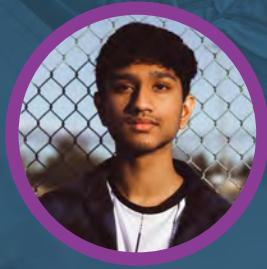




RTFH

SAN DIEGO'S
REGIONAL LEADER
ON HOMELESSNESS



HOMELESSNESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM
2025 DATA AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

SAN DIEGO CITY AND COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

JUNE 2026



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) serves as the lead agency for the San Diego City and County Continuum of Care (CoC) and administers the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the primary database used to document housing and service activity for people experiencing homelessness. This report reviews key indicators for the regional homeless crisis response system and summarizes three-year trends using HUD System Performance Measure (SPM) and Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) submissions for 2023, 2024, and 2025¹, along with selected custom HMIS reports prepared by RTFH.

The report focuses on the following performance measures for individuals and households:

- Total number of persons and households served by the homeless crisis response system.
- Length of time individuals and households participate in homeless projects.
- Total number of persons and households successfully transitioning to permanent housing, along with the percentages of housing exits.
- Recidivism rates, indicating the extent to which individuals and households previously exiting to permanent housing return to homelessness.
- Number of persons and households experiencing homelessness for the first time.

Taken together, these measures provide a picture of how the San Diego Continuum of Care homeless response system is performing across access, duration of homelessness, housing outcomes, returns to homelessness, and first-time homelessness. The findings identify areas of progress as well as trends that may require additional attention as the region continues to strengthen its response to homelessness.

Key findings from the report include:

- The FY2023 to FY2025 data show that the homeless response system continued to serve a large and sustained number of people and households. While the total number of persons served leveled off slightly in FY2025, household counts continued to increase, rising from 35,945 in FY2023 to 38,189 in FY2025.
- Average days homeless remained a key area of concern. For households in general, the average increased from 185 days in FY2023 to 193 days in FY2025, despite a slight decline from FY2024. Adult-only households continued to experience the longest durations, reaching 202 days in FY2025, while seniors age 55 and older remained high at 234 days.

¹ All the report years on this report are based on the federal Fiscal Year (FY), which runs from Oct 1 through Sep 30.

- Permanent housing outcomes showed improvement across several measures. Permanent housing exits for all households increased from 23% to 29%, and Veterans experienced a notable increase from 30% to 42%. Successful exits from Street Outreach also improved substantially, rising from 24% to 53%, indicating stronger connections from unsheltered homelessness to temporary sheltered or permanent situations.
- Returns to homelessness generally declined, suggesting some improvement in housing stability after exit. Total returns within two years decreased from 25% in FY2023 to 21% in FY2025, while returns within six months declined from 11% to 9%.
- First-time homelessness decreased across many groups by FY2025. ES, SH, and TH projects declined from 5,590 to 5,290, while ES, SH, TH, and PH projects decreased from 6,905 to 6,411, reflecting progress in reducing new entries into homelessness.

Despite these gains, the data show continued challenges. Longer durations of homelessness among adult-only households and seniors point to the need for faster housing connections, while continued returns to homelessness underscore the importance of post-exit supports. These trends highlight the need to reduce the length of homelessness, expand access to permanent housing, strengthen prevention efforts, and support long-term housing stability.





ABOUT THE DATA

This report draws on HUD-submitted reports for 2023, 2024, and 2025, with particular attention to FY2025 results. Throughout the report, years are presented using the federal fiscal year, which runs from October 1 through September 30.

Most measures in this section align with HUD's System Performance Measures (SPM)² and Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA)³ reports, both of which are used to assess Continuum of Care performance. The SPM report provides systemwide counts, averages, and year-over-year results across key performance areas. The LSA covers many of the same areas but uses HUD-defined logic to examine how households move through the homeless response system in greater detail. In general, SPM results serve as CoC-level benchmarks, while LSA results offer more detailed household-level insights to support program planning and system improvement. A key distinction is that the LSA focuses on household progress through the system using head-of-household data, whereas the SPM includes all persons served.

Some sections also use custom HMIS⁴ reporting to provide additional detail beyond the HUD-submitted reports. Because HMIS is the source system for both SPM and LSA reporting, these custom analyses add context while remaining grounded in the same core data infrastructure.

² <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/system-performance-measures/#guidance>

³ <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/lisa/>

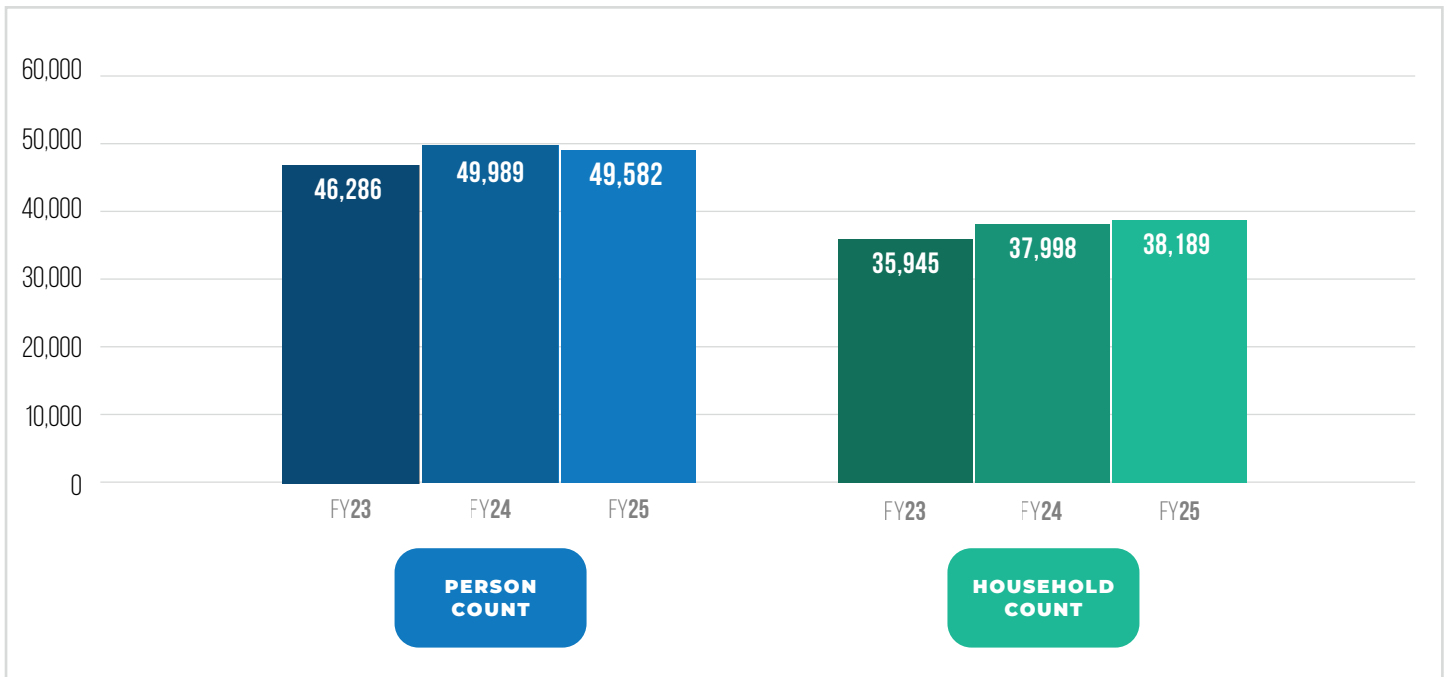
⁴ <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hmis/>



TOTAL PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

Over the three-year period, the homeless crisis response system served consistently high numbers of people and households, with growth from FY2023 to FY2024 followed by more moderate change in FY2025. The total number of persons served increased from 46,286 in FY2023 to 49,989 in FY2024, an 8% increase, before decreasing slightly to 49,582 in FY2025, a decline of about 1%. Household counts followed a steadier upward trend, rising from 35,945 in FY2023 to 37,998 in FY2024, a 6% increase, and then to 38,189 in FY2025, a 1% increase. Overall, the data suggest that the system continues to serve a large and growing number of households, while the total number of persons served appears to have stabilized after the increase seen in FY2024. (SEE FIGURE 1)

FIGURE 1. **TOTAL PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS SERVED BY THE HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM** ⁵

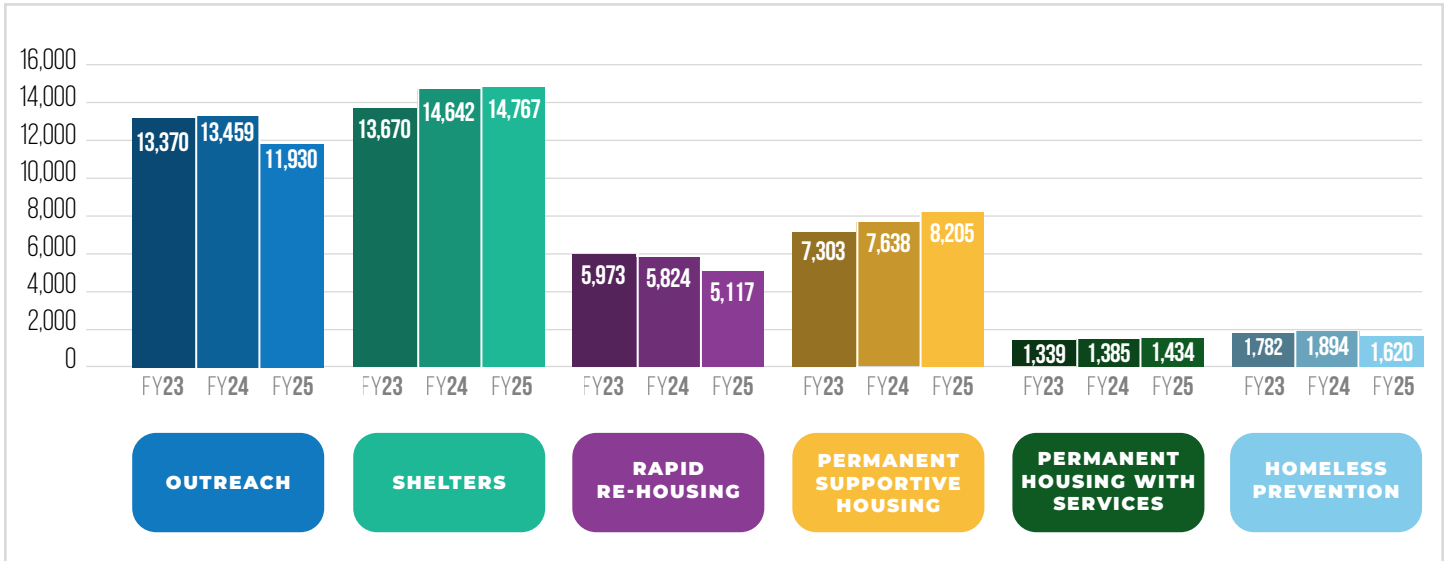


⁵ Total persons and households served includes all programs and project types that enter data into HMIS including permanent housing projects, non-permanent housing projects, and supportive services only projects.



Across the three-year period, shelters continued to serve as the largest service category, growing by approximately 8% overall. Outreach remained nearly unchanged from FY2023 to FY2024, with a 1% increase, but dropped by 11% in FY2025. Rapid Re-Housing declined steadily across the period, decreasing by 14% overall. In contrast, Permanent Supportive Housing and Permanent Housing with Services both increased, rising by 12% and 7%, respectively, which points to continued growth in longer-term housing interventions. Homeless Prevention showed a mixed pattern, increasing by 6% in FY2024 before decreasing by 14% in FY2025. (SEE FIGURE 2)

FIGURE 2. **TOTAL PERSONS SERVED BY PROJECT TYPE** ⁶



Households often move through more than one project type while engaged with the homeless response system. These combinations of services, or pathways⁷, are associated with different lengths of homelessness, permanent housing outcomes, and rates of return. The system map on the next page summarizes performance for the main project types⁸ in FY2025, and the sections that follow provide a more detailed review of each measure. (SEE FIGURE 3, NEXT PAGE)



⁶ Shelters include Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Safe Haven project types.

⁷ Households can engage with each project type in a pathway in any order.

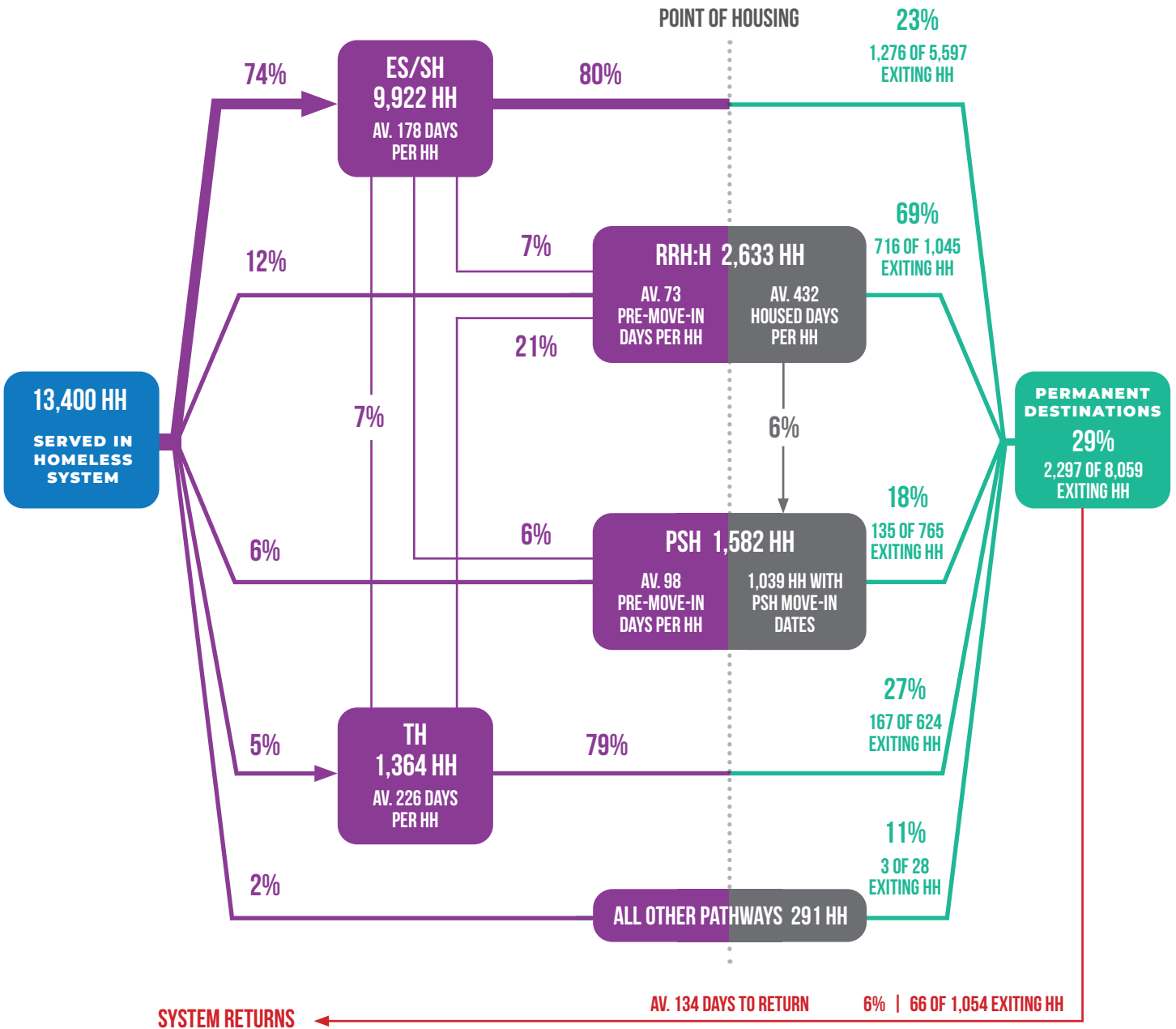
⁸ This includes households served in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing project types.



FIGURE 3. **HOUSEHOLDS SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MAP** ⁷

- Days Homeless
- Rapid Re-Housing: Housing with or without services (RRH:H), Permanent Supportive Housing PSH
- Exits to Permanent Destinations
- Returns

193 DAYS HOMELESS



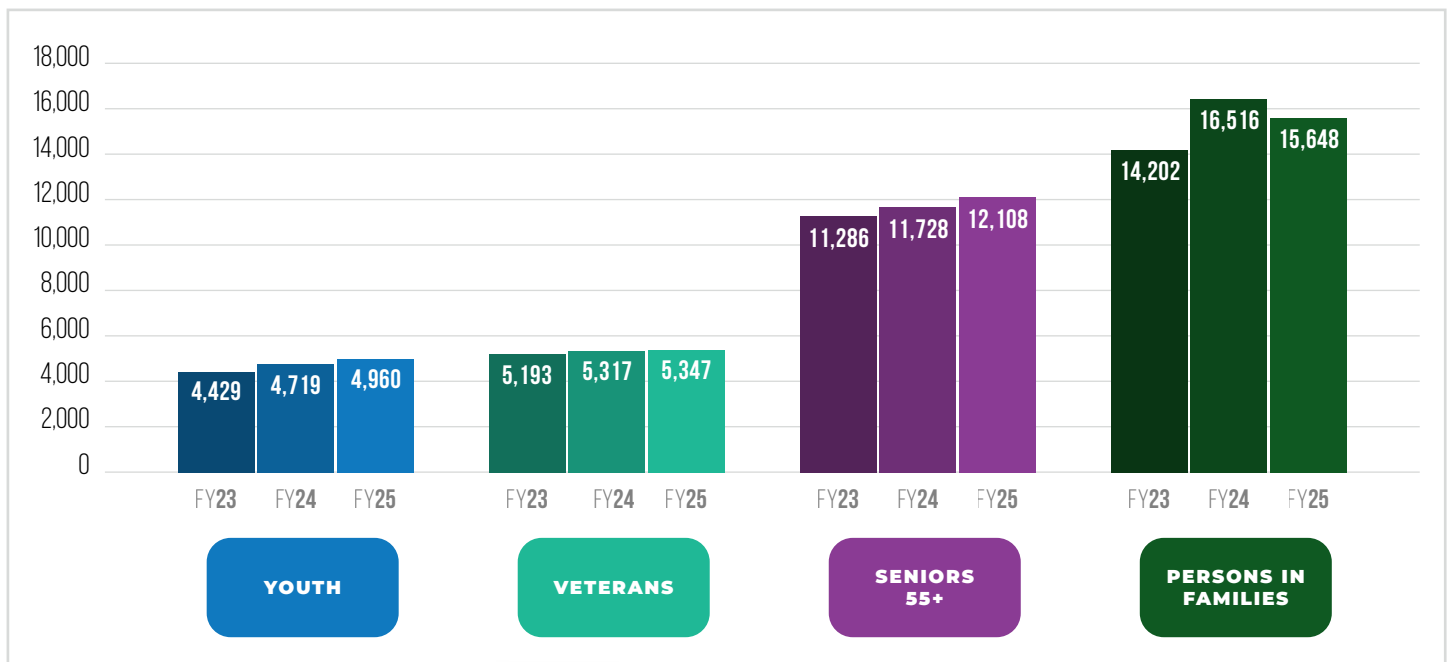
⁷ Households can engage with each project type in a pathway in any order.



SUBPOPULATIONS SERVED

Across the three-year period, youth showed steady growth, increasing by approximately 12% overall. Veterans remained largely stable, with modest increases each year and an overall rise of about 3%. Seniors age 55 and older also increased consistently, growing by about 7% across the period. Persons in families experienced the most noticeable fluctuation, rising by 16% in FY2024 before decreasing by 5% in FY2025; however, the total remained about 10% higher than in FY2023. (SEE FIGURE 4)

FIGURE 4. **TOTAL PERSONS SERVED WITHIN SUBPOPULATIONS BY ALL PROJECT TYPES** ⁹



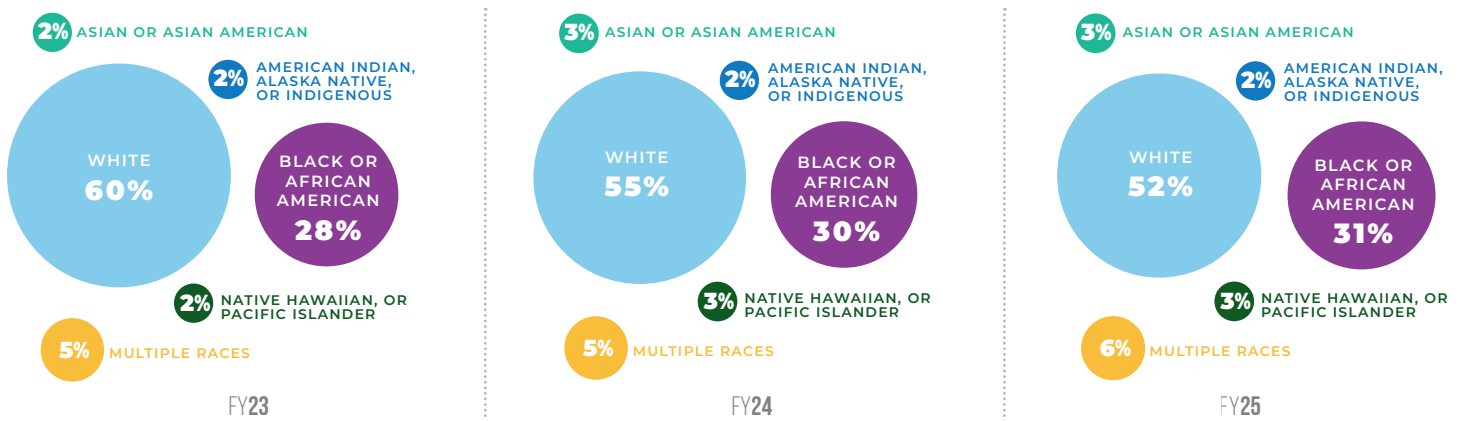
⁹ Total persons and households served includes all programs and project types that enter data into HMIS including permanent housing projects, non-permanent housing projects, and supportive services only projects.



RACIAL & ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION

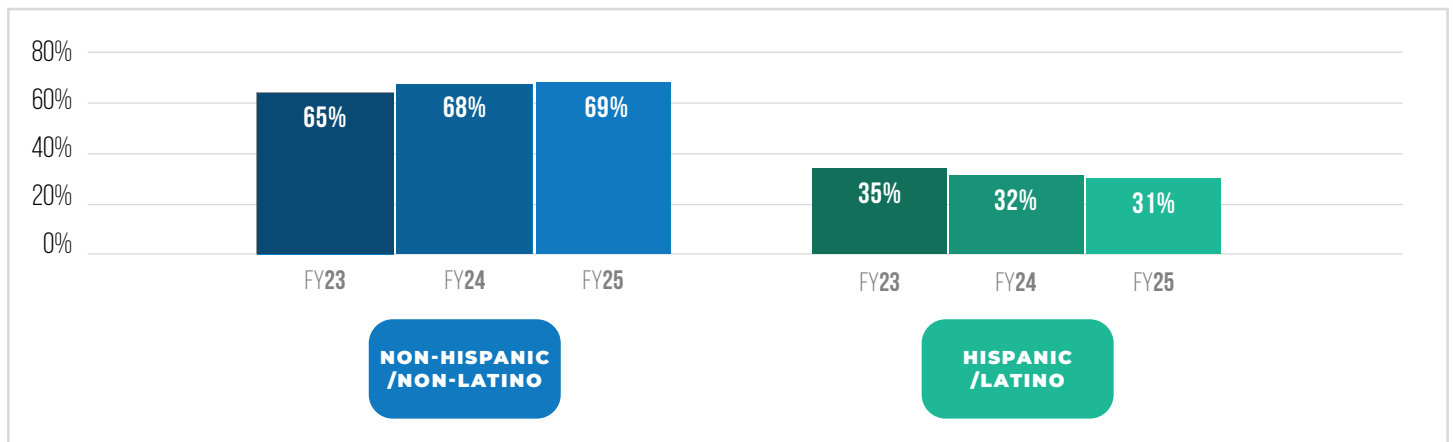
Across the three-year period, the racial composition of persons served showed modest shifts. Black or African American representation increased steadily from 28% in FY2023 to 31% in FY2025, while White representation declined from 60% to 52%. Asian or Asian American and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander groups each increased slightly and then remained stable at 3%. Multiple Races also rose from 5% to 6%, while American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous representation remained unchanged at 2% throughout the period. . (SEE FIGURE 5a)

FIGURE 5a. **RACIAL MAKEUP OF PEOPLE SERVED IN ALL PROJECT TYPES** ⁹



Across the three-year period, ethnicity data reflected a slight change in the distribution of persons served. The share of Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino individuals rose from 65% in FY2023 to 69% in FY2025. During the same period, the share of Hispanic/Latino individuals decreased from 35% to 31%. This indicates a gradual shift toward a higher proportion of Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino persons served over time. (SEE FIGURE 5b)

FIGURE 5b. **ETHNIC BREAKDOWN OF PEOPLE SERVED IN ALL PROJECT TYPES** ⁹



⁹ Total persons and households served includes all programs and project types that enter data into HMIS including permanent housing projects, non-permanent housing projects, and supportive services only projects.



LENGTH OF TIME IN PROJECTS

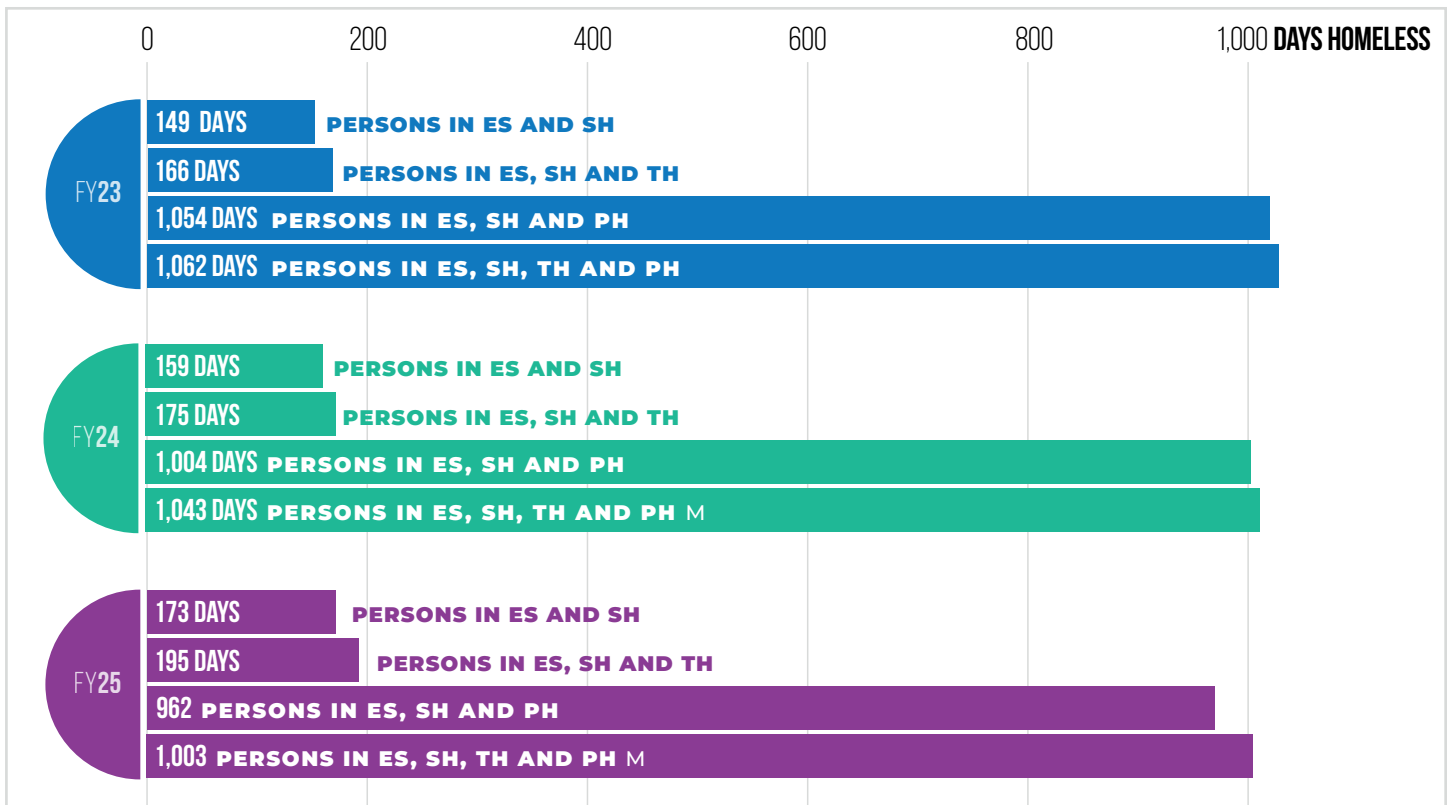
The measurement of “Days Homeless” is an important performance indicator that helps communities gauge the average duration individuals or households spend in various types of housing projects within the homeless system. These projects include Emergency Shelter (ES), Safe Haven (SH), Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), and Permanent Housing (PH).

Figure 6 shows two different approaches to measuring the average number of days people experience homelessness. The first approach is based on HMIS program entry and exit dates recorded by homeless service providers. Using this method, the average length of time spent in shelter in the San Diego CoC was the same as the national average in FY2023 and FY2024.¹⁰

The second approach looks at a client’s full episode of homelessness, from the time they first became homeless until they obtained housing. Because this method captures a longer period, it produces a much higher average number of days homeless. Together, these measures help illustrate how different calculation methods can produce different results and provide a broader understanding of how long individuals experience homelessness.

(SEE FIGURE 6)

FIGURE 6. **AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN DAYS**



¹⁰ HUD System Performance Measures national average of days homeless in ES-SH-TH are 166 and 176 for FY2023 and FY2024 respectively .



When calculating the average length of time for households, any two periods of homelessness are considered as a continuous period if they are less than seven days apart. This criterion aligns with the notion of being continuously homeless, particularly for chronic homeless purposes. As a result, the average number of days homeless for households is generally higher compared to individuals.

From FY2023 to FY2025, average days homeless varied by household type. All households and adult-only households increased in FY2024 before declining slightly in FY2025. Adult and child households followed a similar pattern but ended below the FY2023 level. Child-only households fluctuated, decreasing in FY2024 before rising in FY2025. Overall, adult-only households had the highest average days homeless, while households with children experienced shorter durations.

(SEE FIGURE 7)

FIGURE 7. **AVERAGE DAYS HOMELESS¹¹ BY HOUSEHOLD TYPES**



¹¹ The average cumulative, unduplicated number of days that households were served in ES, SH, or TH projects; and days in RRH or any PH project prior to move-in.



Over the past three fiscal years, average days homeless varied across subpopulations. Seniors age 55 and older increased in FY2024 before declining slightly in FY2025, while still remaining above the FY2023 level. Veterans followed a different pattern, increasing slightly in FY2024 before decreasing in FY2025. Youth showed steady growth across all three years, rising from 150 days in FY2023 to 172 days in FY2025. Overall, seniors experienced the highest average days homeless, while youth had the lowest but showed the most consistent increase. (SEE FIGURE 7, PREVIOUS PAGE AND FIGURE 8)

FIGURE 8. **AVERAGE DAYS HOMELESS¹¹ BY SUBPOPULATION**

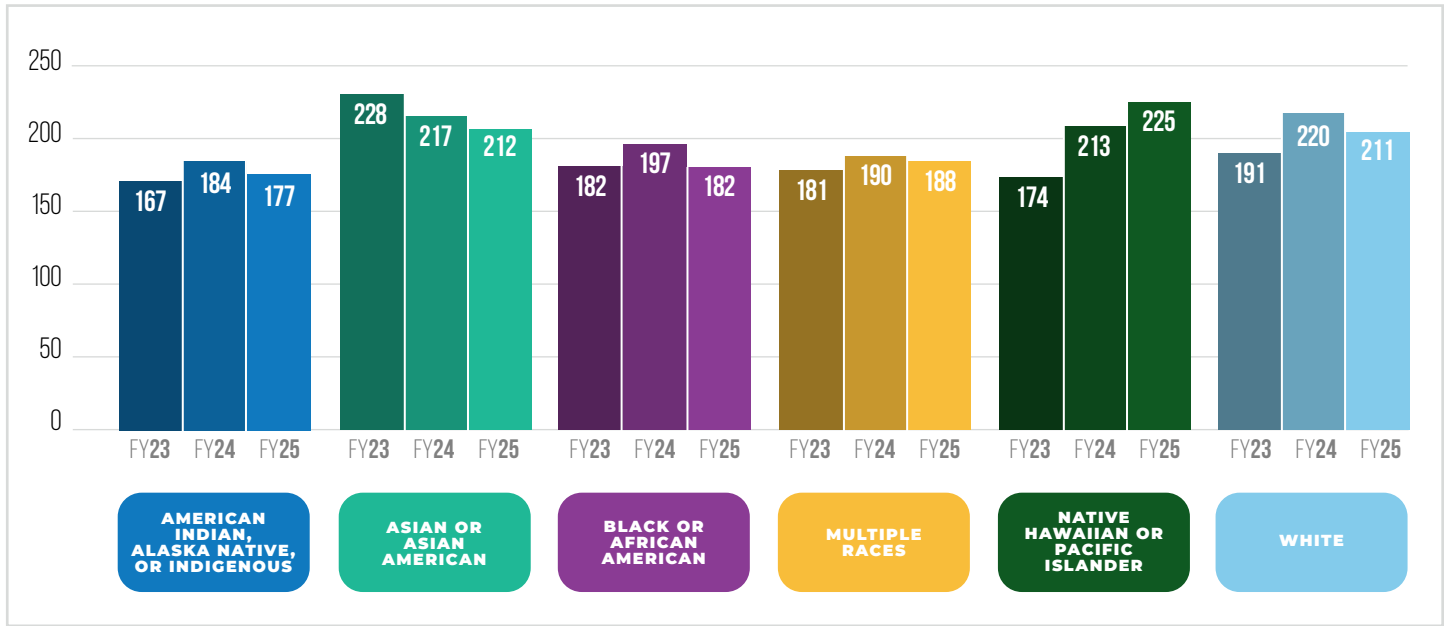


¹¹ The average cumulative, unduplicated number of days that households were served in ES, SH, or TH projects; and days in RRH or any PH project prior to move-in.



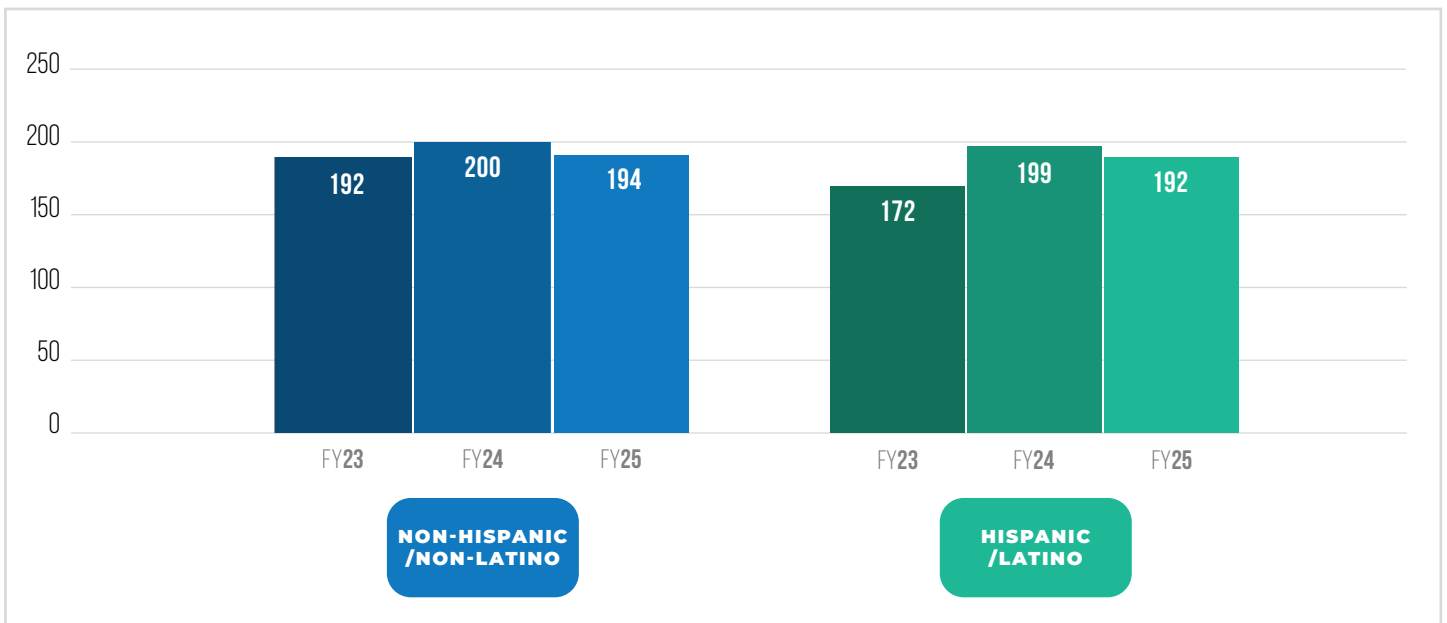
Several groups increased in FY2024 before declining in FY2025, including American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous persons, Black or African American persons, Multiple Races, and White persons. Asian or Asian American persons showed a steady decrease, while Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander persons increased each year and had the highest average days homeless in FY2025. (SEE FIGURE 9a)

FIGURE 9a. **HOUSEHOLD DAYS¹¹ HOMELESS BY RACE**



Both groups followed a similar trend, with average days homeless increasing in FY2024 and then decreasing in FY2025. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino persons remained slightly higher than Hispanic/Latino persons across the period. (SEE FIGURE 9b)

FIGURE 9b. **HOUSEHOLD DAYS¹¹ HOMELESS BY ETHNICITY**



¹¹ The average cumulative, unduplicated number of days that households were served in ES, SH, or TH projects; and days in RRH or any PH project prior to move-in.

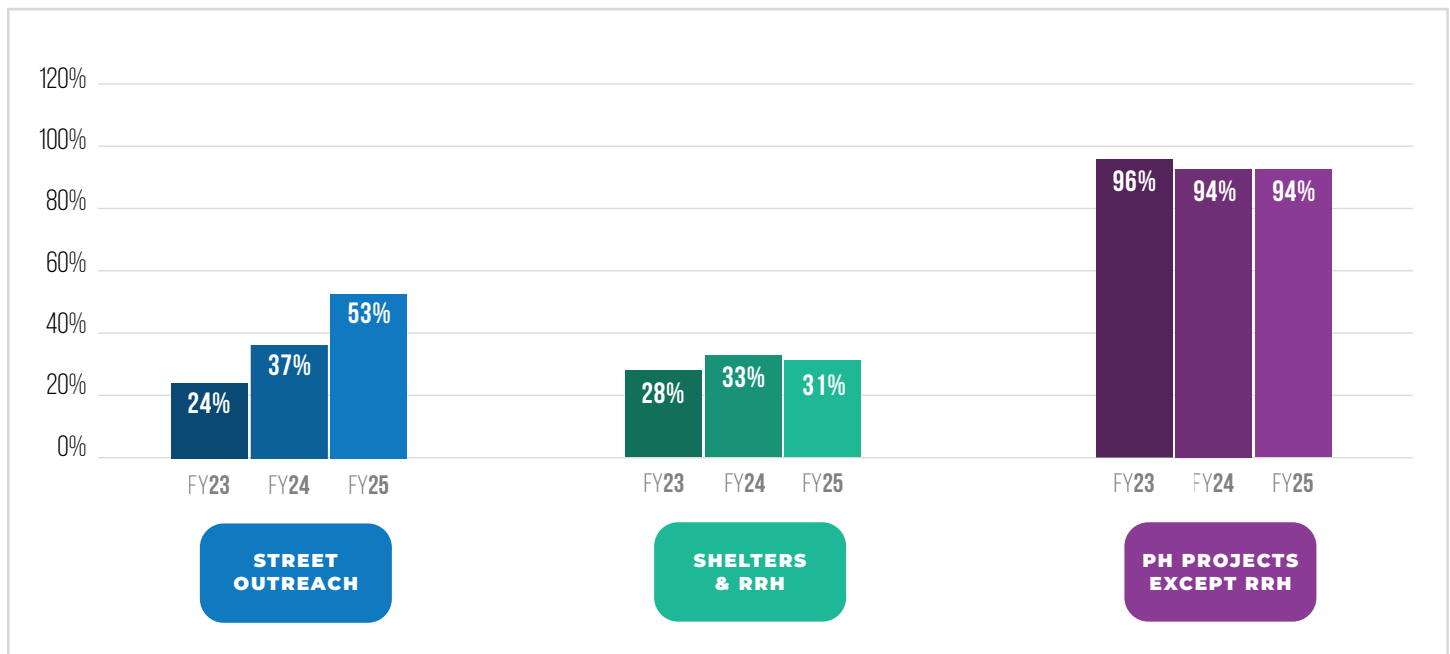


PERMANENT HOUSING OR POSITIVE EXITS

Successful transitions to permanent housing are an important measure of performance within the homeless response system. These outcomes may include individuals moving into their own rental housing, obtaining subsidized housing, or securing a stable permanent living arrangement with family or friends. For street outreach programs, HUD also considers exits to certain temporary or institutional settings, such as emergency shelter, foster care, temporary stays with family or friends, safe havens, and transitional housing, as successful exits.¹² This recognition is due to the nature of street outreach projects, which aim to facilitate movement away from street homelessness towards permanent housing, acknowledging that this process may involve temporary destination. For permanent housing programs, success is measured through both exits to permanent destinations and the extent to which clients remain housed.

From FY2023 to FY2025, successful exits and retention varied by project type. Street Outreach showed the strongest improvement, increasing from 24% in FY2023 to 53% in FY2025, suggesting greater movement from unsheltered homelessness into temporary or permanent settings. Shelters and Rapid Re-Housing increased from 28% to 33% in FY2024 before declining slightly to 31% in FY2025. Permanent Housing projects, excluding Rapid Re-Housing, remained consistently high, with rates staying in the mid-90% range across all three years. (SEE FIGURE 10)

FIGURE 10. **PERCENTAGE OF PERMANENT DESTINATION EXITS¹³ OR RETENTION OF PERMANENT HOUSING¹⁴**



¹² HUD SPM reports permanent housing or positive exits in three categories: exits from outreach, exits from shelters ((ES, TH, SH) and RRH, and exits from permanent housing projects except RRH.

¹³ <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/System-Performance-Measures-HMIS-Programming-Specifications.pdf>

¹⁴ The National Average for successful exit from Street Outreach is 26.7% and 32.3% for FY2023 and FY2024 respectively; from Shelters and RRH is 32.6% and 33.8% for FY2023 and FY2024 respectively; from PH or retention of PH is 95.7% and 95.5% for FY2023 and FY2024 respectively.



From FY2023 to FY2025, permanent housing exits increased overall for all households, rising from 23% to 29%. Adult-only households showed steady improvement, increasing from 21% in FY2023 to 28% in FY2025. Adult and child households had the highest exit rate in FY2023 and FY2024, but declined to 31% in FY2025. Child-only households fluctuated, decreasing from 32% to 23% in FY2024 before increasing to 26% in FY2025. Overall, adult-only households showed the strongest improvement, while households with adults and children experienced a notable decline in the final year. (SEE FIGURE 11)

FIGURE 11. PERCENTAGE OF PERMANENT DESTINATION EXITS¹⁵ BY HOUSEHOLD TYPES

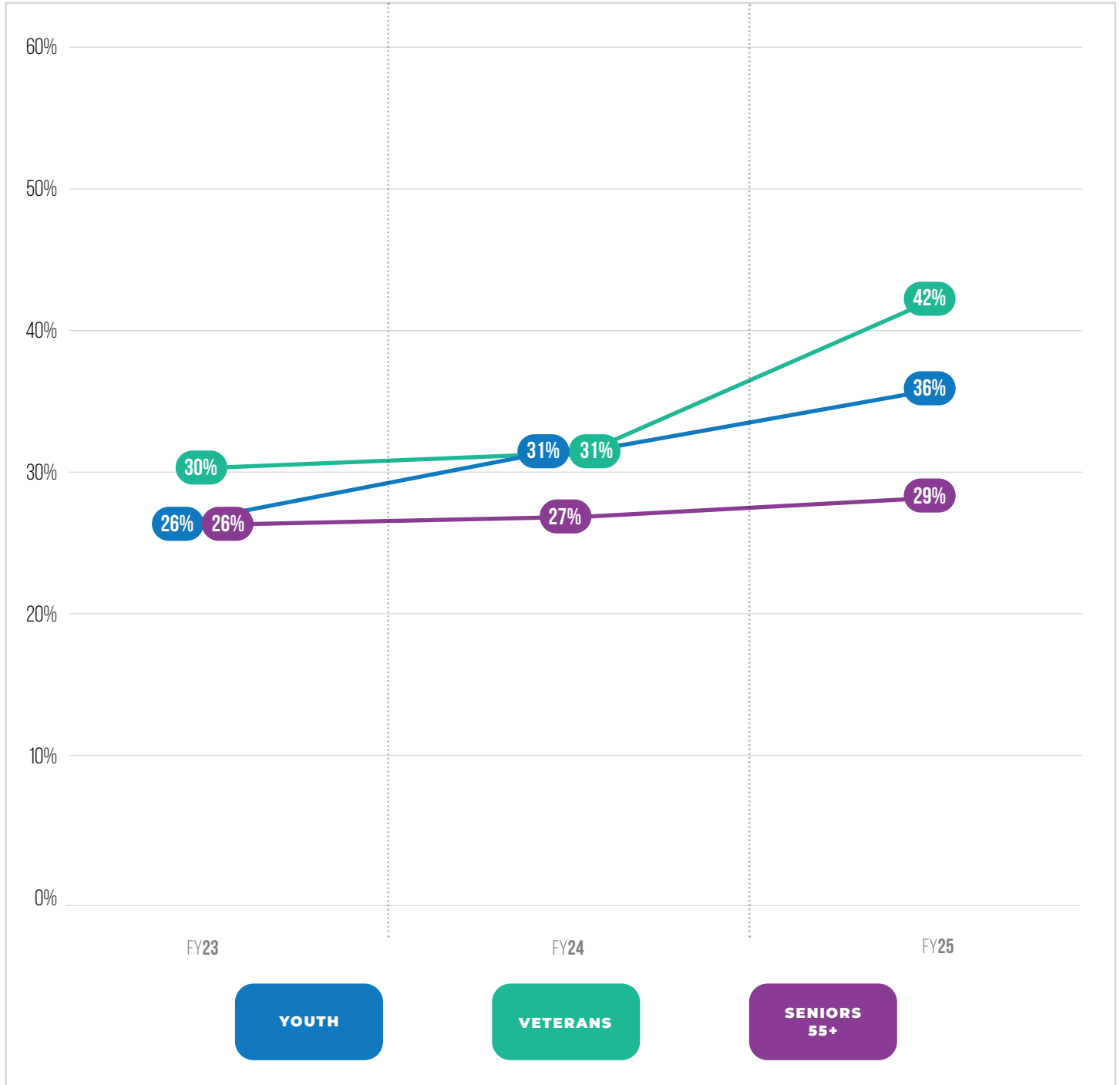


¹⁵ The denominator is household exits from ES, TH, SH, RRH, and all PH project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



From FY2023 to FY2025, permanent housing exits improved across all three subpopulations. Veterans showed the largest increase, rising from 30% in FY2023 to 42% in FY2025. Youth also increased steadily, moving from 26% to 36% over the three-year period. Seniors age 55 and older experienced more modest growth, increasing from 26% to 29%. Overall, the data show continued improvement in permanent housing exits, with the strongest gains among Veterans and Youth. (SEE FIGURE 12)

FIGURE 12. **PERCENTAGE OF PERMANENT DESTINATION EXITS¹⁵ BY POPULATION GROUP**

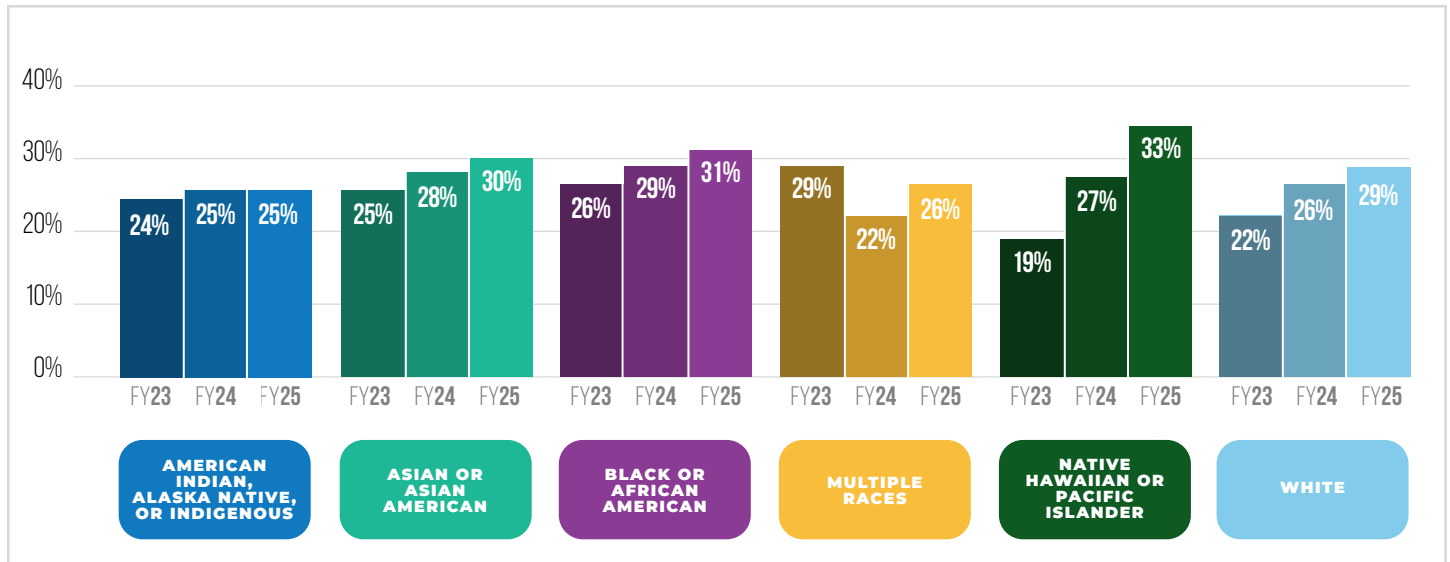


¹⁵ The denominator is household exits from ES, TH, SH, RRH, and all PH project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



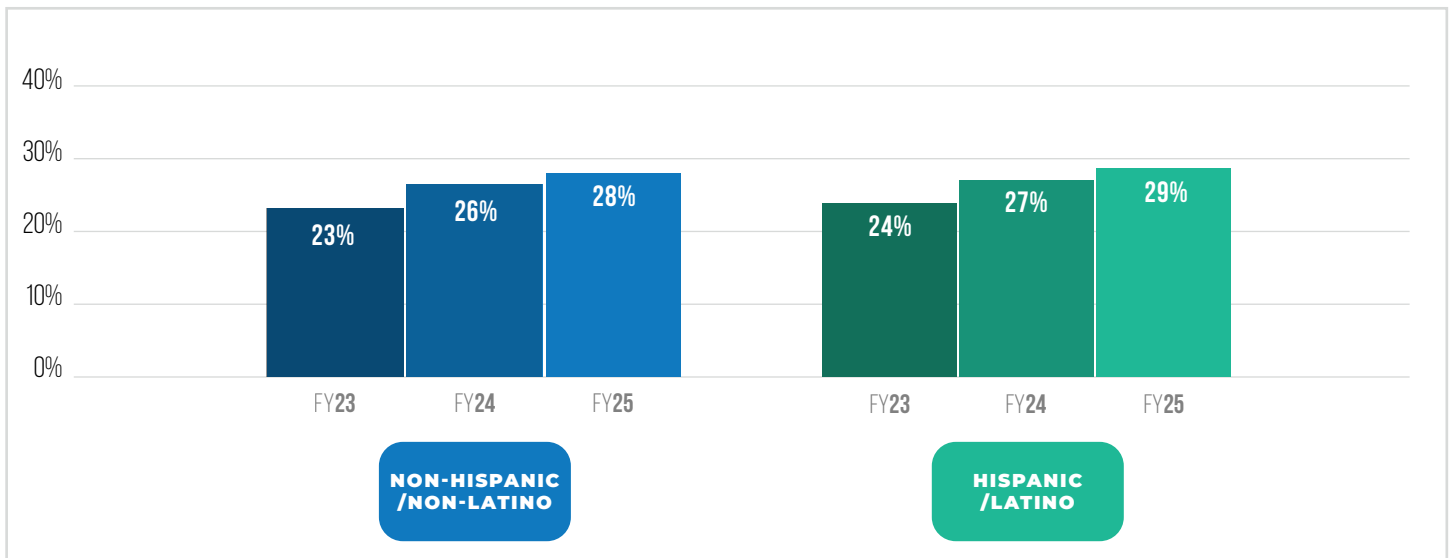
Over the last three fiscal years, exit rates to permanent destinations improved for both Black-headed and White-headed households. Black or African American-headed households increased from 26% to 31%, remaining slightly higher than White-headed households, which rose from 22% to 29%. Among other racial groups, most also showed overall improvement, including Asian or Asian American households and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander households. Multiple Races fluctuated across the period, while American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous households remained relatively stable. (SEE FIGURE 13a)

FIGURE 13a. **PERCENTAGE OF PERMANENT DESTINATION EXITS¹⁵ BY RACE**



From FY2023 to FY2025, permanent housing exit rates increased for both ethnicity groups. Hispanic/Latino households remained slightly higher each year, rising from 24% to 29%, while Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino households increased from 23% to 28%. Overall, both groups showed steady improvement, with a consistent one-point difference between them across the three-year period as shown in Figure 13b. (SEE FIGURE 13b)

FIGURE 13b. **PERCENTAGE OF PERMANENT DESTINATION EXITS¹⁵ BY ETHNICITY**



¹⁵ The denominator is household exits from ES, TH, SH, RRRH, and all PH project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



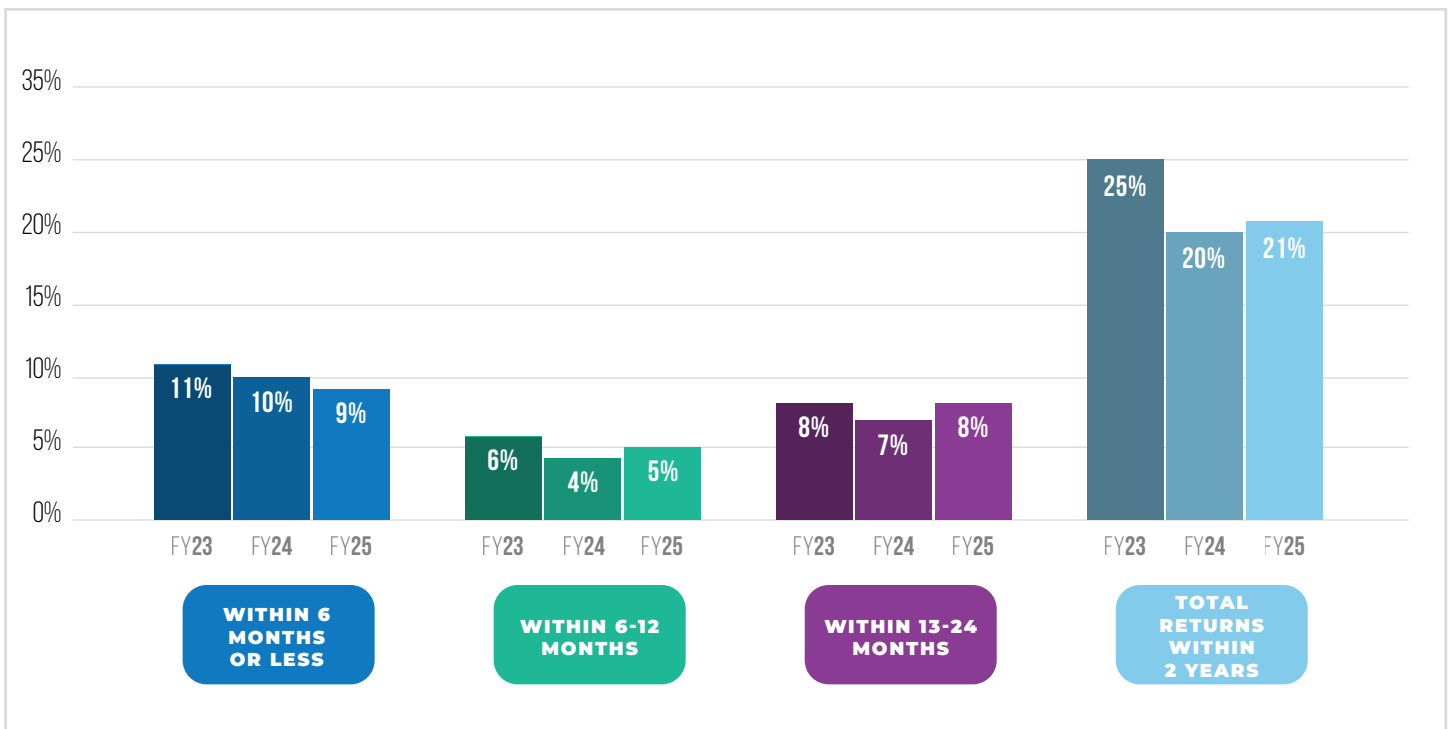
RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS

A key aspect of HUD System Performance Measure focuses on reducing the number of individuals who experience a return to homelessness. The purpose of this measure is to assess the level of housing stability among those who have previously transitioned from the homelessness response system to permanent housing. It entails examining individuals who successfully exited to permanent housing two years prior to the reporting period and determining the percentage who re-entered the homeless system within six, twelve, and twenty-four months after securing permanent housing. Returning to the homelessness system encompasses entering either a temporary housing program, such as emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing, or a permanent housing program like rapid re-housing or permanent supportive housing. By monitoring these return rates, efforts can be directed toward enhancing long-term housing stability and preventing recidivism within the homeless population.

From FY2023 to FY2025, returns to homelessness within two years declined overall, decreasing from 25% to 21%. Returns within six months or less dropped steadily each year, from 11% to 9%. Returns within 6 to 12 months decreased in FY2024 before rising slightly in FY2025, while returns within 13 to 24 months remained fairly stable. Overall, the data suggest improvement in reducing returns to homelessness, particularly within the first six months after exit to permanent destination.

(SEE FIGURE 14)

FIGURE 14. **PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS WHO RETURNED TO HOMELESSNESS**¹⁶

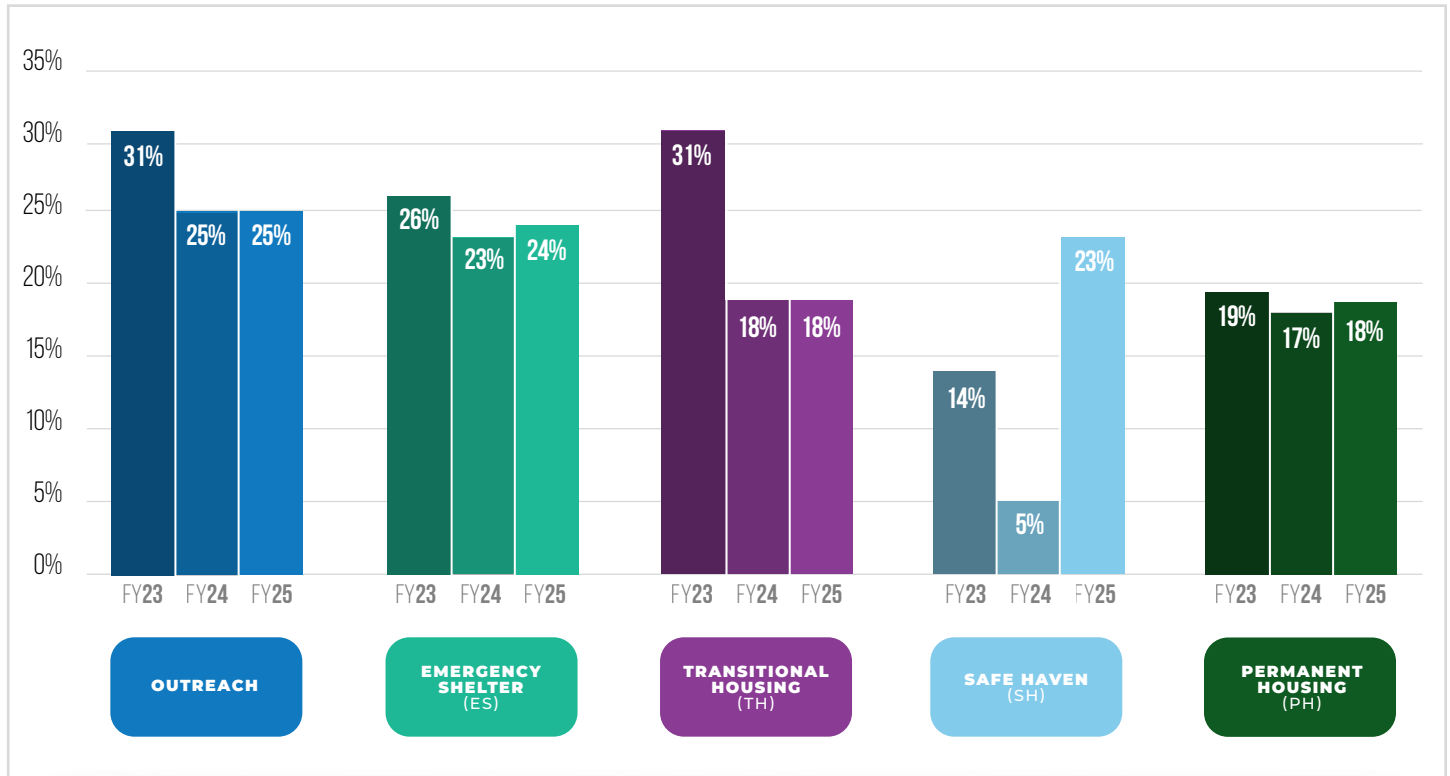


¹⁶ The national average for people returning to homelessness within 24 months is 18.3% and 17.4% for FY2023 and FY2024 respectively.



From FY2023 to FY2025, most project types saw lower return rates. Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Housing all declined overall, with Transitional Housing showing the largest improvement. Safe Haven fluctuated the most, dropping in FY2024 before rising above its FY2023 level in FY2025. (SEE FIGURE 15)

FIGURE 15. **PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS WHO RETURNED TO HOMELESSNESS BY PROJECT TYPE**

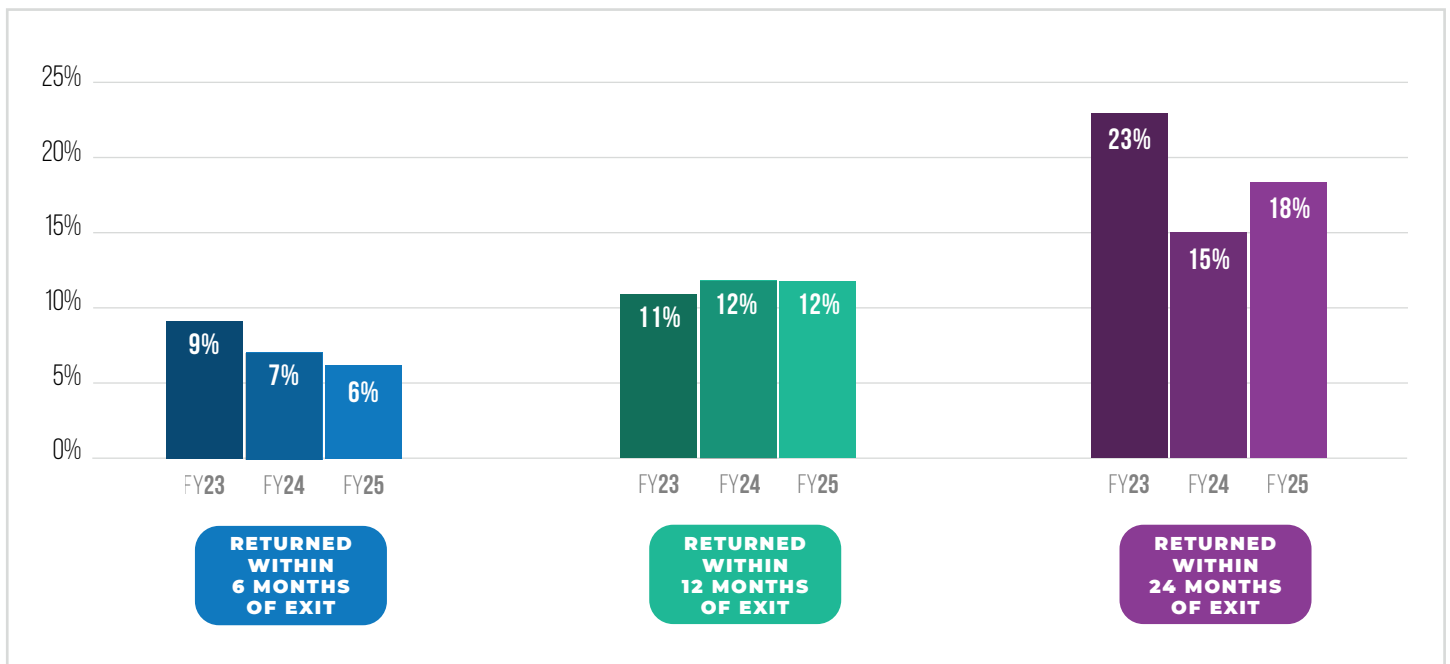


The rate of household returns in the following graphs represents groups of clients becoming homeless in the same household type. This is because households returning to homelessness in a completely different household type do not suggest the same CoC performance issue that a household repeatedly becoming homeless in the same household type suggests.

A group of households that exited the homeless system during a defined time period is called an “exit cohort” and is used as the denominator when calculating the percentage of households who returned to homelessness. Households that exited within the first 6 months of the current reporting period inform returners within 6 months, households that exited within 12 months prior to the current reporting period informs returners within 12 months and households that exited between 12 and 24 months prior to the current reporting period informs returners within 24 months.

From FY2023 to FY2025, returns within 6 months steadily decreased from 9% to 6%, showing improvement in short-term housing stability. Returns within 12 months remained mostly unchanged at 11% to 12%, while returns within 24 months declined overall from 23% to 18%, despite a slight increase in FY2025. (SEE FIGURE 16)

FIGURE 16. **PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS RETURNED TO HOMELESSNESS** ¹⁷



¹⁷ Household returned to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects after exiting the homeless system. This analysis is based on the household unit.



Among households that exited to a permanent housing destination 12 to 24 months before each reporting period, return rates within 24 months generally improved over time. Adult-only households had the highest return rates in FY2023 and FY2024, though they declined from 24% in FY2023 to 18% in FY2025. Overall return rates for all households also decreased, moving from 23% to 18%. Adult and child households ended slightly below their FY2023 level, decreasing from 17% to 16%, while child-only households showed the largest improvement, dropping from 20% to 11%. Although most groups reached their lowest return rates in FY2024 and increased somewhat in FY2025, rates remained below FY2023 levels overall. (SEE FIGURE 17)

FIGURE 17. **PERCENTAGE OF RETURNS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE** ¹⁷

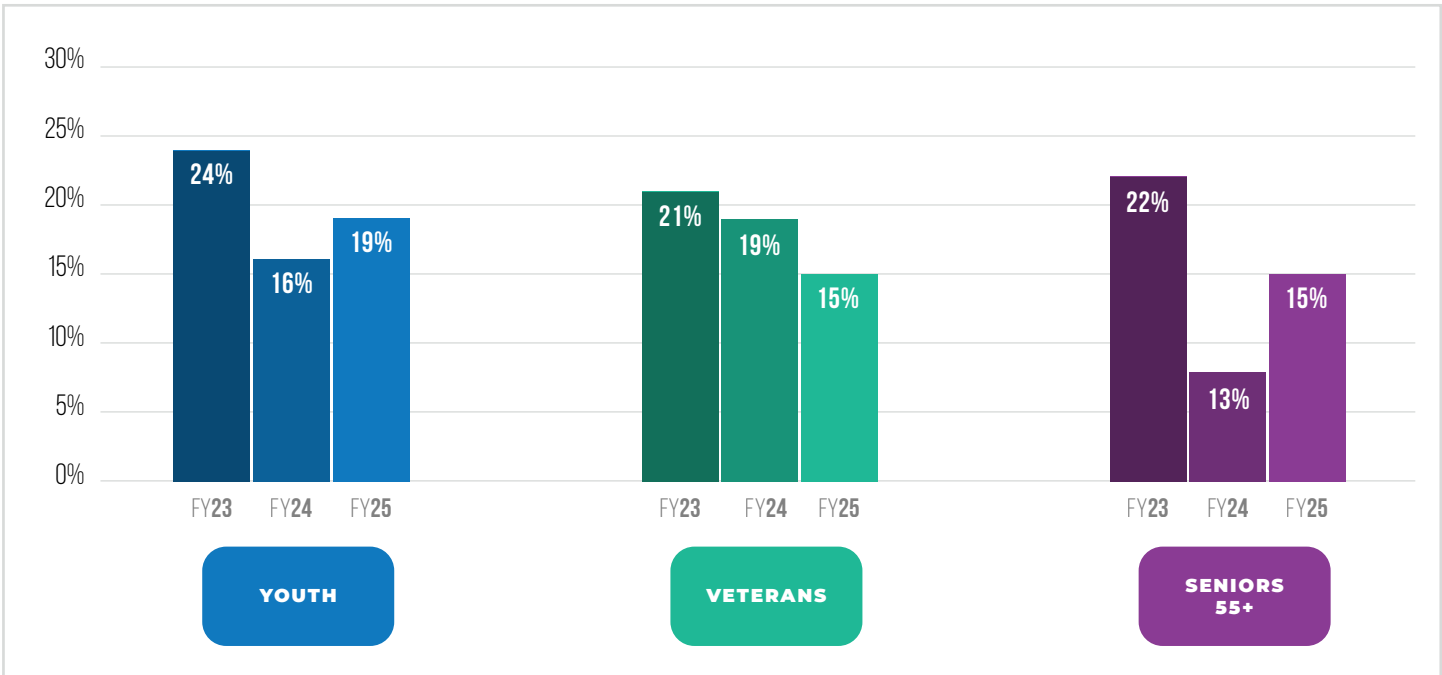


¹⁷ Household returned to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects after exiting the homeless system. This analysis is based on the household unit.



Among subpopulations that exited to a permanent destination 12 to 24 months before each reporting period, return rates within 24 months generally declined from FY2023 to FY2025. Seniors age 55 and older decreased from 22% to 15%, while Veterans improved from 21% to 15%. Youth also ended below the FY2023 level, declining from 24% to 19%, though rates increased slightly after FY2024. Overall, all three groups showed lower return rates by FY2025, with Veterans and Seniors having the lowest rates in the final year. (SEE FIGURE 18)

FIGURE 18. **PERCENTAGE OF RETURNS¹⁷ BY SUBPOPULATION**

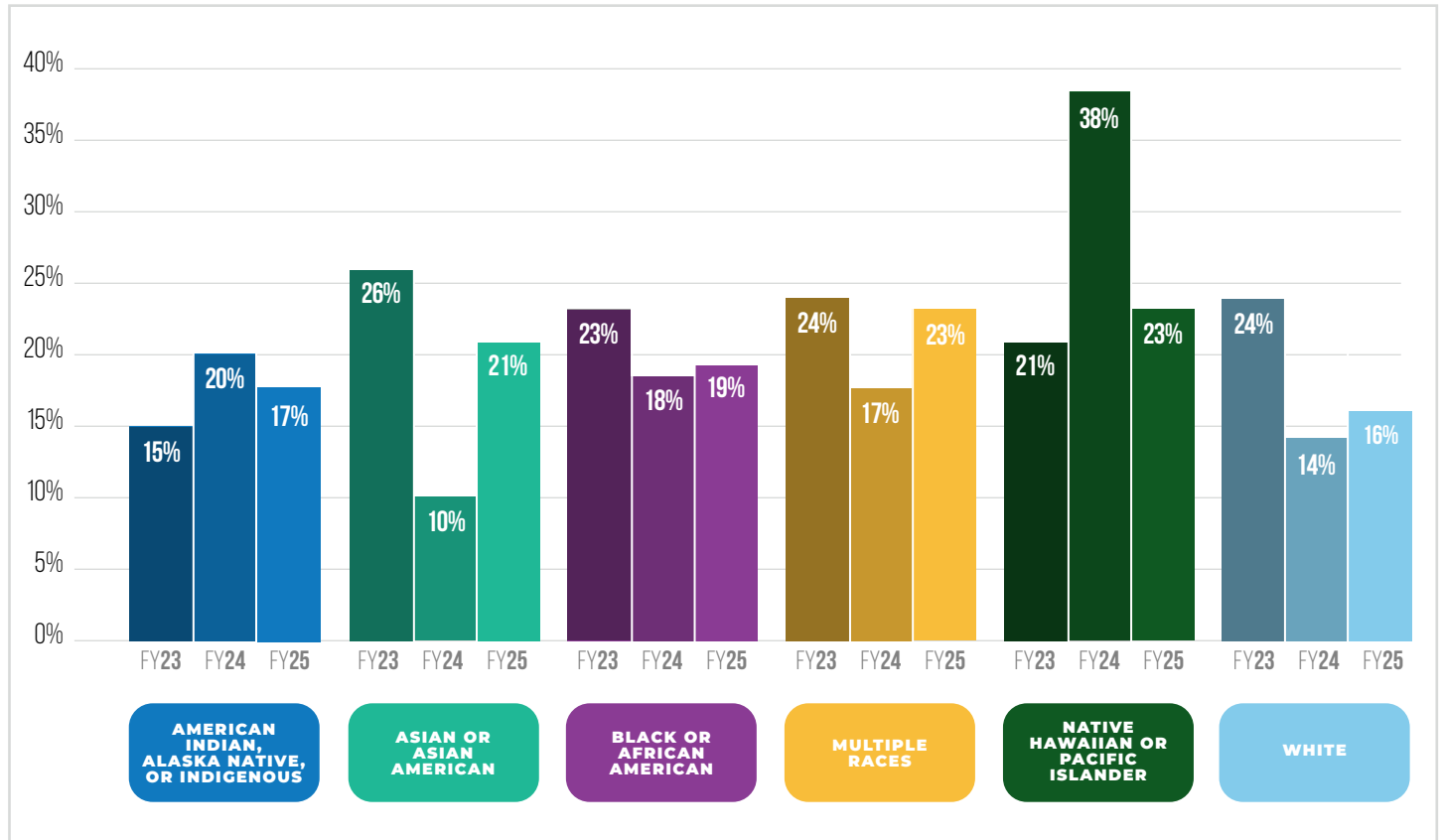


¹⁷ Household returned to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects after exiting the homeless system. This analysis is based on the household unit.



Return rates varied by race from FY2023 to FY2025. Black or African American households decreased from 23% to 19%, while White households showed a larger decline from 24% to 16%. Several other groups fluctuated over time, including Asian or Asian American and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander households. Overall, most groups had lower return rates in FY2025 than in FY2023, with White households showing the largest improvement. (SEE FIGURE 19)

FIGURE 19. **PERCENTAGE OF RETURNS¹⁷ BY RACE**



¹⁷ Household returned to ES, SH, TH, RRR or PSH projects after exiting the homeless system. This analysis is based on the household unit.

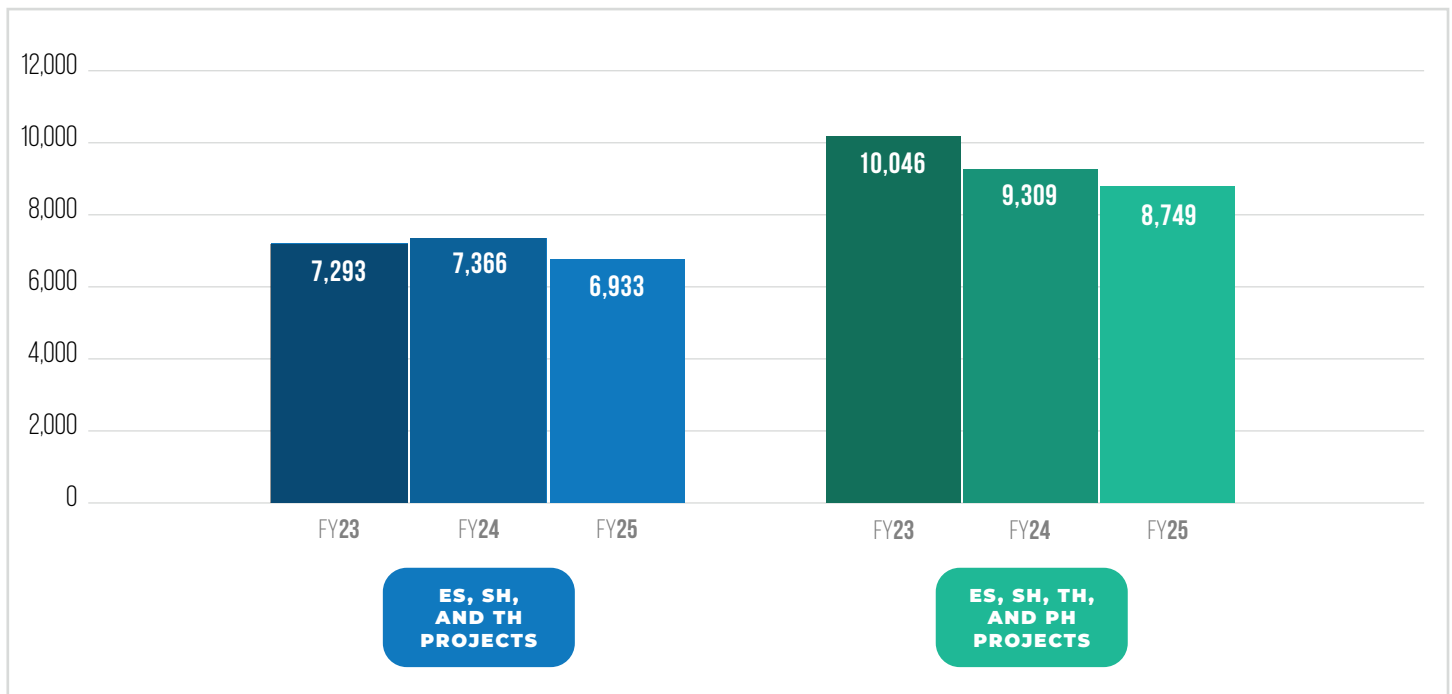


HOMELESSNESS FOR THE FIRST TIME

HUD defines someone as homeless for the first time if they entered a temporary or permanent housing program and did not have prior entry in those projects in the last two years. Based on this definition, clients who are identified as first time homeless may be new clients to the homeless system or have been served by and exited the homeless system more than two years before the reporting period. To end homelessness, we have to ensure that all people currently experiencing homelessness are stably housed and do not return to homelessness, and we have to reduce the number of people who become homeless through successful prevention. The goal of this measure is to reduce the number of people who become homeless for the first time every year.

First-time homelessness decreased overall from FY2023 to FY2025 across both measures. In ES, SH, and TH projects, the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time declined from 7,293 in FY2023 to 6,933 in FY2025, after a slight increase in FY2024. When PH projects are included, first-time homelessness dropped more noticeably, from 10,046 in FY2023 to 8,749 in FY2025. Overall, both measures indicate a reduction in first-time homelessness by FY2025. (SEE FIGURE 20)

FIGURE 20. **FIRST TIME HOMELESS PERSONS IN SHELTER AND PERMANENT HOUSING**¹⁸



¹⁸ Figure excludes Outreach and other unsheltered project types.



When reviewing first-time homelessness by household units, it is important to note that individuals may be part of different households at different points during the reporting period. A household is only counted as returning or re-engaging when its composition matches the household's prior interaction with the homeless response system. Based on this approach, first-time homelessness by household units declined from FY2023 to FY2024 across both measures, followed by a slight increase in FY2025. ES, SH, and TH projects decreased from 5,590 in FY2023 to 5,290 in FY2025, while ES, SH, TH, and PH projects declined from 6,905 to 6,411. Although both measures increased in the final year, they remained below FY2023 levels, indicating an overall reduction in first-time homelessness over the three-year period. (SEE FIGURE 21)

FIGURE 21. **FIRST TIME HOMELESS HOUSEHOLD¹⁹ IN SHELTER AND PERMANENT HOUSING¹⁸**



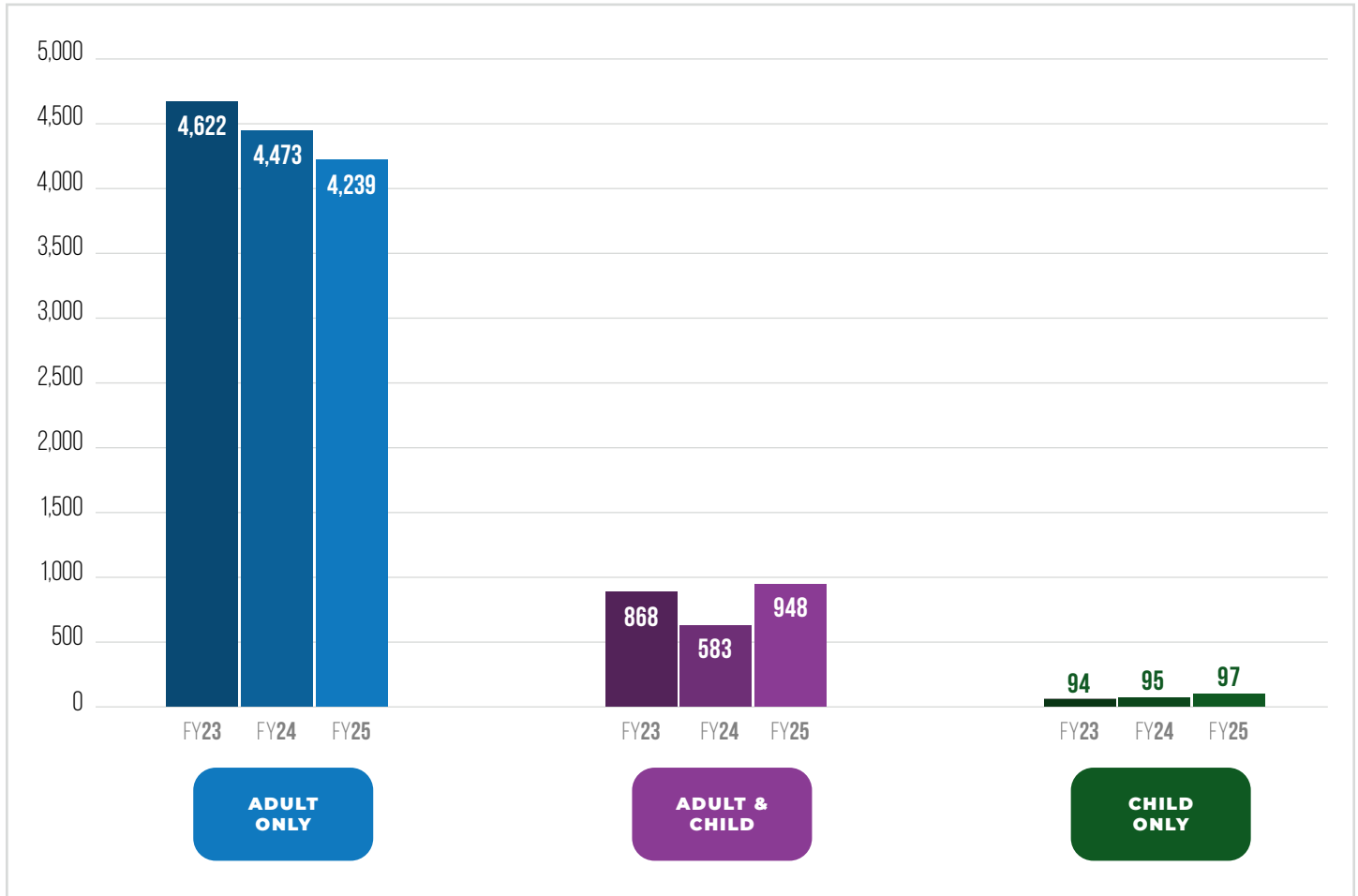
¹⁸ Figure excludes Outreach and other unsheltered project types.

¹⁹ Figures include households who entered Emergency Shelter, Safe Havens, or Transitional Housing. This analysis is based on the household unit.



From FY2023 to FY2025, first-time homelessness in shelters decreased for Adult Only households, falling from 4,622 to 4,239, an 8% overall decline. First-time homeless Adult & Child households dropped sharply by 33% from FY2023 to FY2024, then increased by 63% in FY2025, ending 9% higher than FY2023. Child Only households remained relatively stable, increasing slightly each year for an overall 3% increase. Overall, Adult Only households in shelters declined steadily, while Adult & Child households showed the most fluctuation. (SEE FIGURE 22)

FIGURE 22. **FIRST TIME HOMELESS IN SHELTERS¹⁹ BY HOUSEHOLD TYPES**

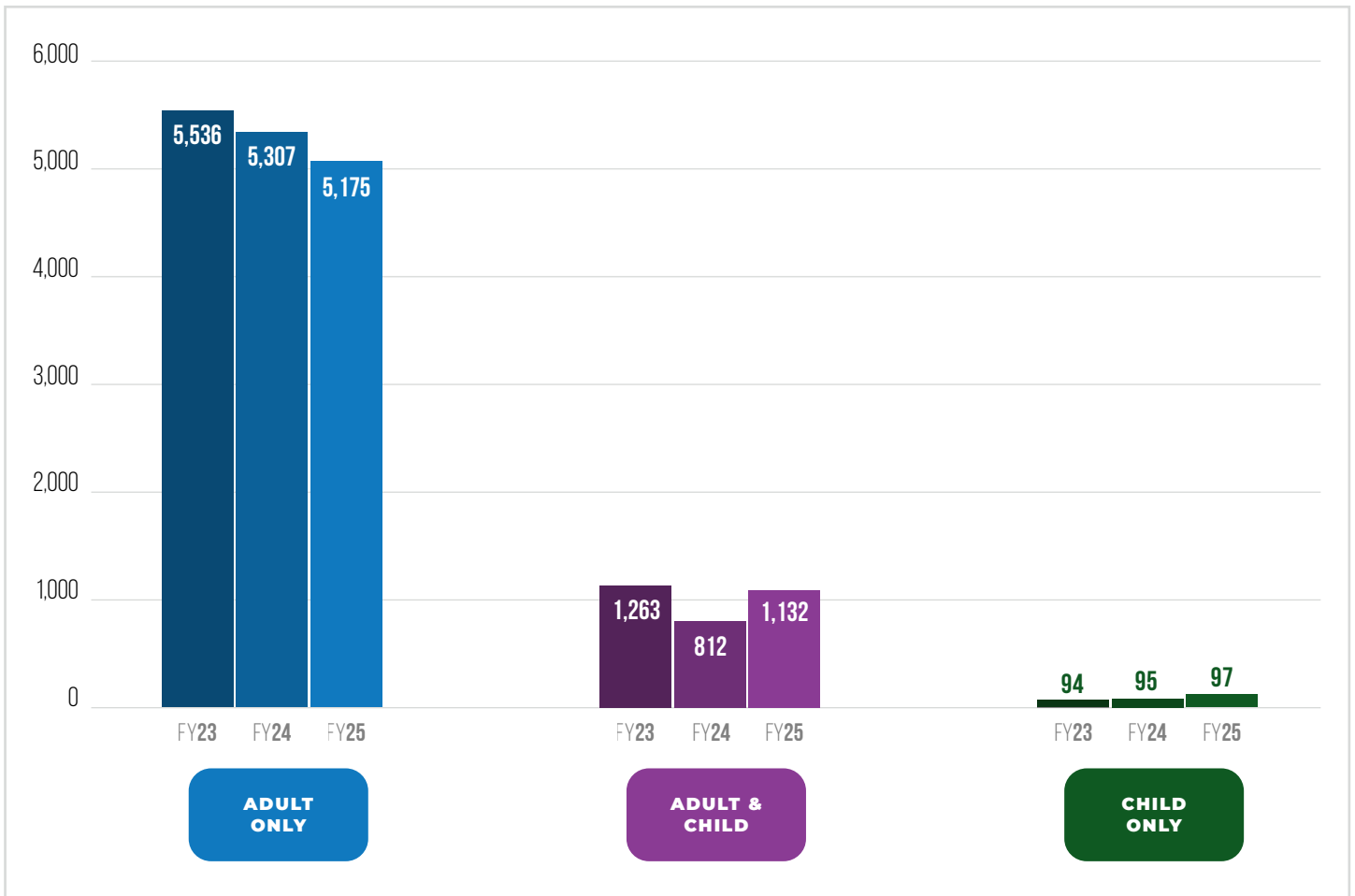


¹⁹ Figures include households who entered Emergency Shelter, Safe Havens, or Transitional Housing. This analysis is based on the household unit.



From FY2023 to FY2025, first-time homelessness in shelters and permanent housing projects decreased for Adult-Only households, falling from 5,536 to 5,175, a 7% overall decline. Adult & Child households showed the most fluctuation, dropping by 36% in FY2024 before increasing by 39% in FY2025, ending 10% below FY2023. Child-Only households remained relatively stable, increasing slightly each year for an overall 3% increase. Overall, Adult-Only and Adult & Child households declined over the three-year period, while Child-Only households changed very little. (SEE FIGURE 23)

FIGURE 23. FIRST TIME HOMELESS IN SHELTERS AND PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECTS²⁰ BY HOUSEHOLD TYPES

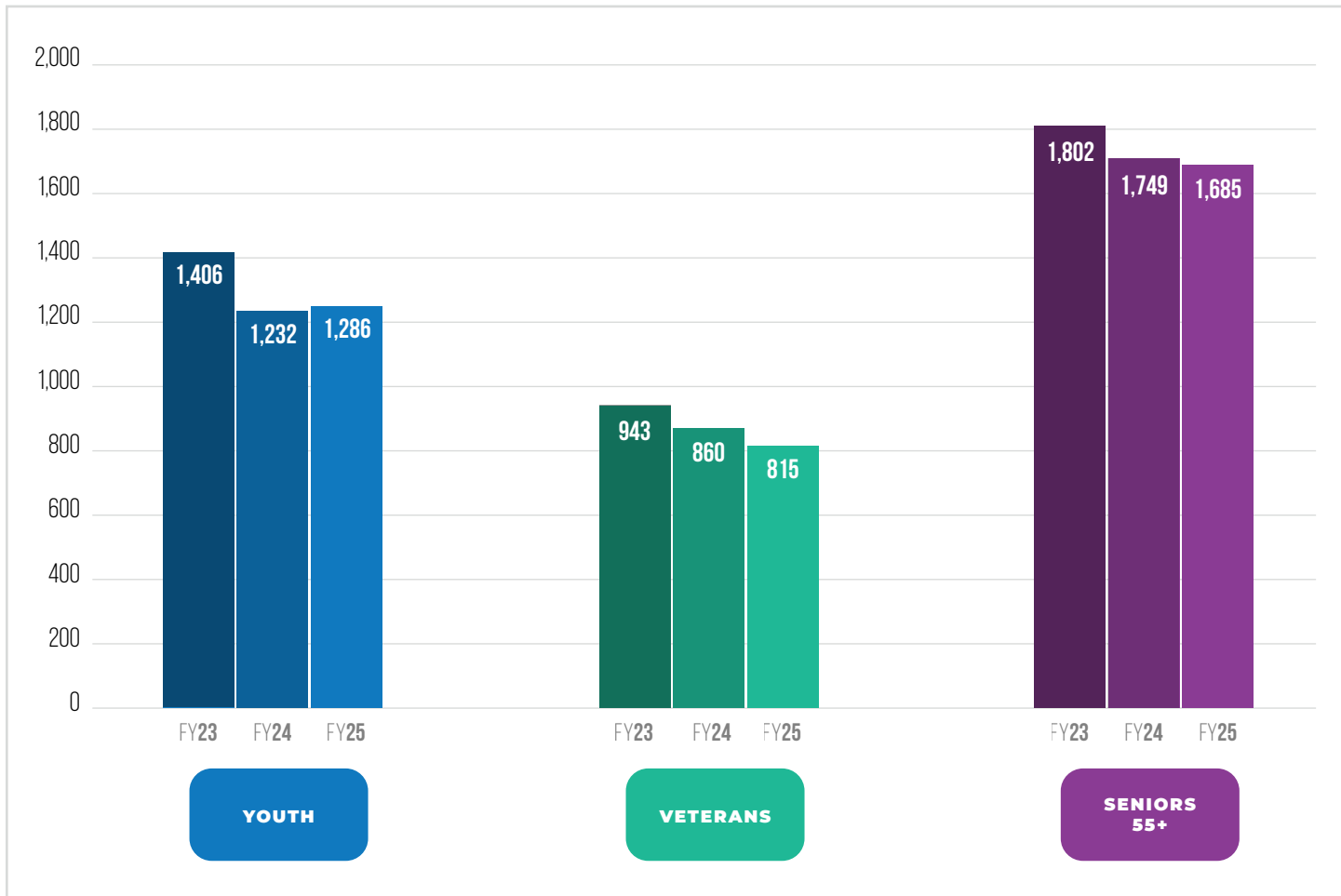


²⁰ Figures include persons who entered Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



From FY2023 to FY2025, first-time homelessness decreased in shelters and permanent housing projects across all three subpopulations. Seniors 55+ declined from 1,802 to 1,685, a 6% overall decrease. Veterans showed the largest decline, falling from 943 to 815, a 14% decrease across the period. Youth decreased by 12% in FY2024 before increasing by 4% in FY2025, ending 9% below FY2023. Overall, all three groups improved, with the largest reduction among Veterans. (SEE FIGURE 24)

FIGURE 24. **FIRST TIME HOMELESS IN SHELTERS AND PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECTS²⁰ BY SUBPOPULATION**



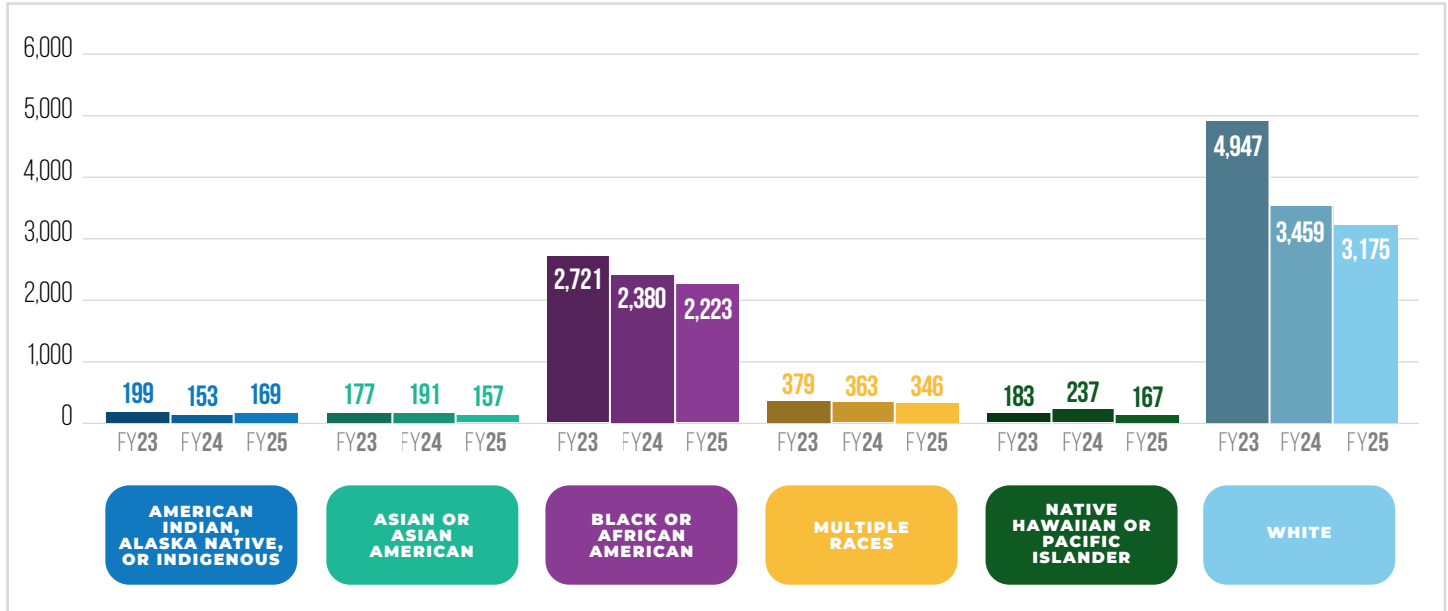
²⁰ Figures include persons who entered Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



First-time homelessness in shelters and permanent housing projects decreased across most racial groups by FY2025. White and Black or African American persons had the largest numeric declines, while Multiple Races declined steadily each year. Overall, most groups ended below FY2023 levels.

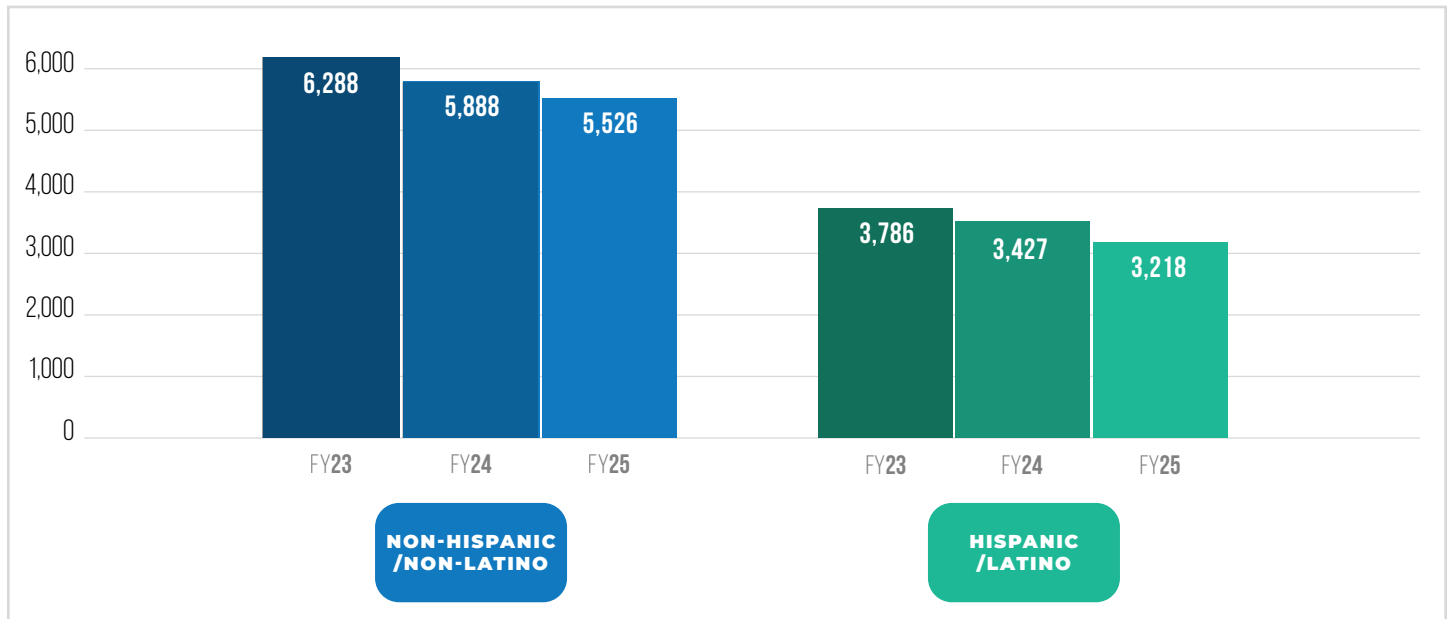
(SEE FIGURE 25a)

FIGURE 25a. FIRST TIME HOMELESS IN SHELTERS AND PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECTS²⁰ BY RACE



First-time homelessness declined for both ethnicity groups from FY2023 to FY2025. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino persons decreased from 6,288 to 5,526, while Hispanic/Latino persons declined from 3,786 to 3,218. Overall, both groups ended below FY2023 levels, showing a general reduction in first-time homelessness by FY2025.

FIGURE 25b. FIRST TIME HOMELESS IN SHELTERS AND PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECTS²⁰ BY ETHNICITY



²⁰ Figures include persons who entered Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing project types. This analysis is based on the household unit.



CONCLUSION

Overall, the FY2023 to FY2025 data show a homeless response system serving a consistently high volume of people and households, with some areas of progress and some continued challenges. Household counts continued to rise slightly, while the total number of persons served began to level off after increasing in FY2024. Several measures showed positive movement, including increases in permanent housing exits for many household types and subpopulations, improvements in successful exits from street outreach, and reductions in first-time homelessness across most groups. At the same time, average days homeless remained elevated for some populations, particularly adult-only households and seniors, indicating that many individuals continue to experience long periods of homelessness before exiting the system.

The data also point to important differences across populations and project types. While permanent housing outcomes improved overall, results varied by household composition, race, ethnicity, and subpopulation. Returns to homelessness generally declined compared with FY2023, suggesting progress in housing stability, though some increases in FY2025 show the need for continued monitoring. Taken together, these trends highlight both the system's ongoing efforts to move people into stable housing and the importance of targeted strategies to reduce the length of homelessness, prevent first-time homelessness, and strengthen long-term housing retention.





GLOSSARY

Adult & Child: Households in which one or more member is 18 years old or older and one or more member is under 18 years old.

Adult-Only: Households in which all members are 18 years old or older.

Child-Only: Households in which all members are 17 years old or younger.

Continuum of Care (CoC): A regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. The CoC Program is designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families and communities by homelessness; promote access to and affect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Emergency Shelter (ES): A project type in HMIS that offers temporary shelter (lodging) for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS): A local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards.

Homeless Prevention: A project type in HMIS that offers services and/or financial assistance necessary to prevent a person from moving into an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation.

Household: A household is a single individual or a group of persons who are assisted together in a project.

Household Type: One of three main household types - Adult-Only, Adult & Child and Child-Only, based on the age of household members on the first day of the report period (or at entry, if later). Households may be counted in more than one household type, if the household members are served in more than one household type in different project enrollments. Performance measures reported by household type are calculated based on project enrollments associated with the respective household type.

Point-In-Time (PIT): An unduplicated count on a single night of the people in a community who are experiencing homelessness that includes both sheltered and unsheltered populations.

Permanent Housing with Services (PHWS): A project type in HMIS that offers permanent housing and supportive services to assist homeless persons to live independently, but does not limit eligibility to individuals with disabilities or families in which one adult or child has a disability.

Permanent Housing Only: A project type in HMIS that offers permanent housing for persons who are homeless, but does not make supportive services available as part of the project.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): A project type in HMIS that offers permanent housing and supportive services to assist homeless persons with a disability (individuals with disabilities or families in which one adult or child has a disability) to live independently.

Rapid Re-housing (RRH): A permanent housing project type in HMIS that provides housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

Safe Haven (SH): A project type in HMIS that offers supportive housing that (1) serves hard to reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who came from the streets and have been unwilling or unable to participate in supportive services; (2) provides 24-hour residence for eligible persons for an unspecified period; (3) has an overnight capacity limited to 25 or fewer persons; and (4) provides low demand services and referrals for the residents.

Street Outreach: A project type in HMIS that offers services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people, connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility. Only persons who are "street homeless" should be entered into a street outreach project.

Transitional Housing (TH): A project type in HMIS that provides temporary lodging and is designed to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within a specified period of time, but no longer than 24 months.

Youth Households: Households in which all the members are older than 17 years old but younger than 25.



RTFH

SAN DIEGO'S
REGIONAL LEADER
ON HOMELESSNESS

The Regional Task Force on Homelessness is the San Diego Continuum of Care (CoC), designated by The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The CoC Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families and communities by homelessness; promote access to and affect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.



Jaylen Prayer, 21, holds the scissors during a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Presidio Palms affordable housing complex in Mission Valley on June 12, 2025. From left to right is San Diego City Council President Joe LaCava; William Spencer, an administrator with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Jaylen Prayer, a resident of the complex; San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria; Tamera Kohler, CEO of the Regional Task Force on Homelessness. (Alejandro Tamayo / The San Diego Union-Tribune)