



Fiscal Year 2011
Homelessness Statistical Report
from the Homeless Management
Information System (HMIS)

July 1, 2010 –
June 30, 2011

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Executive Summary

The Homeless Planning Council of Delaware is the system administrator for Delaware's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). In FY2011, there were a total of 65 HMIS users from 20 different agencies who inputted data for 63 programs targeted towards homeless individuals.

During FY 2011 3,114 persons stayed in one of the HMIS participating shelters. More than half of these persons were unaccompanied adults (55%). An additional 18% were adults who were part of a family (with or without children). Twenty-four percent of these clients were children under the age of 18 including one unaccompanied youth. For 79 clients (3%) age was missing.

The demographics of clients were comparable to prior analyses. African Americans continue to be over-represented among shelter clients. Based on US Census data for the state of Delaware, 21% of the state's population is African American but this group accounted for 60% of the HMIS clients. Five percent of the clients identified themselves Hispanic or Latino which is comparable to the state population figures.

Of the adults, 9% served in active U.S. Military duty at some time in their lives. Thirty-seven percent identified themselves as having a disability of long duration. Forty-five percent said that they had been incarcerated at some point in their life. Seventeen percent were employed at program.

A total of 481 of the 3,114 clients (15%) included in this report stayed in more than one HMIS participating shelter during FY 2011. The number of shelter stays ranged from two to six. The majority of the clients with multiple stays were adults (331 or 69%) but 62 children under the age of 5 and 87 children between the ages of 5 and 17 had multiple shelter stays. While more than one shelter stay during a 12 month period does not necessarily indicate a negative outcome (for example moving directly from an emergency to transitional program). There were, however, clear indications that some clients with multiple stays were not moving towards a permanent living situation (for example, repeated stays in an emergency shelters, or stays in transitional programs followed by stays in an emergency shelters). Since this analysis is only looking at a 12 month period, this phenomenon is likely underreported.

Another finding which merits future examination is the decline in female headed households with children without a corresponding decrease in the number of children served. Many factors could be contributing to this observation including an increase in length of stay and family size. A focused examination of the data available and expanding the time window (i.e. looking at more than a year's worth of data) could provide insight.

Homeless Planning Council Overview

The Homeless Planning Council of Delaware (HPC) was informally established in early 1998 and incorporated as a 501 (c)3 non-profit agency in June 2000. The HPC is an active, cooperative coalition of public, nonprofit and private-sector organizations and individuals working together year-round to address homelessness. The HPC focuses on four specific areas: the Continuum of Care application, Point-In-Time Studies, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and advocacy/community education.

The Homeless Planning Council administers the HMIS system for the state of Delaware. The Homeless Management Information System is a database application that allows agencies to collect basic demographic and other information on their clients through a secure site. The HPC then works with the

service providers to create aggregate data reports that are then sent to funders and used in other needs assessment processes.

Delaware HMIS Overview

In 2001, a group of six homeless service providers spearheaded the development and implementation of a statewide Homeless Management Information System. Their goals were to: (1) improve the delivery of services to the homeless by eliminating inefficiencies in administration; and (2) improve the accuracy of reporting to funders. After a search and analysis of existing systems, the service providers selected ServicePoint, an HMIS that ranked high in a Housing and Urban Development-funded evaluation of various systems and was the preferred system among service providers that viewed demonstrations of several systems.

The first wave of implementation connected partner agencies to the Delaware HMIS on October 1, 2001. Since then more agencies have agreed to become part of the HMIS system. Some state and federal agencies also require providers receiving funds through their programs to input data into the HMIS system.

Table 1 provides detailed information of the programs contributing the data that is analyzed in this report. This includes the agencies, number of users at the end of FY2011, the names of the programs, number of months of data collected and the number of clients served (unduplicated by program not across the agency or the system). This represents a total of 56 HMIS users from 22 different agencies who input data for 64 programs. This report does not include data inputted into HMIS by programs funded through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing program and or the Department of Health and Social Services Economic Recovery Act Program nor does the report include non-homeless services providers who input into HMIS.

Table 2 shows the homeless agencies in Delaware broken out by emergency, transitional and permanent housing programs, the target population served, the number of beds available, and the number of beds reported in HMIS.

Table 1. HMIS Agencies and Users during Fiscal Year 2011

Name of Agency	No. Users	Name of Program	No. Months of Data	No. of Clients Served
AID in Dover	1	Shelter	12	9
		Independent Living	12	11
Be Ready	1	Lazarus House	12	16
Casa San Francisco	3	Shelter	12	141
		Step-Up	12	10
Connections	5	CCCP	12	5
		Chance	12	42
		Delthine	12	11
		Enterprise	12	15
		HUD 2	12	22
		Next Step	12	34
		PATH	12	1330
		Quaker Hill	12	9
		Step-Up	12	16
		Step-Up 2	12	30
		Judy's House	12	27
		Marcella's House	12	15
		WomanSpace	12	17
		Easy Access	12	36
HUD 4	12	124		
Delaware Center for Justice	2	HIV Case Management	12	4
Dover Interfaith	1	Emergency Housing	12	140
Gateway House	3	HUD	12	70
		Step-Up	12	7
Home of the Brave	2	Emergency Shelter	12	47
		Transitional Housing	12	7
Homeward Bound	4	Emergency Shelter	12	152
		Transitional Housing	12	24
Ministry of Caring	10	House of Joseph I	12	122
		House of Joseph II	12	9
		House of Joseph TR	12	17
		Maria Longo House	12	7
		House of Joseph II Expansion	12	10
		Mary Mother of Hope I	12	236
		Mary Mother of Hope II	12	182
		Mary Mother of Hope III	12	140
		Mary Mother of Hope TR	12	15
		Nazareth TR	12	28
		Padre Pio	12	8
		Sacred Heart TR	12	42
		Samaritan Outreach	12	2855
		St. Francis TR	12	22
Bethany House	12	11		
NAMI Delaware	2	HUD 1	12	3

Name of Agency	No. Users	Name of Program	No. Months of Data	No. of Clients Served
		HUD 3	12	8
People's Place II	3	Whatcoat Shelter	12	416
		Vera's Haven	4	22
Psycho Therapeutic Services, Inc	2	Step - Up	12	5
Salvation Army	1	Shelter	12	311
Shepherd Place	2	Emergency Shelter	12	408
Sojourner's	2	Transitional Housing	12	94
STEHM	1	Martha I and II	12	38
Sussex Comm. Crisis	1	Crisis House	12	204
		SJK House	12	3
		Northport	12	13
United Cerebral Palsy	1	Step-Up	12	5
West End NH	4	Lifelines Transitional	0	0
		Lifelines Permanent	12	15
		Step-Up My Place	12	5
		Step-Up	12	32
		Step-Up SUP	12	34
YWCA	5	Home Life Center I	12	202
		Home Life Center II	12	55

Table 2. Delaware Shelters by Program Type and Population

Emergency Programs

Provider	Facility Name	Target Population		# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS
AID in Dover	Eight-O-One	YMF		4	4
Abriendo Puertas Inc.	Emergency Shelter	SFHC	DV	7	0
Catholic Charities	Casa Step-Up			110	10
	Casa San Francisco	SMF		10	10
Child Inc.	Martha's Carriage House	SFHC	DV	22	0
Child Inc.	Sarah's House	SFHC	DV	18	0
Dover Inter Faith	Emergency Shelter	SM		28	28
Family Promise of Northern New Castle County	Transitional Rotating Shelter	HC		14	0
Friendship House	Andrew's Place	SM		22	0
Homeward Bound, Inc.	Emmaus House	HC		14	14
Home of the Brave	Home of the Brave	SM	Vet	15	15
House of Pride	Shelter	SM		25	0
Laurel Community Foundation	Hope House	HC		16	0

Provider	Facility Name	Target Population		# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS
Ministry of Caring	Mary Mother of Hope House I	SF		21	21
Ministry of Caring	Mary Mother of Hope House II	SFHC		23	23
Ministry of Caring	Mary Mother of Hope House III	SFHC		21	21
Ministry of Caring	House of Joseph I	SM		13	13
Peoples Place II	Sussex SAFE Program	SFHC	DV	12	0
Peoples Place II	Kent SAFE Program	SFHC	DV	16	0
Salvation Army	Emergency Shelter	SMF+HC		52	52
The Shepherd Place	The Shepherd Place	SMF+HC		30	30
Sunday Breakfast Mission	Sunday Breakfast Mission	SM		115	0
	Family Rescue	SFHC		120	0
Sussex Community Crisis Housing	Crisis House	SMF+HC		20	20
Whatcoat Social Services	Whatcoat Shelter	SMF+HC		46	46

Transitional Housing Programs

Provider	Facility Name	Target Population		# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS
AID in Dover	Independent Living	YMF		6	6
Catholic Charities	Bayard House	SF		11	0
Connections	Connections to Permanent Housing	SMF+HC		22	22
Connections	Chance House	SMF+HC		8	8
DSAMH	TH for 75 Adults	SMF		75	75
God's Way to Recovery	God's Way to Recovery	SMF		8	0
Gateway Inc.	Gateway House	SMF		53	53
Friendship House	Burton Houses for Men	SM		3	0
Friendship House	Concord House for Men	SM		5	0
Friendship House	Corner House	SM		5	0
Friendship House	Criswell House for Men	SM		8	0
Friendship House	Epiphany House	SF		6	0
Friendship House	Palmer Houses	SFHC		9	0
Friendship House	Jane Ashford House	SFHC		7	0
Friendship House	Patterson House	SFHC		6	0
Home of the Brave	Home of the Brave TR	SM	VET	4	4

Provider	Facility Name	Target Population	# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS
Homeward Bound	Emergency Transitional	SMF+HC	14	14
House of Pride	Residential Recovery Program	SMF	24	0
Limen House	Limen House	SMF	25	0
Milford Housing Development	Transitional Home	SMF+HC	23	0
Ministry of Caring	House of Joseph TR	SM	13	13
Ministry of Caring	Mary Mother of Hope House TR	SF	9	9
Ministry of Caring	Nazareth House TR	HC	24	24
Ministry of Caring	St. Francis TR	SFHC	24	24
Mission of Hope	Seaford Mission	SM	10	10
Nanticoke Rotary	Seaford Rotary House	SFHC	16	0
Sojourner's Place	Sojourner's Place	SMF	50	50
Spiritual Awakening	Awakenings House	SF	10	0
STEHM	Martha's House I & II	SFHC	16	16
Sunday Breakfast Mission	Discipleship Change Program	SM	45	0
	Family Rescue	SFHC	120	0
Sussex Community Crisis Housing	Northport	SMF+HC	15	15
Sussex Community Crisis Housing	SJK House	SMF+HC	6	6
West End Neighborhood House	Lifelines I	SMF	11	11
YWCA	Homelife Management Center I	HC	62	62
YWCA	Homelife Management Center II	HC	37	37
Connections	PATH Beds	SMF	4	4
People's Place Whatcoat	Vera's Haven	SFHC	24	0

Permanent Housing Programs (Including Safe Havens)

Provider	Facility Name	Target Populations	CH Beds	# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS
Be Ready	Lazarus House	M		8	8
Connections	Easy Access	SMF	30	30	30
Connections	Enterprise PH	SMF	HIV	8	12
Connections	HUD 2 PH	SMF	10	25	25
Connections	Next Step	SMF	15	37	37
Connections	Judy's House	SMF	16	16	16
Connections	Marcella's House	SMF	15	15	15

Provider	Facility Name	Target Populations	CH Beds	# of Beds	# of Beds in HMIS	
Connections	West Street Commons	SMF		0	8	8
Connections	WomanSpace PH	SFHC		5	12	12
Destiny House	Destiny House	SF		0	18	0
DSAMH/NAMI	HUD 1 PH	SMF		3	5	5
Ministry of Caring	Bethany House	SF		0	8	8
Ministry of Caring	House of Joseph II	SMF	HIV	3	8	8
Ministry of Caring	House of Joseph II Expansion	SMF	HIV	8	8	8
Ministry of Caring	Maria Longo House	SF		0	6	6
Psycho Therapeutic Services, Inc	Step-Up	SMF		0	15	15
West End Neighborhood House	Life Lines II	YMF		3	11	11
Connections	Step-Up	SMF		16	16	16
Gateway Inc.	Step-Up	SM		10	10	10
United Cerebral Palsy	Step-Up	SMF			15	15
West End Neighborhood House	Step-Up	SFHC		0	26	26
Connections	Delthine House	SMF		10	10	10
Connections	Step-Up 2	SMF			20	20
West End Neighborhood House	Step-Up My Place	SMF			10	10
West End Neighborhood House	Step-Up 2 (SUP)	SMF +HC			14	14

Key:

SM = Single Male

SF = Single Female

SMF = Single Males and Females

HC = Households with Children

SMHC = Single Males as Head of Households with Children

SFHC = Single Females as Head of Households with Children

SMF + HC = Single Males and Females plus Households with Children

YMF = Youth Males and Females

DV = Domestic Violence Shelter

HIV = Program that targets persons with HIV/AIDS

Vet = Program that targets veterans

CH = Beds set aside for chronically homeless individuals

Limitations to DE-HMIS

There are three major limitations to the HMIS system. The first is that not all homeless service providers located in Delaware participate in HMIS. The second is that even though a majority of the agencies participate, not all of their program data may be entered into the system. The third limitation is that not all of the providers who inputted into HMIS during the year inputted a complete year worth of data. The following paragraphs discuss each of these limitations in more detail.

The first limitation of HMIS is that not all homeless service providers report to HMIS. Of all the homeless programs through the state, 60% of all emergency shelters, 56% of all transitional housing programs, and 87% of all permanent supportive housing programs report to HMIS. Because of this lack of data for some of the programs, the data is not complete for the entire state's homeless population.

The second limitation is that there are programs from partnering agencies who are not entering data in the HMIS system. Some of the reasons for this are a lack of program staff to input data into the system and lack of financial resources to increase the number of users in the system. Again, this means that there is a lack of data on the entire homeless population in Delaware.

The last limitation is that not all providers in the system inputted a complete years worth of data for calendar year 2011. Some providers were new to the system and started inputting data halfway through the year.

Annual Homelessness Report Overview

The following report is compiled from data that HMIS users inputted into the system. The basis of the report is to look at clients who were in one of the programs in Table 1 from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. This means that clients could have entered the program before July 1st and/or stayed in the program after June 30th. But at some point in time in the year, they were in a program.

The report breaks down the total number of unduplicated clients served during that time period. Some clients may have accessed more than one program during that time period, but they are only counted once in this section of the report. The report summarizes the demographics of the clients, and the destination of clients upon exit of the program.

The first part of the report will give an overview of all client demographics. The second part of the report will look at specific client information for adults only. The third part will look at specific client information for children only. The last section of the report looks at data by program type (i.e. emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing programs).

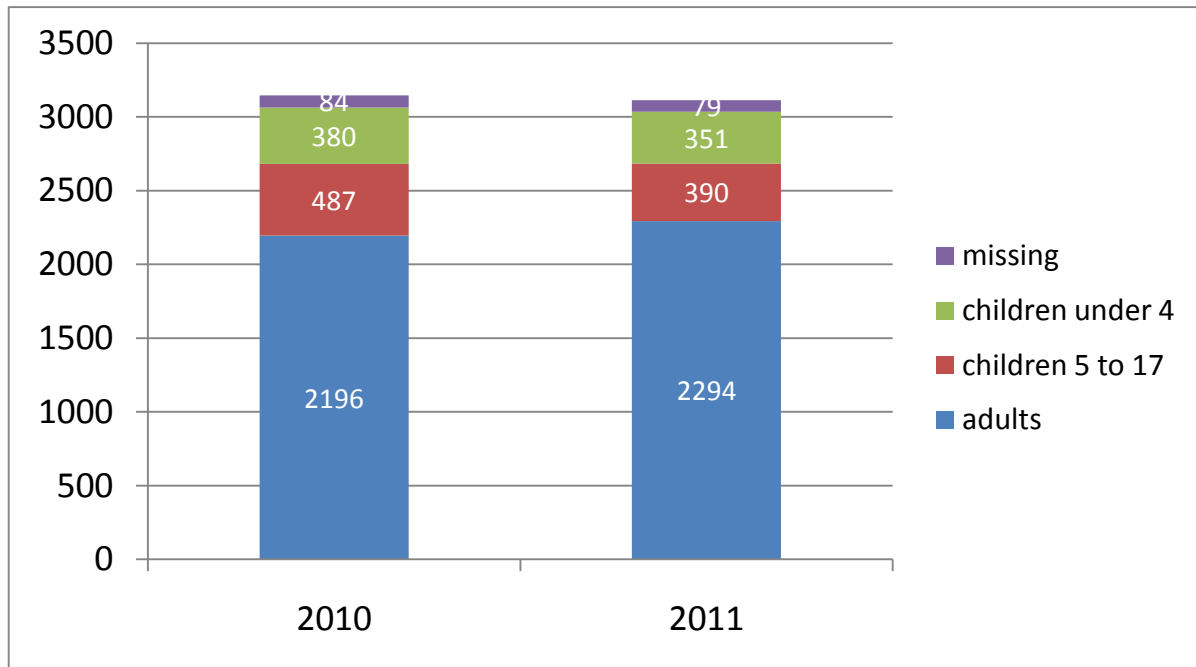
Limitations of the Report

When completing the de-duplication process, best efforts were used to maintain the integrity of all client level data. Best efforts were also used to maintain data on destination upon program exit for the latest time in the year that the client was in a program. For example, if a client entered one program in January 2011 and entered another program in April 2011, the data from the entry in April 2011 was used. During the de-duplication process some of the client data collected by agencies may have been lost, leaving a higher level of unknown or not completed data elements.

Overview of Client Demographics

A total of 3,114 unduplicated individuals stayed in one of the homeless housing programs listed in Table 1. This number is comparable to the count of 3,147 observed in FY 2010.

Chart 1: Age



Fifty-four percent of the clients were female (adults and children combined) were served in homeless programs compared to only 43% for males (for the remaining 3% gender was not entered into the system). As Chart 2 indicates, the distribution is consistent with the prior year's data.

Chart 2: Gender

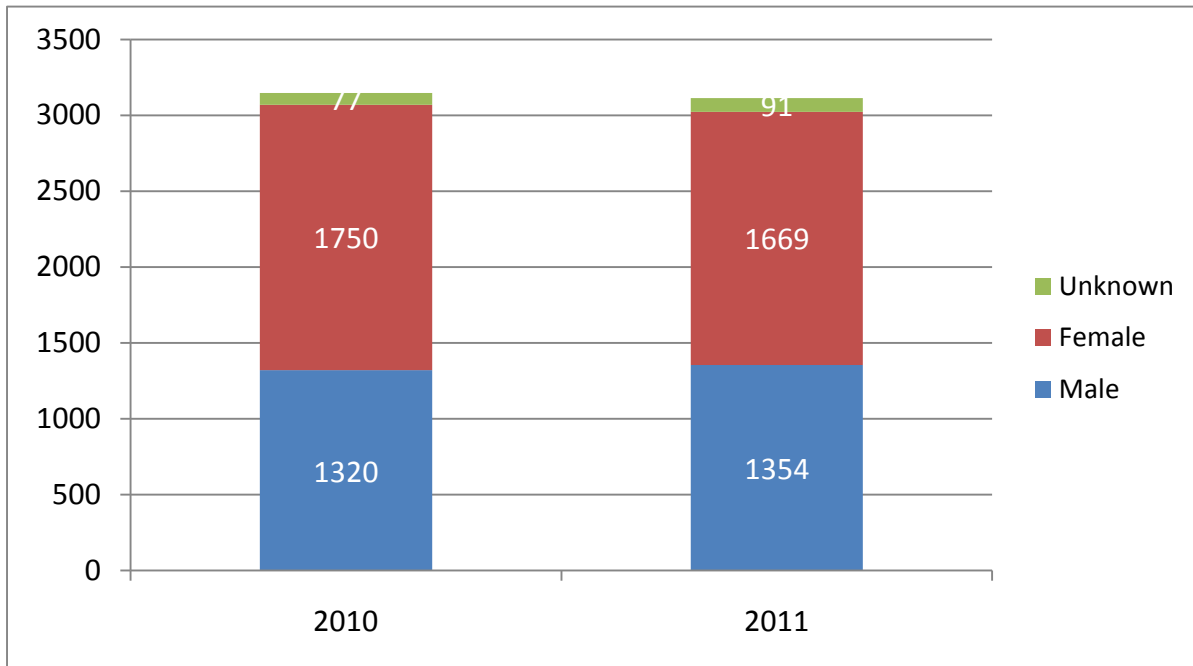
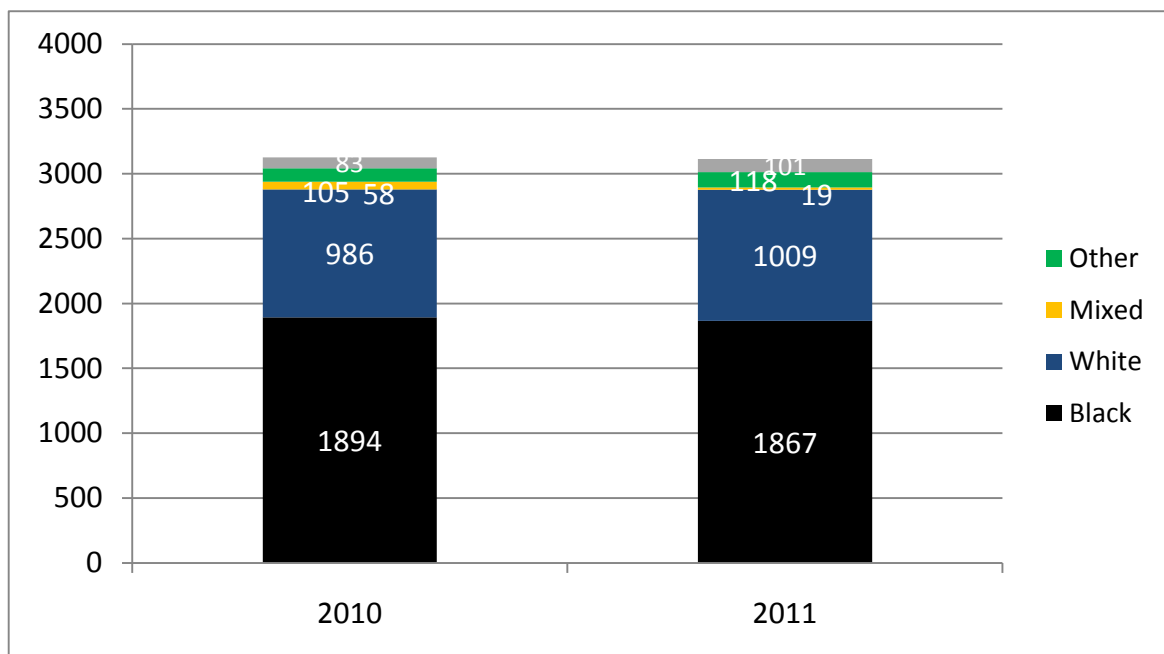


Chart 3 provides a racial breakdown of clients. Consistent with 2010 findings, about 6 out of 10 clients were black and slightly less than one third were white. Like many other public health problems in Delaware, the Black population is disproportionately impacted by homelessness. The US Census Bureau currently estimates that Blacks make up 21% of Delaware's total population (www.census.gov).

Chart 3: Race



The percentages for the remaining racial groups are also consistent with previous findings. While White or Caucasian persons make up just over 70% of Delaware's population, about one-third of the persons Delaware HMIS FY2011 Data Report

entered into a participating shelter identified themselves as White or Caucasian. There were a total of 163 Hispanics reported in HMIS during FY 2011. The percentage of Hispanic homeless individuals (5%) is comparable to the total Hispanic population in Delaware (7%).

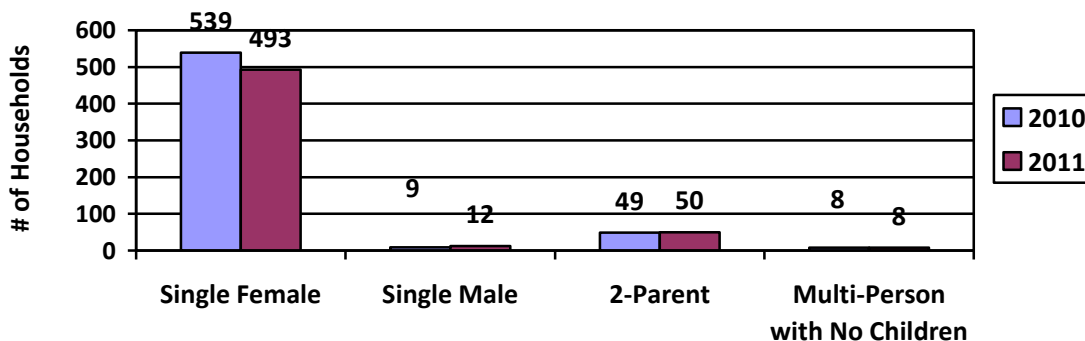
Household Information

Clients inputted into the HMIS system can be entered as an individual or as a member of a household, depending on how they enter each program. Some clients have previously entered programs as households but in FY 2011 entered a program as an individual. In this situation the client is counted as an individual and not as a member of a household for FY 2011. One thousand and seven hundred and twenty-four adults were entered into HMIS as individuals compared to 1,591 individuals not in households in FY 2011 (an 8% increase). The remaining 570 adults were part of a household.

As Chart 4 indicates, 493 of these households consisted of a single mother and her children. This reflects an 8% decrease. This decrease may be explained in part by the recent availability of homeless assistance and rapid re-housing funds provided by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and additional funding for families offered by the State of Delaware Department of Health and Human Services. Most of this funding, however, was spent by the end of December 2010.

Anecdotal conversations with some family providers suggest that some clients in family programs may be experiencing longer lengths of stays due to a lack of housing opportunities upon exit. It would be expected, however, that the increases in the length of stay for families would lead to decreases in the overall numbers of children served. The number of children in shelters was stable between FY 2010 and FY 2011. The opening of a large shelter offering 120 beds to women and families that does not participate in HMIS further complicates the data. Additional analyses which include length of stay and family size may provide insight. The remaining household counts are relatively consistent year to year.

Chart 4. Households



Adult-Only Client Information

This section of the report will give a breakdown of the adult clients served, their demographics, veteran status, disabled status, incarceration history, employment status, chronically homeless status, the reasons for homelessness and the clients' destination upon exit of the program. As mentioned earlier, 2,294 adults were served in FY 2011. Of the adults served, 54% were female and 43% were male. Women were somewhat more likely to be African American than men (60% Vs 54% respectively).

Table 3. Racial and Gender Breakdown of Adults Served in CY2011

	Female		Male	
	#	%	#	%
American Indian or Alaska Native (HUD)	5	0.4%	5	0.5%
Asian (HUD)	4	0.3%	2	0.2%
Black or African American (HUD)	768	60.4%	548	54.3%
Don't Know (HUD)	1	0.1%	7	0.7%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (HUD)	2	0.2%	4	0.4%
Other	31	2.4%	36	3.6%
Other Multi-Racial	5	0.4%	1	0.1%
Grand Total	1340	100%	1082	100%

Veteran Status

Of the adults served in the participating programs, 202 (9%) identified themselves as having U.S. Military experience. Data was missing for 18 clients.

Disabled Status

Eight hundred and forty-six (37%) of the adults served in FY 2011 said that they had a disability of long duration. However, for another 3% (60) of the adults served this question was either incomplete, the individual refused to answer the question, or the program worker did not know if the client had a disability of long duration.

Incarceration History

Forty-five percent (1,036) of the adults served by a participating shelter said they had been incarcerated at some point in time in their life. This represents a 5% increase over 2009. Data was missing for 33 or 1% of the adults.

Employment Status

Of the 2,294 adults served in the participating programs, 401 or 17% were employed upon entry into the program. Upon program exit, 249 (11%) were employed either part-time or full-time. Table 4 shows a breakdown of all employment statuses for clients at both program entry and program exit. It is important to remember that not all of the adults exited a program during FY 2011. Therefore comparisons between employment status on entry and exit should be made with caution.

Table 4. Employment Status of Adults at Program Entry and Exit

Type of Employment	# at Program Entry	# at Program Exit
Unemployed	1469	1115
Disabled	303	187
Full-Time	209	112
Part-Time	192	137
Student	24	14
Retired	13	9
Other	8	0

Last Permanent Address

Each client is asked the zip code of their last permanent living situation and that information is inputted into HMIS. The definition of last permanent living situation is the place that they were last at for 90 days or more. This information is summarized in Table 5 below.

Table 5. Last Permanent Address

County	Adults		Youth 5 - 17		Children Under 5		Missing		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Kent	448	19.5%	51	13.1%	56	16.0%	1	1.3%	556	17.9%
NCC	1163	50.7%	215	55.1%	195	55.6%	2	2.5%	1575	50.6%
Sussex	344	15.0%	34	8.7%	43	12.3%	0	0.0%	317	10.2%
OOS	225	9.8%	55	14.1%	36	10.3%	1	1.3%	421	13.5%
missing	114	5.0%	35	9.0%	21	6.0%	75	94.9%	245	7.9%

Half of all clients in the HMIS system report their last permanent living situation as a New Castle County zip code. The proportion is somewhat higher for children under 18. About 18% report their last permanent address as a Kent County zip code and 10% report a Sussex County zip code. Another 14% report coming from another state (OOS) and for 8% this information was left blank. The client either did not know the zip code of their last permanent address or they refused to give this information. The map on the following page shows the distribution of clients by zip code. Clients are clustered around the three largest cities in each county (Wilmington, Dover and Georgetown).

Map 1 – Zip Code of Last Permanent Address

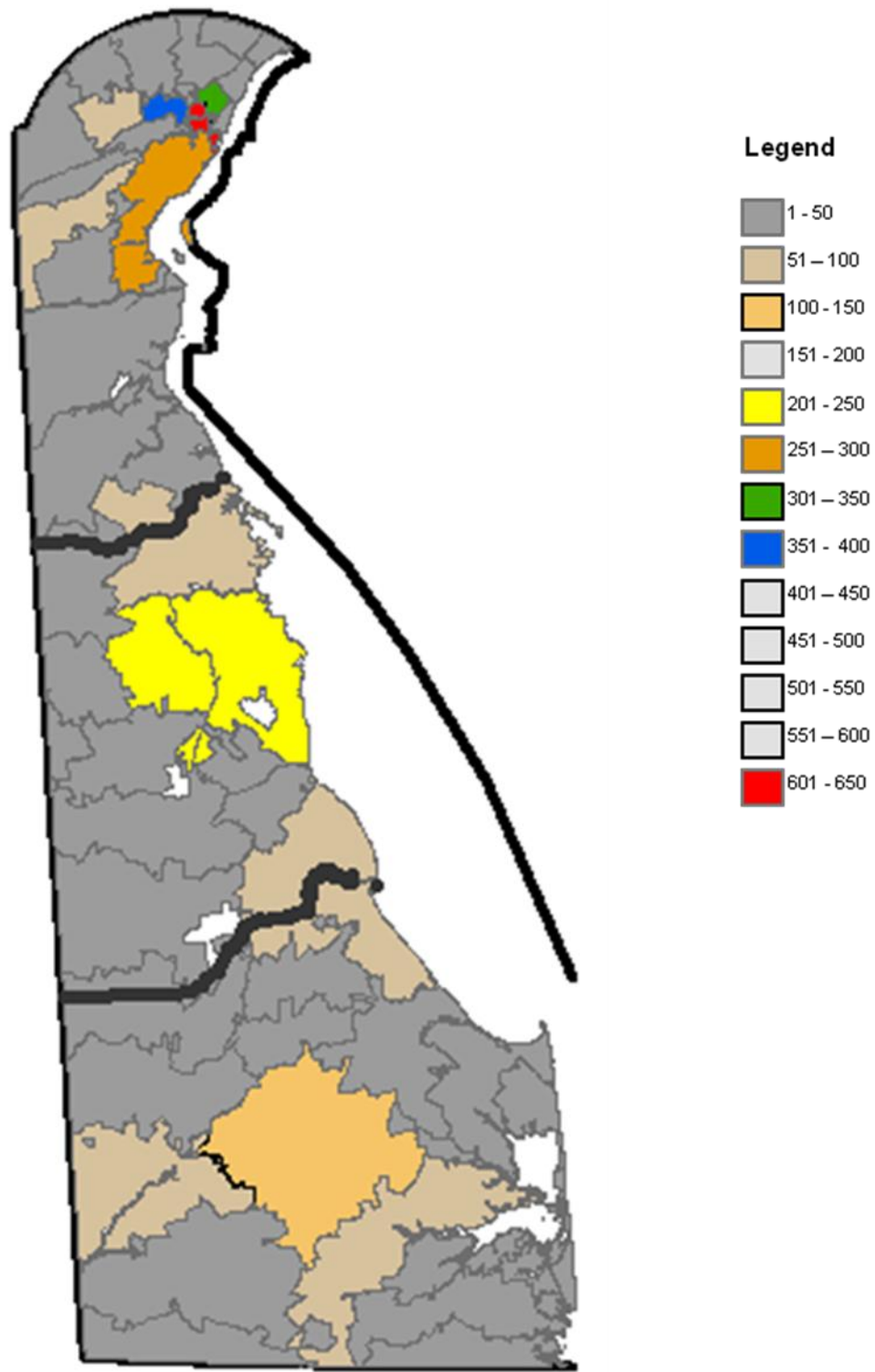


Table 6 provides counts for locality within each county. While this table confirms that the last permanent addresses for most clients are clustered around the larger towns and cities it does help to document that a person can become homeless in any community.

Table 6. Last permanent Address by County and Community

Kent	#	%	NCC	#	%	Sussex	#	%
CAMDEN			BEAR	49	3.1%	BRIDGEVILLE	10	2.4%
WYOMING	14	2.5%	CLAYMONT	35	2.2%	DAGSBORO	8	1.9%
CHESWOLD	1	0.2%	DELAWARE CITY	9	0.6%	DELMAR	5	1.2%
CLAYTON	6	1.1%	HOCKESSIN	3	0.2%	DEWEY BEACH	14	3.3%
DOVER	407	73.2%	KIRKWOOD	1	0.1%	ELLENDALE	10	2.4%
DOVER AFB	1	0.2%	MIDDLETOWN	38	2.4%	FRANKFORD	5	1.2%
FELTON	19	3.4%	NEW CASTLE	175	11.1%	GEORGETOWN	85	20.2%
FREDERICA	13	2.3%	NEWARK	175	11.1%	GREENWOOD	7	1.7%
HARTLY	5	0.9%	TOWNSEND	4	0.3%	HARBESON	4	1.0%
HOUSTON	2	0.4%	WILMINGTON	1086	69.0%	HARRINGTON	48	11.4%
MAGNOLIA	20	3.6%	Grand Total	1575	100.0%	LAUREL	22	5.2%
MARYDEL	6	1.1%				LEWES	20	4.8%
SMYRNA	60	10.8%				LINCOLN	9	2.1%
WOODSIDE	2	0.4%				MILFORD	51	12.1%
Grand Total	556	100.0%				MILLSBORO	36	8.6%
						MILTON	40	9.5%
						OCEAN VIEW	4	1.0%
						SEAFORD	34	8.1%
						SELBYVILLE	9	2.1%
						Grand Total	421	100.0%

Table 7 shows the breakdown of type of living situations prior to program entry. Also reported in the table is the length of stay for that type of living situation. Some of these results are predictable (eg, the majority of clients who came from an emergency shelter were there for 3 months or less). But it is somewhat surprising that nearly 2 out of 10 of the adults (449) came from what appear to be relatively stable housing situations.

- 193 clients were in a rental (166) or ownership situation (27) without subsidy for one year or longer before they became homeless.
- 256 were staying with family (190) or friends (66) for at least a year before they became homeless.

Destination at Program Exit

Upon exiting a program, the program staff should collect information on where the client will be living next. Some clients do not tell the program staff that they are leaving the program or because some clients may not know where they are going, the program staff enters destinations of “Don’t Know” and “Refused”. For FY2011, there are 569 program exits that were “Don’t Know”, “Refused” or were missing. Table 8 shows the information collected concerning where clients said where they were going after they left the program. The destination answers are in ranked order.

Table 7. Type of Living Situation and Length of Stay

Previous Living Situation	Don't Know	More than one week, but less than one month	More than three months, but less than one year	One to three months	One week or less	One year or longer
Domestic Violence Situation		*				*
Don't Know	14	*	*	*		*
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	6	123	56	103	40	39
Foster care home or foster care group home			*	*		6
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	*	16	*	5	5	*
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher		14	9	8	27	
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	*	*	*	11	*	36
Other	*	7	13	5	8	8
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	*		*	*	*	27
Owned by client, with housing subsidy						*
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons(such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)		*	5	*	*	17
Place not meant for habitation inclusive of 'non-housing service site(outreach programs only)'	*	37	43	33	30	77
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	*	*	*	7	*	5
Refused						
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	*	10	85	32	5	166
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) housing subsidy		*	12	*	*	18
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy			*			5
Safe Haven	*		*	*		*
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	9	34	121	86	28	190
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	6	46	75	63	41	66
Subsidized Housing			*			*
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center		*	23	*	*	*
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	*	13	70	30	7	41

Table 8. Destination of Adults upon Program Exit, FY 2011

Destination	# Clients
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	240
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	154
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	138
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)	132
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	79
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	72
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room apartment or house)	72
Rental by client, other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	57
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	33
Hotel/Motel with emergency shelter	29
Other	29
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	26
Return to Partner	18
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	17
Deceased	15
Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons (such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	15
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	13
Rental by client, VASH Subsidy	11
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	8
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	4
Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle or anywhere outside)	4
Owned by client, with housing subsidy	2

Multiple Program Stays

The majority of all clients (2617 or 70%) had only one program during FY 2011. This data is limited in that it only looks at a 12 month period, and not all Delaware shelters participate in HMIS. While these numbers may be inflated, national research has shown that the half of the clients who enter a homeless shelter will leave within 30 days never to return. (See references “Five Myths About the Homeless”)

A total of 481 of the 3,114 clients (15%) included in this report stayed in more than one HMIS participating shelter during FY 2011. The number of shelter stays ranged from two to six. The majority of the clients with multiple stays were adults (331 or 69%) but 62 children under the age of 5 and 87 children between the ages of 5 and 17 had multiple shelter stays.

Table 9 summarizes the paths clients with multiple stays took through participating shelters. Again, stays in non-participating shelters are not reflected so there is a risk for under-reporting. Also this analysis does not take into account the time lapse between shelter stays. Clients could have gone immediately to another shelter or several months could have passed. But this information does help document the paths clients can take as they navigate through the system of homeless shelters in Delaware.

Multiple stays do not always indicate a negative outcome. For example, moving from emergency to transitional shelters can reflect a client who starts in a provider’s emergency shelter and then progresses to their transitional program. Or a provider of permanent supporting housing may open a new building and move existing clients to this facility.

It is somewhat troubling though that about half of the clients with multiple stays (231) had repeated stays in emergency shelters but never entered a transitional or permanent housing program during FY 2011. Examining the data at an anecdotal level highlights some particularly circuitous progressions taken by clients.

- One adult client who stayed in a transitional shelter followed by stays in an emergency shelter, another emergency shelter, back to the same transitional program, followed by two more stays in emergency shelters. None of these stays were consecutive and the shelters involved covered all three counties.
- An adult client had three separate stays in the same emergency shelter over a six month period.
- An adult client with five separate emergency stays in all three counties.
- A female head of household who had only two separate emergency stays during the reporting period, but whose history shows that she and her children have had 13 separate shelter stays since 2006.

Table 9. Progression of Shelter Stays for Clients with Multiple Program Entries

Progression	Adults	Youth (5-17)	Children (0-4)	Missing
EE	141	35	25	1
EEE	19	2	1	
EEEE	4	1		
EEEEE	2			
EEEP	1			
EEP	4			
EET	5		1	
EETT	1			
EP	19			
ET	54	29	16	
ETE	3			
ETTT	1	2		
PE	7			
PEP	1			
PP	29	3	3	
PT	1			
TE	12	6	1	
TEE	1			
TEETEE	1			
TET	1			
TP	5			
TT	15	9	11	
TTE	1		3	
TTP	2			
TTT	1		1	
Grand Total	331	87	62	1

E - Emergency T - Transitional P - Permanent Supportive Housing

Children-Only Information

As outlined previously, the number of children served during FY2011 were 741 or 24% of the total homeless population in the participating programs. Forty seven percent of the children served were between the ages of 0-4 and 53% were between the ages of 5 and 17. Of all the children, 395 (54%) were females and 343 (46%) were males. Three children were missing gender information. Tables 10 and 11 outline the racial and ethnic breakdown of the children.

Table 10. Racial Breakdown of Children Served in CY2010

Race	# of clients	%
American Indian or Alaska Native (HUD)	1	<1%
Asian (HUD)	7	1%
Black or African American (HUD)	542	73%
Other	7	1%
Other Multi-Racial	32	4%
White (HUD)	146	19%
Don't Know (HUD)	7	1%
missing	5	1%

Table 11. Ethnic Breakdown of Children Served in CY2010

Ethnicity	# of clients	%
Hispanic/Latino (HUD)	45	6%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino (HUD)	647	87%
Don't Know	35	5%
Refused (HUD)	1	0%
missing	13	2%

Foster Care

Of the 741 children served, 3 of them were reported to have been in foster care at some time in their life.

Data by Type of Program

So far the data presented in this report has been broken down by all clients. This section of the report will focus on the data from HMIS by program type (i.e. emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing).

Number of Duplicated Clients served in Homeless Programs

The majority of the data in this report is unduplicated. However, in order to determine the total number of clients served within a certain type of homeless program, we have to look at the data from the stand point of duplicated clients. This means that in the information presented below, clients will be double counted if they participated in more than one homeless program and/or if they participated in more than one type of homeless program (i.e. emergency, transitional and permanent supportive

housing). It is important to track this information as well as the unduplicated data in order to better understand the numbers of clients served within each type of homeless program.

Emergency Shelters

In FY 2011, there were a total of 2356 clients served in an emergency shelter. Emergency shelters are typically 30-60 day stays. Of those persons served in an emergency shelter 1670 (71%) were adults, 296 (13%) were children between the ages of 0 and 4, and 330 (14%) were children between the ages of 5 and 18. For 60 of these clients, age was not recorded

Transitional Housing

In FY 2011, there were a total of 754 clients were served in a transitional housing program. Transitional programs have typical stays up to 2 years. Of those 485 (65%) were adults, 108 (14%) were children between the ages of 0 and 4, and 144 (19%) were children between the ages of 5 and 18. For seventeen of these clients, age was not recorded.

Permanent Supportive Housing

In FY 2011, there were a total of 628 clients served in a permanent supportive housing program. Permanent supportive housing programs do not have a length of stay requirement however clients have the ability to receive services in order for them to become more self-sufficient and able to find a place so they can live on their own. Of the 628 clients served in a permanent supportive housing program, 583 (93%) were adults, 24 (4%) were children between the ages of 0 and 4, and 18 (3%) were children between the ages of 5 and 18. Age was missing for three of these clients.

It is important to remember that most of the permanent supportive housing programs are for adults and not families.

Destination of Clients at Program Exit by Program Type

As mentioned above, upon exiting a program the program staff is supposed to collect information on where the client is going and whether the client feels this is a permanent or a temporary living situation for them and whether they are receiving a housing subsidy to help pay for part or all of their housing-related expenses.

In order to determine if destinations are a positive outcome for clients, we have determined a list of the possible destinations for clients that would equate to a positive destination. Positive destinations are:

- Hotel/Motel without Emergency Shelter
- Own House/Apartment
- Rental Room/House/Apartment
- Transitional Housing for Homeless
- Permanent Housing for Formerly Homeless
- Living with Family – if the Tenure is Permanent
- Living with Friends – if the Tenure is Permanent
- Return to Partner

Destination of Clients at Program Exit from Emergency Shelters

In FY 2011, there were a total of 2,267 clients exiting from emergency shelters. Of those destinations, 1,073 (47%) are considered positive destinations. Table 11 shows the destinations of those clients. The destinations are in ranked order. Positive destinations are shaded.

Table 12. Destination of Clients from Emergency Shelters, FY 2011

Destination	Count
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	248
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	216
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)	197
Refused	196
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	178
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	157
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room apartment or house)	88
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	83
Hotel/Motel with emergency shelter	67
Rental by client, other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	50
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	45
Other	24
Rental by client, VASH Subsidy	20
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	18
Return to Partner	15
Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons(such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	14
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	14
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	10
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	9
Owned by client, with housing subsidy	4
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	3
Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle or anywhere outside)	3

Destination of Clients at Program Exit from Transitional Housing Programs

In FY2011, there were a total of 447 clients exiting from transitional housing programs. Of those destinations, 268 (60%) are considered positive destinations. Table 13 shows the destinations of those clients. The destinations are in ranked order. Positive destinations are shaded.

Table 13. Destination of Clients from Transitional Housing, CY2010

Destination	Count
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	91
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)	84
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	72
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	39
Hotel/Motel with emergency shelter	20
Rental by client, other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	19
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	18
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room apartment or house)	18
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	18
Other	15
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	11
Return to Partner	10
Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons(such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	9
Refused	6
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	5
Rental by client, VASH Subsidy	3
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	2
Owned by client, no housing subsidy	2
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	2
Deceased	1
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	1
Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle or anywhere outside)	1

Destination of Clients at Program Exit from Permanent Supportive Housing

In 2009, there were a total of 138 clients exiting from permanent supportive housing programs. Of those destinations, 85 (64%) are considered positive destinations. Table 14 shows the destinations of those clients. The destinations are in ranked order.

Table 14. Destination of Clients from Permanent Supportive Housing, FY2011

Destination	Count
Rental by client, no housing subsidy	41
Rental by client, other (non-VASH) housing subsidy	22
Deceased	16
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	16
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	6
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)	6
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	6
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher	5
Other	5
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	4
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room apartment or house)	4
Hospital (non-psychiatric)	2
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	1
Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons(such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	1
Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle or anywhere outside)	1
Refused	1
Return to Partner	1

Conclusion

The majority of the findings of this report are consistent with prior year’s analyses. Two potential areas of inquiry or discussion have merged:

- The decrease in the number of female headed households without a decrease in the number of children served suggests that these clients may be experiencing a longer length of stay, possibly due to the absence of housing opportunities upon exit, and/or an increase in family size among these clients. This may indicate the need for a fuller examination of the data including expanding the data beyond a 12 month window.
- Examining data over a 12 month window also limits the ability of stakeholders to assess progress towards ending homelessness as demonstrated by ending or reducing repeated admissions to shelters. While any analysis of HMIS data is limited by the fact that not all providers participate and providers continue to enter and exit the system, expanding the window to 3 or 4 years worth of data would still produce a more robust and useful analysis.

In conclusion, HMIS continues to be a valuable tool for clients, providers, funders and advocates for housing services. And the Homeless Planning Council will continue to work with agencies to improve the quality of data inputted into the system as well as the level of data collected.

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