Ending Homelessness In Michigan

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Garlin Gilchrist II

Garlin Gilchrist II
Lieutenant Governor
of Michigan

From 2020 to 2021, Michigan saw a 2% decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness. This modest reduction comes on the heels of a record 19% decrease between 2019 and 2020, providing further evidence that the policies we put in place at the beginning of the pandemic have continued to be successful.

In the second year of Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness 2020-2022 Action Plan, we saw gains across all four main strategies:

- **Increasing access to affordable and attainable housing for all Michiganders experiencing homelessness.**

- **Using cross-sector collaboration to impact the other social determinants of health that lead to housing insecurity.**

- **Enhancing the homeless service delivery system to better serve those in need.**

- **IIncreasing prevention and diversion efforts to mitigate the risk of becoming homeless**

However, some of the uncertainty surrounding housing in 2020 held true into 2021. People of color continued to be disproportionately impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Black people are three to four times more likely to experience homelessness, and Indigenous people are twice as likely to experience homelessness. Similarly, people of color who rent are far more likely to have issues finding and maintaining rental housing. As we continue to work to eradicate homelessness, we must also look at how we address these complex racial inequities. Strategic collaboration with our cross-sector partners is essential to having more Michiganders with a place to call home where they can reach their full potential.

I am grateful to every service provider, local agency, and Michigander who works diligently to help their fellow citizens and extends them the dignity and respect we all deserve.

For more information about homelessness in Michigan, Michigan.gov/MCTEH.

Michigan's Homeless Population

Region 1 — -5%

Region 2 — 16%

Region 3 — 35%

Region 4 — -3%

Region 5 — -4%

Region 6 — 0%

Region 7 — 0%

Region 10 — -6%

Region 8 — -12%

Region 9 — -3%
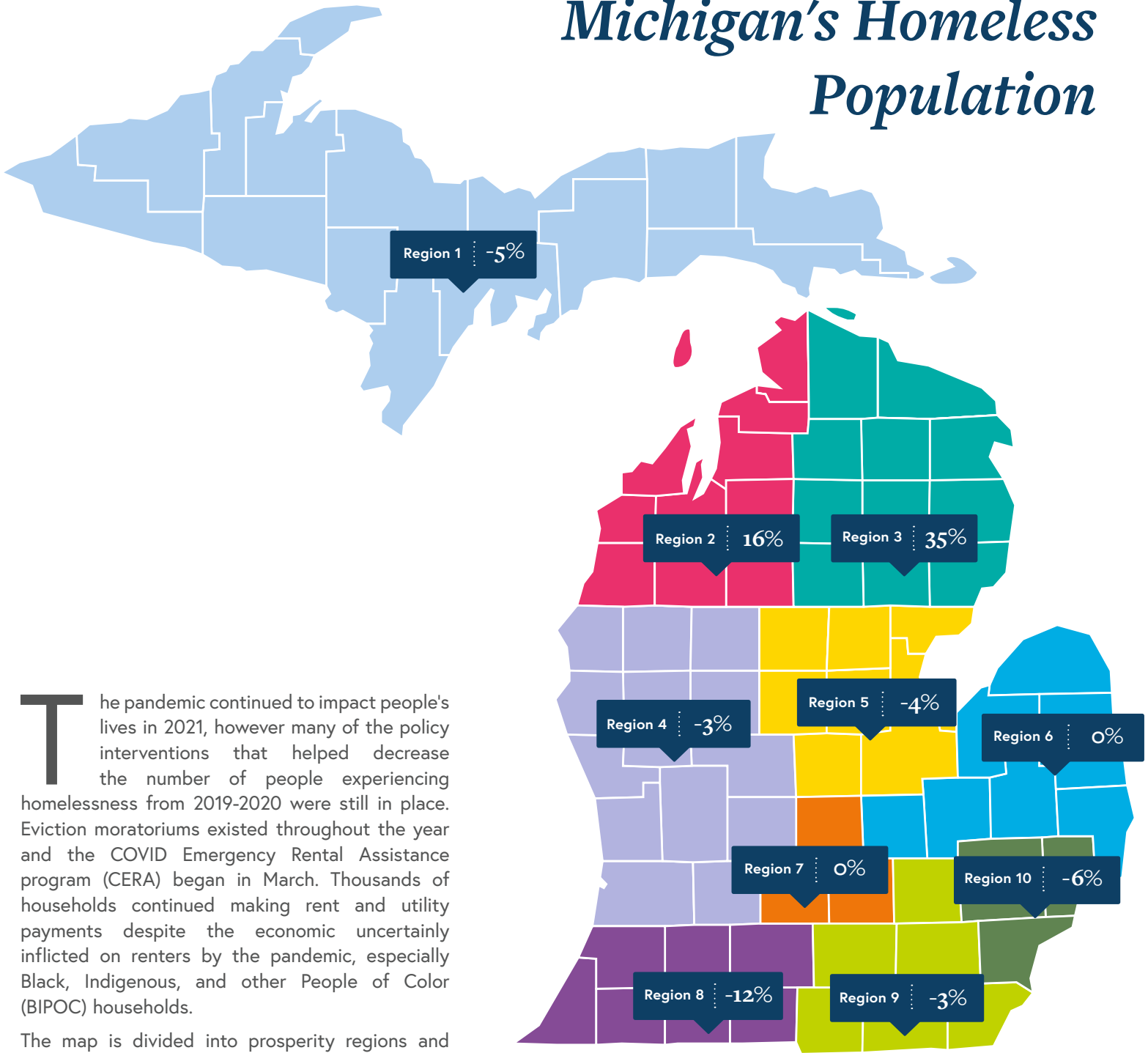
The pandemic continued to impact people's lives in 2021, however many of the policy interventions that helped decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness from 2019-2020 were still in place. Eviction moratoriums existed throughout the year and the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance program (CERA) began in March. Thousands of households continued making rent and utility payments despite the economic uncertainly inflicted on renters by the pandemic, especially Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) households.

The map is divided into prosperity regions and reflects the change in the annual count of the number of people served by Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Safe Haven (SH), and Street Outreach (SO) programs between 2020 and 2021.

Most of the state saw a slight decline in the number of people experiencing homelessness. Only regions two and three experienced increases of 16% and 35%, respectively. The primary reasons for these increases are increased program capacity in terms of staffing and access to additional hotel and motel rooms which allowed programs to offer shelter to more people.

Overall Percentage Change

-2%

30,746 — 2020

30,113 — 2021
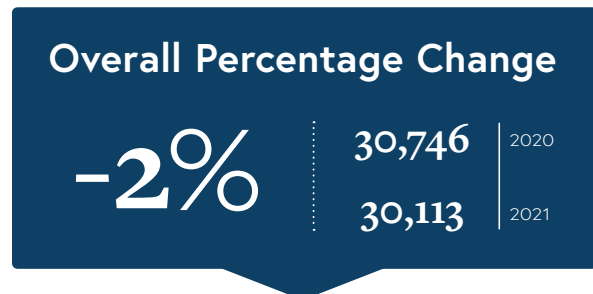
BIPOC households continue to face racial disparities in accessing and maintaining housing

OVERVIEW

Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Color (BIPOC) households were especially hard hit by the pandemic. These populations were more likely than White households to contract COVID-19 and develop serious symptoms, struggle with finding and maintaining housing, and were more likely to experience homelessness. These disparities stem from historic systemic inequities and housing discrimination, which still need to be addressed.

ACCESS TO RENTAL UNITS

Lack of access to existing units disproportionally affects BIPOC renters. A **study** released in April 2022 conducted by Zillow, a real estate data firm, reported that Black Americans pay significantly more in security deposits than their white counterparts, $150 more on average. Rental application fees were also higher for Blacks, Asians, and Latinos. Nikitra Bailey of the National Fair Housing Alliance said in response to the study "some landlords continue to engage in practices **rooted in this unfounded association between race and risk** in which people of color are viewed as unlikely to consistently pay their rent." This association between race and risk is evident in a **new working paper** from the National Bureau of Economic Research, that shows property managers are less likely to respond to prospective Black and Hispanic tenants when they inquire about open listings. Researchers found if a landlord or property manager ignored an inquiry from a BIPOC person, a BIPCOC person was 17% less likely to actually inhabit a given property.

INABILITY TO PAY RENT

According to the Household Pulse Survey conducted by the US Census Bureau, at the beginning of 2021 in Michigan, 41% of Latino renters and 42% of Black renters had little or no confidence in their ability to pay next month's rent on time, compared to 19% of White renters. By the end of 2021, these percentages were still alarmingly high; 18% of Latino renters and 38% of Black renters had little or no confidence in their ability to pay their rent compared to 20% of White renters. While some actions have been taken to address the systemic inequities that create these disparities, throughout 2021, BIPOC families have dealt with far more financial uncertainty than their White counterparts.

FEAR OF EVICTION LOOMED LARGE

According to the Household Pulse Survey conducted by the US Census Bureau, at the beginning of 2021, 58% of White renters and 60% of Black renters believed that it was either very or somewhat likely that they would be evicted within 2 months. By the end of 2021, these numbers had dropped to 31% for White renters and 47% for Black renters. It is encouraging to see the declines from the start of the year and these numbers provide some insight into the level of uncertainty that many renters were facing throughout the heart of the pandemic. A **study** by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty found that inability to pay rent leads not only to the threat of eviction and homelessness but can have detrimental effects on people's health as well.
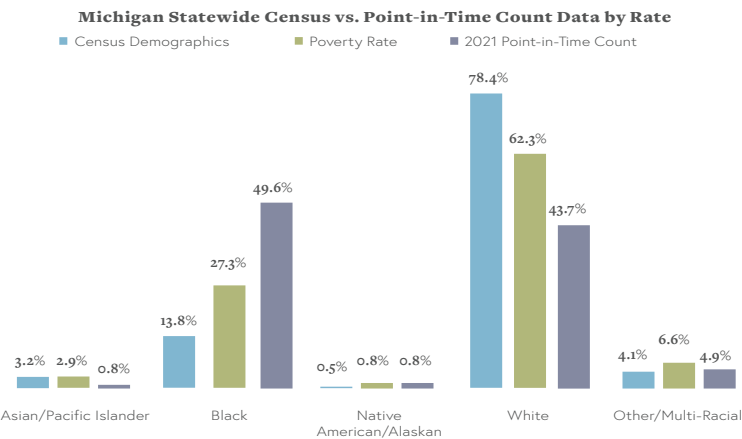
Racial Disparities within the Homeless Response System

OVERVIEW

In partnership with C4 Innovations, an organization that advances equitable access to recovery, wellness, and housing stability for people who are systematically marginalized, the Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness is participating in an initiative to conduct a racial equity system analysis across Continua of Care (CoCs) in the State of Michigan. Here are the preliminary results of the data analysis C4 has done in partnership with the CoCs.

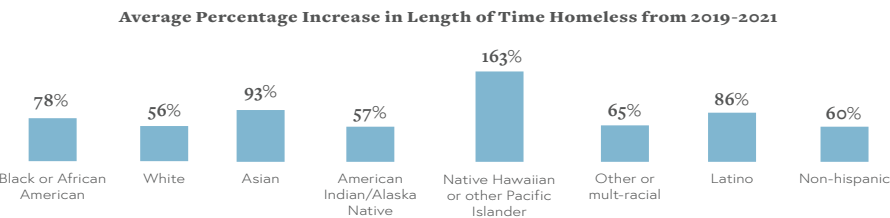**BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS**

Using calculations generated from the [HUD CoC Analysis Tool: Race and Ethnicity tool](#), households in Michigan identifying as Black, Native American/Alaskan, Other/Multiracial, and Latinx are overrepresented in homelessness when comparing 2021 Point-in-Time (PIT)[1] count data to broader Census demographics.

Michigan Statewide Census vs. Point-in-Time Count Data by Rate

Census Demographics   Poverty Rate   2021 Point-in-Time Count

	Census Demographics	Poverty Rate	2021 Point-in-Time Count
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.2%	2.9%	0.8%
Black	13.8%	27.3%	49.6%
Native American/Alaskan	0.5%	0.8%	0.8%
White	78.4%	62.3%	43.7%
Other/Multi-Racial	4.1%	6.6%	4.9%

KEY FINDINGS

- Black households are 3.6 times more likely to be represented in the 2021 PIT count when compared to broader Census demographics
- Native American/Alaskan households are 2 times more likely to be represented in the 2021 PIT count when compared to broader Census demographics

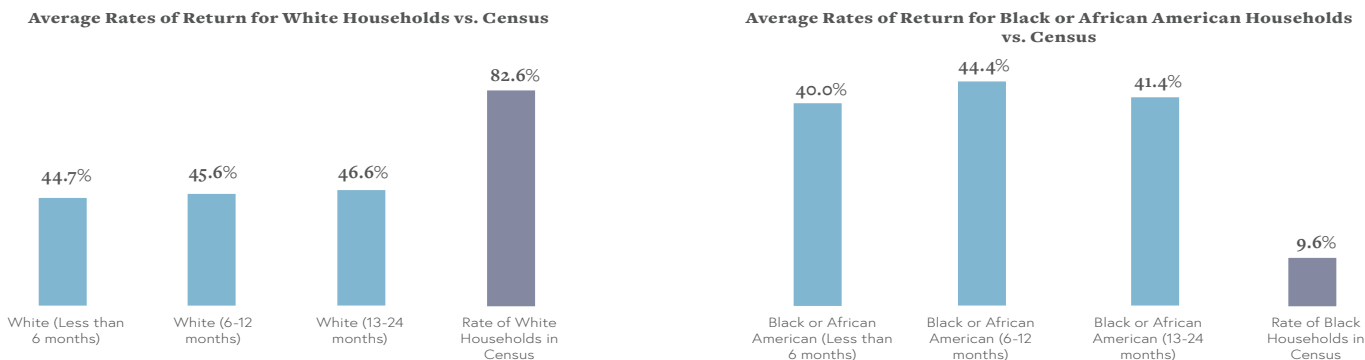**DISPARATE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS**

Average Percentage Increase in Length of Time Homeless from 2019-2021

Black or African American	White	Asian	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	Other or mult-racial	Latino	Non-hispanic
78%	56%	93%	57%	163%	65%	86%	60%

KEY FINDINGS

- White households had the smallest increase of 56%
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander households had the largest increase of 163%

DISPARITIES IN WHO RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS WITHIN 24 MONTHS OF EXITING THE SYSTEM TO PERMANENT HOUSING

KEY FINDINGS

- According to the data from the participating CoCs white households were far less likely to return to homelessness while Black households are more than 4 times likely to return to homelessness

Average Rates of Return for White Households vs. Census

White (Less than 6 months)	White (6-12 months)	White (13-24 months)	Rate of White Households in Census
44.7%	45.6%	46.6%	82.6%

Average Rates of Return for Black or African American Households vs. Census

Black or African American (Less than 6 months)	Black or African American (6-12 months)	Black or African American (13-24 months)	Rate of Black Households in Census
40.0%	44.4%	41.4%	9.6%

[1] A point-in-time count is an unduplicated count on a single night of the people in a community who are experiencing homelessness that includes both sheltered and unsheltered populations.

Increased Demand for Social Services

OVERVIEW

2-1-1 provides a pivotal service when it comes to ensuring that Michigan citizens have access to housing and related services. During 2021, 2-1-1 provided connections to services through phone calls, texts, and chats. In 2021, housing-related inquiries increased by 30% and were the second highest need for individuals and families contacting 2-1-1. Additionally, individuals contacting 2-1-1 with a housing-related need may also request assistance with utilities, food, or legal services. For instance, requests for utility payment assistance (electric, gas, water) in addition to a housing-related need, increased by 37% between 2020 and 2021 (2020: 7,342 and 2021: 10,090). The increase of 107% from the previous year for food assistance was likely due to the expansion of the SNAP food benefit program in 2021 (2020: 738 and 2021: 1,527). Lastly, requests for individuals seeking referrals to housing and legal assistance resources increased by 35%, when compared to the previous year (2020: 1,416 and 2021: 1,916). Most legal assistance inquiries were related to eviction proceedings and tenants' rights.

The top 10 housing-related requests, categorized below, accounted for 76% of all housing related needs identified in 2021

OVERALL INCREASE TO ALL HOUSING REQUESTS

include all housing-related services requests (reason for calling 2-1-1) in 2020 and 2021.

30% ↗

	103,439	2020
	134,130	2021
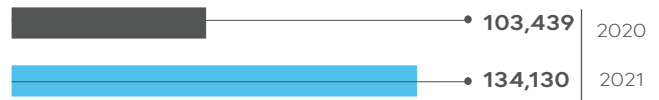
REQUESTS FOR HELP WITH BASIC NEEDS INCREASED IN 2021

37% ↗
Housing and utility payment assistance (gas, electric, and water)

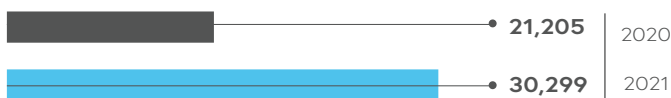## 35% ↗
Housing and general legal aid

107% ↗
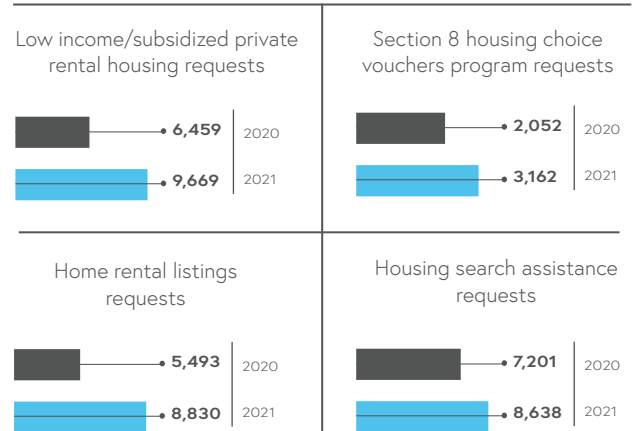Housing and food assistance

RENTAL HOUSING OPTIONS:

2021 saw an increase of 43% from individuals and families seeking referral information for subsidized rental housing programs; support in the search for suitable housing options; and access to rental housing listings when compared to 2020. Limited availability and long waiting lists for Section 8 vouchers may have impacted the demand and referrals for other types of subsidized private rental housing, giving up the mobility Section 8 vouchers offer.

OVERALL INCREASE IN INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SEEKING REFERRAL INFORMATION FOR RENTAL HOUSING OPTIONS

43% ↗

	21,205	2020
	30,299	2021

These are the specific service requests highlighted in the rental housing options section for both years:

Low income/subsidized private rental housing requests

	6,459	2020
	9,669	2021

Section 8 housing choice vouchers program requests

	2,052	2020
	3,162	2021

Home rental listings requests

	5,493	2020
	8,830	2021

Housing search assistance requests

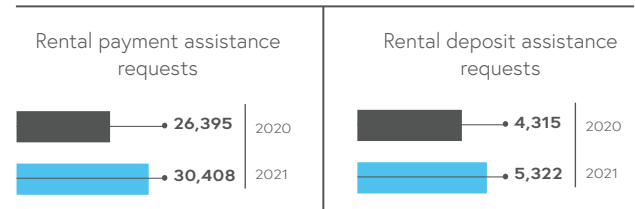|		
	7,201	2020
	8,638	2021

RENTAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

2021 also saw an increase in individuals and families needing direct rent payment assistance to avoid eviction or one-time financial assistance to acquire rental housing. Between 2020 and 2021, the number of these requests increased by 16%. Rent Payment Assistance programs continued to be the number one housing request received in 2-1-1 and the most referred in 2021. The implementation of the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) program in 2021 contributed, in part, to the increase in calls and referrals.

16% ↗

	30,710	2020
	35,730	2021

These are the specific service requests highlighted in the rental housing options section for both years:

Rental payment assistance requests			Rental deposit assistance requests		
	26,395	2020		4,315	2020
	30,408	2021		5,322	2021

HOUSING AND CASE MANAGEMENT

Trained 2-1-1 community resource specialists across the state often interact with individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness facing multiple and complex needs. Cases requiring a holistic approach to identifing and connecting individuals and families to additional support systems increased by 15% in 2021. Examples include case management, prevention/diversion housing programs, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing and financial support to move or secure permanent housing for those already homeless.

OVERALL INCREASE IN CASES REQUIRING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO IDENTIFY AND CONNECT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TO ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS

(only one service highlighted in this count: At Risk/Homeless Housing Related Assistance Programs requests)

15% ↗

|		
	8,084	2020
	9,329	2021

EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Programs for those who were homeless and seeking to find temporary shelter or a place to stay saw an increase of 15% between 2020 and 2021. COVID-19 played some role in the increased demand for temporary shelter due to the loss of income or individuals needing to find an alternative housing option besides doubling up. Often, individuals expressed a preference for staying in motels over using temporary shelters. Family settings, mental health, limited availability outside winter season, and lack of pet friendly policies are all contributing factors. Moreover, the number of motels participating in homeless motel voucher programs is limited across the state.

OVERALL INCREASE FOR THOSE WHO WERE HOMELESS SEEKING TO FIND TEMPORARY SHELTER OR A PLACE TO STAY

15% ↗

	14,088	2020
	16,260	2021

These are the specific service requests highlighted in the rental housing options section for both years:

Community shelters requests			Homeless motel vouchers requests		
	10,992	2020		3,096	2020
	12,126	2021		4,134	2021
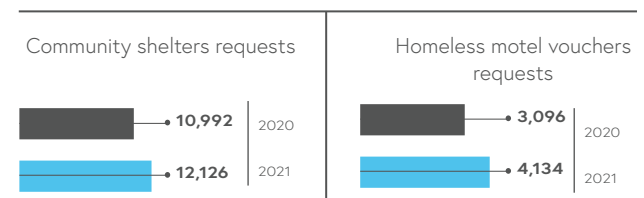
When a 2-1-1 specialist is unable to provide an individual with the appropriate referral to a community program or service, the specialist identifies these as unmet needs. In 2021, unmet needs for **Rental Payment Assistance requests decreased by 42%** from the previous year (2020: 3,345 and 2021: 1,946). Similarly, Rental Deposit Assistance decreased by 12% (2020: 511 and 2021: 450).

Notably, the CERA program helped tenants and landlords avoid evictions as the federal moratorium on some evictions ended in 2021. The program contributed not only to the increase of individuals seeking assistance for rent and utility payments but also became a new program for 2-1-1 regions to refer those in need. In most cases where the need was not met, 59% of individuals were ineligible for varied reasons (e.g., no documentation, previously assisted, etc.).

Individuals and families experiencing homelessness face additional hurdles when looking for temporary shelters or places to stay. Most often, individuals or families prefer a different living arrangement other than a community shelter. In 2021, unmet needs for **Homeless Motel Vouchers increased by 37%** from the previous year (2020: 1,531 and 2021: 2,098). In **ninety percent of cases**, the service was not available, or not immediately available to make a referral. These types of programs can be difficult to implement due to the costs involved in running the program, the length of time allowed can be limited only to a few days, the setting is not conducive for families or those with mental health issues to stay, or it is simply not an option for some communities across the state.

Requests for **Community Shelters** where a referral could not be made **increased by 6%** and ranked 3rd for unmet needs between 2020 and 2021 (2020: 910 and 2021: 969). The most common reasons for not providing referrals (combining for 67% of responses) were due to clients refusing the referral, the service was not available, or not immediately available.

42%

Decrease in unmet needs rental payment assistance

37%

Increase increase in unmet needs for homeless motel vouchers

6%

Increase in unmet needs for community shelters

2021: *A year full of challenges and successes*

OVERVIEW

2021 was a challenging year for many reasons as the pandemic continued to bring remarkable levels of uncertainty across all aspects of daily life. Despite this chaos, the homeless service delivery system rallied and continued to provide critical services to people experiencing homelessness. However, Michigan continued to struggle with a huge need for more affordable housing and reduced capacity among shelter providers due to social distancing constraints. Meanwhile, thanks to the CDC eviction moratorium and the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance Program (CERA) the number of evictions remained remarkably low. The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty found in a 2018 national study, eviction and housing instability are leading causes of homelessness. Despite these successes, we saw a 5% increase in experiencing homelessness and a 2% increase in the number of seniors aged 55 years and over experiencing homelessness.

NEED FOR MORE STABLE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The National Low Income Housing Coalition's Annual **"Out of Reach"** report documents the gap between wage and housing affordability across the nation. The 2021 report finds that nationally a household would need to earn at least $25.82 per hour for a modest two-bedroom rental home and $21.25 per hour for a modest one-bedroom rental home. To rent a two-bedroom apartment in Michigan: 2 bedroom housing wage $19.10; working at minimum wage $9.87 would have to work 62 hours a week to afford one bedroom.

Unfortunately, wage growth has been slow for the lowest-wage workers for many years and particularly slow for people of color. In the last 40 years, inflation-adjusted hourly wages grew by just 6.5% for the lowest-wage workers. For lowest-wage Latino workers, hourly wages actually fell. The lack of affordable and available housing across the nation disproportionately affects Black and Latino households because they are more likely at all income levels to be renters. Thirty percent of white households are renters, compared with 58% of Black households and 46% of Latino households (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022).

EVICTION RATES CONTINUED TO REMAIN LOW

Following the unprecedented decrease in eviction rates in 2020, Michigan's eviction rates in 2021 remained historically low, with an average of 12.75% over the 12-month calendar year. As a pre-pandemic comparison, 2019 had an average eviction rate of 29%, with monthly fluctuations as high as 33%. (State Court Administrative Office) According to the May 2021 report from Poverty Solutions, two significant events contributed to this drop in eviction rates: the combined effects of the availability of financial and legal assistance through Michigan's statewide COVID Emergency Rental Assistance program (CERA) and state and federal eviction moratoriums. **(Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Eisenberg, A .2021)**

Under the **Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021**, the U.S. Department of Treasury released funding for the federal Emergency Rental Assistance program to states across the country, to strengthen economic recovery during the pandemic through rental debt relief and basic housing security. The State of Michigan legislature completed appropriations in early 2021 for MSHDA to receive these funds and enact CERA, which was built on the process and success of the Eviction Diversion Program (EDP) in 2020. CERA assisted renters who fell behind on their rent during the pandemic and offered greater flexibility to obtain assistance in comparison with historic homelessness prevention and eviction diversion services. By the end of 2021, CERA assisted more than 67,500 households to maintain or gain access to housing and expended over $455 million, averaging $6,740 per household.

In addition to the significant influx of rental assistance, the Michigan Supreme Court cited procedural changes to eviction court cases and the layered eviction moratoriums from the national, state, and local levels that paused (or stayed) the case for emergency rental assistance for keeping Michigan's eviction numbers down throughout 2021. "The court procedure changes aim to give tenants, landlords, judges and court staff more chances to resolve the landlord-tenant dispute outside of an adversarial trial," **(The Legal Design Lab at Stanford Law School, 2019-2021).**
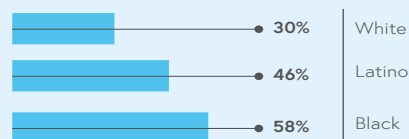
$15.18
one-bedroom rental

$19.10
two-bedroom rental

HOURS OF WORK PER WEEK TO AFFORD RENT IN MICHIGAN

62
one-bedroom rental

77
two-bedroom rental

HOUSEHOLDS ARE RENTERS

- 30% White
- 46% Latino
- 58% Black

44%

Drop in evictions between 2019 and 2021

over 67,500

Households have been assited by CERA

2021: A year full of challenges and successes continued

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

In Michigan, **36% of women experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner rape, and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetime**. Domestic violence is widely recognized as a leading cause of homelessness for women and their children. National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) points out that because women often leave an abuser multiple times before finally escaping the violence they often experience multiple periods of homelessness. In FY 2021 the Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (DVS MDSVPTB) funded Domestic Violence Services Grantees provided 214,334 nights of emergency shelter to women, men and children across the state. The MDSVPTB was established in 1978 by state legislation that created a Governor-appointed Board responsible for focusing state activity on domestic violence and administers state and federal funding for domestic and sexual violence services in Michigan. The MDSVPTB is housed within MDHHS's Division of Victim Services.

DVS MDSVPTB funded programs provide comprehensive services including emergency shelter for domestic and sexual violence survivors. Domestic violence survivors are often more vulnerable to homelessness due to economic abuse strategies (i.e. coerced debt, sabotaging employment, etc.) utilized by their perpetrators and may also have barriers to housing as a result of the abuse they have experienced such as prior evictions, poor credit, and/or poor employment histories. The unique and complex needs of domestic and sexual violence survivors often result in longer stays in emergency shelters which reduces the capacity of comprehensive domestic violence programs shelter beds. Survivors in need of safe shelter are unable to be accommodated. In 2021 MDSVPTB grantees reported that 461 adults and 3,678 children who requested shelter were not able to be accommodated due to shelter capacity. **In FY 2021 MDSVPTB grantees provided emergency shelter and supportive services to 3,178 women and 47 men.** Grantees reported **94% of survivors surveyed were able to identify strategies for enhancing their safety and respond to the risk of future abuse.** Eighty-nine percent of survivors receiving shelter services indicated they know more about community resources. Comprehensives services for homeless domestic and sexual violence survivors provide not only safe shelter but supportive services which are critical to helping survivors heal and regain control of their own lives and safe permanent housing.
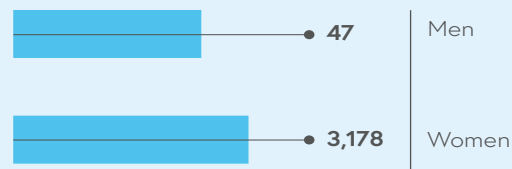
37%

Of homeless mothers reported experiencing physical or sexual assault

36%

Of women experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner rape and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetime

2021 EMERGENCY SHELTER AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

▬▬▬ 47	Men
▬▬▬ 3,178	Women

94%

Of survivors surveyed were able to identify strategies for enhacing their safety and respond to the risk of future abuse

18%

Of the homeless Veteran population met the definition of chronic homelessness by living on the streets for more than 12 months in the last 3 years

37%

Increase in Homeless Motel Vouchers

80%

Of Veterans discharged from the VA's Grant and Per Diem Program sites in Michigan were transitioned into a permanent housing placement

55+

Additional efforts need to focus on housing Veterans aged 55 and older, as over half of the homeless Veteran population in 2021 was in this age group

INCREASED DEMAND FOR VETERANS SERVICES

There has been no significant change in the homeless veteran population from 2020 to 2021. HMIS data reports that 1,829 unique Veteran clients have gone through coordinated entry in 2021, an increase of only 2 unique Veteran clients since 2020. HMIS data also reveals that 18% of the homeless Veteran population met the definition of chronic homelessness by living on the streets for more than 12 months in the last 3 years. An additional 39% reported being on the streets for one month in the last 3 years. In response to the consistent inflow of homeless Veterans in Michigan, statewide collaboration has increased in an effort to reduce Veteran homelessness. This collaboration includes addressing Veteran homelessness as a suicide prevention strategy, increasing education on Veteran cultural competency, increasing the affordable housing stock by engaging landlords in supportive housing programs, and engaging Veteran homeless services providers to ensure homeless Veterans are promptly referred to appropriate services, while efficiently using available resources. This statewide collaboration has shown to have a positive impact. The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency's Veteran Resource Service Center saw an increase in callers requesting homelessness resources in 2021; up to 353 from 290 in 2020. The VA's National Call Center for Homeless Veterans indicate the VA Medical Centers in Michigan responded to over 2,000 calls during the calendar year of 2021. Data also reveals positive outcomes from this collaboration. In 2021, approximately 80% of Veterans discharged from the VA's Grant and Per Diem Program sites in Michigan were transitioned into a permanent housing placement. As of the end of calendar year 2021, there were over 1,600 Veterans housed in the VA's Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program in Michigan.

While there has been progress in addressing Veteran homelessness, and an efficient use of resources; gap analysis reveals that additional efforts need to focus on housing Veterans aged 55 and older, as over half of the homeless Veteran population in 2021 was in this age group. Additionally, there is an ongoing rise in the female Veteran population; suggesting targeted strategies to house female Veterans are needed. Future endeavors will ensure continued collaboration between community, state, and federal homeless services providers to address Veteran homelessness in general, with emphasis on special populations.

Intersections of health and homelessness

INTERSECTIONS OF HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS

Trying to manage a chronic disease like diabetes, high blood pressure (hypertension) or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) while homeless is practically impossible. Without a place to rest, eat, store medication, and care for daily needs, the symptoms of these diseases can quickly become uncontrollable.

When looking at three chronic conditions in 2021, people experiencing homelessness (who were enrolled in Medicaid) had higher rates of hospitalization than the general enrolled Medicaid population.

Healthcare costs for people experiencing homelessness are also higher than for people who are housed. Research (Koh et al, 2021) shows health care costs are 3.4 times higher for unsheltered versus sheltered individuals. This same research showed that inpatient medical costs were 4.1 times higher for unsheltered individuals compared to sheltered.[2]

Just as physical health intersects with homelessness, behavioral health does as well. The Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program, which is available in 21 counties provides street outreach that focuses on the hardest to serve, i.e. those who have been on the streets for an extended period of time, who have mental health and/or substance abuse issues, and who are disconnected from public health systems or the Continuum of Care (CoC). Much of the outreach done by PATH workers is done before the client officially enrolls in the program. It takes many contacts to build a trusting relationship. Therefore, PATH workers often connect with clients every week for months or years before they may choose to enroll in the program.

In 2021, PATH served 1,230 unsheltered clients. One hundred percent of PATH clients had a serious mental illness (SMI) and 25% had co-occurring disorders (i.e. SMI and substance use disorder). Fifty-six percent were chronically homeless. Eighty percent of clients enrolled in the PATH program received Community Mental Health services.

For anyone who has a physical disability, a mental illness, a substance abuse disorder, or any combination of these, obtaining and sustaining housing is an important step to regaining health. While Michigan's Homeless Response System works to move persons with disabilities into housing, Michigan's SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) helps them financially maintain their housing through stable income. Michigan's 179 certified SOAR practitioners help those with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness gain access to Social Security Disability benefits. In 2021, SOAR supported SSI/SSDI applications had a 74% approval rating and Michigan recipients of SSI, SSDI (or both) were awarded $85,426 in total monthly benefits. In addition, over $318,891 in back pay was awarded to individuals.
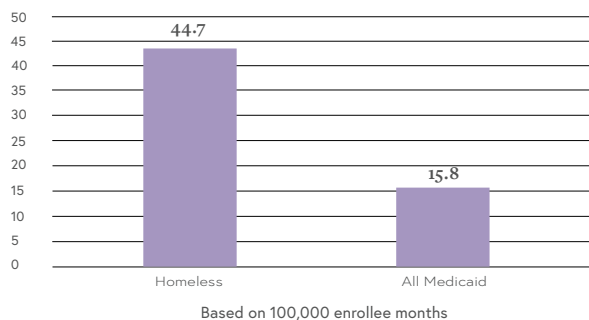
RATE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR UNCONTROLLED DIABETES

Homeless with Medicaid vs. All Medicaid Enrollees
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Based on 100,000 enrollee months
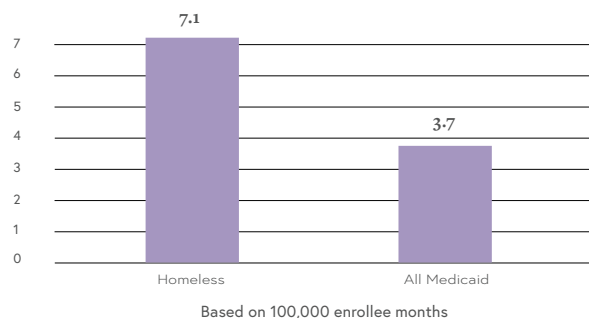
RATE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR COPD/ASTHMA (40 YEARS OR OLDER)

Homeless with Medicaid vs. All Medicaid Enrollees
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Based on 100,000 enrollee months

RATE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS OF HYPERTENSION

Homeless with Medicaid vs. All Medicaid Enrollees
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Based on 100,000 enrollee months
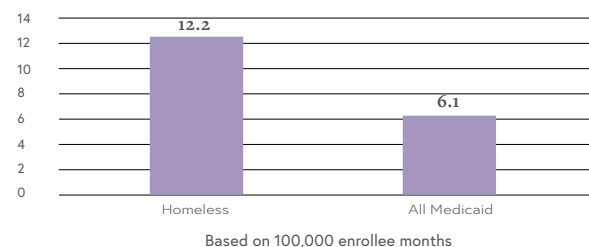
[2] Koh, K.A., O'Connell, J.J., Racine, M.W., and Roncarati, J.S. (2021). Unsheltered vs. sheltered adults experiencing homelessness: Heath care spending and utilization. Journal of General Internal Medicine, 37(8):2100-2. DOI: 10.1007/s11606_021_07153_1
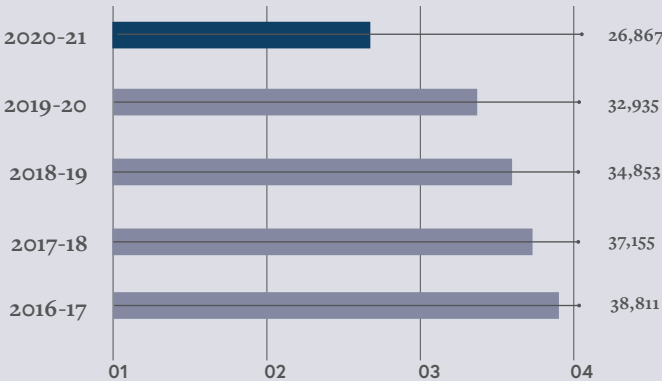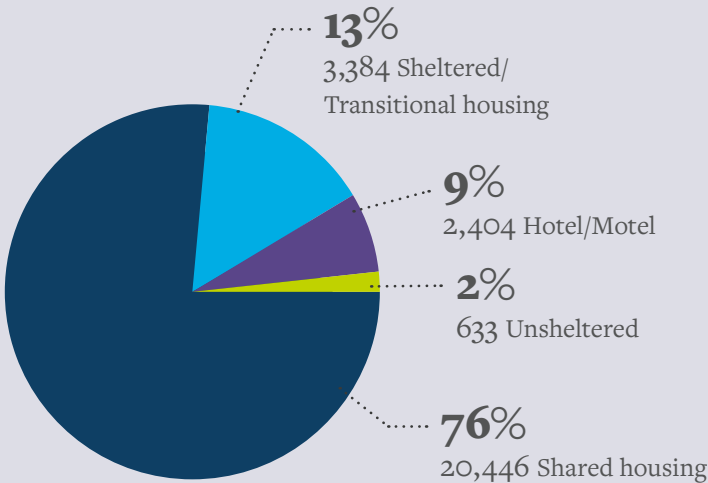
McKinney-Vento
Homeless Education Program

STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2020-21

Michigan's public schools identified 26,867 students who were homeless during the 2020-21 school year, including preschoolers and unaccompanied youth. This represents a multi-year decline in the number of students experiencing homelessness.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Title IX, Part A, of the Every Student Succeeds Act, uses a broad definition that includes counts of students who move in with family or friends, due to the loss of housing, also known as "doubled up" or "couch surfing."

Year	Count
2020-21	26,867
2019-20	32,935
2018-19	34,853
2017-18	37,155
2016-17	38,811

13%
3,384 Sheltered/ Transitional housing

9%
2,404 Hotel/Motel

2%
633 Unsheltered

76%
20,446 Shared housing

PRIMARY NIGHT TIME RESIDENCE OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS 2020-21

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. Data show high numbers of students experiencing homelessness who are also unaccompanied (14%) or identified as students with disabilities (23%).

FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE 2020–2021

81%

All Students

69%
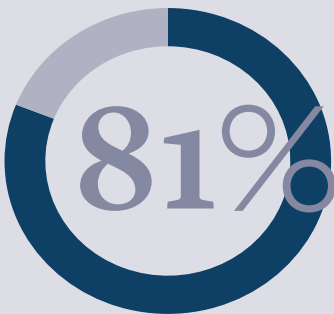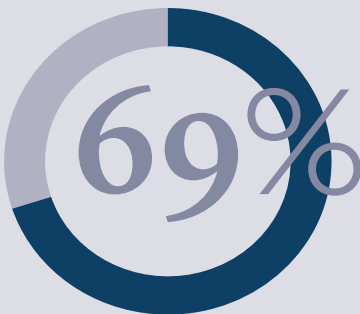
Economically Disadvantaged

54%

Homeless

System Performance Measures

OVERVIEW

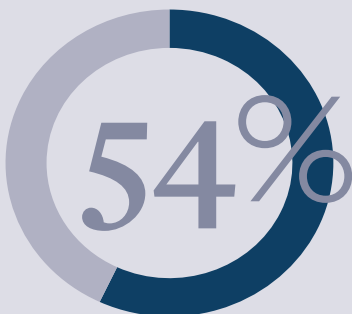The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) established a series of system performance measures in the reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2009 to help communities gauge their progress in preventing and ending homelessness. Michigan has determined that four core 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 *please see the next page.*

Number of persons first time homeless and without an additional homeless experience within the preceding 24 months. Please consult the demographic table on the next page for the number of people who experienced homelessness for the first time in 2021.

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
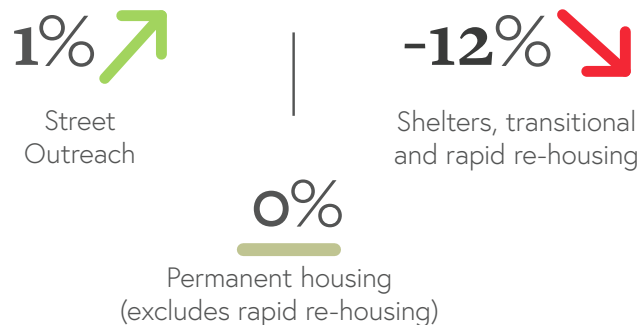Decrease the average length of time people experience homelessness

2020
59
Average length of time homeless (days)

2021
69 ↗
Average length of time homeless (days)

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

1% ↗
Street Outreach

-12% ↘
Shelters, transitional and rapid re-housing

0% —
Permanent housing (excludes rapid re-housing)

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

-3% ↘
Shelters

-7% ↘
Street Outreach

-3% ↘
Total Returns

-4% ↘
Permanent

-2% ↘
Transitional
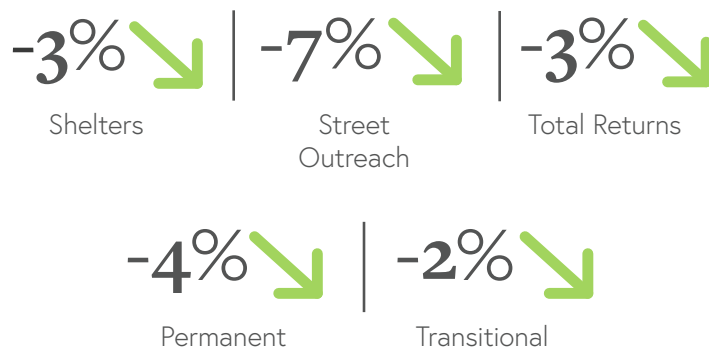
* Street outreach, shelters, transitional housing and rapid re-housing percentages of clients exiting to stable housing. Permanent housing percentage of clients exiting or retaining permanent housing.

Homeless Demographics Summary

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (CY 2021)

Homeless Client Characteristics (HMIS Data Only)	Literally Homeless	1st Time Homeless	Veterans	Adult Only	Adults with Children	Youth 18-24	Adults 25-54	Seniors 55+
Unique Number of Clients for 2020*	30,805	16,050	1,827	20,046	9,930	3,229	14,958	5,289
Unique Number of Clients for 2021*	30,113	15,882	1,829	19,040	10,441	3,088	14,418	5,369
Change from Prior Year	-2%	-1%	0%	-5%	5%	-4%	-4%	2%
Number of Adults	22,775	12,057	1,829	19,040	3,967	3,088	14,418	5,369
Number of Children	7,242	3,792	N/A	N/A	6,477	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of Households	21,921	11,735	1,798	18,222	3,183	2,691	13,419	5,163
Gender								
Female	42%	42%	10%	33%	60%	52%	42%	26%
Male	57%	57%	90%	66%	40%	46%	57%	73%
A gender other than singluarly female or male (e.g. non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%
Transgender	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%
Questioning	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Race								
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Asian	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	<1%
Black or African American	44%	43%	43%	42%	49%	47%	39%	47%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
White	45%	48%	51%	50%	38%	40%	52%	47%
Multi-racial	8%	7%	5%	6%	10%	9%	6%	5%
Ethnicity								
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	92%	92%	96%	94%	91%	90%	93%	95%
Hispanic/Latino	7%	7%	4%	6%	8%	9%	6%	4%
Indefinite and Impairing Disabilities								
At least one disability	26%	23%	51%	36%	10%	22%	30%	45%
Types of disabilities reported:								
Physical disability	11%	10%	29%	16%	3%	3%	12%	27%
Developmental disability	3%	3%	1%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%
Chronic health condition	7%	6%	17%	9%	2%	3%	7%	16%
HIV/AIDS	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%
Mental health	16%	14%	29%	23%	5%	17%	21%	24%
Substance use	6%	4%	17%	8%	1%	3%	7%	11%

* The number of unique clients in each category is only from clients that were assisted in emergency shelter, safe haven, street outreach, and transitional housing projects. Other projects types were not included so that the State of Michigan's homeless numbers align better to federal reporting standards.

The data in these tables comes from the MSHMIS Data Warehouse Project which pulls data from Michigan's Homeless Management Information System. This data represents people who received services in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing and Street Outreach during 2020.

Contributing Organizations:

CSH | CSH.ORG

MICHIGAN 211 | MI211.ORG

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF UNITED WAYS | UWMICH.ORG

MICHIGAN COALITION AGAINST HOMELESSNESS | MIHOMELESS.ORG

MICHIGAN COALITION TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE | MCEDSV.ORG

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION | MCAC.MEMBERCLICKS.NET

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS | MICHIGAN.GOV/CORRECTIONS

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | MICHIGAN.GOV/MDE

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES | MICHIGAN.GOV/MDHHS

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | MICHIGAN.GOV/DNR

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET | MICHIGAN.GOV/DTMB

MICHIGAN LEAGUE FOR PUBLIC POLICY | MLPP.ORG

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY | MICHIGAN.GOV/MSHDA

MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY | MICHIGANVETERANS.COM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS | VA.GOV