



**San Antonio & Bexar County Community Reporting on Homelessness
Reporting Period for Q1 2021 (January- March)**

August 11, 2022



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to City of San Antonio Department of Human Services for leading the effort in creating the Strategic Plan to Respond to Homelessness in San Antonio and Bexar County. This reporting is the result of feedback from the broader community and the strategic plan steering committee.

We also thank and acknowledge the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Team at Haven for Hope for collaborating closely with the research team at SARA to ensure accurate and timely data.



INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In December 2020, the City of San Antonio released its [“Strategic Plan to Respond to Homelessness in San Antonio and Bexar County.”](#) This document outlines key metrics to monitor our progress as a city and county, with the goal of meeting these criteria by the end of 2025. An additional group met to highlight five key areas to monitor quarterly. These metrics include:

- Reduce unsheltered homelessness by 50%
- Increase housing placements from shelter to 7% and housing placements from unsheltered settings by 7%
- Increase Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units by 500
- Reduce recidivism by 10%
- Assess equitable outcomes

It is important to note that the final metric listed here, “Assess equitable outcomes,” is embedded into each goal by disaggregating key demographic factors including gender, age, race, and ethnicity. This report is not all encompassing, nor do we perform statistical modeling beyond reporting descriptive data. To this end, we cannot make causal claims or claim statistical significance for these findings. This report is descriptive in nature.

This report will be updated quarterly to track progress over time. For this reporting, the quarters are reported in calendar year (January – March, Q1; April – June, Q2; July – September, Q3; October – December, Q4). The methodology of this reporting is available at the end of this document.



Q1 2021 KEY FINDINGS

Unsheltered Homelessness

1577 individuals were reported as experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Q1 of 2021.

Housing Placements

417 housing placements were reported in Q1 of 2021.

Recidivism

218 individuals returned to the homelessness response system in Q1 of 2021.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

1383 total PSH units reported for 2021.

GOAL: REDUCE UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

Table 1. Count of Unsheltered Homeless in Quarter 1 (Jan-Mar), 2021 and Bexar County Population by Key Demographic Characteristics

Demographic Characteristic	Unsheltered Count (n reported in parenthesis)	Bexar County Percentage
Gender		
Men	62% (978)	49.4%
Women	37% (584)	50.6%
Non-Binary/Not Reported	.95% (15)	*
Race/Ethnicity		
White, Non-Hispanic	27.9% (440)	27.1%
Latinx/Hispanic	47.1% (743)	60.7%
Black/African American	20.6% (325)	8.6%
Afro-Latinx	1% (17)	*
American Indian or Alaska Native	.38% (6)	1.2%
Asian	.31% (5)	3.3%
Multiracial	.82% (13)	2.4%^
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	.31% (5)	0.2%
Unknown/Not Reported	1.4% (23)	*
Age		
0-17	7.6% (120)	32.2%
18-24	8.1% (129)	55.4%+
25-49	48% (757)	+
50-55	12.9% (204)	+
56-60	10.6% (168)	+
61-65	6.2% (99)	+
66-79	5.8% (92)	12.4%
80+	.31% (5)	†
Not Reported	.19% (3)	-
Total	1577	1,952,843

Notes:

* This is not reported in the Census QuickFacts.

^ In the Census QuickFacts, this is reported as “Two or More Races.”

+ The Census QuickFacts reports this age bracket as ages 18-65.

† The Census QuickFacts reports this age bracket as ages 65 and over.

GOAL: INCREASE HOUSING PLACEMENTS

Table 2. Count of Individuals Entering Housing in Quarter 1 (Jan-Mar), 2021 by Key Demographic Characteristics

Demographic Characteristic	Individuals Entering Housing (n reported in parenthesis)
Prior Situation	
From Sheltered Setting	70.9% (296)
From Unsheltered Setting	29% (121)
Gender	
Men	58% (242)
Women	41.4% (173)
Non-Binary/Not Reported	.47% (2)
Race/Ethnicity	
White, Non-Hispanic	23.5% (98)
Latinx/Hispanic	46.2% (193)
Black/African American	26.6% (111)
Afro-Latinx	1.9% (8)
American Indian or Alaska Native	.47% (2)
Asian	.23% (1)
Multiracial	.47% (2)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	.47% (2)
Unknown/Not Reported	0% (0)
Age	
0-17	23.9% (100)
18-24	6.9% (29)
25-49	32.6% (136)
50-55	8.3% (35)
56-60	13.9% (58)
61-65	8.1% (34)
66-79	5.7% (24)
80+	.23% (1)
Total	417

GOAL: DECREASE RECIDIVISM

Table 3. Count of Individuals Who Entering Housing in January 2020 – January 2022 who Re-Entered the Homeless Response System in Quarter 1 (Jan-Mar), 2021 by Key Demographic Characteristics

Demographic Characteristic	Individuals Experiencing Recidivism (n reported in parenthesis)
Gender	
Men	61% (133)
Women	38.9% (85)
Non-Binary/Not Reported	0% (0)
Race/Ethnicity	
White, Non-Hispanic	29.3% (64)
Latinx/Hispanic	45.4% (99)
Black/African American	21.5% (47)
Afro-Latinx	1.8% (4)
American Indian or Alaska Native	0% (0)
Asian	.45% (1)
Multiracial	1.3% (3)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0% (0)
Unknown/Not Reported	0% (0)
Age	
0-17	15.5% (34)
18-24	3.2% (7)
25-49	43.5% (95)
50-55	10.5% (23)
56-60	9.1% (20)
61-65	12.8% (28)
66-79	5.9% (13)
80+	0% (0)
Total	218



GOAL: INCREASE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING UNITS

Table 4. Count of Total Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Units Annually

Quarter	Total Units
2021	1383
2022	1476

DATA SUMMARY

Unsheltered Homelessness Demographics

According to Census estimates, the city and county population is nearly a 50/50 split between men and women, making men slightly overrepresented in those experiencing unsheltered homelessness compared to women.

When examining those experiencing unsheltered homelessness by race and ethnicity, Latinx individuals make up 50% of this population. White Non-Hispanics make up 25%, Black/African American individuals are nearly 20%, and Afro-Latinx individuals make up about 2% of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Compared to city and county demographics, we see that Latinx and White people are underrepresented while Black/African American individuals are overrepresented.

Trends in Unsheltered Homelessness Count

The sections outlining trends will be updated as we continue to collect data over the coming quarters.

Housing Placements Demographics

The majority of those entering housing do so from a sheltered setting. The demographic breakdown for those placed into housing largely mirrors the populations of those experiencing homelessness in San Antonio and Bexar County, with proportional numbers of each population also being placed into housing.

Trends in Housing Placement

The sections outlining trends will be updated as we continue to collect data over the coming quarters.

Recidivism Demographics

According to this quarter's data, men, those who are Black/African American, and those in the age range of 25-49 recidivate at a higher rate than their counter parts. Compared to other age ranges, those under 18 have a lower rate of recidivating.

Trends in Recidivism

The sections outlining trends will be updated as we continue to collect data over the coming quarters.

METHODOLOGY

About HMIS

The data for this report is pulled from San Antonio and Bexar County’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). A HMIS is a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and track the services that they utilize. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements for data collection, management, and reporting standards.

Homelink is San Antonio and Bexar County’s Coordinated Entry System – a uniform, community-wide approach to connect persons to housing resources. This approach helps to reduce barriers to access homeless services and provides a centralized access point for community resources.

Metric Measurements

1. “Reduce unsheltered homelessness,” is an unduplicated count of all clients with an open Street Outreach enrollment during the reporting timeframe, plus Homelink CE enrollments during the timeframe with a prior living situation of ‘place not meant for habitation’ without the presence of a concurrent Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, or Transitional Housing enrollment (as these are considered ‘sheltered’ situations). Homeless Connection Hotline enrollments are excluded from this count.

“Place not meant for human habitation” is a HUD definition that includes non-residential sheltering in cars, tents, condemned buildings, and sleeping on the street. Some of these enrollments may also include backdated Outreach Grid data that was entered into the HMIS after the reporting quarter.

Some limitations of this metric include the inability to fully and accurately measure the entirety of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. For example, in order to be included in this count, an individual would have had to make contact with our coordinated homelessness response system. The annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT) attempts to count this population through a visual count if individuals are unable or unwilling to offer any information that would enter them into the system. You can read more about the PIT count on our website.

2. “Increase housing placements,” includes clients who entered housing from both sheltered and unsheltered settings. “Unsheltered” clients include those who exited Street Outreach projects during the reporting timeframe to any HUD-defined permanent living situation (see list below) and clients who have a **new** housing move-in date for a Permanent Housing project (including RRH, PH, OPH, and PSH) who list their prior living situation as “Place not meant for habitation”. Only clients with a **new** move-in date

in the reporting quarter are counted to avoid double counting clients who maintain housing across reporting periods.

“Sheltered” clients include clients with an open enrollment in a Permanent Housing project (see above) with a **new** housing move-in date during the reporting period who list their prior living situation as: emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher, Safe Haven, or Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth).

HUD permanent exit destinations include:

- Long-term care facility or nursing home
- Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA PH
- Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy
- Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy
- Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons
- Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy
- Rental by client, with GPD TIP housing subsidy
- Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy
- Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy
- Staying or living with family, permanent tenure
- Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure

For those exiting from a sheltered setting, their prior residence is any situation other than “place not meant for human habitation.” This includes emergency shelters, other transitional housing programs, carceral or rehabilitation facilities, as well as rental housing or client-owned housing that has been lost. For those entering from an unsheltered setting, their prior residence is “place not meant for human habitation.”

3. “Reduce recidivism” is an unduplicated count of clients with a new Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, or Transitional Housing enrollment during the reporting quarter who exited any project type in the 12-24 months before the beginning of the reporting timeframe with a permanent destination (as listed in measure ‘2’ above). This measure follows the HUD ‘7-day’ rule for establishing a recidivist event (seven days between exiting a project and re-entry into the system) to prevent counting individuals who transfer between Permanent Housing projects in the reporting timeframe (for example, October 2019 – 2021 for Q4 2021).

4. “Increase Permanent Supportive Housing Units,” is pulled from the from the Housing Inventory Count (HIC). The HIC is an annual inventory of total projects available for those experiencing homelessness conducted annually on the night of the Point-in-Time count. From this report we pull the total count of Permanent Supportive Housing units.

Sociodemographic Characteristics

Gender is categorized into women, men, and non-binary/did not report gender. While transgender individuals are present in our community’s homelessness response system, reporting on gender identity varies by organization. This breakdown gives us the most accurate count by gender.

Race and ethnicity are categorized into Unknown, Multi-Racial, Latinx, Afro-Latinx, Black/African American, White, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and American Indian or Alaska Native. Each variable was constructed as follows:

Variable	Construction
Unknown	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ with ‘Race’ unknown
Multi-Racial	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as ‘multi-Racial’
Latinx	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘Hispanic’ with ‘Race’ as anything other than ‘Black/African American.’ Includes clients who list their ‘Race’ as ‘Unknown’
Afro-Latinx	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘Hispanic’ with ‘Race’ as ‘Black/African American’
Black/African American	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as ‘Black/African American’
White	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as ‘White’
Asian	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as ‘Asian’
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as above
American Indian or Alaska Native	Clients identifying as ethnically ‘non-Hispanic’ or ‘unknown’ with ‘Race’ as above