

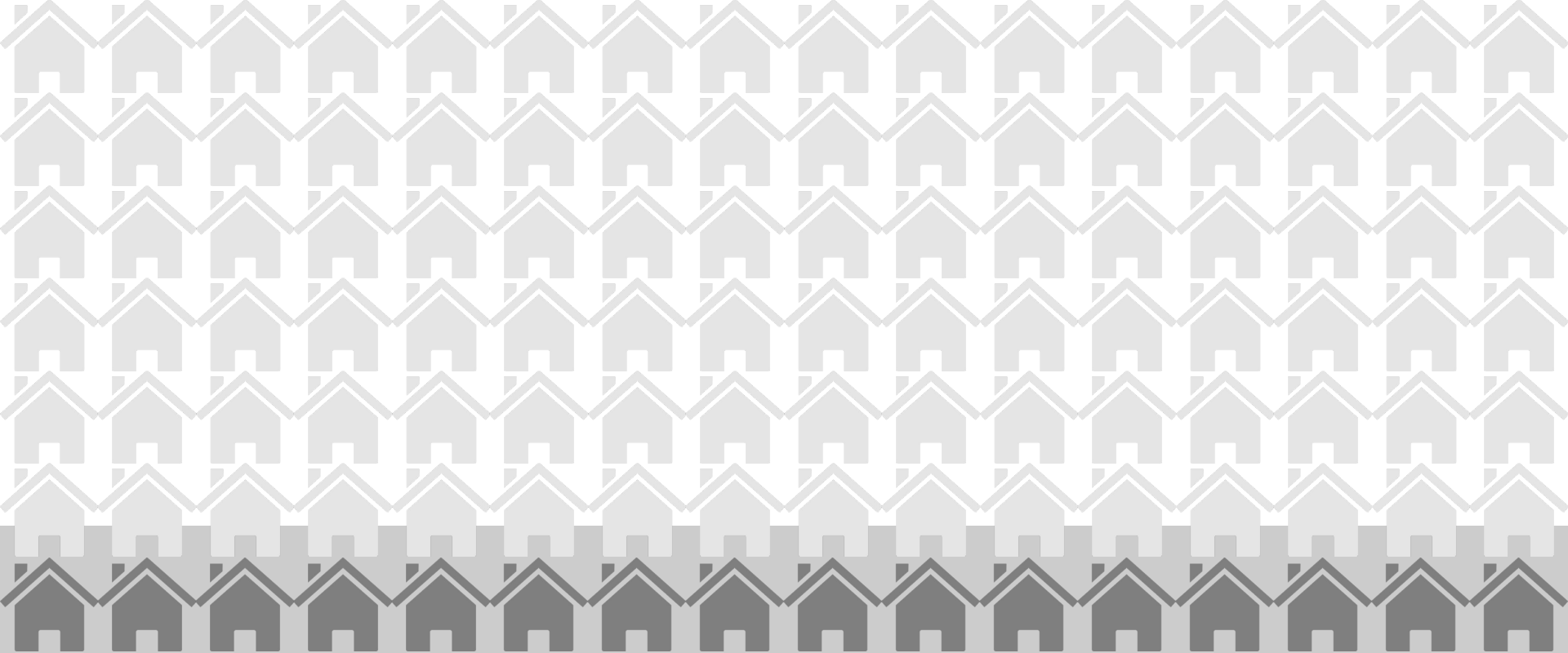


Overview of Homelessness

Presented to the RIGA Special Legislative Commission to Study Low Moderate Income Housing

Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness

- February 2023 -



Why does homelessness happen?



\$1,771.00

Average cost of a two-bedroom apartment in Rhode Island



\$70,840

Income needed to afford this



79 weekly hours

needed to work at minimum wage to 2-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent

\$12.25

Minimum Wage

\$18.43

Average Renter Wage

\$34.06

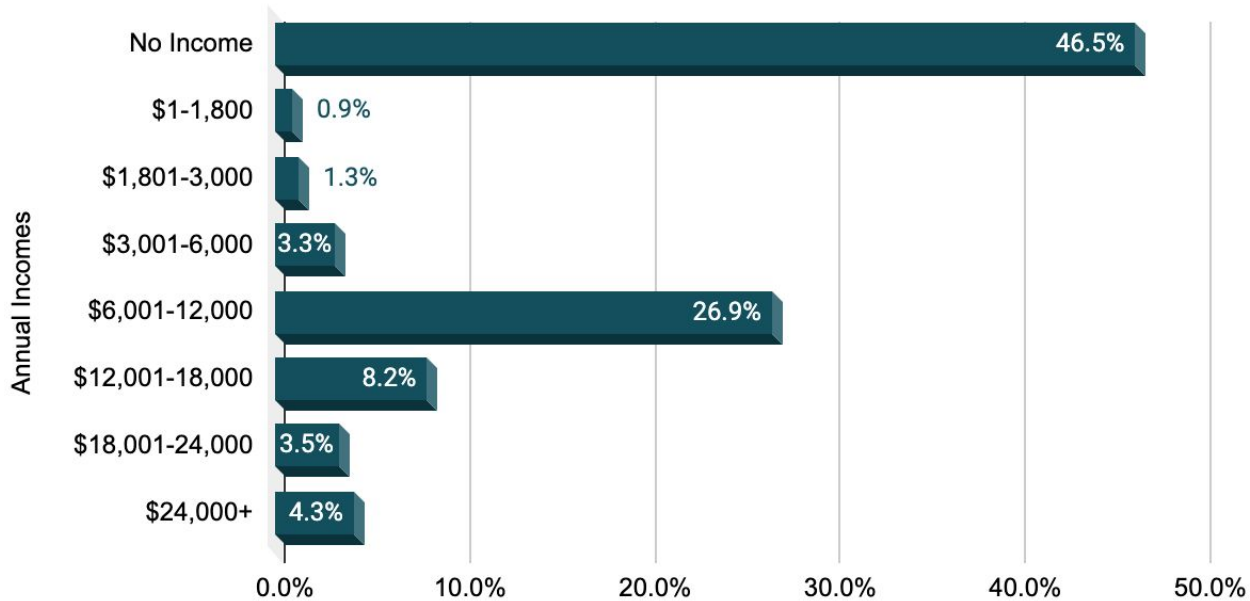
2-Bedroom Housing Wage



Income at Entry - Shelter/Transitional Housing

Income at Entry

Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing 2022



Last year,
46.5%
of households earned
\$0

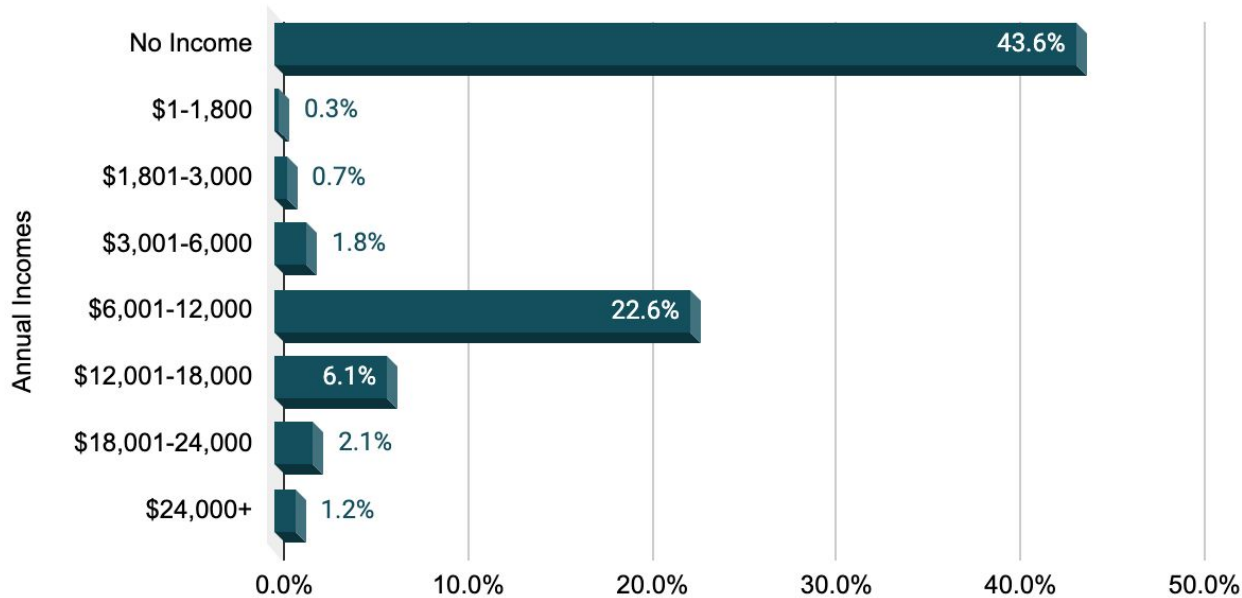
26.9%
earned approximately
\$6,001-12,000



Income at Entry - Unsheltered/Outdoors

Income at Entry

Street Outreach 2022



Last year,
43.6%
of households earned
\$0

22.6%
earned approximately
\$6,001-12,000



\$200.00

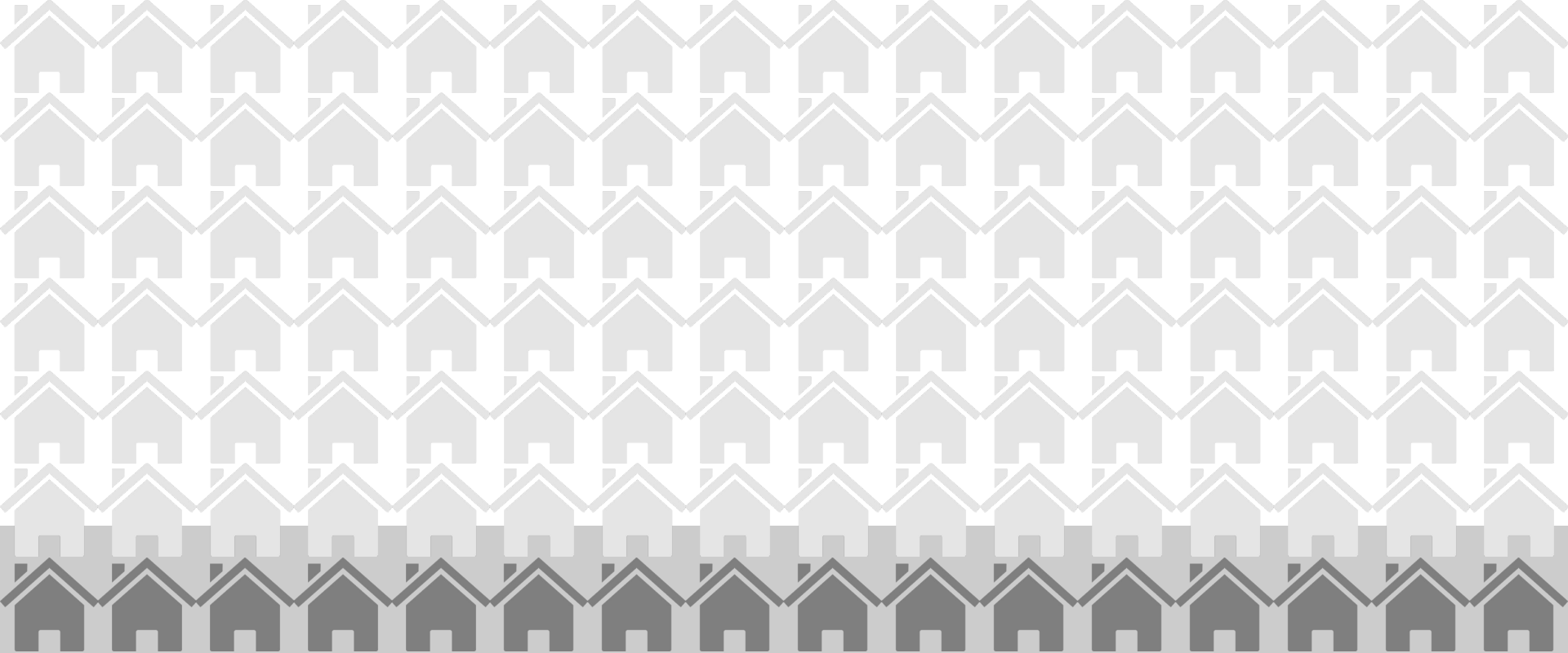
A typical monthly rent a Rhode Islander experiencing homelessness could afford...



Note:

Assuming annual gross income of \$8,000, spending 30% of income on rent





Trends in Homelessness



January 2022 Point in Time Count

The Point in Time Count is an annual count of people experiencing homelessness, that is HUD required of Continuums of Care.

1151 persons living in “Emergency Shelter”

177 persons living in “Transitional Housing”

248 persons living “Outdoors or in Cars”

Total of *1,576 persons* experienced homelessness on January 26th, 2022

Note:

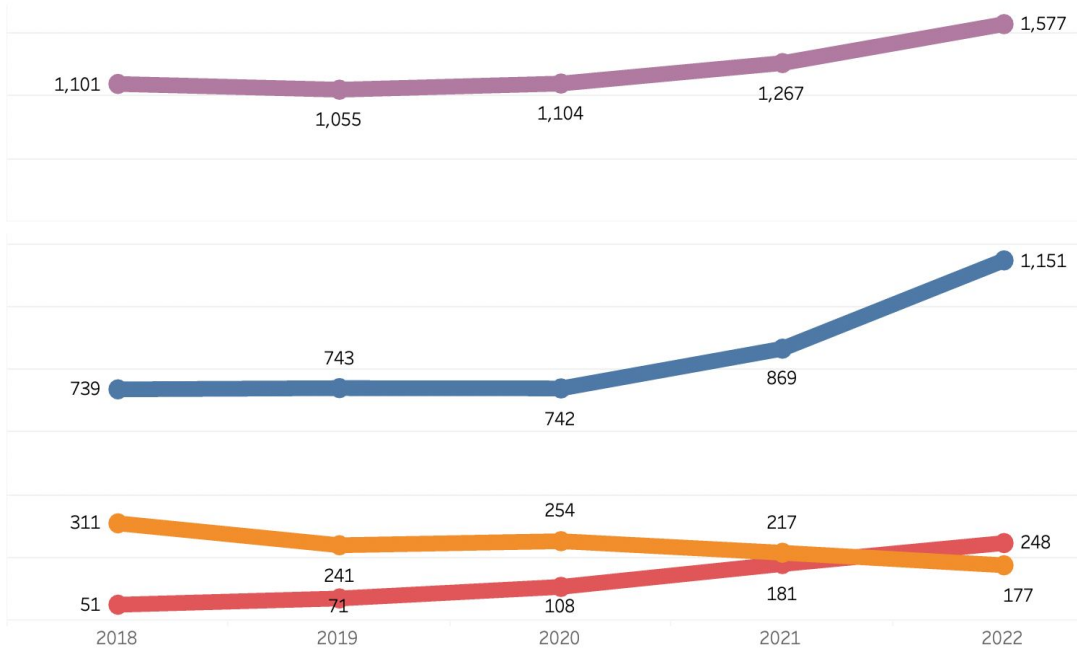
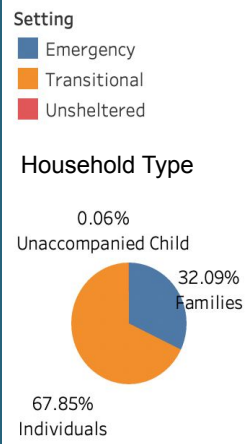
We’ve just completed our PIT Count for 2023 - that data will be available closer to April

Source: Rhode Island/HUD PIT Report 2022, Data includes Domestic Violence Shelters and other non HMIS participating sites.



Point in Time Count - 5 Year Trends

The overall count increased by 10% with significant increases in ES and unsheltered outweighing TH bed reductions



We continue to see an increase in homelessness, which was exacerbated dramatically due to COVID-19.

Source: Rhode Island/ HUD PIT Reports 2018-2022, Data includes Domestic Violence Shelters and other non HMIS participating sites.



Homelessness Now

1155 Persons served in “Emergency Shelter” or “Transitional Housing”

+ 375 Persons Living “Outdoors or in Cars”

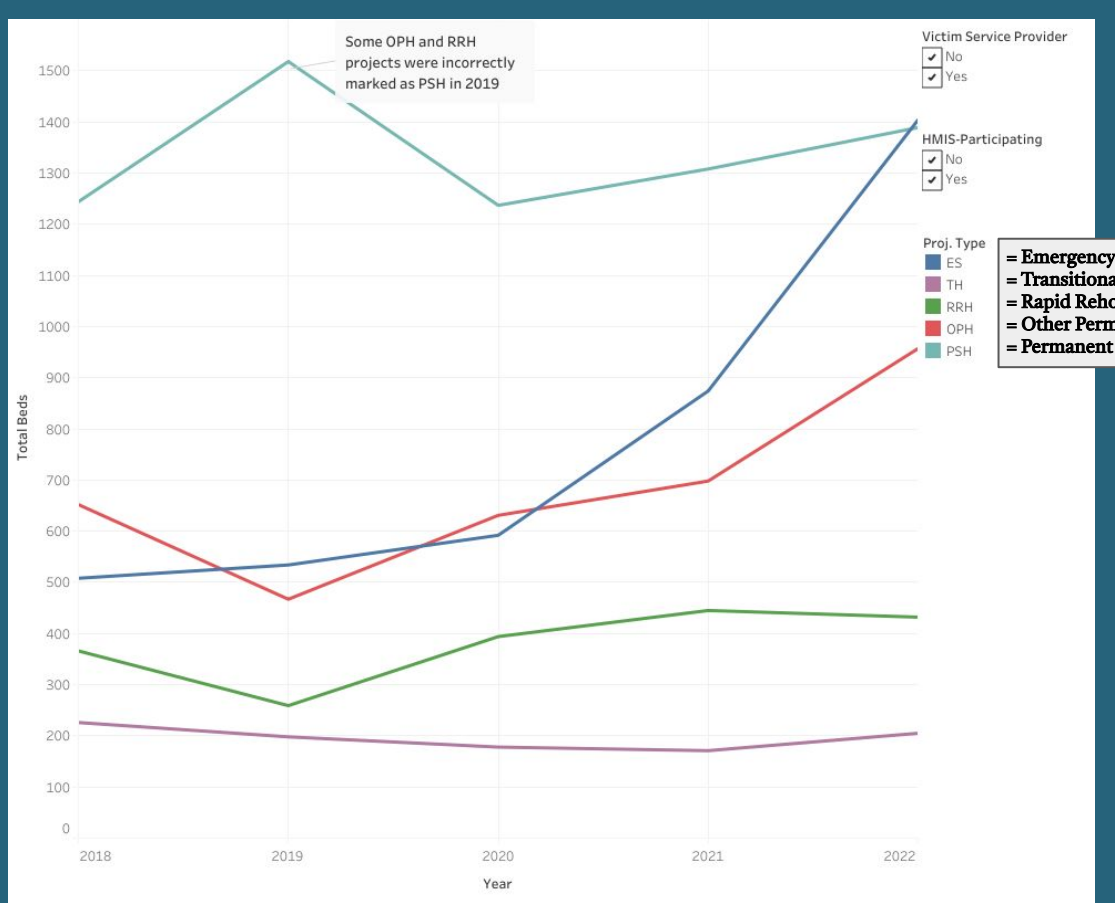
1530 Total Persons Experiencing Homelessness

Source: Rhode Island Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) *Count CLS (Current Living Situation)* Report (Pulled 2/9 for last 14 days) and *Bed and Unit Inventory* report (pulled 2/9)

Data does NOT include Domestic Violence (DV) Shelters and other non HMIS participating sites. *Any significant variation from PIT numbers is result of lack of DV data in HMIS, due to federal law.*



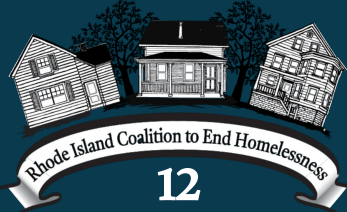
Housing Inventory Count - 5 Year Trends



= Emergency Shelter
 = Transitional Housing
 = Rapid Rehousing
 = Other Permanent Housing
 = Permanent Supportive Housing

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) documents the resources available within the community, and is conducted in tandem with the Point in Time Count.

Source: Rhode Island/HUD HIC Reports 2018-2022, Data includes Domestic Violence Shelters and other non HMIS participating sites.



Number of Emergency Shelter Beds

By Type:

36 Overflow Shelter Beds

187 Seasonal Shelter Beds

723 Year-Round Shelter Beds

By Population:

449 Family Shelter Beds

457 Individual Shelter Beds

40 Couple Shelter Beds

946 Shelter Beds

Source: Rhode Island Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Shelter Utilization Report (Pulled 2/9/23)

Data does NOT include Domestic Violence (DV) Shelters and other non HMIS participating sites. Any significant variation from PIT numbers is result of lack of DV data in HMIS, due to federal law.



Congress

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Continuum of Care Funding

Rhode Island Housing (RIH) serves as collaborative applicant, but the **COC BOARD** is responsible for reviewing applications, ranking and allocating funding.

Approx. \$10,405,306 Annually Funds:
Rental Assistance, Permanent Supportive Housing and System Costs (*HMIS/CES*)

Emergency Solutions Grant Funding

allocated to 4 places from HUD:

- 1) **The State of Rhode Island** (*Balance of State - BOS*)
- 2) **City of Pawtucket** (*entitlement*)
- 3) **City of Providence** (*entitlement*)
- 4) **City of Woonsocket** (*entitlement*)

Approx. \$1,441,906 Annually Funds:
Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Supportive Services, Rental Assistance, Housing and System Costs (*HMIS/CES*)

Major Federal Funding Sources

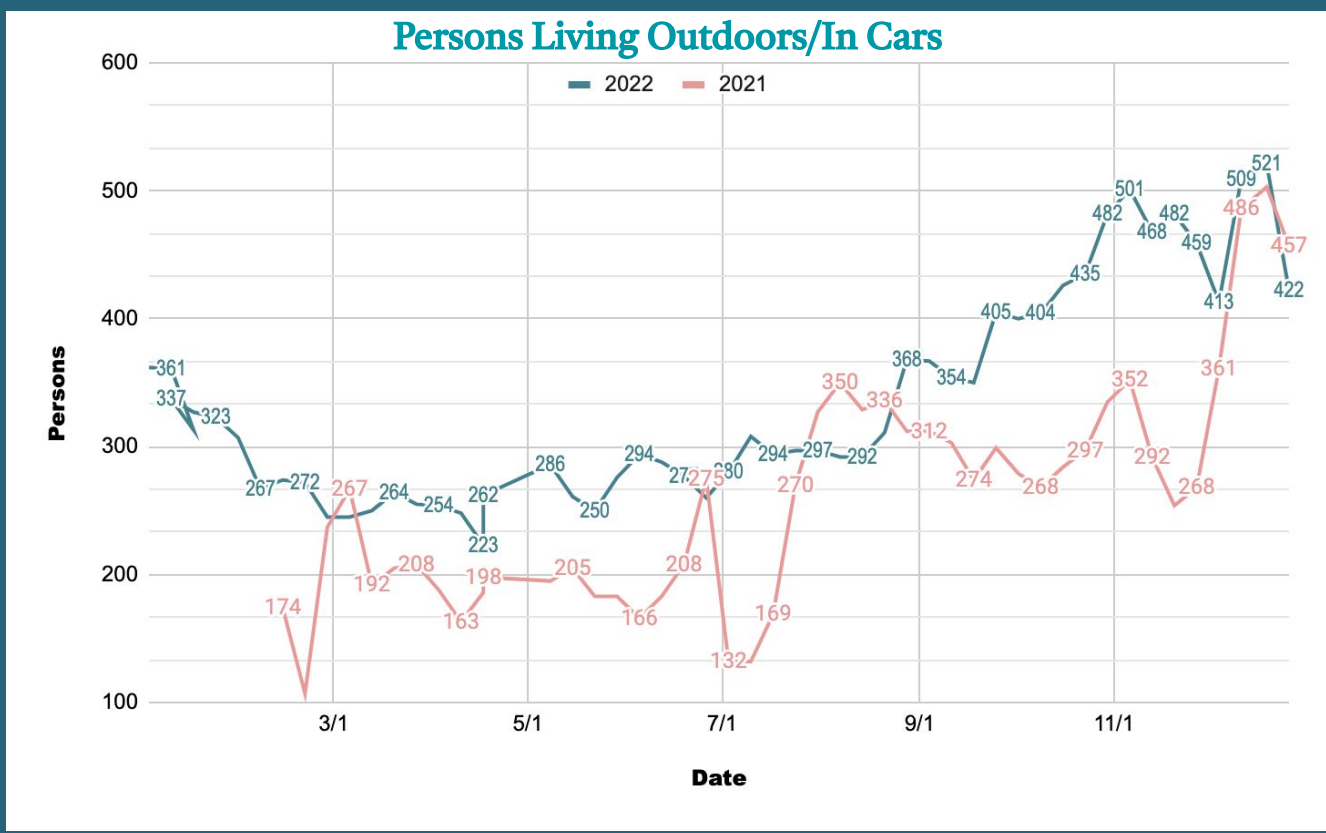


- The State's Department of Housing (formerly Office of Housing and Community Development under Commerce) has historically managed the homeless funds under the **Consolidated Homeless Fund** (<https://ohcd.ri.gov/homelessness>) which combines federal funds with state resources.
- State funds are generally from the **Housing Resources Commission** funds under the Real Estate Conveyance Tax.

Major State Funding Sources



Why Has Unsheltered Homelessness Increased



We can only account for people who have come in contact with the homeless system. Street Outreach staff report seeing even more people who are outside, but aren't connecting with the system.

Source: CES Data in HMIS, based on Current Living Situation, each number is sum is total for last 14 days



What else should I understand about unsheltered homelessness?

- Rhode Islanders don't want to live outside, they do so because affordable housing is not available
- Nature of unsheltered homelessness is **dynamic** and **ever changing**...
- Source of unsheltered data comes **first hand accounts** (persons residing outdoors) and is often **confirmed** by **street outreach workers**
- Information on **persons, not encampment data** is what is tracked in **HMIS**
- All data in **HMIS** is **accurate**, kept **securely**, and maintains **confidentiality** of **clients**
- Under state law, **families experiencing homelessness** (with no other issues) **are not abusing/neglecting their children** because they are without a home under state law.

*HMIS = Homeless Management System
Statewide Database on Homelessness*



Coordinated Entry System (CES)

Help Center

Answer calls *365 days a year*

Monday – Friday: *9AM – 7PM*

Weekends & Holidays: *2PM – 7PM*

Clients can call **401-277-4316** to be put

in touch with available services.

System Front Door



Average Monthly

4,860 calls

Highest Month

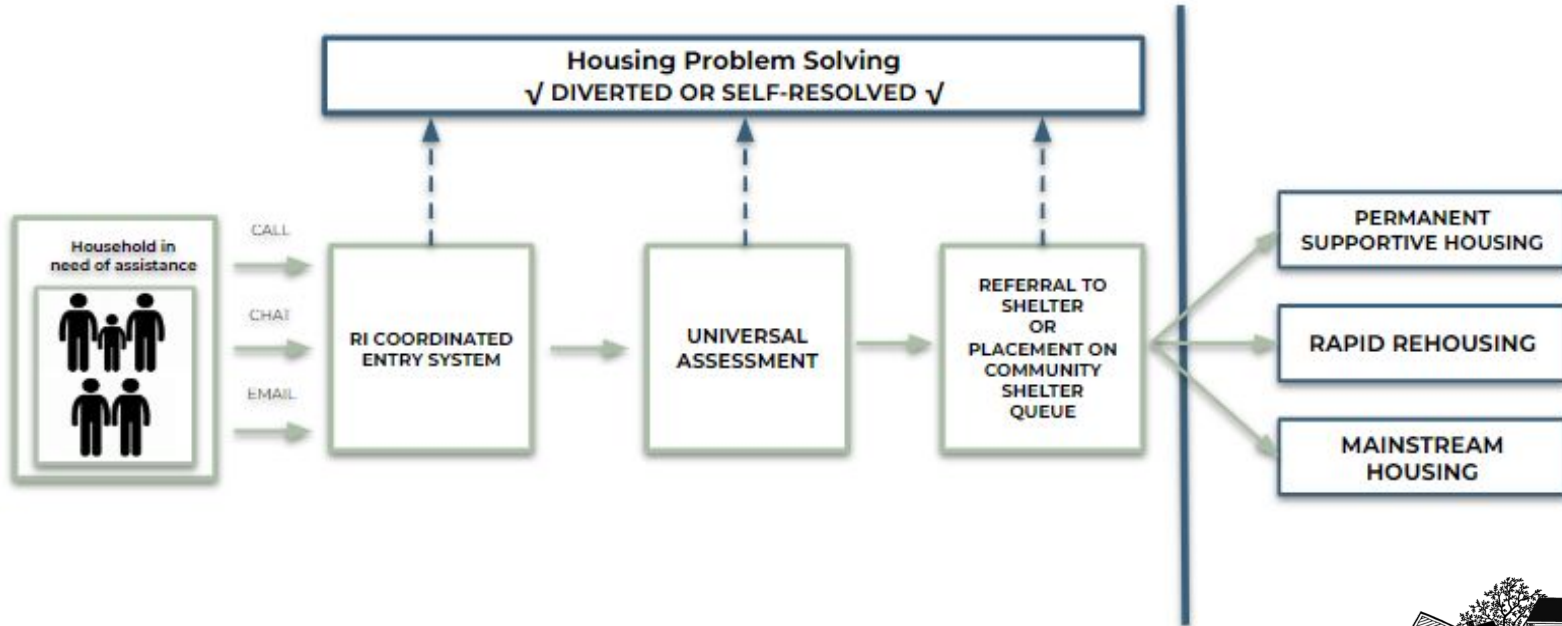
January - 8,281 calls

Lowest Month

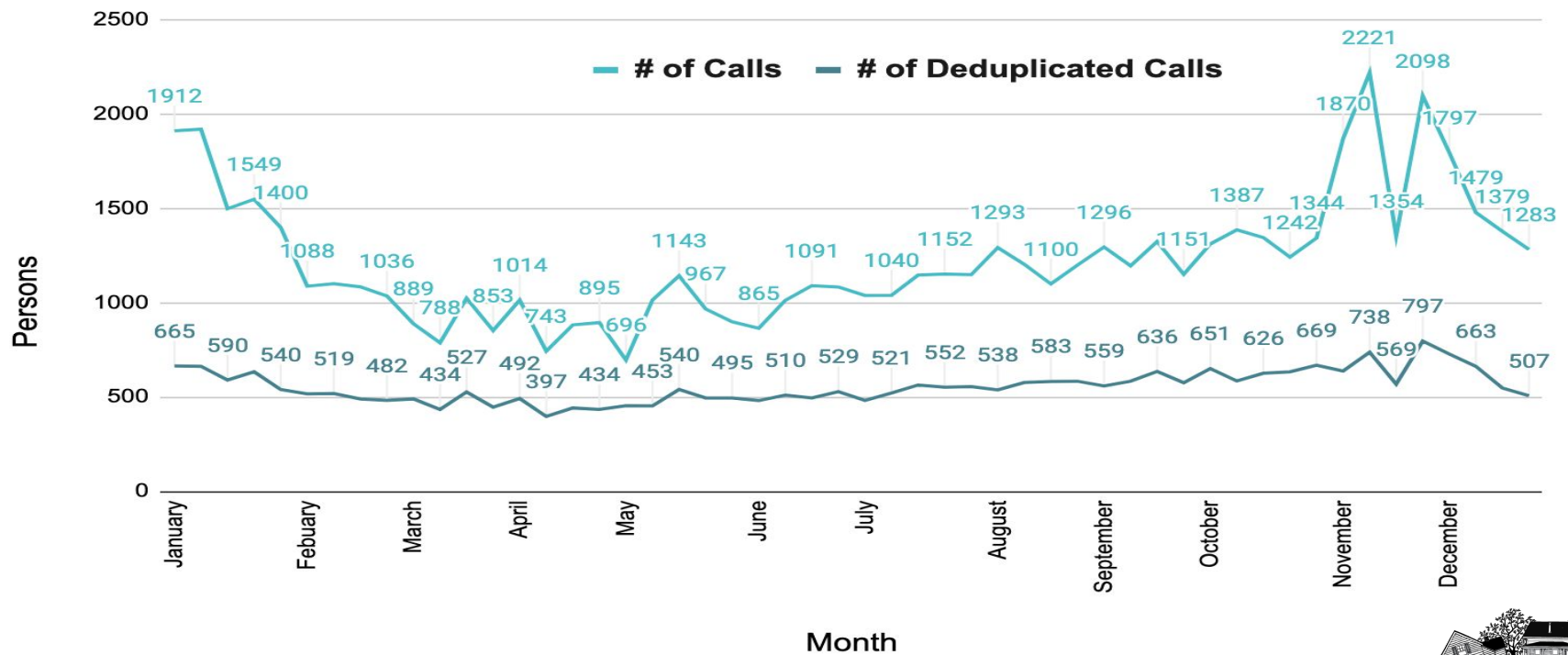
April - 3,535 calls



Access to Coordinated Entry



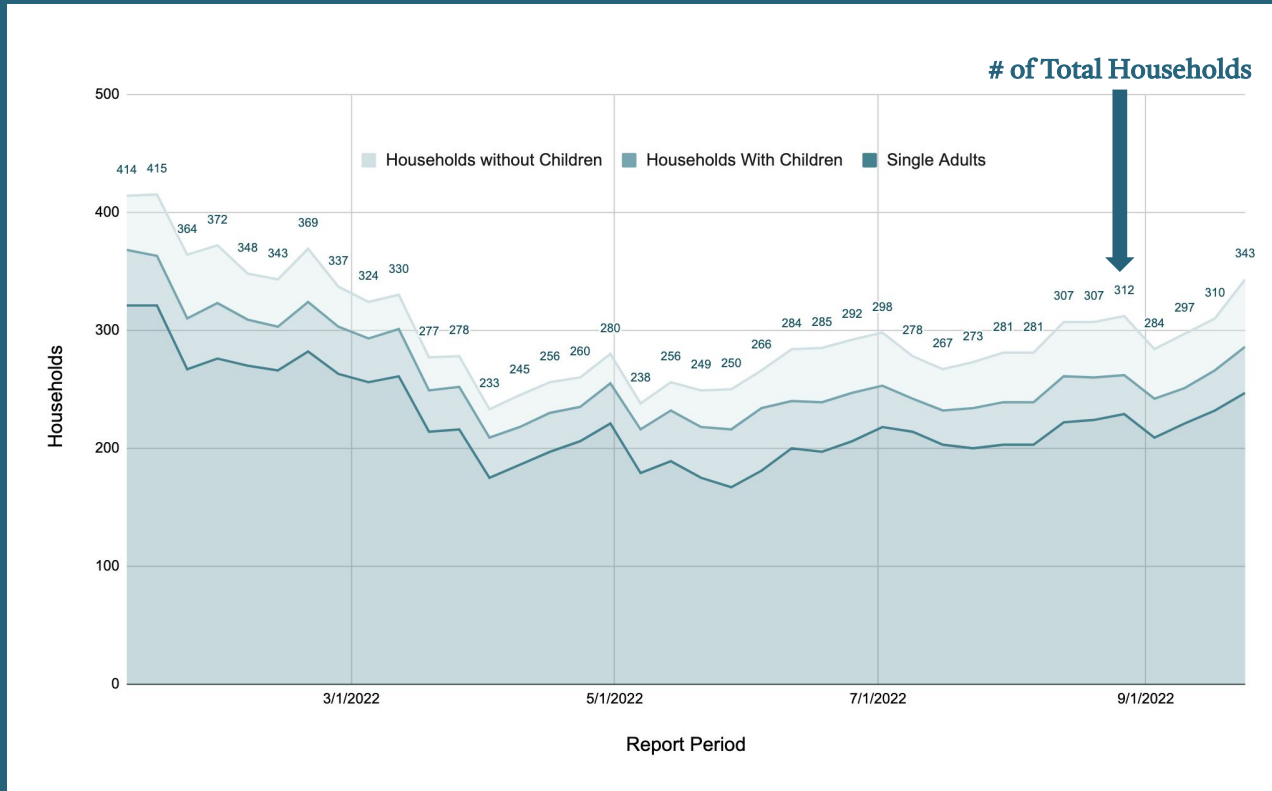
All CES Helpline Calls Seeking Shelter Over Time



Source: Five9 Call Reports from 1/1/2022 - 12/31/22



Unsheltered Households Waiting for Shelter...



As of *last week*, there were:

- **64 Families w/ Children...**
- **31 Adult only Families...**
- **174 Single Adults...**

All *living outdoors* and waiting for shelter/emergency housing.

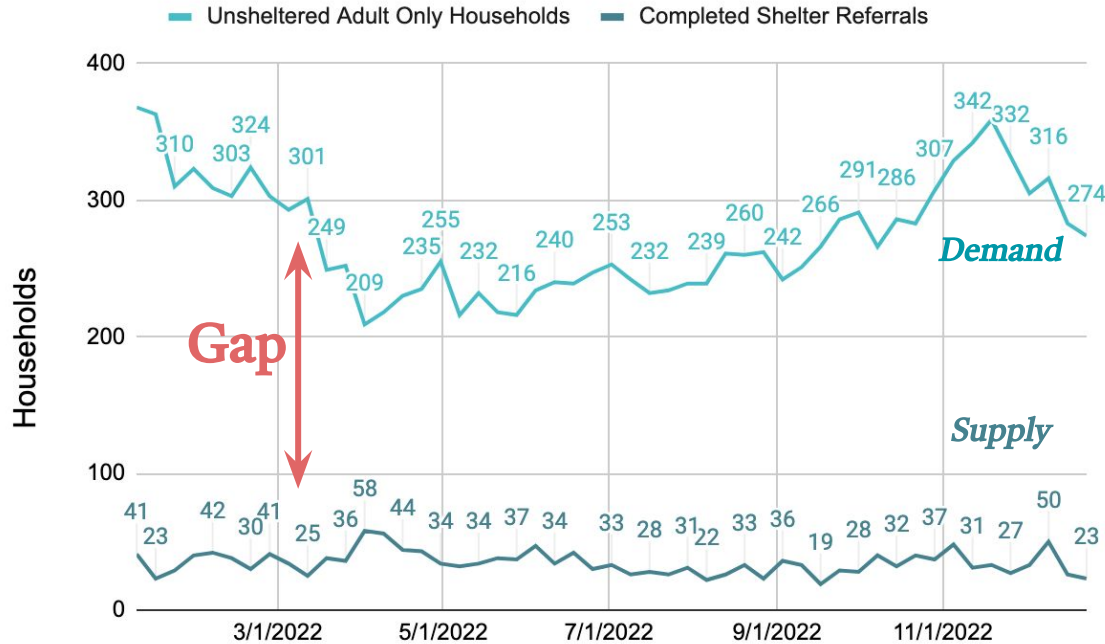


Emergency Response Supply Vs. Demand

Unsheltered Single Adults/Couples Seeking Shelter...



Unsheltered Adult Only Households



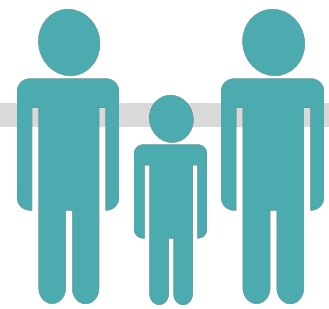
On average we have a **deficit of 238 of emergency housing units** (shelter, hotel room, etc.) each month to meet demand of just those residing outdoors.



Source: CES Data in HMIS, based on Unsheltered Current Living Situation on Queue (Unsheltered Households) and Completed Shelter Referrals 1/1/22-12/31/22

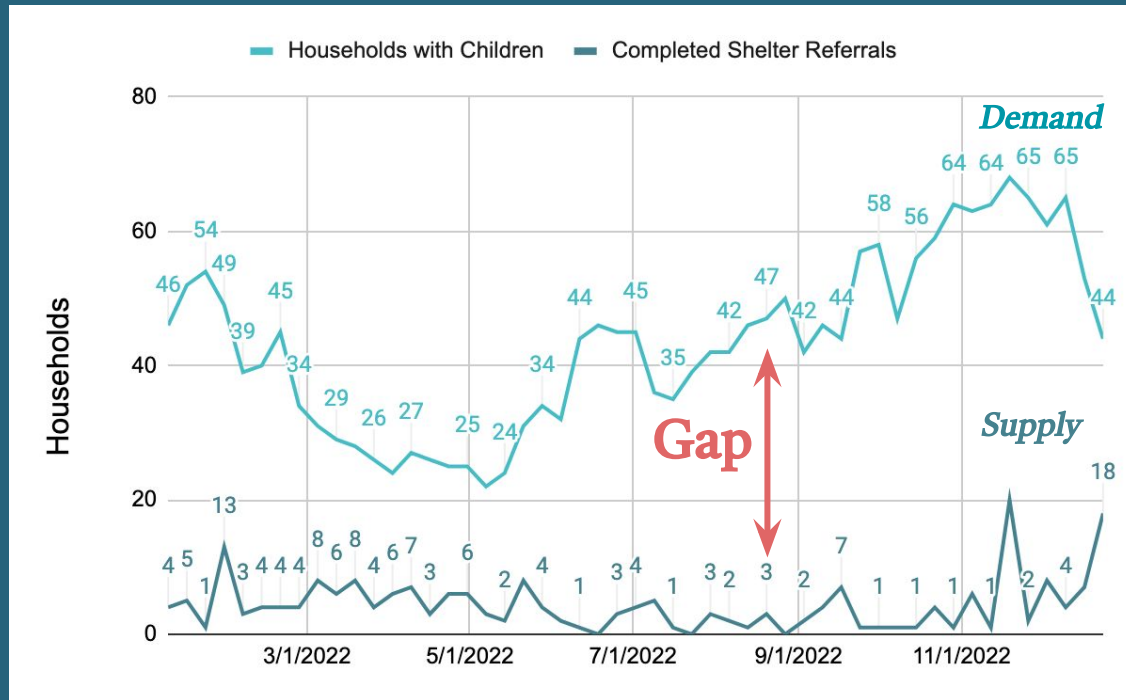
Emergency Response Supply Vs. Demand

Unsheltered Families Seeking Shelter...



Unsheltered Households With Children

On average we have a **deficit of 39 of emergency housing units** (shelter, hotel room, etc.) each month to meet demand of just those residing outdoors.

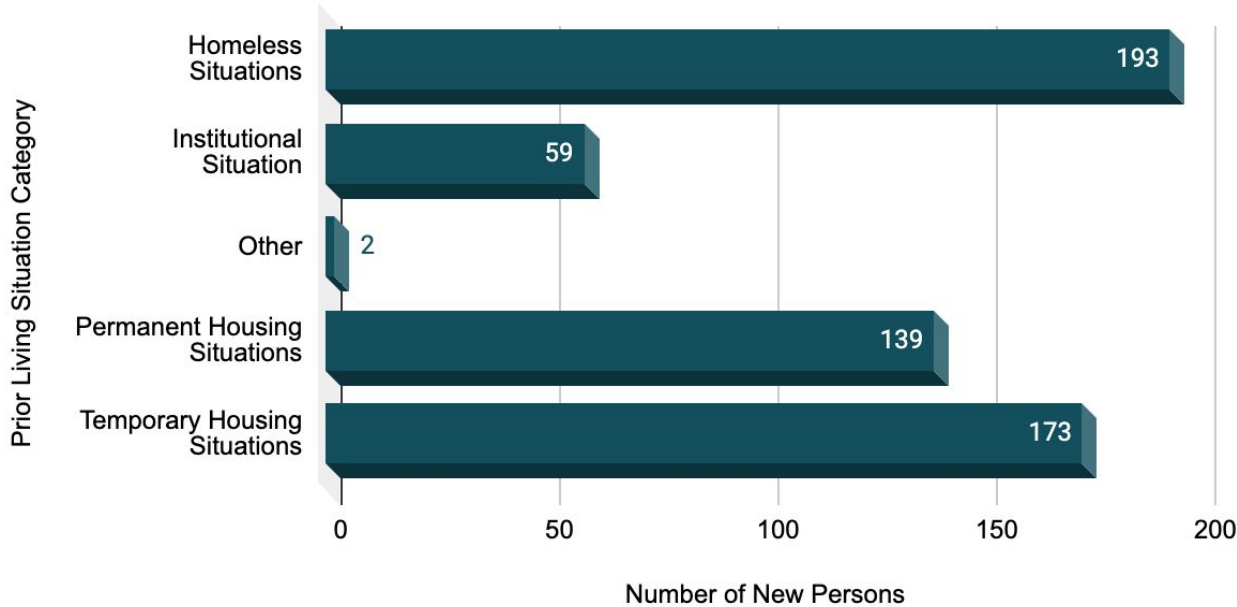


Source: CES Data in HMIS, based on Unsheltered Current Living Situation on Queue (Unsheltered Households) and Completed Shelter Referrals 1/1/22-12/31/22



Inflow into the Homeless System

Prior Living Situations of New Persons Entering the Homeless System in 2022



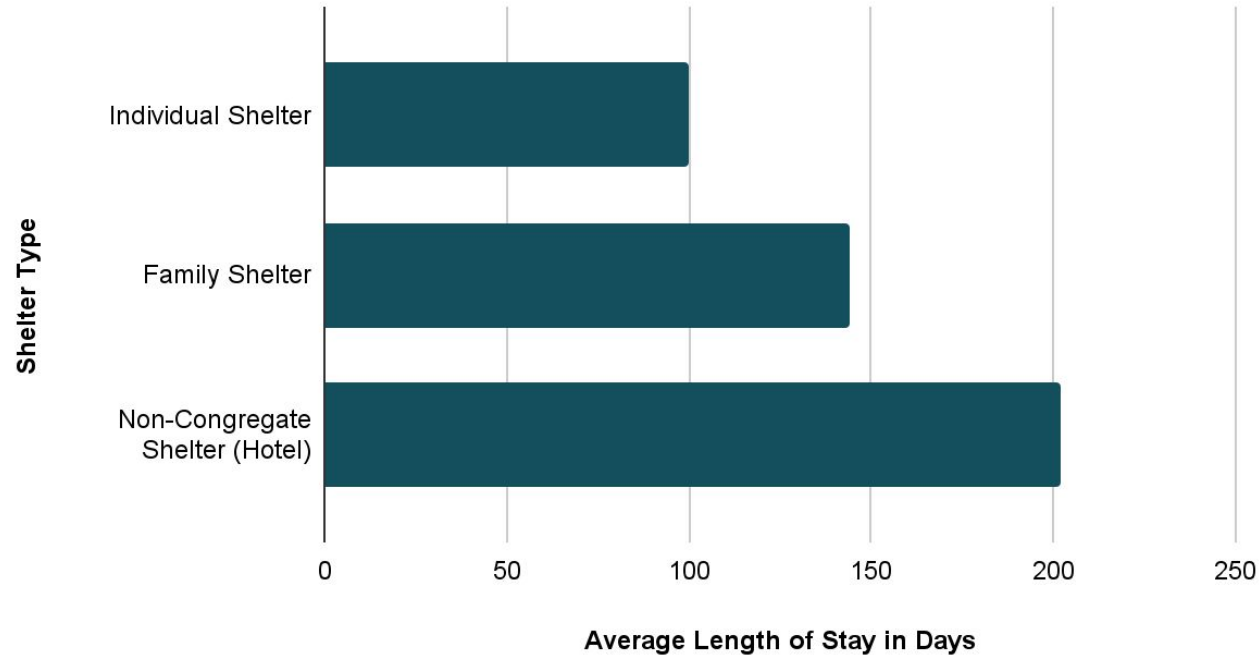
55%
of the people that
entered the
Homeless System in
2022 came from
Permanent or
Temporary
Housing Situations

Source: Rhode Island Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), Inflow in a period with homeless occurrences and destination report (1/1/22-12/31/22)



Length of Time in Shelter

Average Length of Stay in Days by Shelter Type



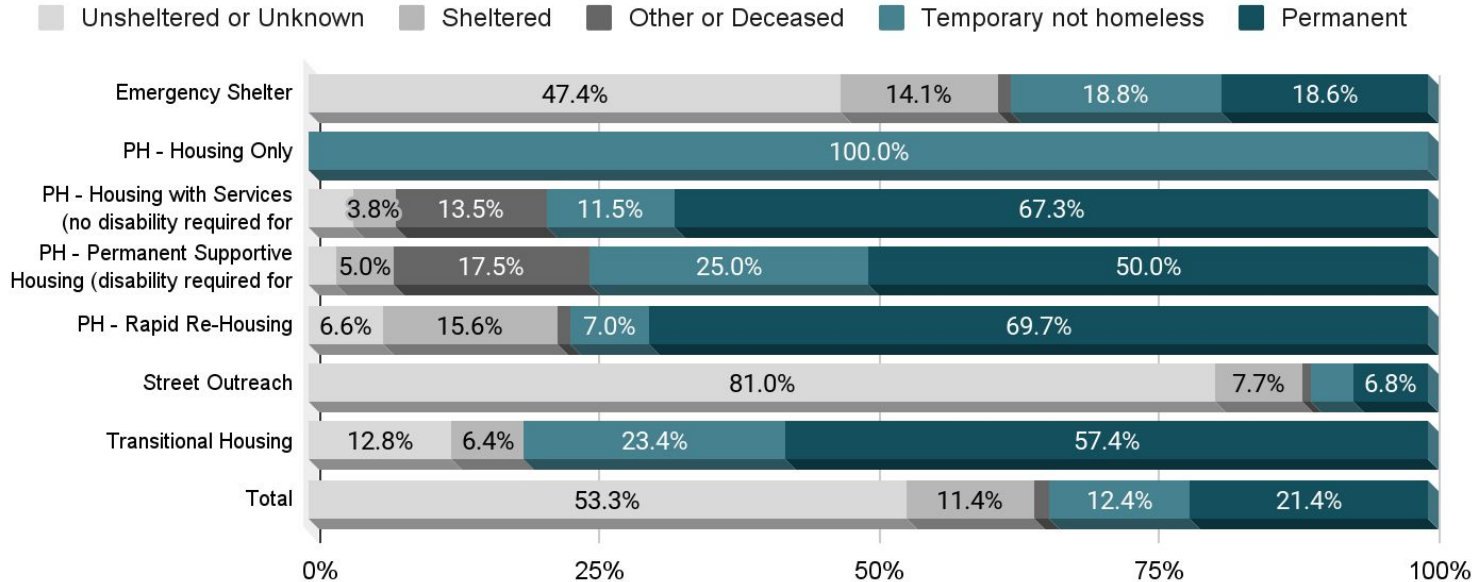
In general, Individual Congregate Shelter have a shorter average length of stay than Family Shelters and Non-Congregate Hotel based programs.



Exits by Project Type

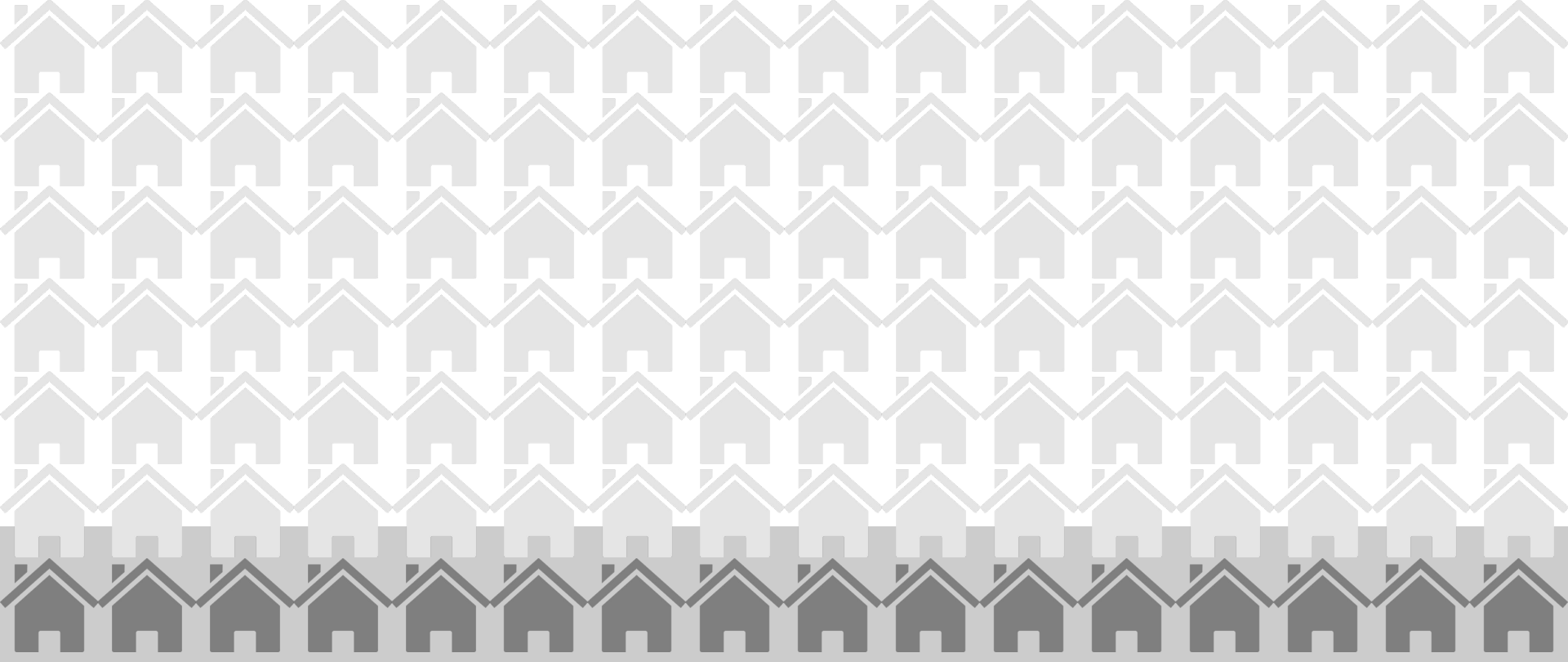
Exit Destinations from different Project Types

1/1/22-12/31/22



Most Positive Exit Destinations are seen from Housing Programs



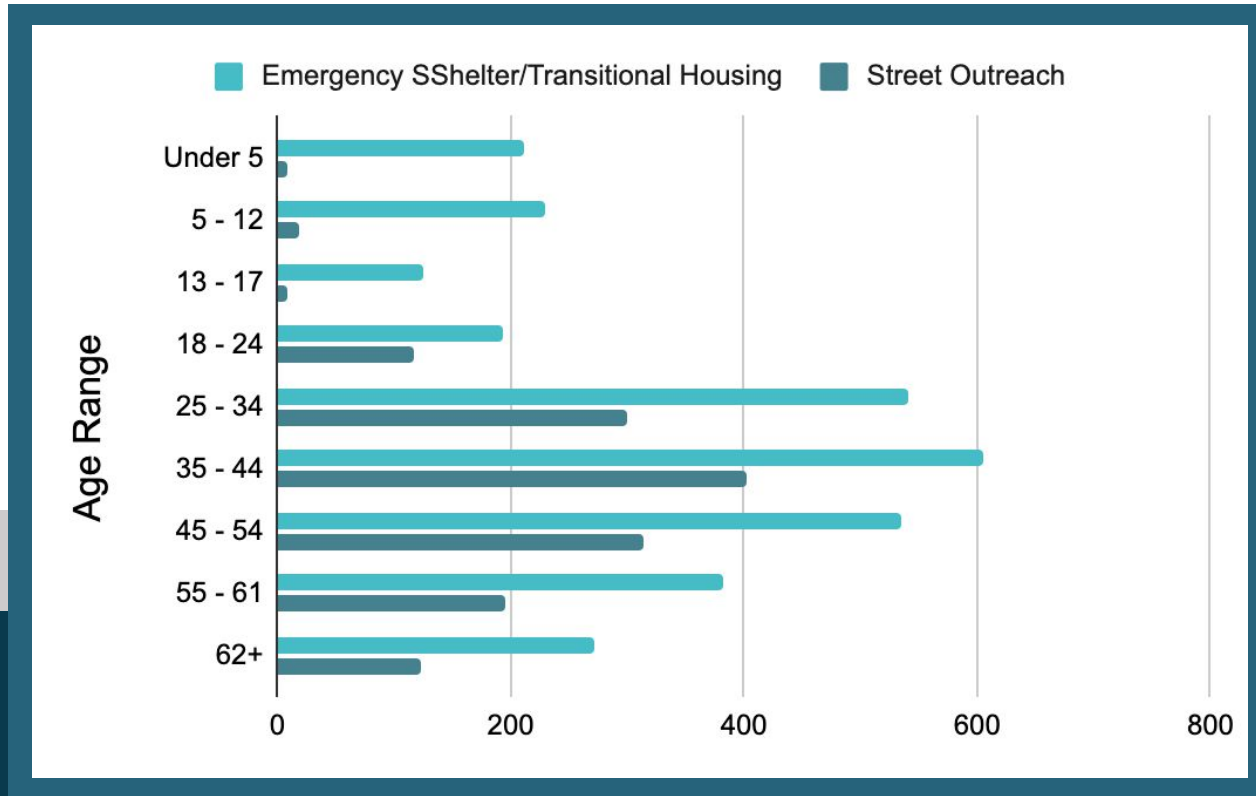


Demographics



Who Experiences Homelessness in Rhode Island

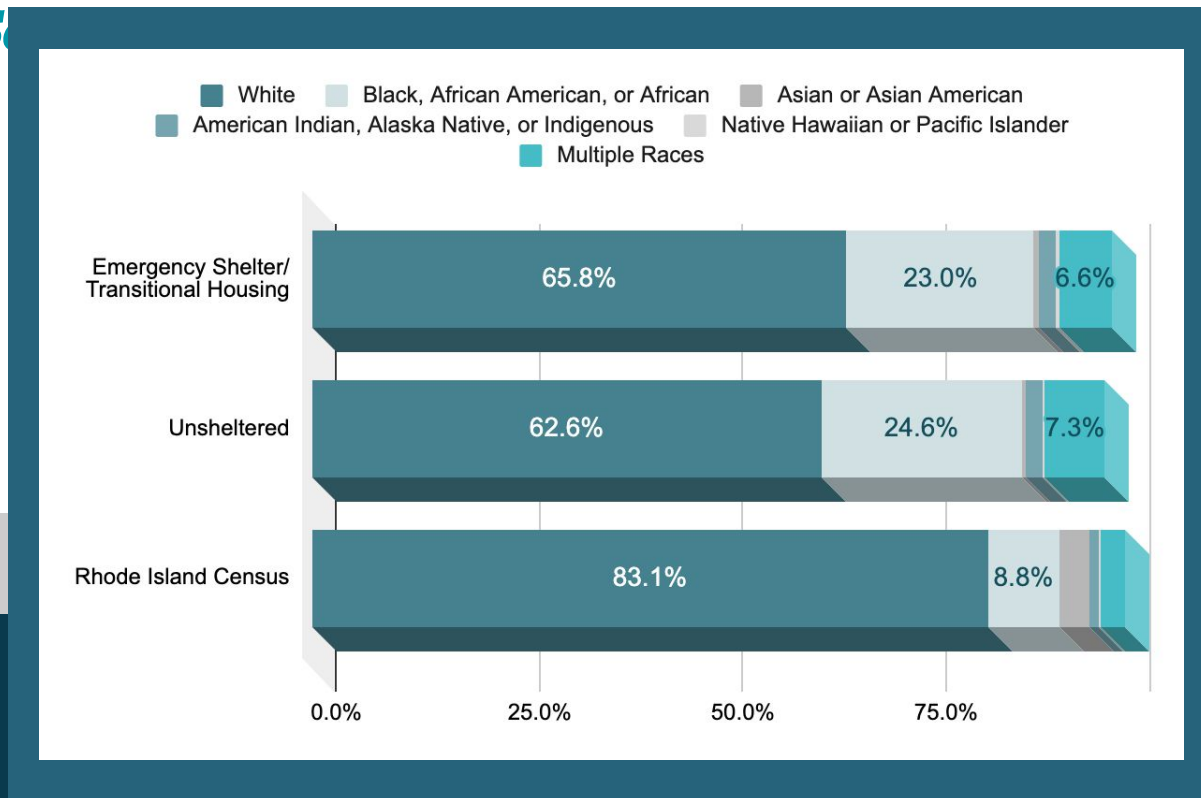
Age...



Few cities or counties consistently report the age of people who died while homeless, but those that have, placed the average age between **45-55 years of age**, while the national average is 79 years of age.

Who Experiences Homelessness in Rhode Island

Race Single Adults/Couples by

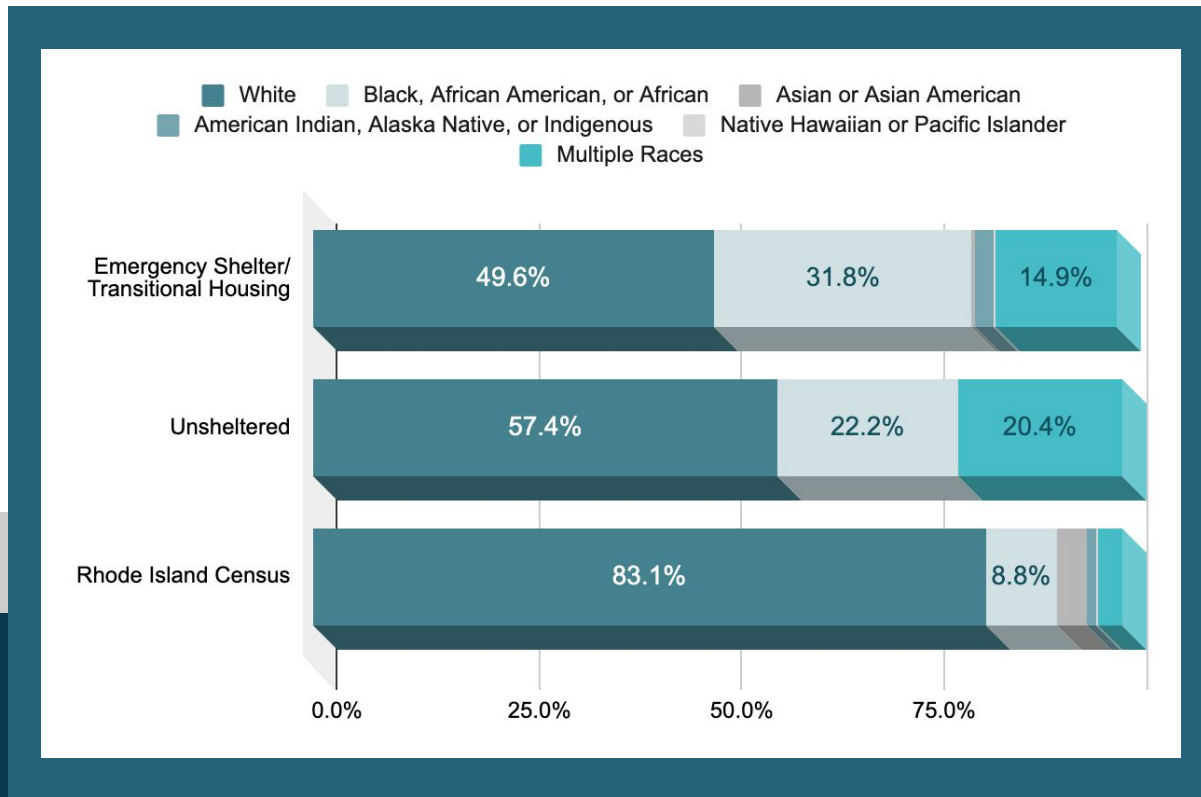


Although **black persons** make up only **8.8%** of the state, they represent **23%** of the single adults living in Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing.

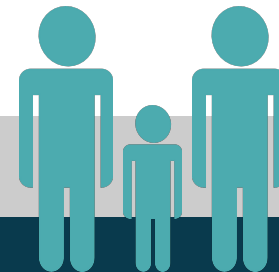


Who Experiences Homelessness in Rhode Island

Race Families by Setting...

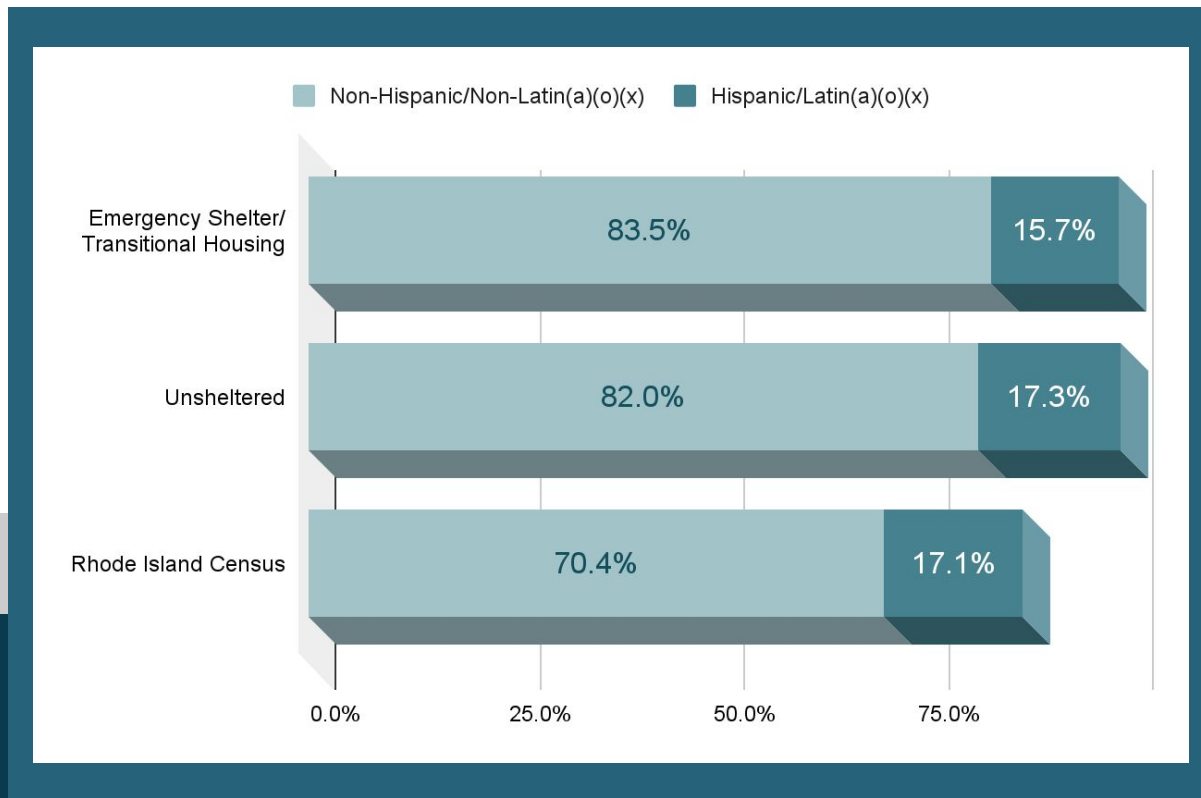


Although **black persons** make up only **8.8%** of the state, they represent **30.8%** of the Families living in Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing.



Who Experiences Homelessness in Rhode Island

Ethnicity Single Adults/Couples by Setting...

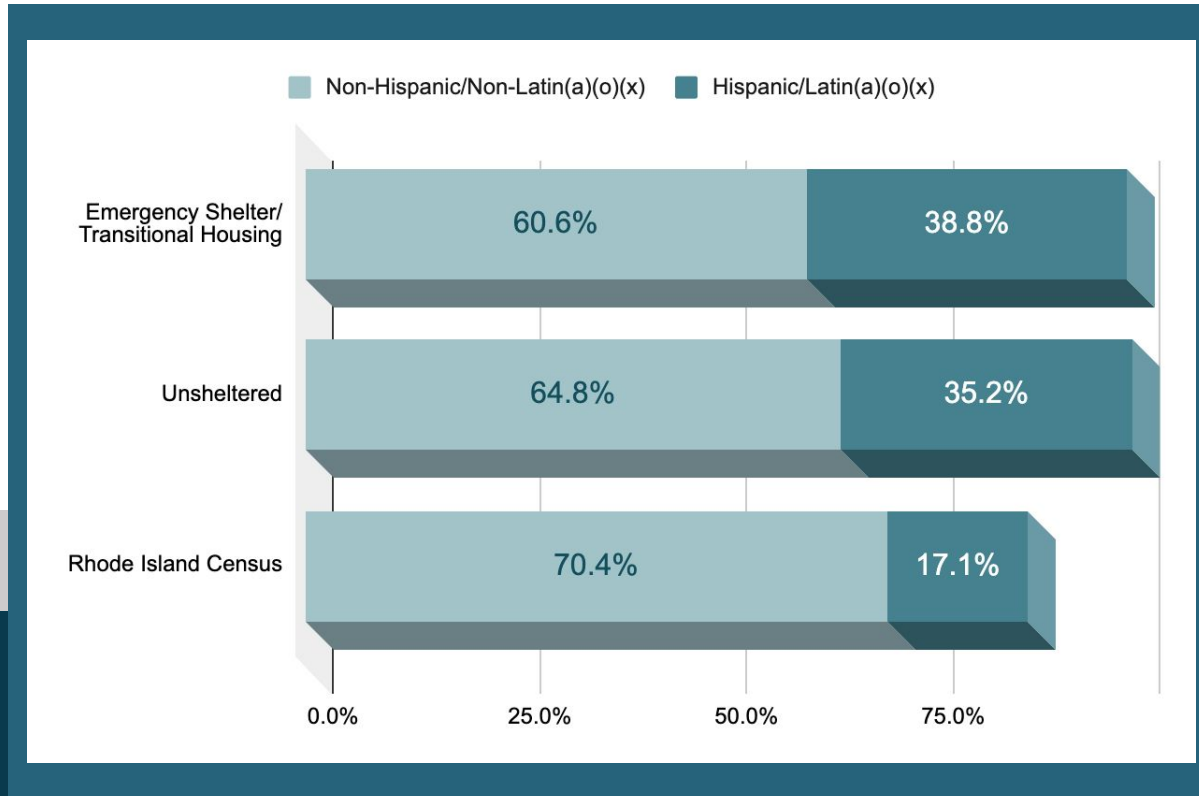


The number of **Hispanic/Latin (a)(o)(x) persons** within Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Street Outreach Adults **are Proportional** to Rhode Island's Census data.

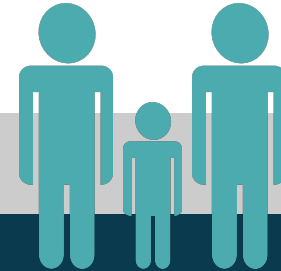


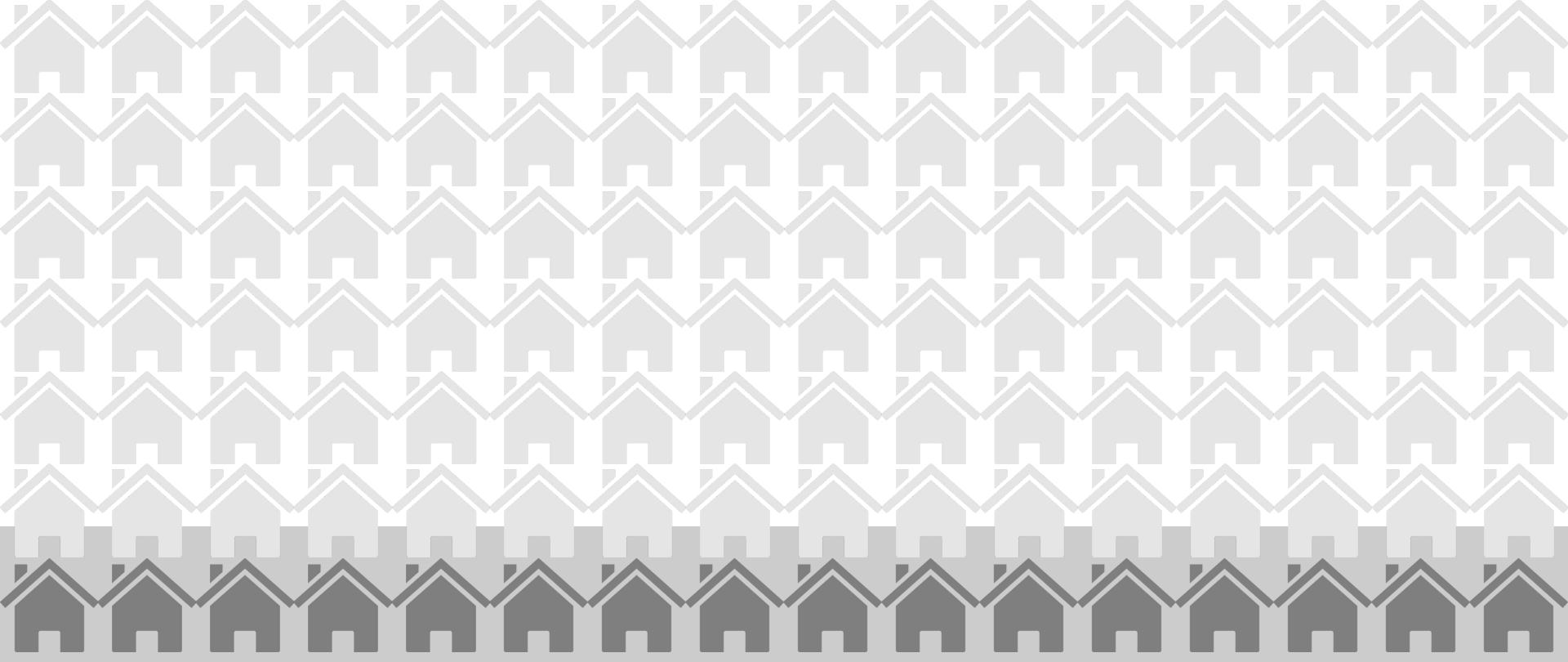
Who Experiences Homelessness in Rhode Island

Ethnicity Families by Setting...



Although **Hispanic or Latinx** make up only **17.1%** of the state, they represent **38.8%** of the families living in Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing.





Constituent Story

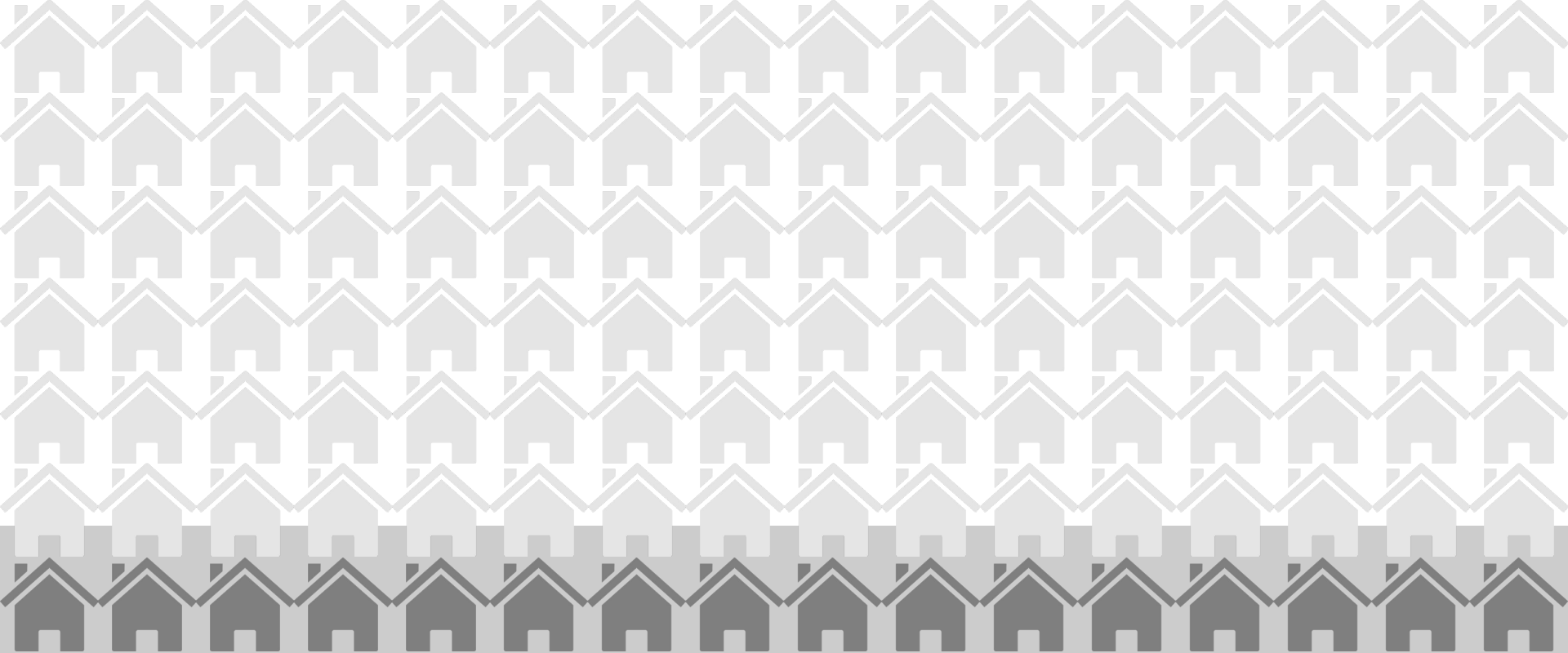


Constituent Perspective

Wendy Thomas

Speaker, Voices of Homelessness





How do we address this crisis?

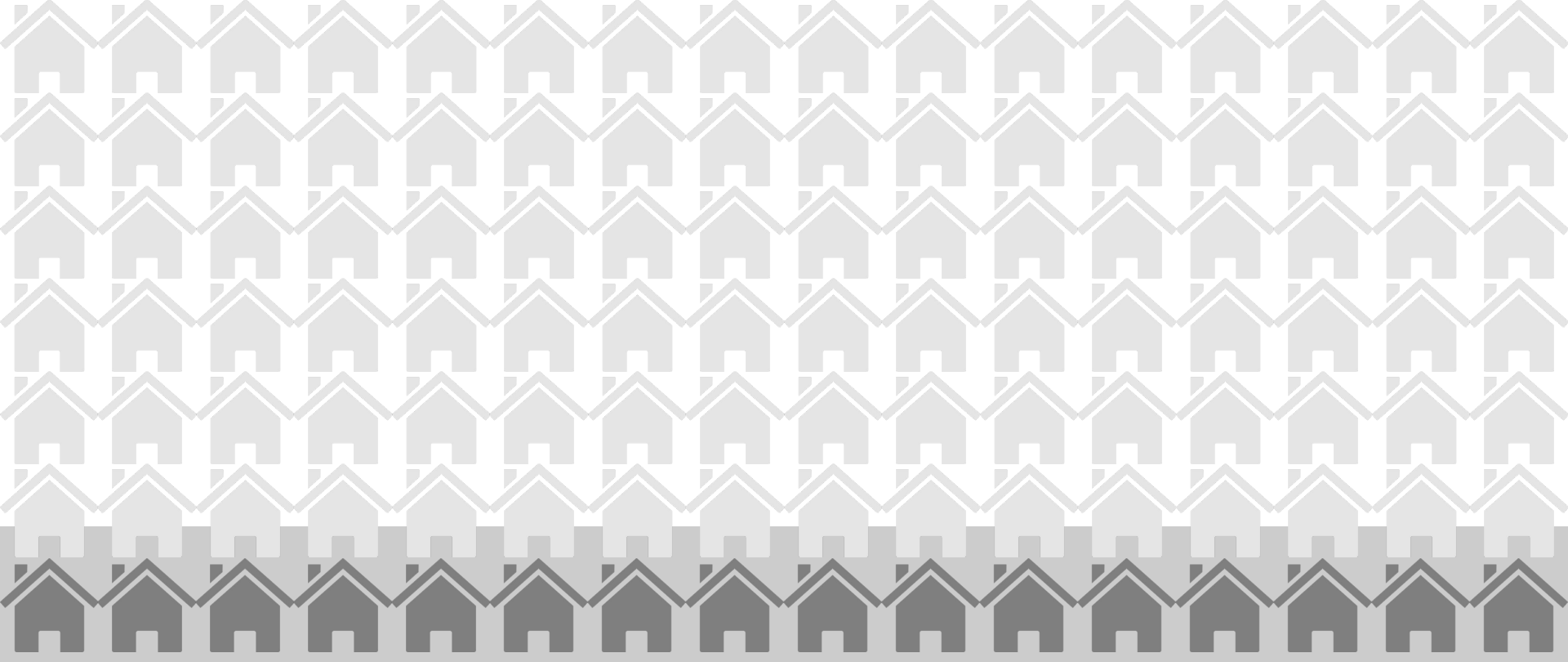


How we address this crisis?

We need the State of Rhode Island to:

- Develop flexible resources to **prevent and divert homelessness**.
- Increase the supply of **crisis housing and shelter**, including innovative models.
- Dramatically increase the supply of **affordable housing for very low income households**, including **permanent supportive housing**.
- Continue building a **robust Department of Housing** and reconvene the **Interagency Council of Homelessness**.
- Treat **housing as healthcare** to bridge the gap between health and housing stability.





Questions?

