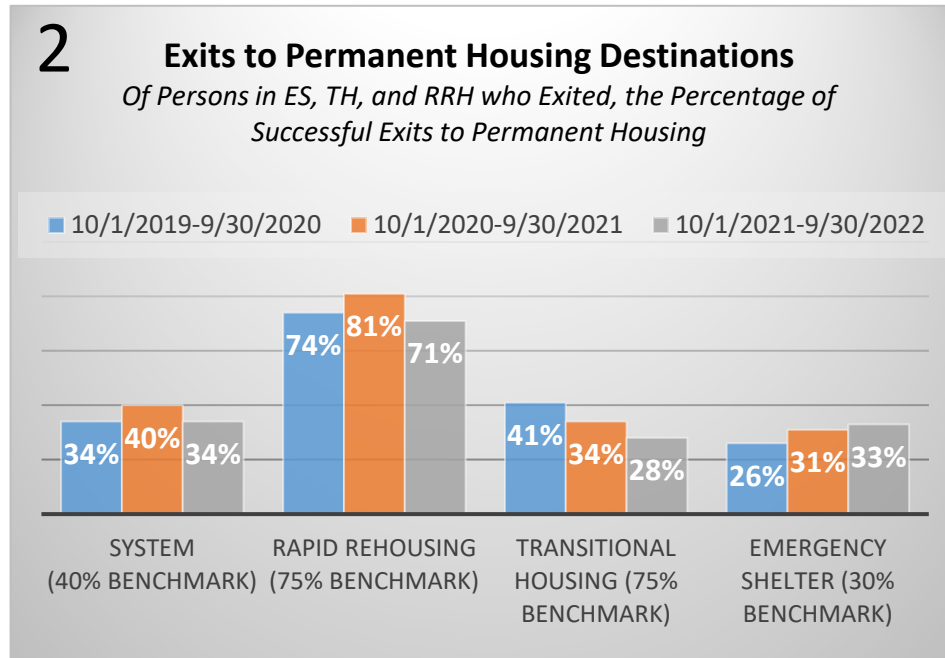
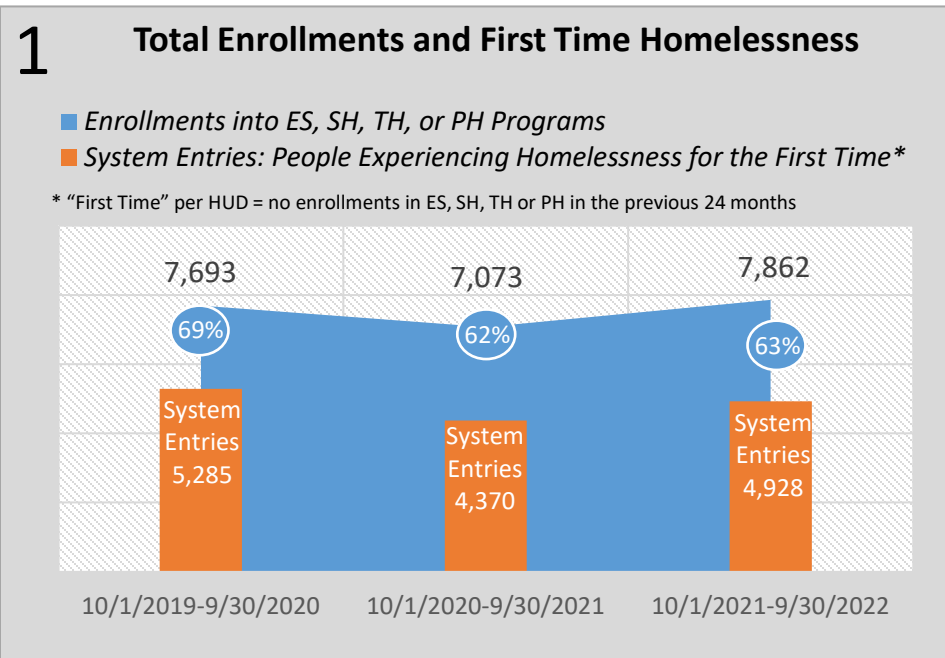


1,109 Total Housing Units (665 PSH, 369 RRH, and 75 VASH) Under Construction or in the Pipeline Approved by the Board



- Utilization: PSH, RRH are point-in-time utilization on September 30, 2022. TH and ES data reflects utilization for the month of September 2022, 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.

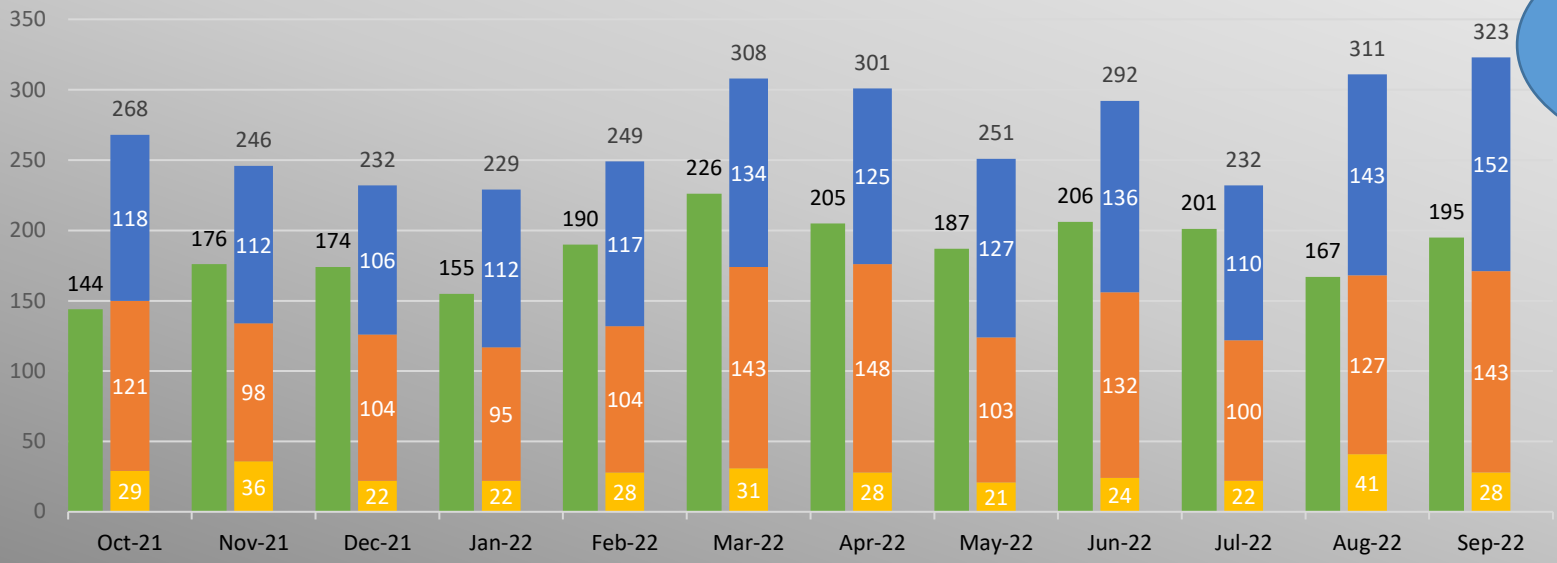
Appendix C: System Performance Measures



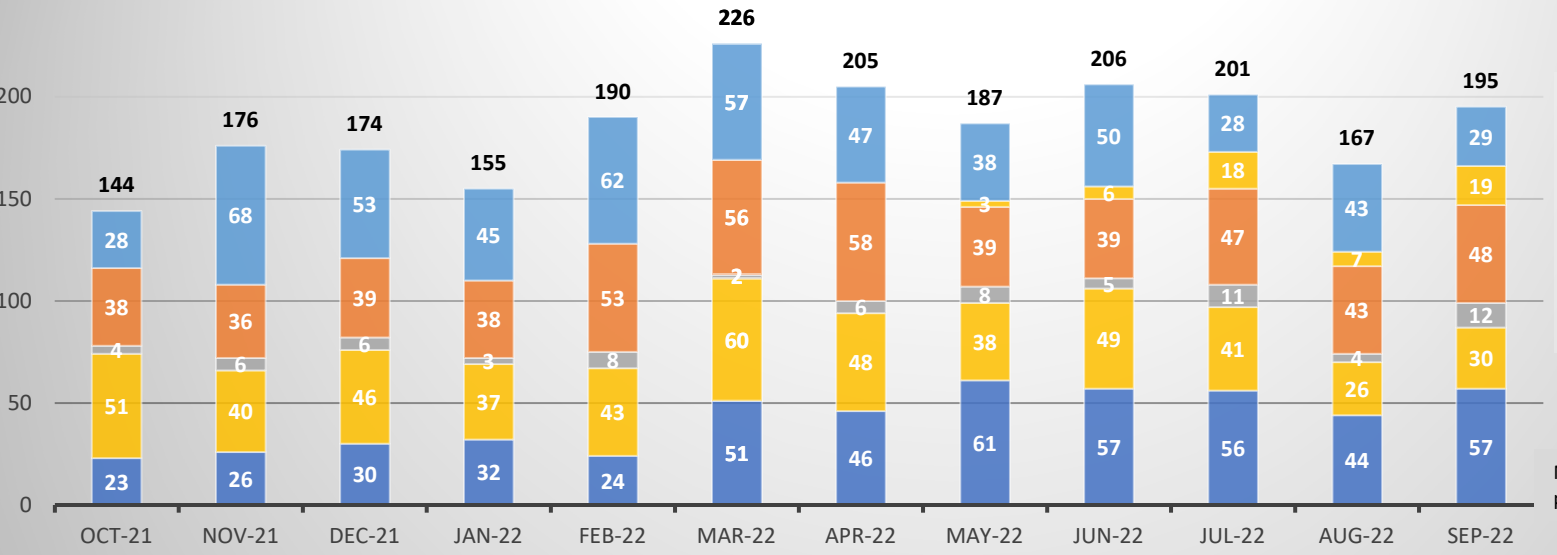
Appendix D: Housing Placements and Inflow by Month

Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow

Over the Past 1 Year:
 2,226 Households
 Housed and 3,242
 First Time VI-SDPAT
 Assessments



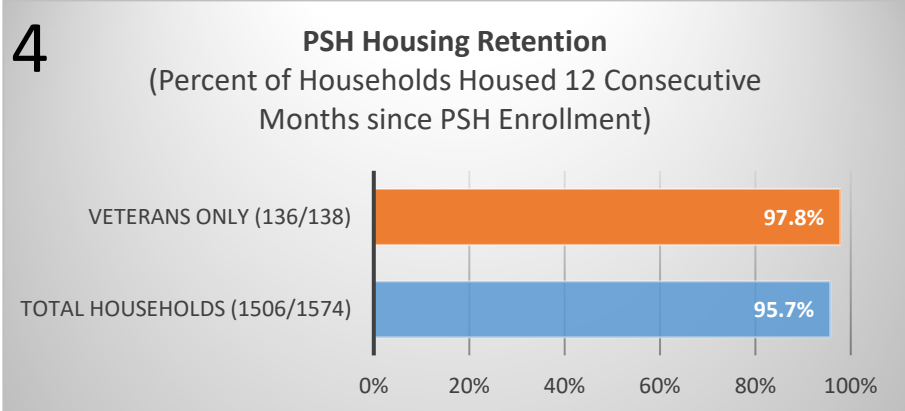
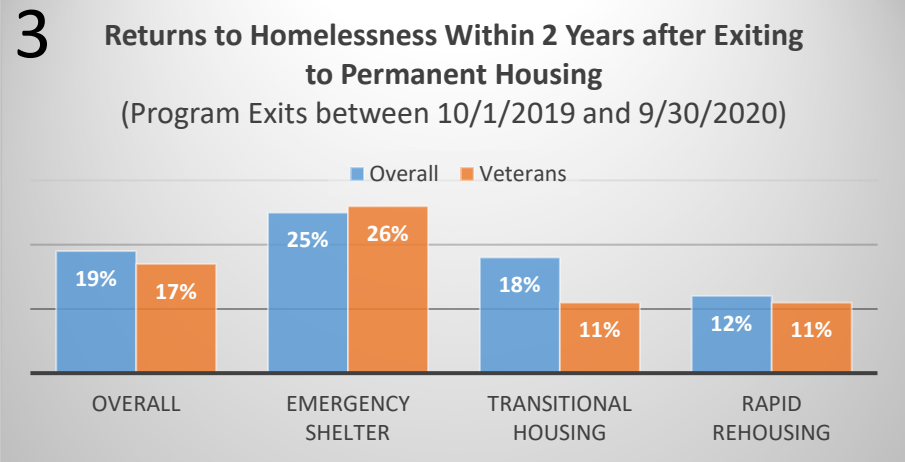
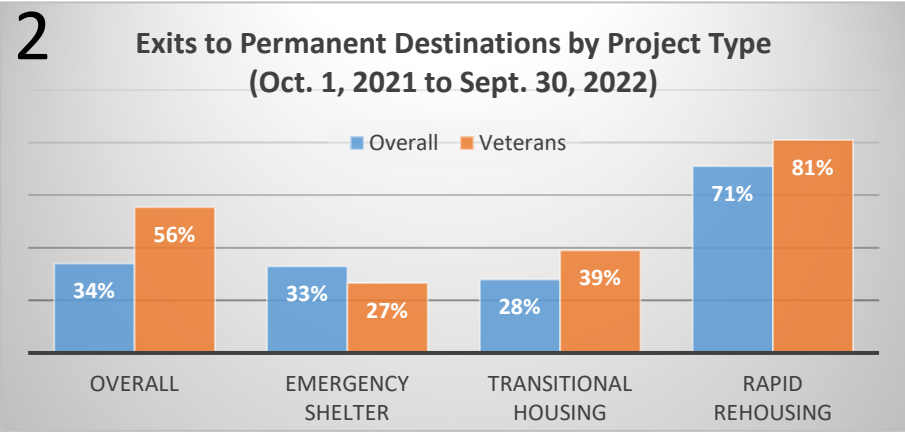
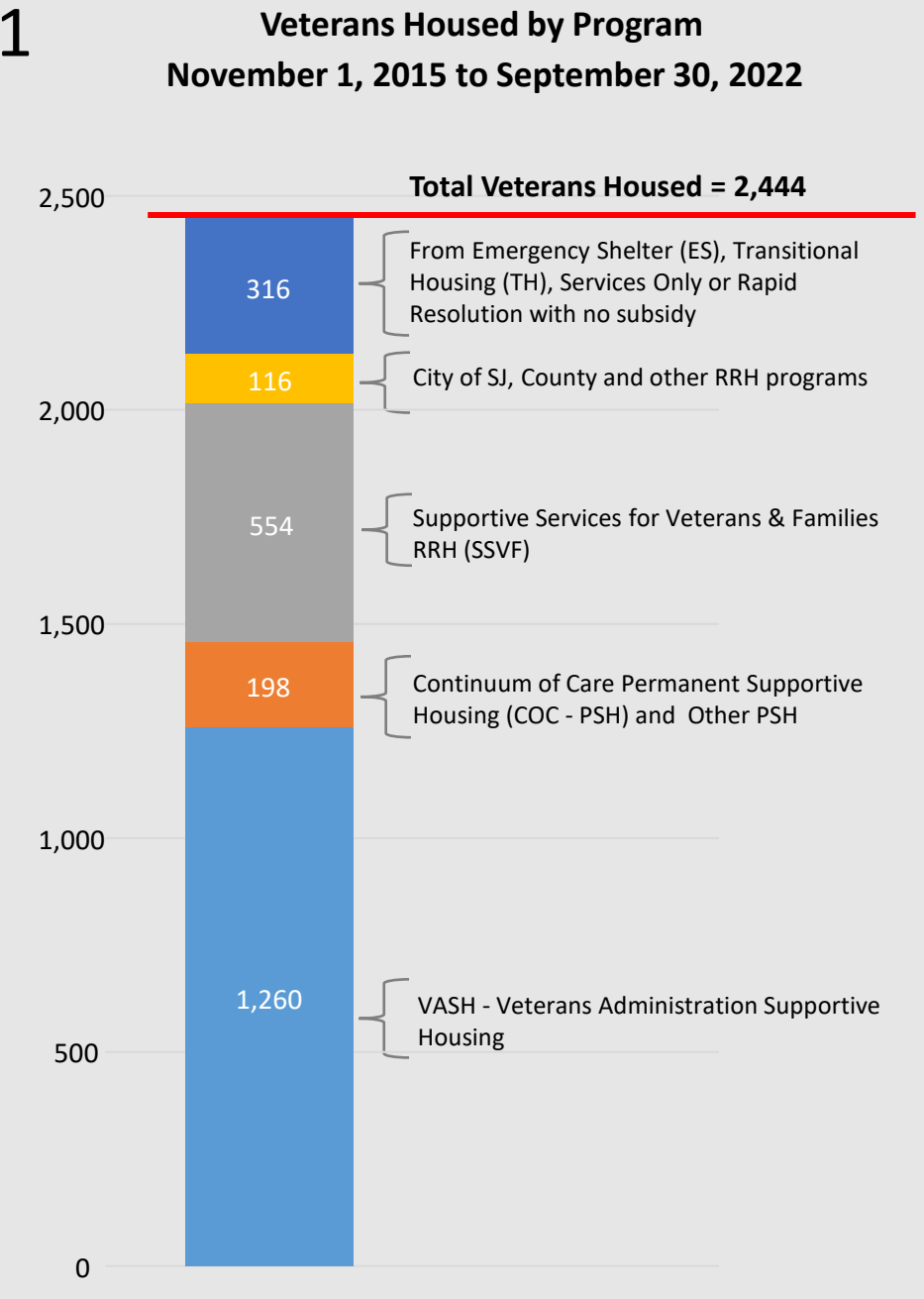
Monthly Housing Placements from Project Types



- Permanent Supportive Housing
- PH - Housing Only (EHV)
- Rapid Rehousing
- Transitional Housing
- Emergency Shelter
- Other

Note: PSH housing placements include VASH

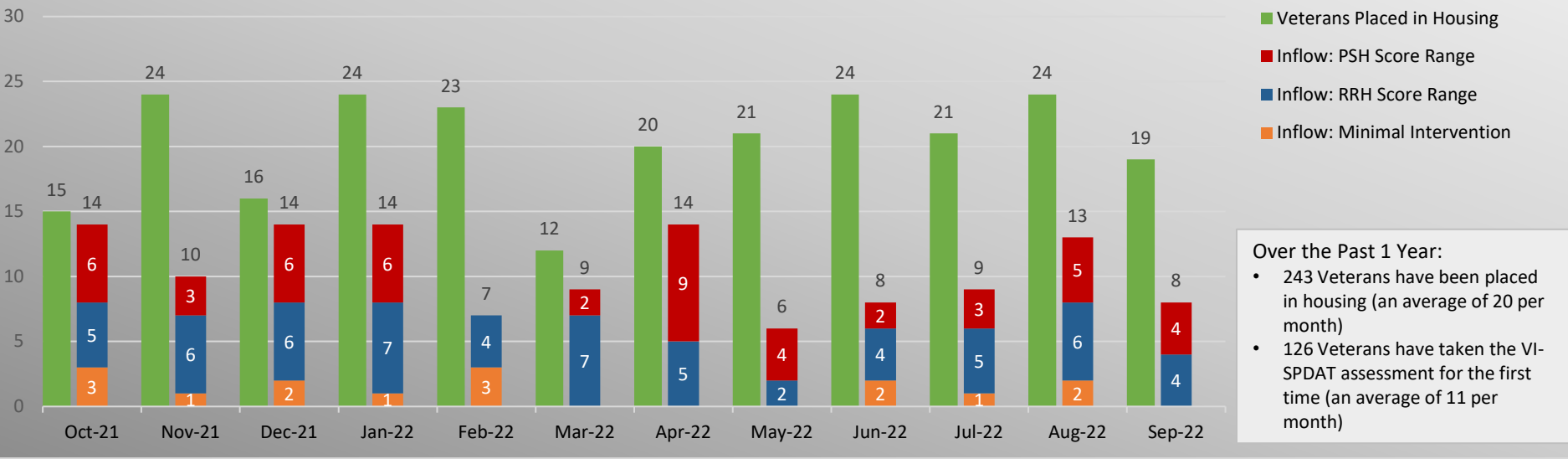
Appendix E: Veteran Capacity, Enrollments, Exits and Returns to Homelessness



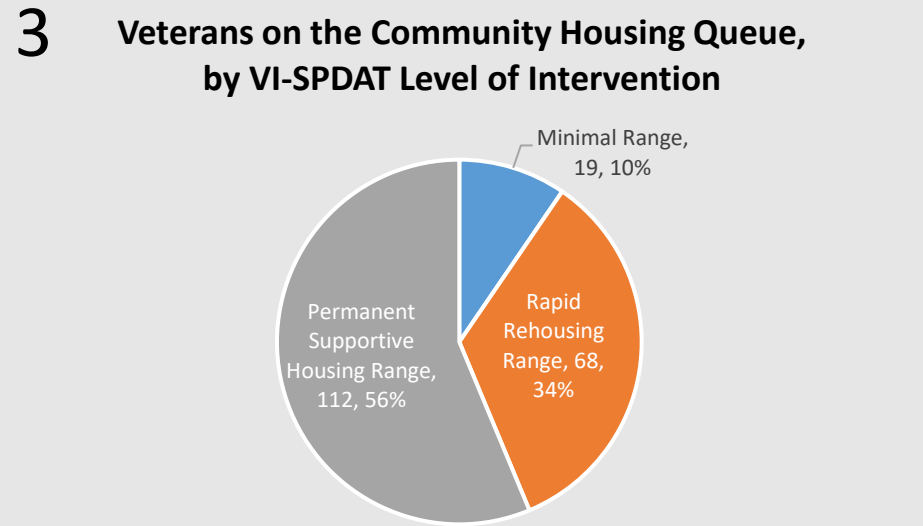
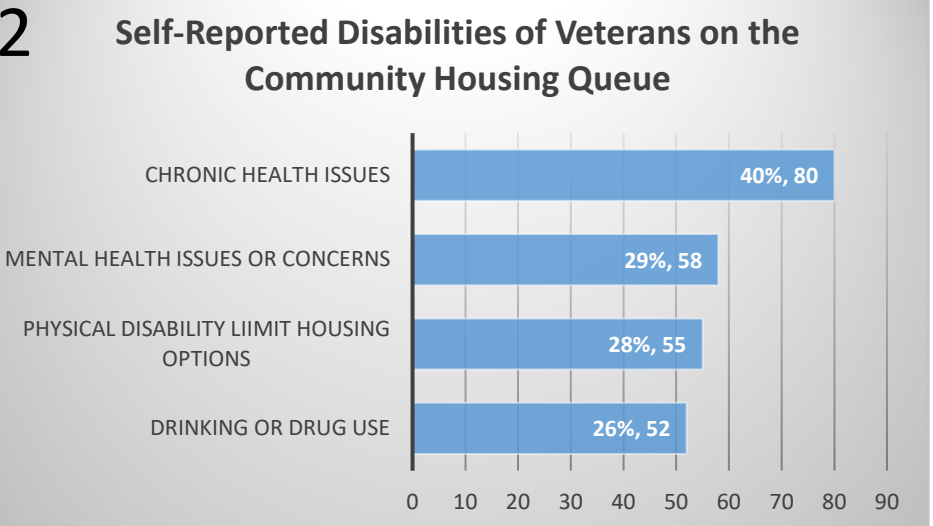
Appendix F: Veteran Inflow, Housing Placement, and Veterans on the Community Queue

1

Veterans Monthly Housing Placements vs. Homeless Inflow (First VI-SPDAT Assessment)

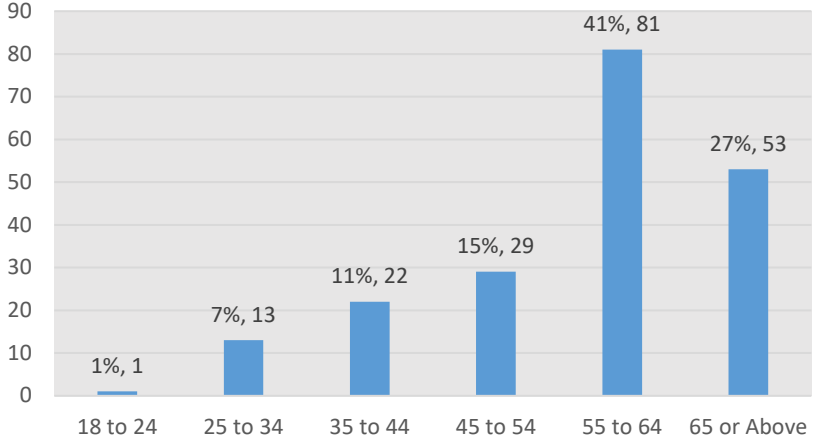


Characteristics of 199 Homeless Veterans Currently on the Community Queue

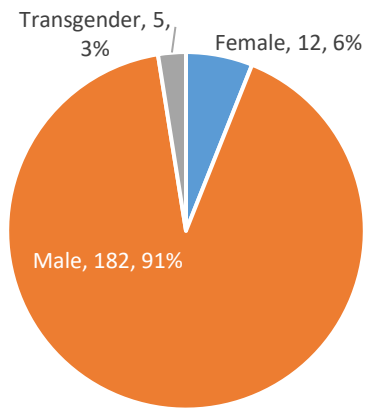


Appendix G: Demographics for 199 Homeless Veterans on the Community Queue, October 2022

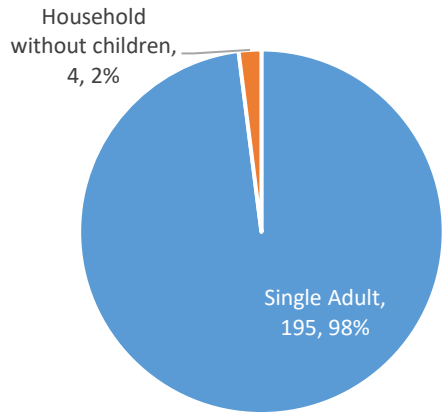
By Age Tier



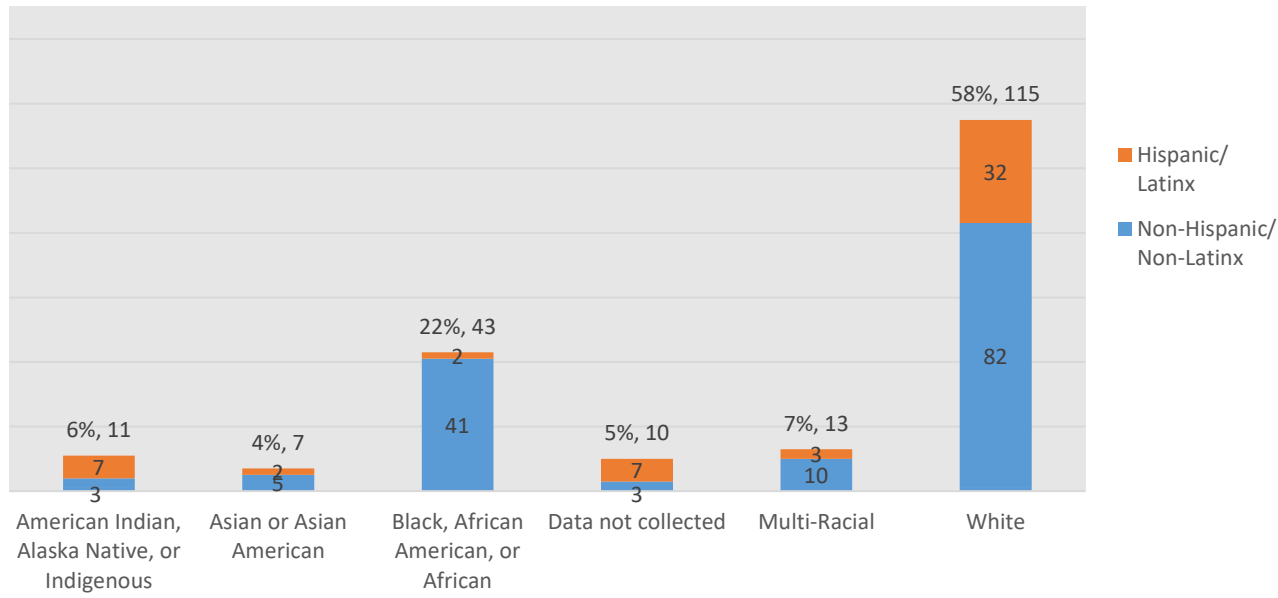
By Gender



By Household Type



Race by Ethnicity



By Ethnicity

