## ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN MICHIGAN

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



# Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness serves those experiencing homelessness and moves them to housing as quickly as possible while providing a support structure that improves physical and mental health and fosters self-sufficiency. Homeless services providers across the state utilize best practices to create a system that works for those they serve, acknowledging each person's unique journey and providing evidence-based housing solutions to stop the cycle of homelessness.

The total number of people experiencing homelessness in Michigan has decreased annually since 2014 thanks in part to the coordinated efforts of state and local partners. In addition, housing resources have been consistently prioritized locally using standard tools across the state to ensure the most vulnerable are engaged, connected and housed as quickly as possible.

While there continues to be a growing need for affordable housing across Michigan, community service agencies, shelters, housing providers, landlords, housing authorities, state agencies and many others are working together to make the homeless response system more efficient and effective for those it serves.

Since 2017, state and local Campaign partners have been working through a three-year action plan to combat homelessness. Their combined efforts continue to reduce homelessness among key subpopulations (e.g. veterans and youth) while additional data reporting has been developed to help agencies and funders monitor and improve federal performance outcomes.

Michigan's response to homelessness extends past housing. It is working with new partners from other sectors such as healthcare and employment to improve key social determinants of health and increase access to stable income. The continued evolution of Michigan's homeless response system will enable an improved response to individuals and families in greatest need and encourage innovative strategies to move this vital work forward.



Kelly Rose Chief Housing Solutions Officer, MSHDA Chair, Michigan Interagency Council on Homelessness



Yaula Kaiser Van Dam

Paula Kaiser Van Dam Director, Bureau of Community Services, MDHHS Co-Chair, Homelessness Policy Advisory Team



Gristin Q. Brady

Kristin Brady
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Community Action
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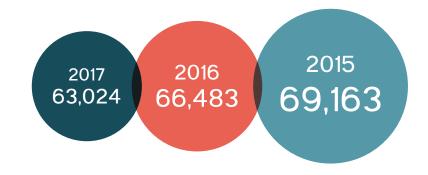
## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 9% decrease from 2015-2017



Housing is a basic need and ending homelessness is an achievable goal. No person should be forced to sleep on the streets, in the woods or on a cot in a shelter on any night, in any town or city. Any homeless experience should be brief, rare and nonrecurring.

#### NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS 2015-2017

For the third year in a row, Michigan saw a decrease in the total number of people experiencing homelessness. In 2017, there were an estimated 63,024 literally homeless individuals (individuals and families residing on the streets, in emergency shelters or in other places not fit for human habitation) statewide.



#### CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS 2015-2017 Decreases

Single Adults (25+)

Unaccompanied Minors (Under 18)

Youth (18-24)

Veterans

\*Chronic Homelessness

\*An individual with a disabling condition who has been literally homeless continuously for at least one year or on at least four separate occasions in the last three years, where the cumulative total of the four occasions is at least 12 months.

RECOGNIZING THE CHALLENGES Ongoing

of the homeless population in Michigan are African American, yet they make up only 14% of the state's overall population.

Families experiencing homelessness are getting larger, with the number of children in families increasing by 7% while the number of adults in families remains stable.

4%

Homeless seniors (55+) increased by 4%.

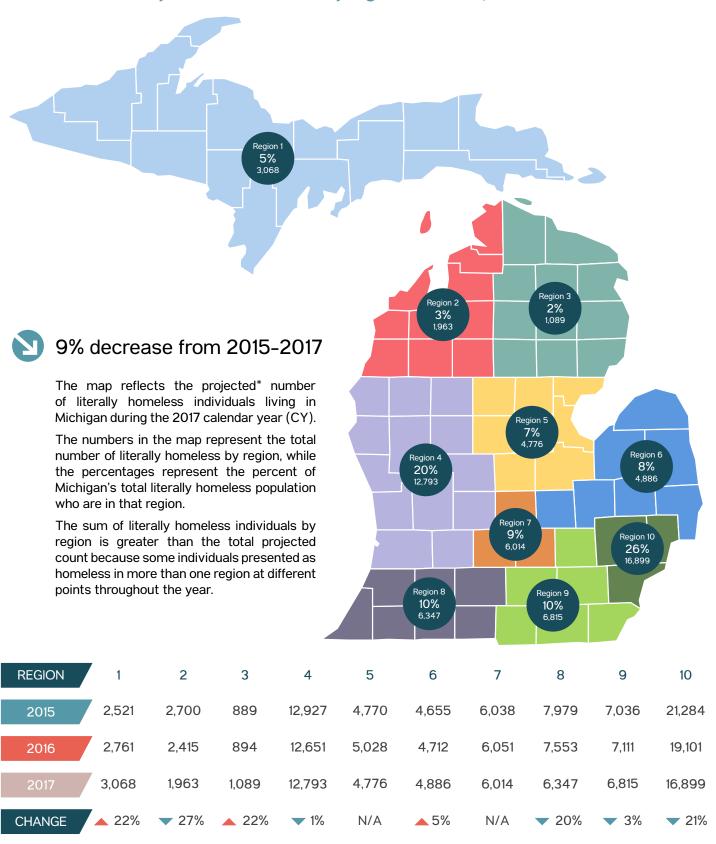
44%

of Michigan's homeless population has long-term disabilities compared to 14% of the state's general populace.

is the average monthly income of the homeless population statewide.

#### MICHIGAN'S HOMELESS POPULATION

2017 Literally Homeless individuals by Region | Total Unduplicated Count 63,024



<sup>\*</sup> The projected homeless count was derived from data captured in the Michigan Statewide Homeless Management Information System (MSHMIS) and includes an estimate of the number of homeless served at non-participating providers statewide. In 2017, approximately 89 percent (56,231) of Michigan's total homeless population (63,024) were captured in MSHMIS. Those not captured in the system (6,793), were primarily served in domestic violence shelters, where the use of MSHMIS is prohibited to ensure client safety.

### **HEALTH AND RACIAL DISPARITIES**

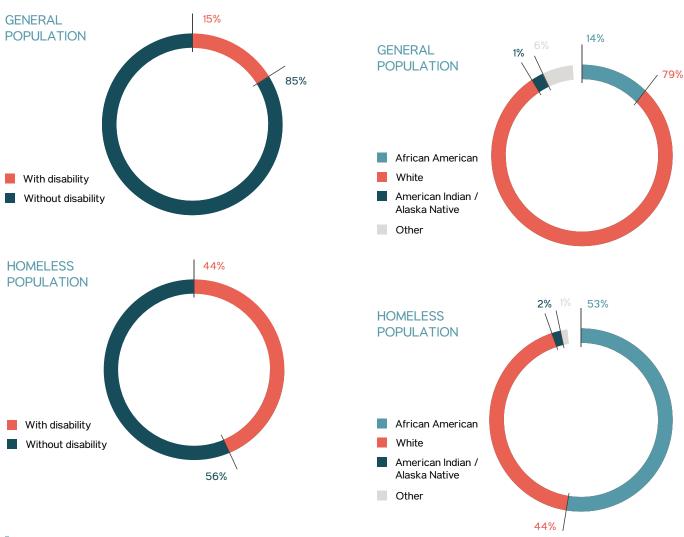
An analysis of the statewide aggregate data identified disparities in the areas of race and health when comparing homeless individuals with Michigan's non-homeless population.

## HEALTH DISPARITIES 2017

Individuals experiencing homelessness in Michigan are three times more likely to have a disability than the general population.

## RACIAL DISPARITIES 2017

In Michigan, 53 percent of the homeless population is African American compared to 41 percent nationally, while African Americans make up 14 percent of Michigan's overall population and 13 percent of the overall population nationally.



## DISABILITY TYPES 2017

The three most commonly reported disability types are mental health, physical health and substance use disorders, with many individuals experiencing more than one disability.

66% Mental health 39% Physical health

28%
Substance use disorder

#### **VOICES OF HOMELESSNESS IN MICHIGAN**

People may experience homelessness for many reasons and the effects can be devastating. With the help of professional attention and prioritized care, there can be a different outcome. Here are some of our success stories.

#### **DONALD**

Donald heard about the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program after being referred from a community Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) partner. Donald and his family were facing eviction due to car trouble that consumed most of their finances, along with some mental health concerns. Barely making ends meet, the additional financial burdens caused them to fall behind on rent. Donald applied for State Emergency Relief and received partial approval, but was unable to pay his portion. With assistance from multiple organization referrals and hard work, he went back to a zero balance, preventing him and his family from becoming homeless.

#### **COREY**

Corey is all about paying it forward. After sustaining a hand injury that left him unable to work, he lost his job and became homeless. Corey went to a local agency where he received shelter and services. As one of Ability Benefit Clinic's first clients, he was able to secure Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a program that provides cash to meet basic needs like food, clothing and shelter for aged, blind and disabled people with little or no income. With the support of the local agency, Corey has been stably housed for three years and often volunteers his time in the community kitchen, giving back to the organization that helped him when he needed it most.

#### \*TIFFANY

Tiffany, a single mother of two, was escaping domestic violence when she was provided with three months of rental assistance through MSHDA's ESG Rapid Re-Housing funds. She selected her own unit and moved in quickly after her application was approved. Tiffany immediately reported that she and her children were doing so much better in their new home. She was referred to community resources for continued support for domestic violence victims and was assisted with getting on the Homeless Preference wait list. With the voucher she received, Tiffany was able to remain in the unit she selected where her rent will be subsidized each month.

#### THE WORDEN FAMILY

Rod and Leslie Worden turned their values into action when they offered their 17-year-old nephew, Lance, a hosthome. After struggles at home, Lance made the difficult decision to move out. He was one of the first participants in a local Homeless and Runaway Youth Program. After Rod and Leslie opened up their home to Lance, they requested that Lance cut his hours at work so he could participate in sports. In his new living arrangement, Lance was able to focus on his studies and graduate from Standish Sterling High School with honors. He continued on to Saginaw Valley State University where he is pursuing a degree in nursing. Lance and his host-home have shown that no matter the situation anything is possible with love and support. Lance and his family are great role models for others facing adversity.

"From humble beginnings, this is where it began. As long as I am breathing, there will always be a part of me that is helping here."

- COREY

## **RESPONDING TO YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN Awarded HUD Youth Grant

In 2017 the Greater Grand Traverse Area Continuum of Care (GGTACoC) comprised of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties, was selected as a four-year Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) site through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) competitive selection process. This group is one of 10 YHDP sites nationwide and one of only four rural communities.

Their first step was to develop a community plan that included innovative solutions to end rural youth homelessness, some that could be funded by HUD as well as community projects that would require local support.

The Northwest Michigan Youth Plan is nothing short of exciting and the GGTACoC is close to beginning implementation of projects including:

- Coordinated Entry for Youth
- Youth-focused Diversion
- Youth Street Outreach
- Rapid Rehousing for Youth
- Rapid Rehousing for Pregnant and Parenting Youth

Ending youth homelessness in Northwest Michigan is truly within reach. The Youth Action Board (YAB) leadership has been an integral part of the plan and will continue to be empowered and supported every step of the way. Northwest Michigan is committed to nurturing the growth of the YAB leadership because they believe lived experience is expertise. Youth voice and choice will forever be at the forefront of this work because there is nothing about youth, without youth.

TESTIMONIAL Livingston Youth

About three years ago, after experiencing complications at home, I was placed in two different facilities. As time passed and I was reaching adulthood, I had nothing to prepare me for what was to come. I had no money, no driving experience, no car or license and no future as far as I was concerned. I heard of a place and started attending groups at their Drop-in Center. I learned about the Basic Center program and stayed for a week. It was a break from the issues at home and also a way to learn how to use coping skills. While there, I started to confront internal and external conflicts, realizing that I didn't like taking responsibility for my contributions to the problems faced at home. I stayed at the Basic Center several times and eventually realized that I could not return home due to family conflicts. I reached the age where I could be placed in another program, a Transitional Living Program (TLP) for youth. It was the best option for me to have housing and be prepared for adulthood. In the TLP program, I learned adult responsibilities and worked with a case manager who helped me understand rent, utilities, driving tests, budgeting and saving. Through my journey in TLP I learned so much that helped me become a better person, a better influence and become more involved in the community. I wouldn't have learned these things living at home. I believe that other youth in these positions could really benefit from The Connection Youth Services and I am thankful for the opportunity to better my future and become a better person.

> \*JASMIN, 18 Livingston County

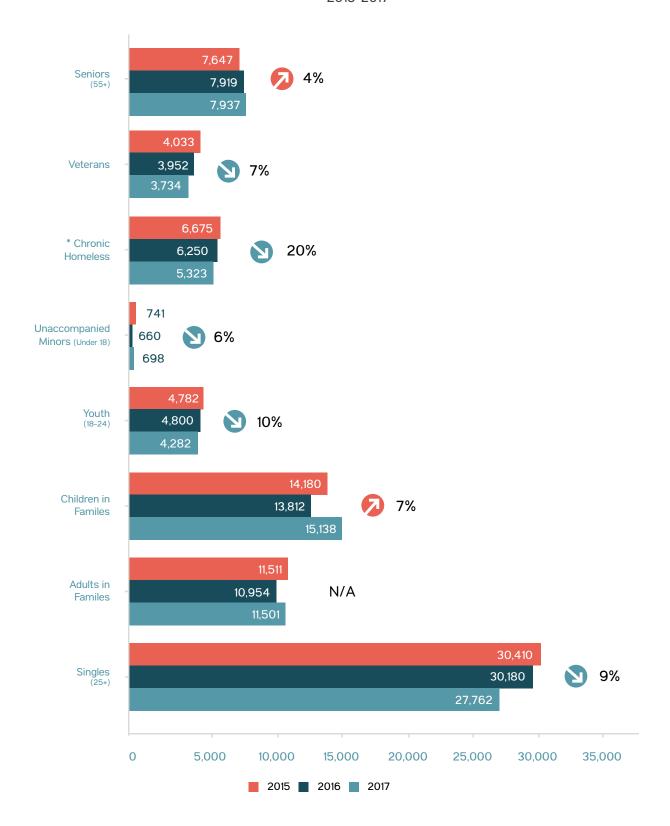
"As time passed... I had nothing to prepare me for what was to come. I had no money, no driving experience, no car or license and no future..."

- \*JASMIN

<sup>\*</sup> Names have been changed due to confidentiality

## A LOOK AT SUBPOPULATIONS

HOMELESS COUNT BY SUBPOPULATION 2015-2017



<sup>\*</sup> In October 2016, the process for capturing data on homeless history was restructured; part of the year's reduction in chronic homelessness can be contributed to this change. However, the reduction also reflects the fact that across the state, programs effectively prioritized and housed persons experiencing chronic homelessness.

## **SUBPOPULATION FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

2017



family households who have exited homeless services

## \$629

the average monthly income for families with children exiting homeless services

### 38%

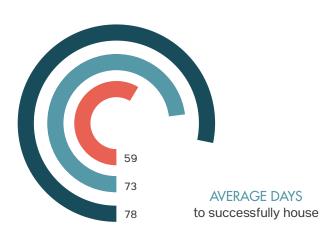
of homeless adults in families have an identified disability

### 63%

of homeless families served were led by single mothers

#### **59**

the average number of days to successfully house homeless families with children



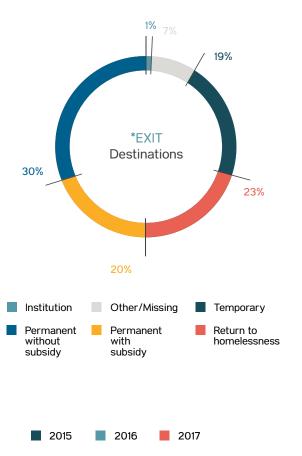
#### Action Plan Goal 2017-2019

Annual Progress



Reduce family homelessness by 10% annually





<sup>\*</sup> Permanent housing includes rental by client, owned by client or staying with friends/family permanently Temporary housing includes transitional housing, hotel/motel without a voucher or staying with friends/family temporarily Institution includes jail, hospital, treatment, foster care, etc.

Other/Missing includes data not collected or client deceased

## **SUBPOPULATION SENIORS (55+)**

2017

5,983

seniors exited homeless services

\$990

the average monthly income for seniors exiting homeless services

50%

of homeless seniors were homeless for the first time

**75%** 

of homeless seniors have an identified disability

**78** 

the average number of days to successfully house homeless seniors

AVERAGE DAYS to successfully house



#### Action Plan Goal 2017-2019

Annual Progress

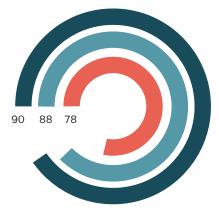


Reduce individual homelessness by 10% annually

2016 7,919 Individuals2017 7,937 Individuals







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## **SUBPOPULATION** YOUTH (18 - 24)

2017

3,019

youth exited homeless services

\$168

the average monthly income for youth exiting homeless services

45%

of homeless youth have an identified disability

66

the average number of days to successfully house homeless youth

AVERAGE DAYS to successfully house

2015 2016 2017

#### Action Plan Goal 2017-2019

Annual Progress



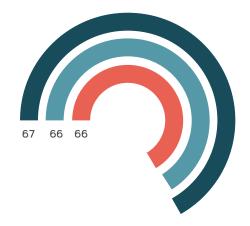
Reduce youth homelessness by 10% annually

2016 4,800 Individuals

2017 4,282 Individuals







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## SUBPOPULATION UNACCOMPANIED MINORS (UNDER 18)



unaccompanied minors have exited homeless services

## 39%

of homeless unaccompanied minors have an identified disability

#### 1 in 4

homeless unaccompanied minors came from familes with a history of housing instability

### 1 in 3

homeless unaccompanied minors has had an experience in the foster care system

#### 33

the average number of days to successfully house homeless unaccompanied minors

## AVERAGE DAYS to successfully house

2015 2016 2017

#### Action Plan Goal 2017-2019

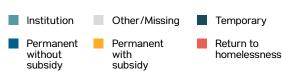
Annual Progress

6%

Reduce youth homelessness by 10% annually

2016 660 Individuals
2017 698 Individuals







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Other/Missing includes data not collected or client deceased

## **SUBPOPULATION VETERANS**

2017

3,124

veterans exited homeless services

\$1,307

the average monthly income for veterans exiting homeless services

73%

of homeless veterans have an identified disability

**77** 

the average number of days to successfully house homeless veterans



2015 2016 2017

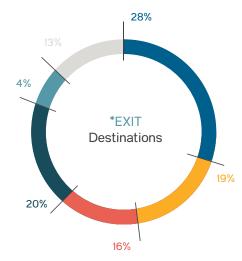


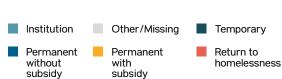
Annual Progress



House all veterans experiencing homelessness

2016 3,952 Individuals
2017 3,734 Individuals







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Institution includes jail, hospital, treatment, foster care, etc.
Other/Missing includes data not collected or client deceased

## **SUBPOPULATION CHRONIC HOMELESS**

2017

4,024

chronically homeless individuals exited homeless services

\$1,052

the average monthly income for chronically homeless individuals exiting homeless services

57%

of chronically homeless individuals are African Americans

1 in 3

chronically homeless individuals are 55+

90

the average number of days to successfully house chronically homeless individuals

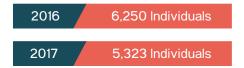


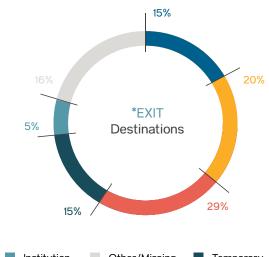
Annual Progress

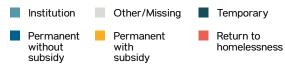


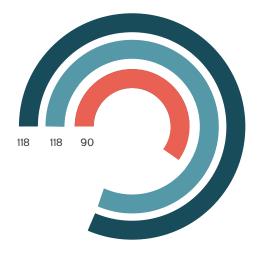
15%

Reduce chronic homelessness by 20% annually









AVERAGE DAYS
to successfully house

2015 2016 2017

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Other/Missing includes data not collected or client deceased

## **SUBPOPULATION SINGLE ADULTS (25+)**

2017

20,868

single adults exited homeless services

\$708

the average monthly income for single adults exiting homeless services

65%

of homeless single adults have an identified disability

**78** 

the average number of days to successfully house homeless single adults

2015



2016

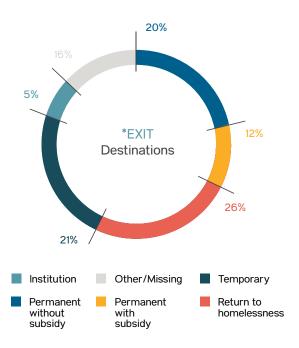


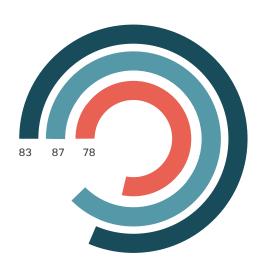
Annual Progress



Reduce individual homelessness by 10% annually

2016 30,180 Individuals
2017 27,762 Individuals





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Other/Missing includes data not collected or client deceased

2017

#### SYSTEM PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established a series of system performance measures in the reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2009 to help communities gauge their progress in preventing and ending homelessness. Michigan has determined that four core measures will form the basis for how it evaluates statewide progress. Regular evaluation of the core measures is a central part of the action plan for Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness.

#### Measure 1

Number of persons first-time homeless and without an additional homeless experience within the preceding 24 months.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Decrease the number of people experiencing first-time homelessness

HOUSING	12016	2017	CHANGE
Shelters and transitional Only	26,012	25,439	<b>▼</b> 2%
Shelters, transitional and permanent	31,885	31,004	<b>▼</b> 3%

#### Measure 3

Percentage of clients exiting to stable housing or retaining permanent housing.\*

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Increase the percentage of persons successfully exiting to stable housing or retaining permanent housing

HOUSING	2016	2017	CHANGE
Street Outreach	52%	69%	<b>17</b> %
Shelters, transitional and rapid re-housing	46%	48%	<b>2</b> %
Permanent housing (excludes rapid re-housing	95%	96%	<b>1</b> %

<sup>\*</sup>Street outreach, shelters, transitional housing and rapid re-housing percentages of clients exiting to stable housing. Permanent housing percentage of clients exiting or retaining permanent housing.

#### Measure 2

Total length of time within a homeless experience considering time spent in shelters and not on the streets or in unfit places.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Decrease the average length of time people experience homelessness

TIME	2016	<sup>2</sup> 2017	CHANGE
Average Length of time homeless	92 nights	50 nights	▼42 nights

#### Measure 4

Number of persons who have a new homeless episode within a two-year period after exiting to stable housing.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Decrease the percentage of persons who are returning to homelessness after exiting to stable housing

HOUSING	2016	2017	CHANGE
Street Outreach	28%	28%	N/A
Shelters	32%	31%	<b>1</b> %
Transitional	19%	19%	N/A
Permanent	16%	17%	<b>1</b> %
Total Returns	26%	24%	<b>→</b> <sup>3</sup> 2%

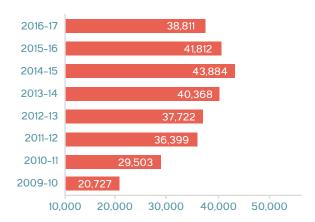
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Numbers are slightly different than those published in prior annual reports due to a report analytics change. <sup>2</sup> Decrease is partially due to improved data quality in 2017. <sup>3</sup> Due to rounding, numbers presented may not add up precisely to the totals provided and percentages may not precisely reflect the absolute numbers.

## MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM

## HOMELESS STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2016-2017

Michigan's public schools identified 38,811 students who were homeless (or at risk of becoming homeless) during the 2016-2017 school year, including preschoolers and unaccompanied youth. This represents two consecutive years of decreased student counts, with a 7 percent drop from 2015 to 2016.

HUD's definition of homelessness does not include individuals who move in with family or friends, also known as "doubled up" or "couch surfing". The Michigan Department of Education is guided by other federal definitions and, therefore, include broader estimates of the number of school children experiencing homelessness.





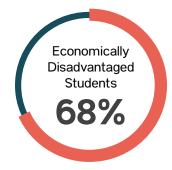
## PRIMARY NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE OF HOMELESS STUDENTS 2016-2017

The vast majority of students identified and served by schools live temporarily in shared homes due to loss of housing or economic hardship. Counts are fairly evenly distributed across grade levels for students identified by schools, with peaks at kindergarten and 12th grade. Student subgroups indicate high counts of students with disabilities and students not living with legal parents or guardians.

FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE 2016-17

Homeless Students vs. Economically Disadvantaged Students and Statewide Average





Unsheltered



Only 55% of homeless high school students in Michigan graduated in four years. That is 13 percentage points lower than the rate for economically disadvantaged students and 25 percentage points lower than the average graduation rate for the state as a whole.

While graduation rates for both economically disadvantaged students and all students progressively increased (by three and four percentage points respectively), graduation rates for homeless students remained flat over the 2012–13 to 2016–17 school year.

## **HOMELESS DEMOGRAPHICS SUMMARY**

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (CY 2017)

Homeless Client Characteristics (HMIS Data Only)	Adults in Families	Children in Families	Single Adults (25+)	Youth (18-24)	Unaccompanied Minors (Under 18)
Total in HMIS, accounting for 89% of overall literally homeless statewide	11,501 adults in 10,227 households	15,138	27,762	4,282	698
Female	75%	50%	33%	50%	55%
Male	25%	50%	67%	50%	43%
Other (Transgender, Non-Binary)	>1%	>1%	>1%	>1%	2%
Age 0 to 4	N/A	39%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Age 5 to 10	N/A	35%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Age 11 to 14	N/A	17%	N/A	N/A	23%
Age 15 to 17	N/A	9%	N/A	N/A	77%
Age 18 to 24	22%	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A
Age 25 to 34	40%	N/A	24%	N/A	N/A
Age 35 to 54	34%	N/A	49%	N/A	N/A
Age 55 to 64	3%	N/A	22%	N/A	N/A
Age 65+	1%	N/A	5%	N/A	N/A
Average Age	33	7	45	21	15
White	47%	36%	48%	42%	47%
African American	50%	61%	49%	55%	50%
American Indian	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Other Race	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Employed at Intake (18+)	15%	N/A	8%	7%	N/A
Avg. Monthly Income at Intake (18+)	\$602	N/A	\$700	\$148	N/A
Avg. Monthly Income at Exit (18+)	\$629	N/A	\$708	\$168	N/A
Disability of long duration	38% Mental 64% Physical 38% Chronic Health 21% Developmental 15% Substance 11%	11% Mental 35% Physical 20% Chronic Health 16% Developmental 48% Substance 1%	65% Mental 69% Physical 43% Chronic Health 27% Developmental 8% Substance 35%	45% Mental 79% Physical 15% Chronic Health 11% Developmental 20% Substance 21%	39% Mental 82% Physical 9% Chronic Health 13% Developmental 18% Substance 16%
Covered by Health Insurance (Top 3 Types of Insurance)	88% Medicaid 83% Medicare 6% Emp./Private 5%	90% Medicaid 89% Emp./Private 3% State Ins. 6%	78% Medicaid 65% Medicare 15% V.A. 9%	72% Medicaid 80% Emp./Private 10% State Ins. 5%	93% Medicaid 77% Emp./Private 17% State Ins. 4%

## **HOMELESS DEMOGRAPHICS SUMMARY**

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (CY 2017)

Homeless Client Characteristics (HMIS Data Only)	Overall Literally Homeless*	Chronically Homeless	Veterans	Seniors (55+)
	56,231	5,323	3,734	7,937
Female	46%	35%	10%	26%
Male	54%	65%	90%	74%
Other (Transgender, Non-Binary)	>1%	>1%	>1%	>1%
Age 0 to 4	10%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Age 5 to 10	9%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Age 11 to 14	5%	>1%	N/A	N/A
Age 15 to 17	3%	>1%	N/A	N/A
Age 18 to 24	11%	8%	2%	N/A
Age 25 to 34	18%	18%	12%	N/A
Age 35 to 54	30%	47%	37%	N/A
Age 55 to 64	11%	23%	36%	82%
Age 65+	3%	4%	13%	18%
Average Age	31	45	51	60
White	44%	40%	50%	44%
African American	53%	57%	47%	53%
American Indian	2%	2%	2%	2%
Other Race	1%	1%	1%	1%
Employed at Intake (18+)	9%	7%	8%	6%
Avg. Monthly Income at Intake (18+)	\$637	\$1,052	\$1,294	\$981
Avg. Monthly Income at Exit (18+)	\$649	\$1,052	\$1,307	\$990
Disability of long duration	44% Mental 66% Physical 39% Chronic Health 24% Developmental 12% Substance 28%	100% Mental 78% Physical 43% Chronic Health 28% Developmental 11% Substance 38%	73%  Mental 59%  Physical 57%  Chronic Health 36%  Developmental 3%  Substance 40%	75%  Mental 58%  Physical 58%  Chronic Health 35%  Developmental 5%  Substance 34%
Covered by Health Insurance (Top 3 Types of Insurance)	83% Medicaid 75% Medicare 10% State Ins. 6%	88% Medicaid 69% Medicare 16% State Ins. 7%	90% Medicaid 34% Medicare 14% V.A. 44%	84% Medicaid 52% Medicare 22% V.A. 16%

<sup>\* 3,150</sup> persons reported as part of a family and as a single person during the year.

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