Orange County, CA

Quantitative Data Findings & Analysis

Prepared by C4 Innovations

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Quantitative Data Findings

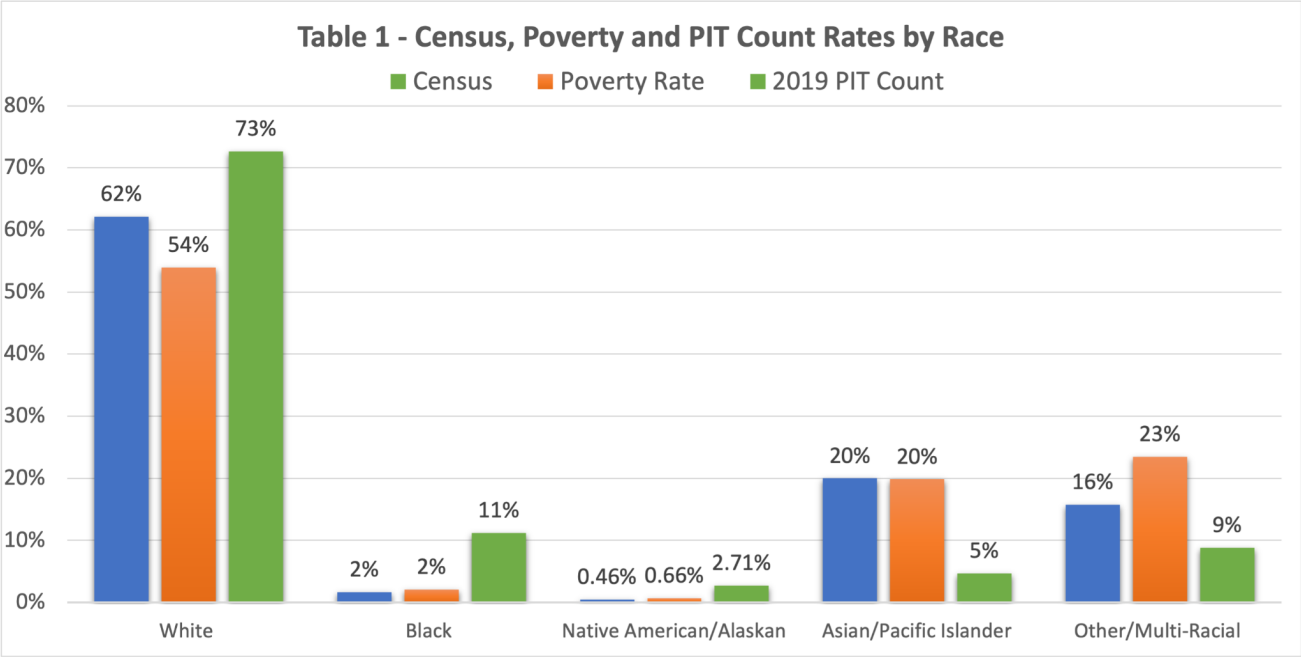
OVERVIEW

This report examines quantitative data from Orange County's homeless response system, and was prepared by C4 Innovations in May 2022. This report is intended to be used to inform a set of recommendations with actionable steps that can be implemented to achieve a more racially equitable approach to ending homelessness in Orange County. Stakeholders from Orange County, inclusive of partners with lived expertise of homelessness, have or will soon engage in foundational knowledge building sessions, survey-based assessments, and other analyses to identify racial and ethnic inequities and the systemic factors that may be contributing to those inequities. The following report includes findings and recommendations from system-level quantitative data, and we encourage you to reach out to your local data lead(s)/HMIS administrator(s) if you have questions or would like to be more involved in the work to advance racial equity.

Looking at data disaggregated by race and ethnicity is a key first step in identifying, understanding, and addressing racial and ethnic inequities in your community. This process will help you understand the ways in which Black, Brown, Indigenous, and People of Color experience homelessness and housing insecurity outcomes differently than white households. The data analysis in this report establishes the baseline, or starting point, from which your community can build and target your racial equity initiatives and help your community make data-driven, relevant, and impactful decisions about your CoC. Examining quantitative data establishes a core scaffolding of information that can be added to, revised, and built on over time. Critically, it is recommended that CoCs also collect and analyze qualitative data from Black, Brown, Indigenous and People of Color as well as people with lived expertise of homelessness to explore more deeply the trends and patterns presented in this report.

TABLE 1 - DISTRIBUTIONS OF RACE & ETHNICITY

Table 1 references data from the HUD CoC Analysis Tool: Race and Ethnicity (Version 2.1) and shows racial and ethnic groups that are over or under-represented in your CoC's populations of people experiencing homelessness. Table 1 compares Census information from the American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates for 2013-2017, poverty rate data from the ACS 2013-2017 estimate, and data from Orange County's 2019 PIT Count.



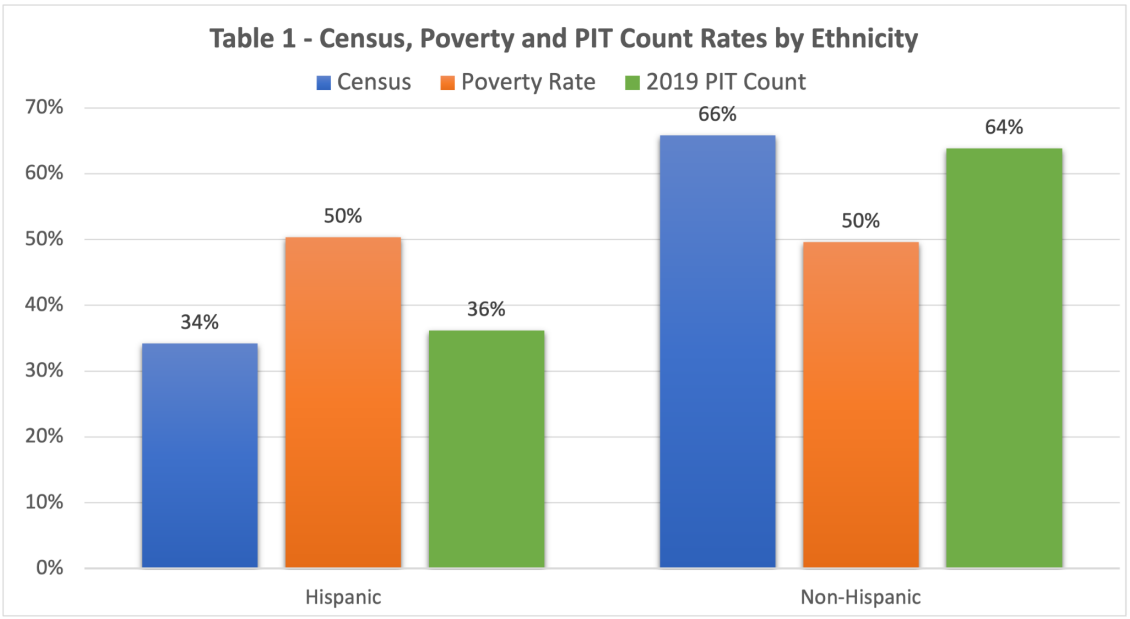


Table 1 Findings

When comparing racial and ethnic distributions of the general population of Orange County to Point-in-Time (PIT) Count data from 2019, the greatest disparities exist among individuals who identified as Native American/Alaskan and Black. Native American/Alaskan households are 5.9 times as likely to be counted as experiencing homelessness in the 2019 PIT count (2.71%) when compared to the demographics of the general population (0.46%). Similarly, Black households are 5.5 times more likely to be counted as experiencing homelessness in the 2019 PIT count (11%) when compared to the demographics of the general population of Orange County (2%).

- Native American/Alaskan households are 5.9 times *more* likely to be represented in the 2019 PIT Count than in the general population (2.71% vs. 0.46%, respectively).
- Black households are 5.5 times *more* likely to be represented in the PIT Count than in the general population (11% vs. 2%, respectively). This racial disparity is not explained by the poverty rate of Black households, which is also 2%.
- White households are 1.2 times *more* likely to be represented in the 2019 PIT Count than in the general population of Orange County (73% vs. 62%, respectively).
- Hispanic households are 1.1 times *more* likely to be represented in the 2019 PIT Count than in the general population (36% vs. 34%, respectively). Hispanic households also experience a high poverty rate in Orange County (50%).
- Asian/Pacific Islander households are 4 times *less* likely to be represented in the 2019 PIT Count than in the general population (5% vs. 20%, respectively). The general distribution of Asian/Pacific Islander households is higher than the national rate (20% in Orange County vs. 7% nationally).
- Other/Multi-Racial households are 1.8 times *less* likely to be represented in the 2019 PIT Count than in the general population (9% vs. 16%).

Table 1 Opportunities

To take a deeper look at the high-level data in Table 1, it may be helpful to perform further analyses with an intersectional lens. Intersectionality is an analytical framework for understanding how aspects of a person or group's social and political identities combine to create different modes of discrimination and privilege. For example, it may be useful to disaggregate data by race/ethnicity *and* by gender, age, or household type to explore with more specificity which populations experience the greatest racial inequities in your homeless response system. It may also be useful to explore more specifically which populations or nationalities are encompassed in the broad race and ethnicity labels used in this tool. For example, what groups make up the "Asian/Pacific Islander" designation in Orange County? Which specific Asian/Pacific Islander populations and nationalities are represented in the PIT?

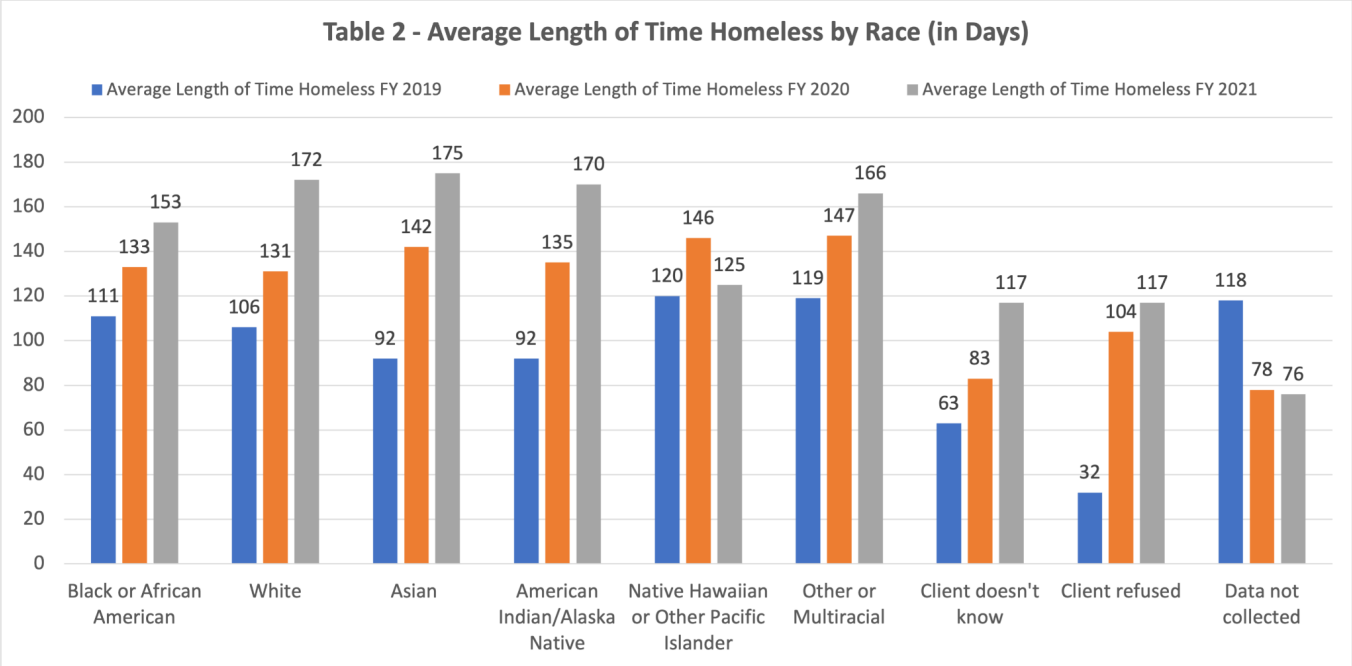
Consider applying intersectional lenses particularly to Native American/Alaskan and Black households, since these groups are the most disproportionately represented in homelessness when compared to the general population in Orange County. It may also be useful to begin to develop learning questions centered around the journey of Black and Native American/Alaskan households through your community's homeless response system, and conducting a more detailed review of the distribution of these households in the homeless response system across resource/project types, Coordinated Entry (CE) milestones (assessment, enrollment/referral, placement), or at the provider level. Lastly, gathering qualitative information about the quality of the experiences of Black and Native American/Alaskan households can help inform the development of these questions and further data analyses.

Finally, consider periodically refreshing this high-level analysis using more recent Census, poverty and PIT Count data for a more accurate read on racial/ethnic disparities. If your

community has an alternative methodology for understanding the real-time number of households experiencing homelessness, it may also make sense to use that data alongside the PIT Count data. It may be useful to explore demographic data alongside, for example, high-level disaggregated data within the homeless response system (e.g., those active in HMIS, households engaged with Coordinated Entry, representation on a By-Name List, etc.) to determine how people are showing up in the system vs. how they present in the general population.

TABLE 2 - AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS BY RACE & ETHNICITY

Table 2 shows the average length of time that households resided in Emergency Shelter, Safe Havens and Transitional Housing in Orange County during FY 2019, FY 2020, and FY 2021. All data are disaggregated by race and ethnicity.



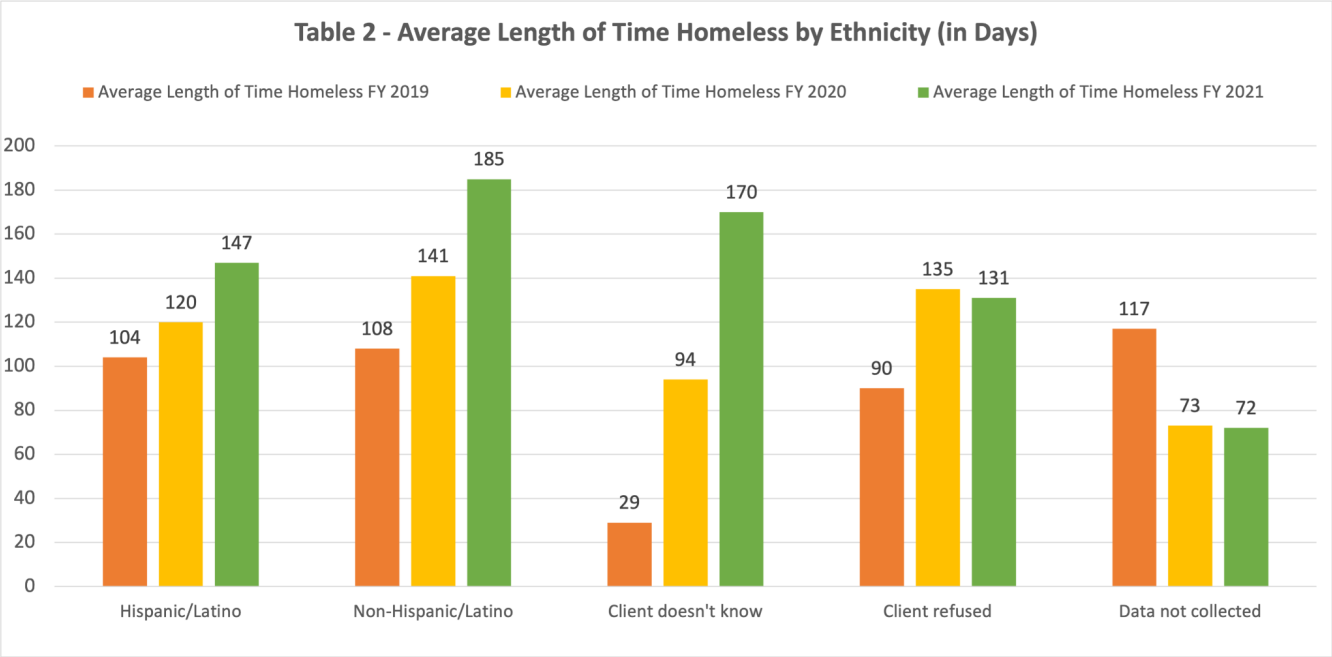


Table 2 Findings

Across all racial and ethnic categories, Orange County's average length of time homeless numbers increased between FY 2019 and FY 2021:

- 90% increase for Asian households*
- 85% increase for American Indian/Alaskan Native households*
- 71% increase for Non-Hispanic households
- 62% increase for White households
- 41% increase for Hispanic households
- 39% increase for Other or Multiracial households*
- 38% increase for Black or African American households
- 4% increase for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander households*

In addition to considering the percentage increases in length of time homeless, it may also be useful to explore patterns across racial and ethnic groups by looking at the raw numbers of days homeless for each group. In 2019, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, Other/Multiracial and Black or African American households experienced the highest average number of days homeless (120, 119 and 111 days, respectively). In 2021, this trend changed notably - the groups experiencing the highest average lengths of time homeless are Asian, white and American Indian/Alaska Native households (175, 172, 170 days, respectively).

It may be useful to review the raw numbers of households reflected in the "Client doesn't know", "Client refused", and "Data not collected" categories, as there may be a notable amount of households for whom race and ethnicity is not being captured. Finally, in racial or ethnic groups where there is a small number of households represented, the average length of time

may skew high or low, depending on the data, and be potentially misleading. Taking into account the relative raw numbers of each group represented in this table may be useful and worth further analysis.

**The number of households represented by these percentages are likely to be very small in comparison to the overall numbers of white, Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino households in this dataset.*

Table 2 Opportunities

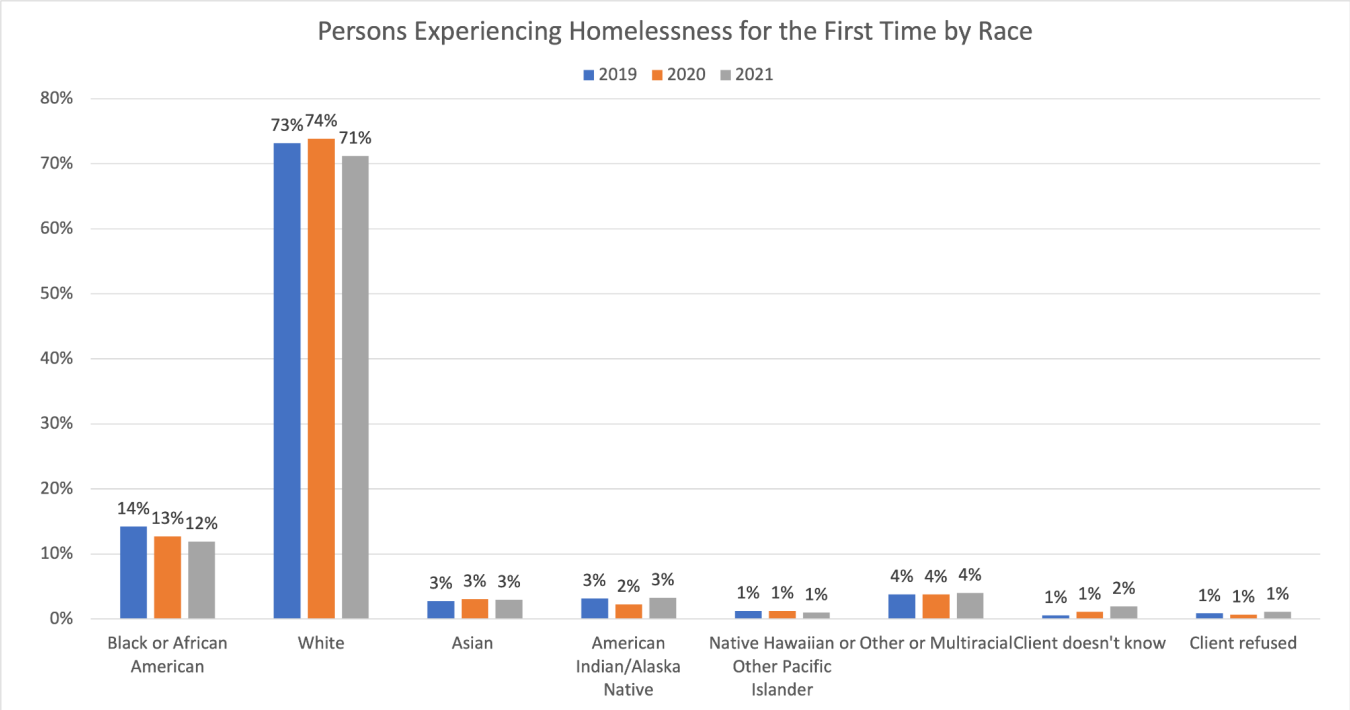
In Orange County, the greatest disparities in homelessness exist among individuals who identified as Native American/Alaskan and Black or African American. There are opportunities to ask more questions and pull additional data points to illuminate more information about these households and what the quality of their experiences are with the homeless response system. For example, in which portions of the homeless response system are Native American/Alaskan and Black households spending the most time? Are Native American/Alaskan and Black families experiencing different barriers to obtaining housing resources than Black singles and youth, and vice versa? When comparing length of time data across different milestones in Coordinated Entry (assessment, referral, placement) where are Native American/Alaskan and Black households "getting stuck"? Is there value in running a provider-level length of time analysis by race/ethnicity to see which providers facilitate programs with the highest and lowest lengths of time homeless? Gathering the stories and experiences of Native American/Alaskan and Black households experiencing homelessness could help Orange County to better understand the needs of overrepresented racial groups. This type of data gathering could provide opportunities to ask about barriers to housing/services, where individuals experience bias when encountering the system, if there are culturally responsive supports that meet household needs, and what supports or factors lead to a sense of community for overrepresented households experiencing homelessness (i.e., geographic location, the availability of natural/informal supports)?

An additional opportunity is available to further interrogate the root causes and broader contexts of households that experienced large increases in length of time homelessness from 2019 to 2021. How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect these racial and ethnic groups in Orange County? It appears possible that the smallest demographic groups may have experienced the largest increases in length of time homeless from 2019 to 2021. How does this hypothesis bear out upon further analysis? Where geographically do folks experiencing the longest lengths of time homeless enter the system from? Are these households showing up across all Orange County homeless response system providers, or at just a few? What cultural contexts, nationalities, and immigration-related factors shape these populations in Orange County?

TABLE 3 - FIRST TIME HOMELESS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

Table 3 displays the number of households (disaggregated by race and ethnicity) entering the homeless response system through Emergency Shelter, Safe Havens, and Transitional Housing with no prior enrollments in HMIS (Homeless Management Information System). These

households are considered to be experiencing homelessness for the first time. The annual reporting periods for Table 3 are FY 2019, FY 2020 and FY 2021.



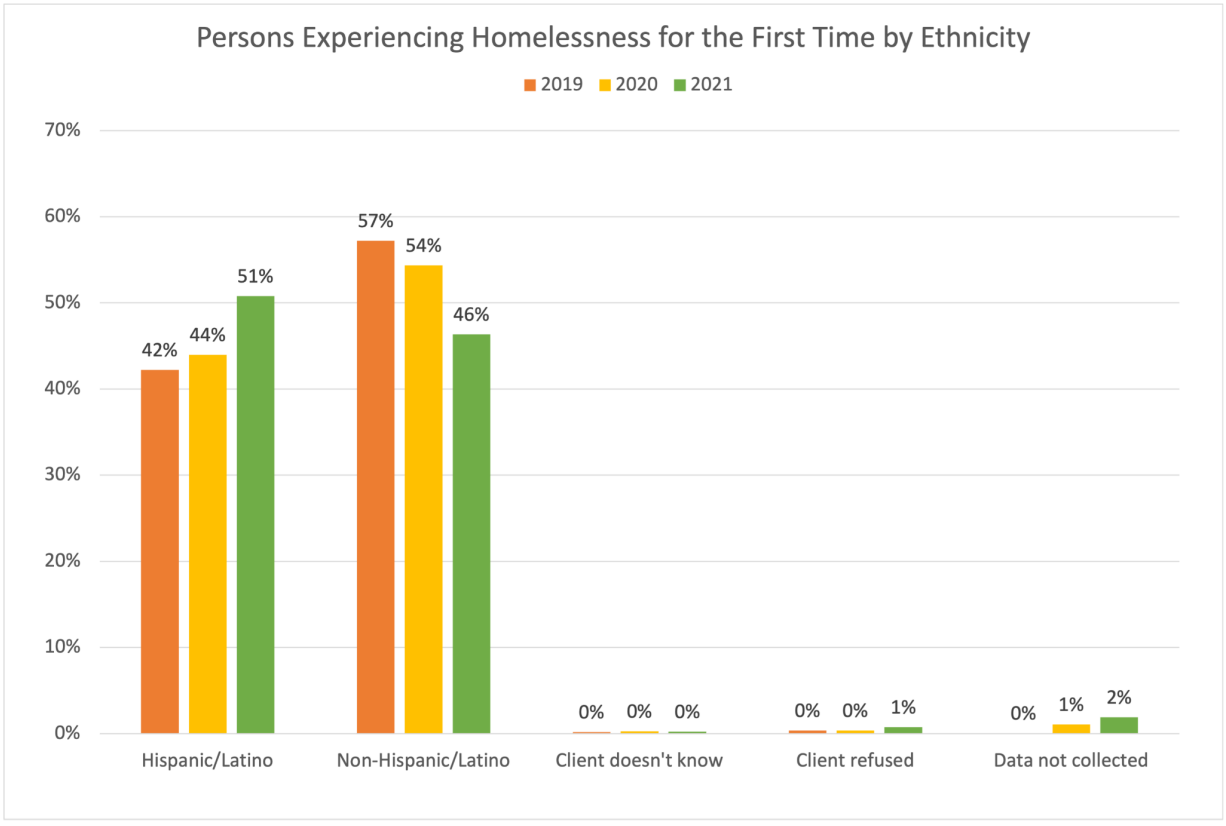


Table 3 Findings

All first time homeless figures remain relatively consistent across racial groups in 2019, 2020 and 2021, but not among ethnic groups. White households overwhelmingly account for the number of households experiencing homelessness for the first time in Table 3, in a way that aligns with the overall proportions of white households experiencing homelessness in Orange County (73% in 2019, 74% in 2020, 71% in 2021). The number of Black or African American households experiencing homelessness for the first time is similar to the proportion of Black households in the PIT Count, but not the overall demographics of Orange County (14% in 2019, 13% in 2020 and 12% in 2021). In other words, around 73% of the homeless population represented in the PIT Count were white households, 11% were Black or African American and we see people experiencing homelessness for the first time at similar rates. Again this data is relatively consistent over time across race, but both Black and white populations show a 2% decrease in households experiencing homelessness for the first time when comparing 2019 to 2021 rates.

Orange County first time homeless data is not consistent over time across ethnicity. Over half of households experiencing homelessness for the first time identify as Hispanic/Latino in 2021 (51%), whereas Hispanic/Latino households only make 36% of the 2019 PIT Count. The percentage of Hispanic/Latino households experiencing homelessness for the first time went up steadily between the three years examined in this dataset, from 42% in 2019, to 44% in 2020, to 51% in 2021. Conversely, the percentage of Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino households experiencing homelessness for the first time went down steadily between 2019 and 2021, from 57% in 2019, to 54% in 2020, to 46% in 2021.

Table 3 Opportunities

There are clear opportunities to work with communities identifying as Hispanic/Latino to better understand the increase in first time homelessness. What are the key factors and root causes that lead to Hispanic/Latino households experiencing homelessness in 2020 and 2021? Are there pandemic related barriers to explore? What strategies has Orange County tested to learn more about these communities? Are the increases in numbers actually indicative of improved access to housing and services for this population, or if this community is experiencing more housing instability and homelessness than before?

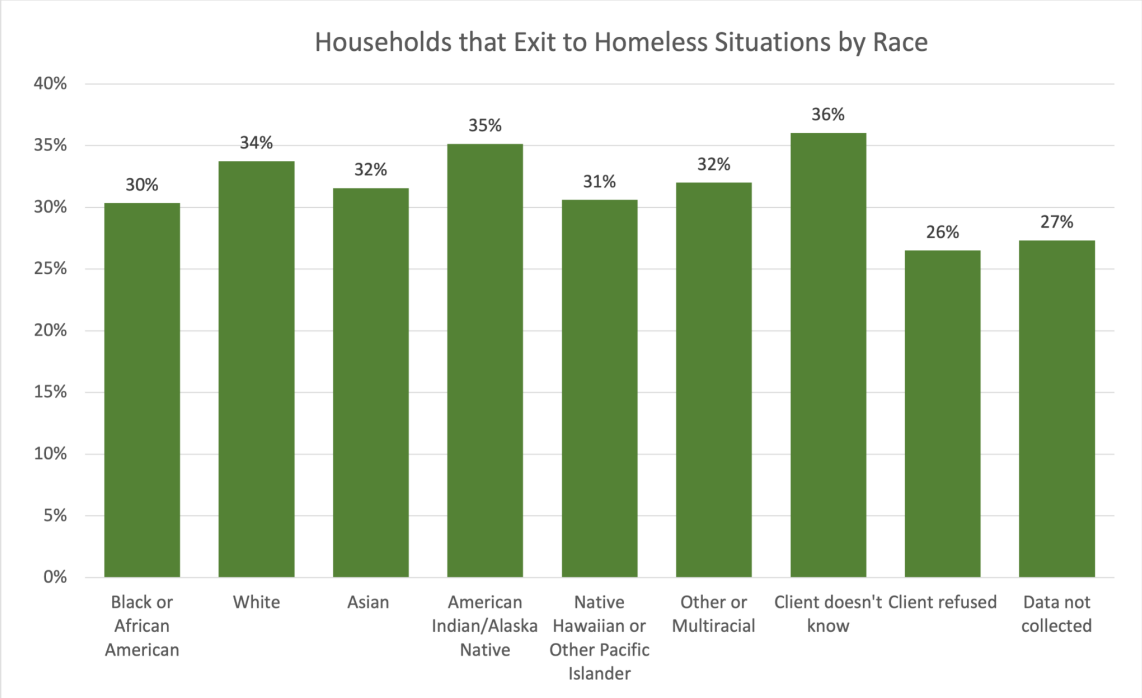
Are there specific homeless services providers that serve Hispanic/Latino households, or distinct geographic areas to think about in relation to these trends? There are opportunities to consider first time homeless-related data more deeply. If the locations of individuals who touch the homeless response system are known, it may be useful to map out the data in Table 3 by zip code or census tract using a mapping tool to get a sense of where households are residing before they become homeless for the first time. There are also opportunities to identify what is currently working in Orange County to reduce first time episodes of homelessness. Consider performing a program type or provider-level analysis to dig deeper into the outcomes for Hispanic/Latino households experiencing homelessness for the first time. A good place to start

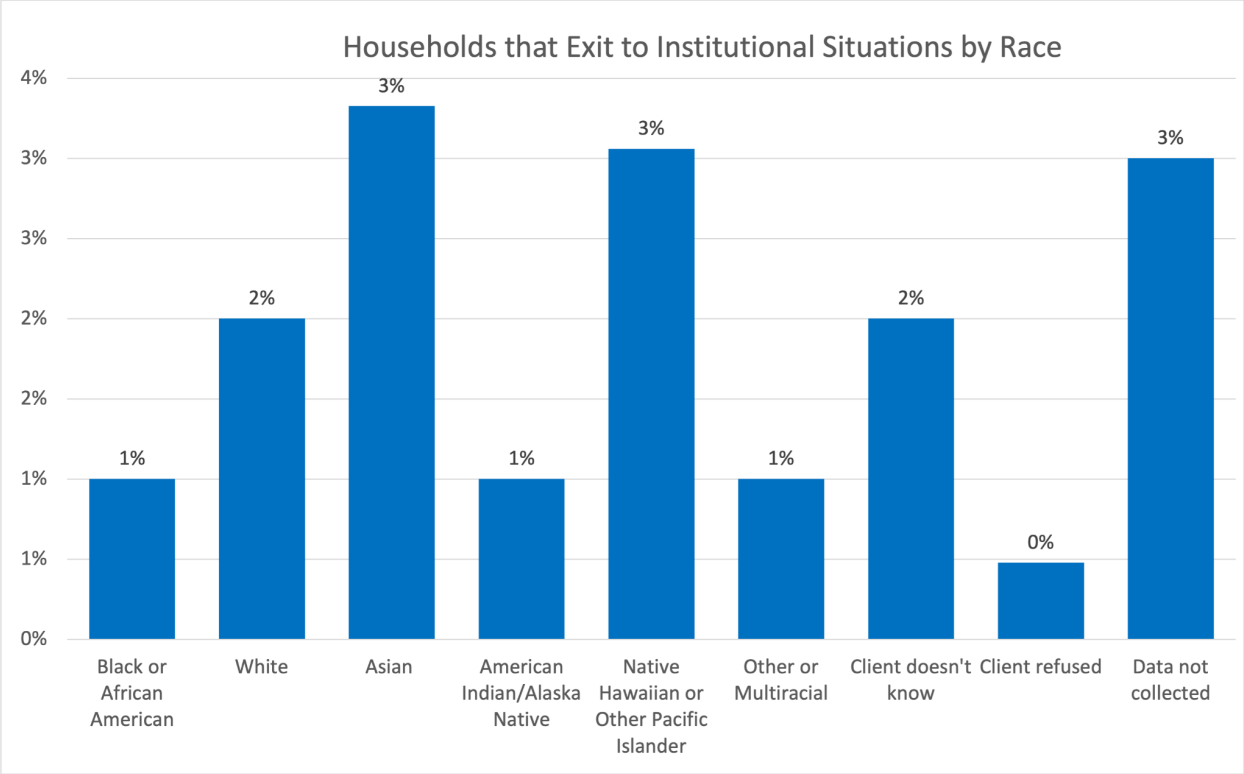
may be to explore this data intersectionality by household type - are folks mostly families, singles, couples, or a mix? Do household type trends vary among the other race/ethnicity categories?

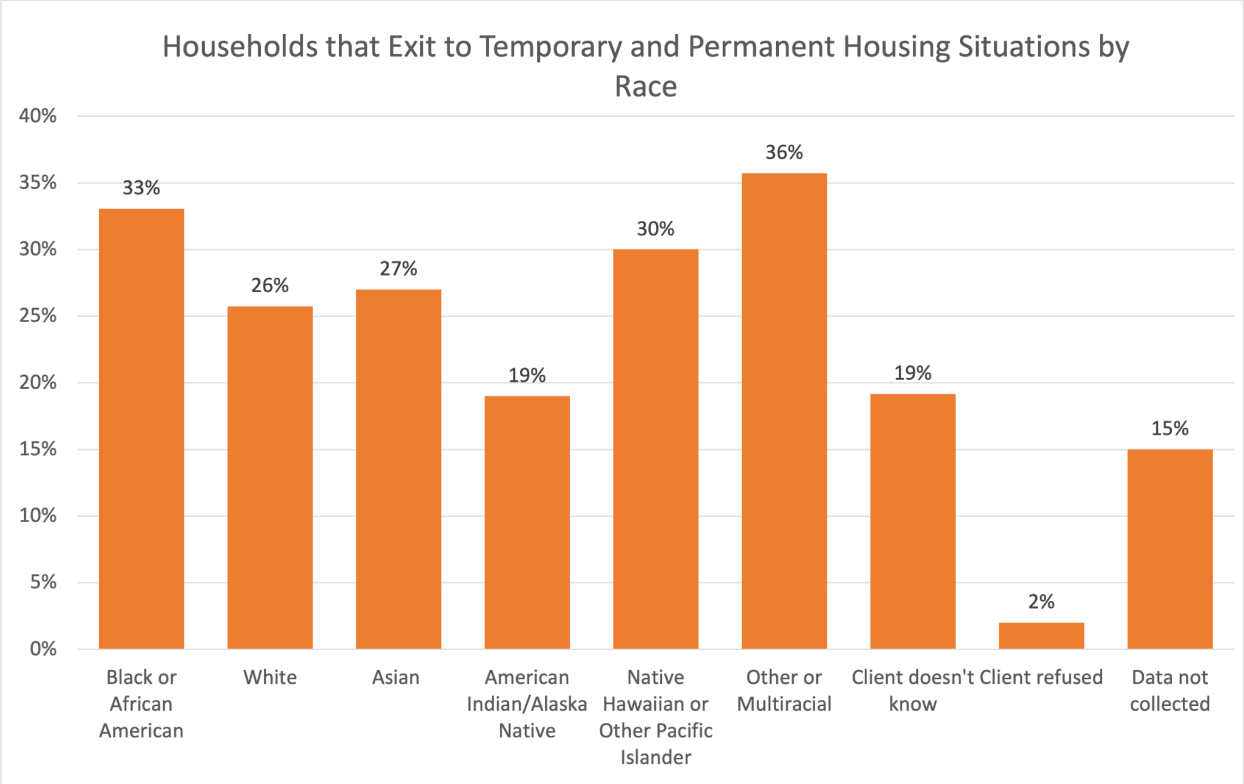
The data in this request looks at first time episodes of homelessness for each demographic group as compared to the entire population of people experiencing first time episodes of homelessness. Consider taking a look at this data within each demographic group (rather than across all racial/ethnic groups) in order to determine if there are specific demographic groups that are experiencing multiple episodes of homelessness more frequently or disproportionate rates. Finally, it may also be useful to consider the "opposite" population - households *with* prior enrollments in HMIS. How might Orange County use disaggregated data by race/ethnicity to explore households that have experienced homelessness multiple times? To gain more detailed insights, it may also be useful to set up learning questions and conceptual parameters around what further data points may be useful to pull. These areas may also be informed by quantitative data (high average lengths of time, etc.) rooted in an individual or household's lived experience and/or perception of the system.

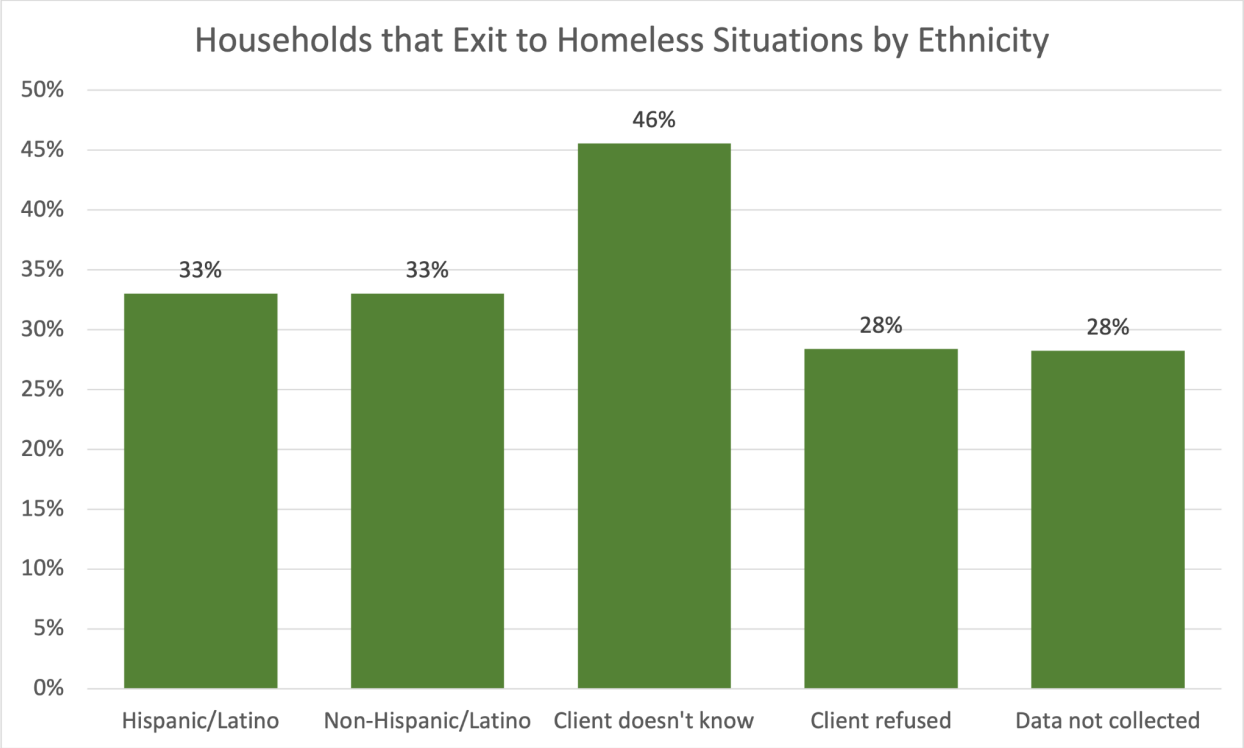
TABLE 4 - EXIT DESTINATIONS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

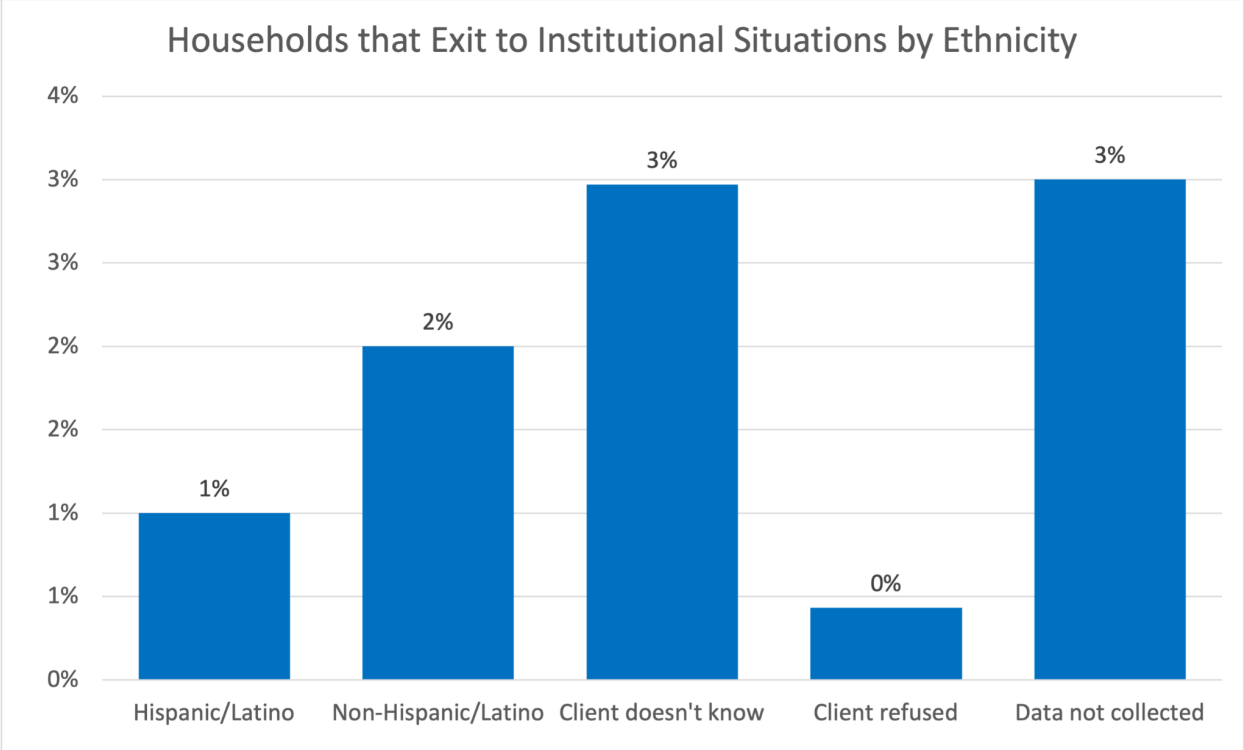
Table 4 shows exit destinations disaggregated by race and ethnicity, broken down into subgroups for Homeless Situation destinations, Institutional Situation destinations, and Temporary and Permanent Housing Situation destinations. This table reflects deduplicated exit destination entries in HMIS, using the household's most recent exit from the homeless response system (if the household has exited more than once). Finally, this table combines data from the following three federal fiscal years - FY 2019, FY 2020 and FY 2021.




Households that Exit to Institutional Situations by Race
4%
3%
3%
2%
2%
1%
1%
0%
1%
2%
3%
1%
3%
1%
2%
0%
3%
Black or African American
White
Asian
American Indian/Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Other or Multiracial
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected


Households that Exit to Temporary and Permanent Housing Situations by Race
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
33%
26%
27%
19%
30%
36%
19%
2%
15%
Black or African American
White
Asian
American Indian/Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Other or Multiracial
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected


Households that Exit to Homeless Situations by Ethnicity
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
33%
33%
46%
28%
28%
Hispanic/Latino
Non-Hispanic/Latino
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected


Households that Exit to Institutional Situations by Ethnicity
4%
3%
3%
2%
2%
1%
1%
0%
1%
2%
3%
0%
3%
Hispanic/Latino
Non-Hispanic/Latino
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected

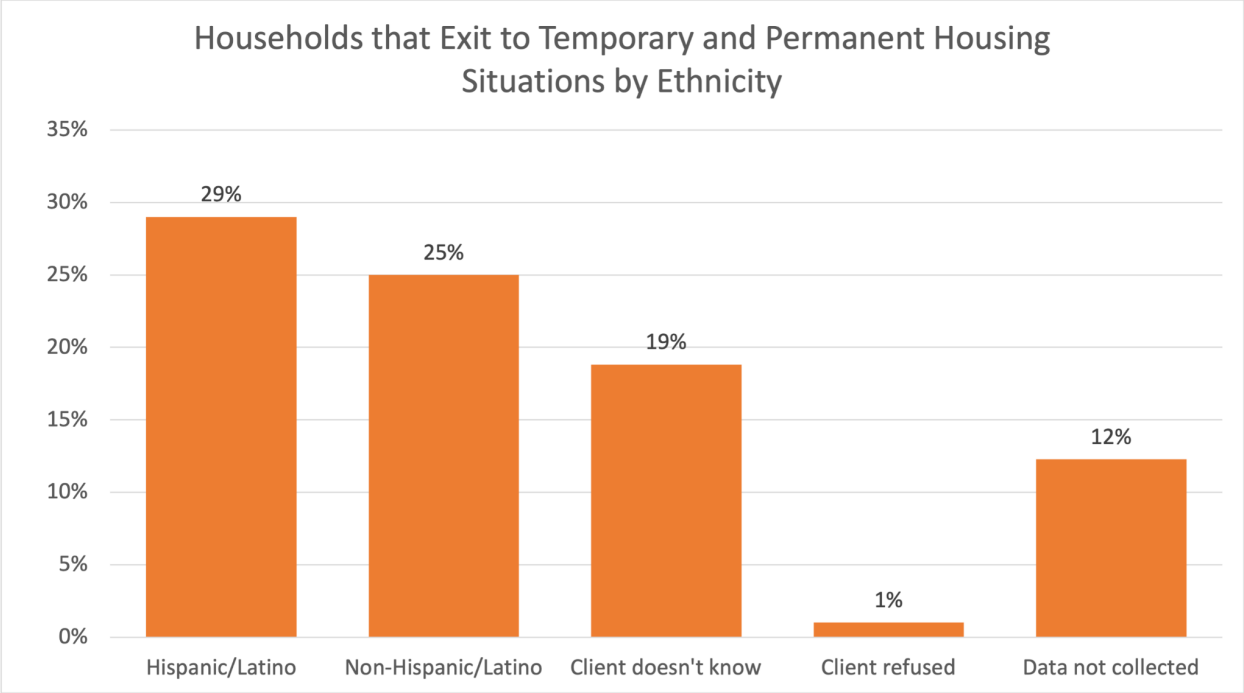


Table 4 Findings

The Exit Destination data in Table 4 revealed the following trends, patterns, and gaps:

- Approximately 30-45% of each racial and ethnic category are represented in the “Other” category for exit destinations, which results in a reduced overall denominator available for this racial equity analysis. There are a variety of specific data fields in HMIS within the “Other” subcategory, and it may be useful to explore how these play out in more detail disaggregated by race.
- Second to the 'Other' category, all demographic groups exit frequently to Emergency Shelter and then to Places Not Meant for Human Habitation. These rates of exit are high, accounting for between 30% and 35% of all exits in every racial and ethnic category.
- The subgroup with the highest rate of exits to Places Not Meant for Human Habitation is Asian households - 16% of all members of this group exiting the homeless response system do so to unsheltered situations.
- The rate of exits to permanent destinations were highest for Other/Multi-Racial (20%), lowest for American Indian/Alaska Native (9%), and other groups were as follows: Black (17%), white (10%), Asian (13%), Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (18%).
- The groups with the highest rates of exit to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) are Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Other or Multiracial - 2% of each group’s exits are to PSH.
- Taking into consideration exit destinations that may be seen as "positive outcomes" (exits to Temporary and Permanent Housing Situations) and “negative outcomes” (Homeless and Institutional Situations) the following breakdown emerges:
    - Percentages of each population that exit to "positive" destinations: Black or African American: 33%, White: 26%, Asian: 28%, American Indian/Alaska Native:

18%, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 31%, Other or Multiracial: 36%, Hispanic/Latino: 29%.

- Percentages of each population that exit to "negative" destinations: Black or African American: 32%, White: 37%, Asian: 35%, American Indian/Alaska Native: 37%, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 34%, Other or Multiracial: 34%, Hispanic/Latino: 34%.

Table 4 Opportunities

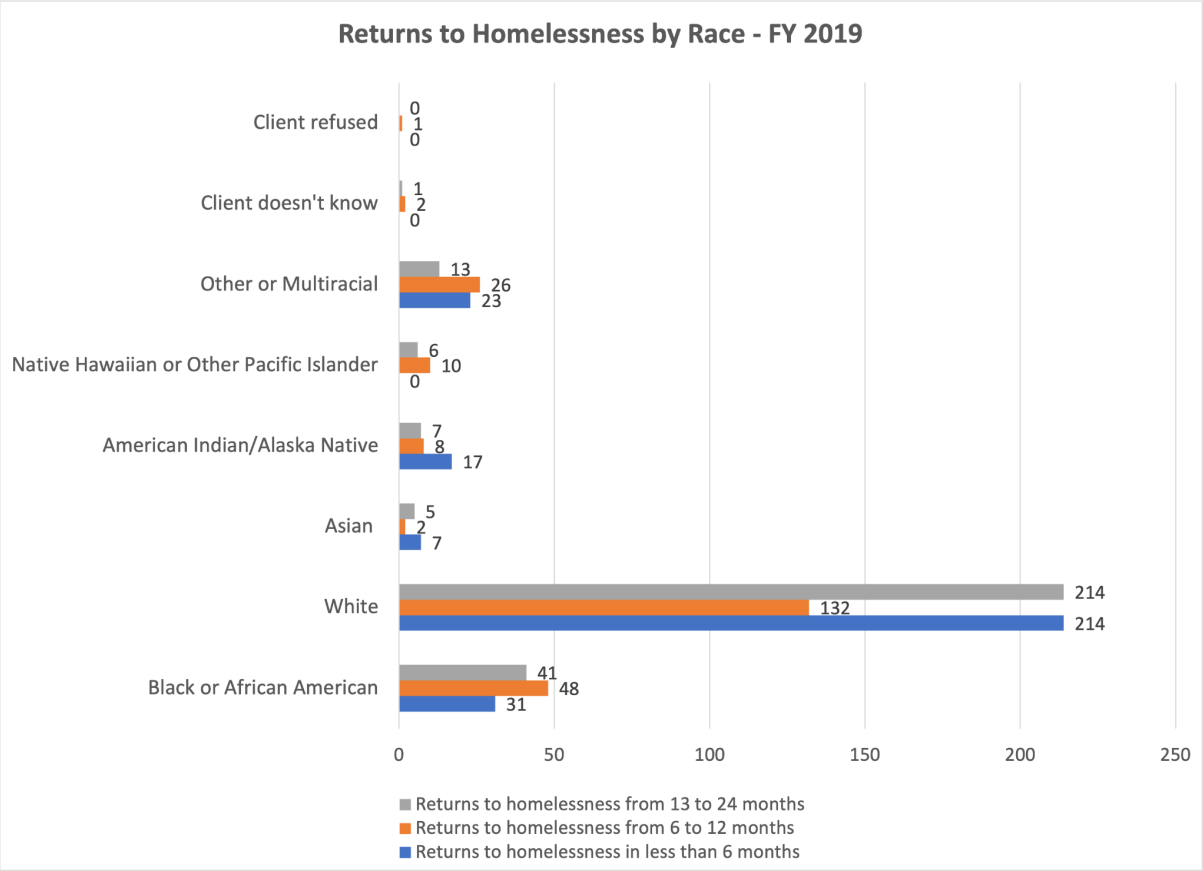
It may be useful to consider how Orange County might improve data collection for exit destinations. As a first step, further disaggregating the data in the “Other” exit destination category to see how different racial and ethnic groups are distributed would provide further information. Depending on how this analysis bears out, there may be opportunities to test strategies that capture both a person’s racial and ethnic identity, and capture where households are exiting to after they leave the homeless response system.

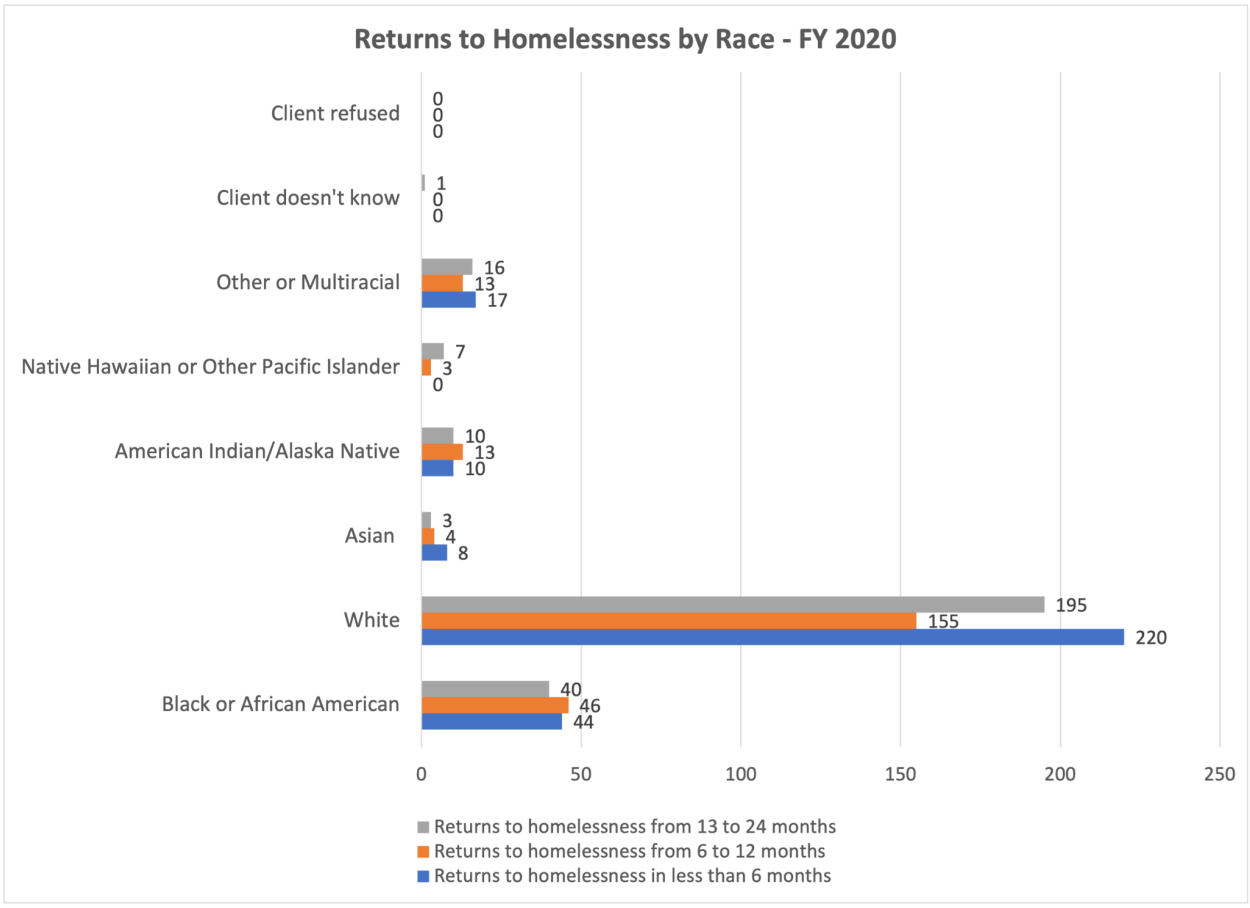
Across the board, all demographic groups exit frequently to Emergency Shelter and to Places Not Meant for Human Habitation. Sixteen percent of all Asian households exiting the homeless response system do so to unsheltered situations. There are opportunities to more deeply explore these trends by performing more quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. It may be useful to pull further intersectional quantitative data such as household type and the name of the provider that each household engaged with upon exiting (or entering) the system. In other words, what shelters are households exiting from without a “positive” outcome? It could also be useful to explore what factors are affecting sheltered or unsheltered exits by performing qualitative listening sessions or focus groups. What conditions result in exits to places not meant for human habitation? How and when are households being connected to rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, or other permanent housing destinations?

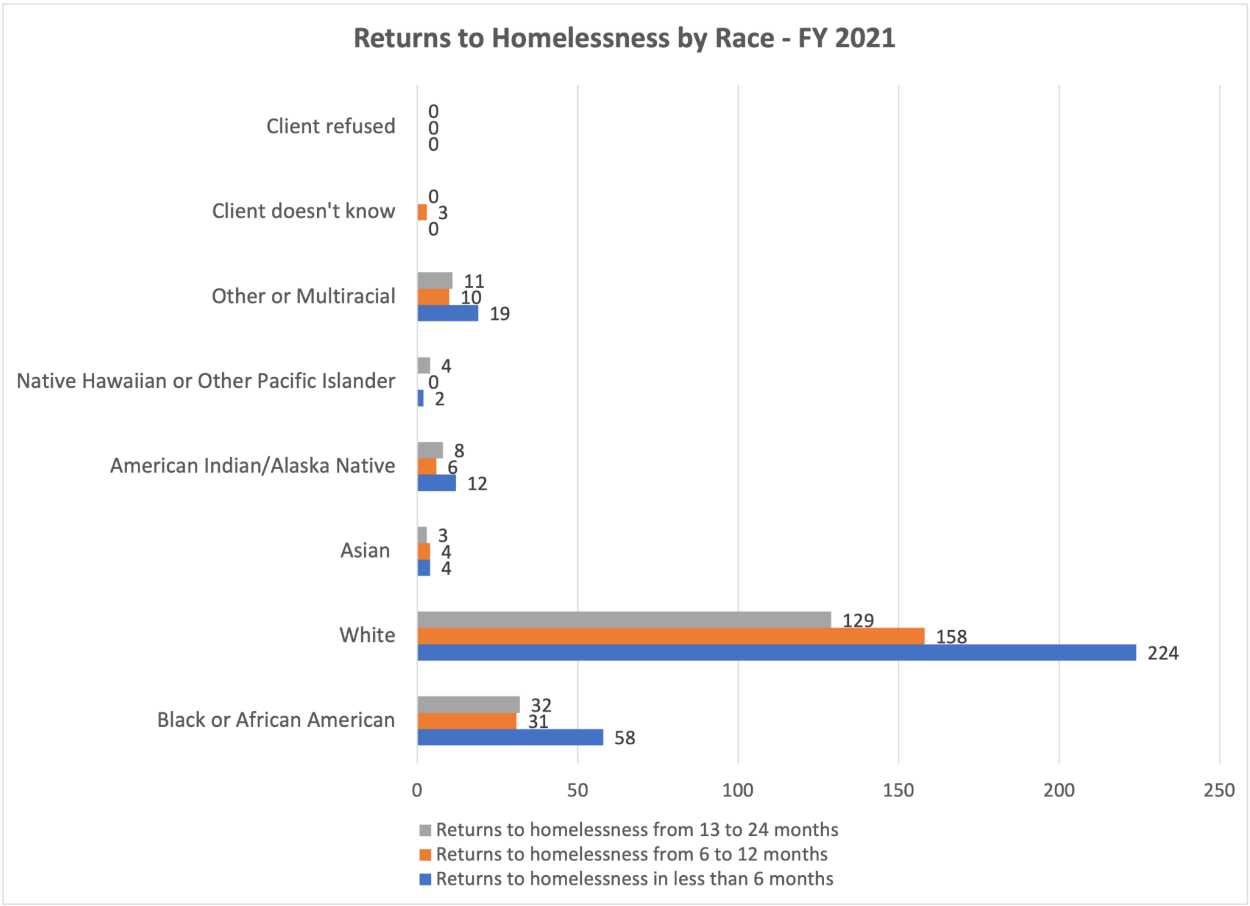
Finally, if the locations of households that exit the system are known, (in any exit destination category) it may be useful to map out this data using a mapping tool such as Tableau, ArcGIS or Power BI. Using a mapping tool it is very possible to overlay overall census demographics such as race, ethnicity, income and other data points to illuminate the impacts of historical housing trends (such as redlining) and current trends (gentrification). Mapping exercises also allow for the consideration of local racial and ethnic dynamics in the broader contexts of where individuals who are currently and formerly experiencing homelessness live.

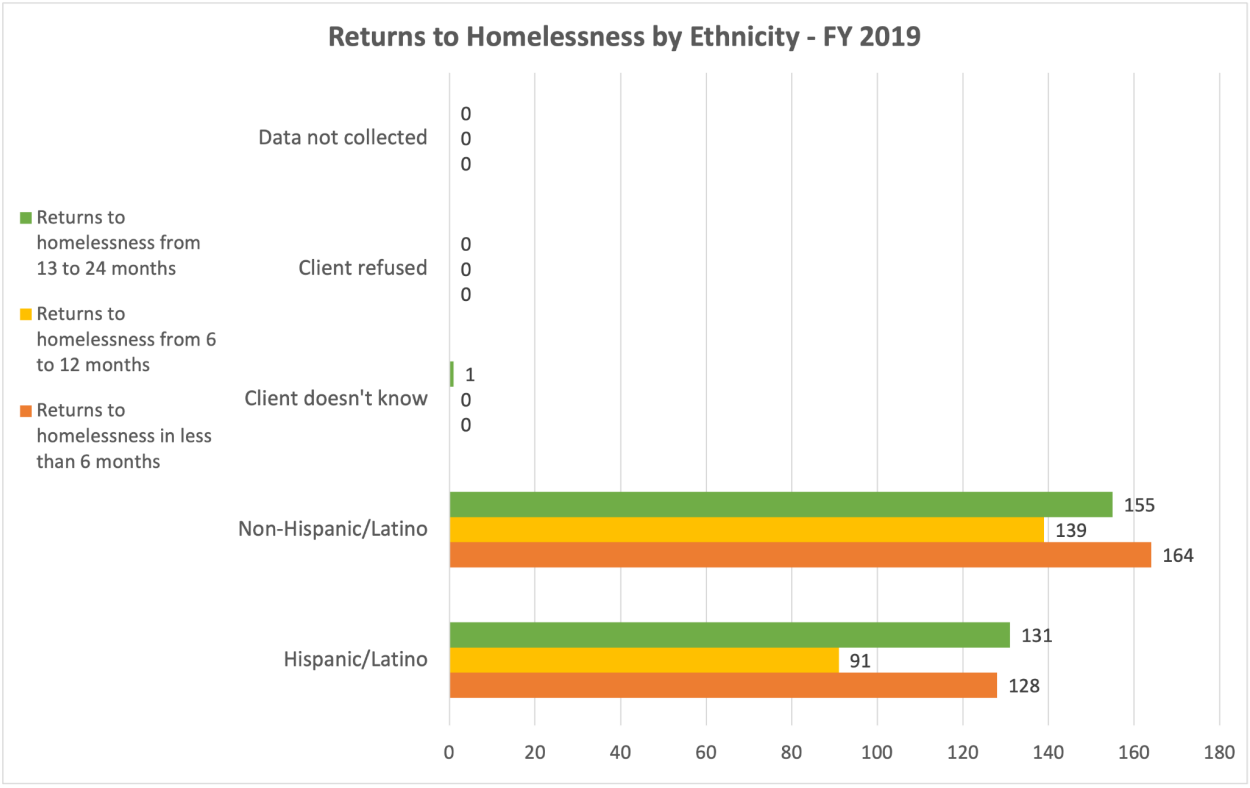
TABLE 5 - RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

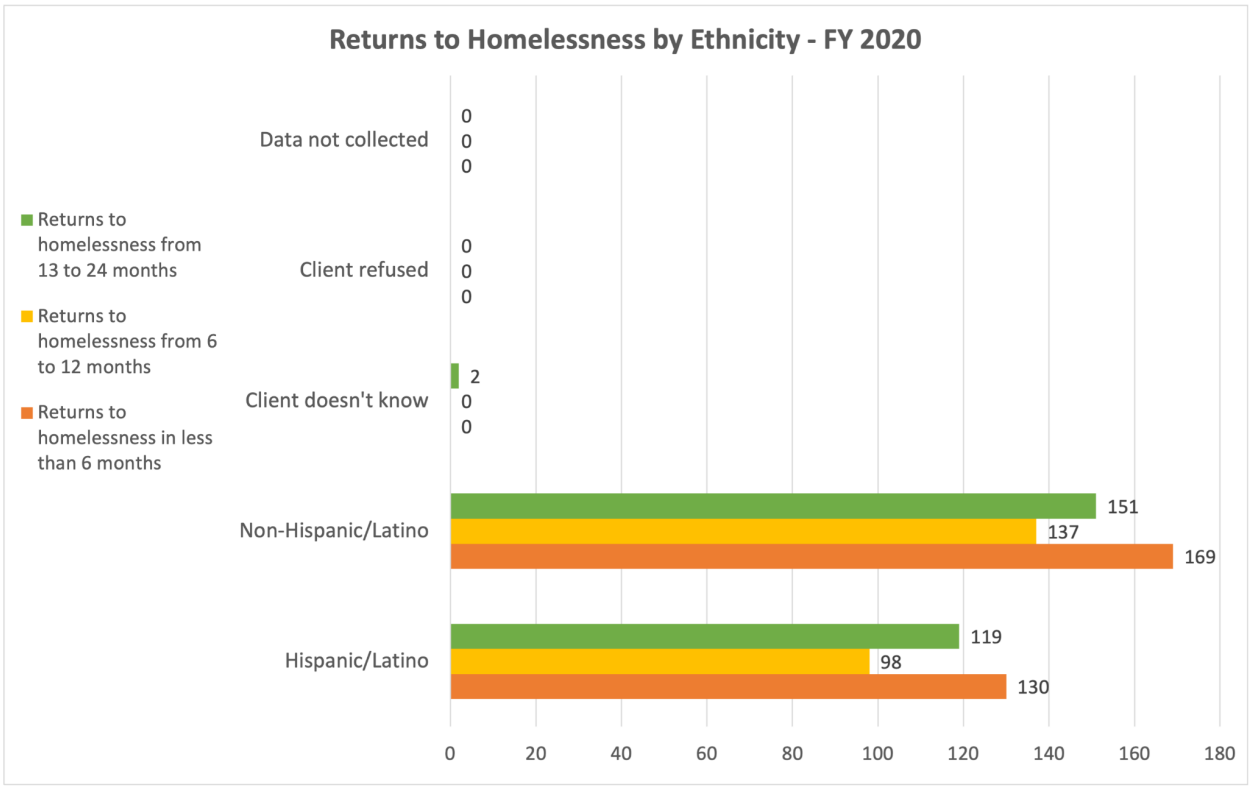
The data in Table 5 reference households that exited to a permanent housing destination and measure how many returned to homelessness after their initial exit from the system. The data are broken down into three categories: returns that occurred in 6 months or less after a household’s initial exit from the homeless response system, returns that occurred between 6 and 12 months after a household’s initial exit, and returns that occurred between 13 and 24 months after a household’s exit.


Returns to Homelessness by Race - FY 2019
Client refused
0
1
0
Client doesn't know
1
2
0
Other or Multiracial
13
26
23
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
6
10
0
American Indian/Alaska Native
7
8
17
Asian
5
2
7
White
214
132
214
Black or African American
41
48
31
0
50
100
150
200
250
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months


Returns to Homelessness by Race - FY 2020
Client refused
0
0
0
Client doesn't know
1
0
0
Other or Multiracial
16
13
17
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
7
3
0
American Indian/Alaska Native
10
13
10
Asian
3
4
8
White
195
155
220
Black or African American
40
46
44
0
50
100
150
200
250
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months


Returns to Homelessness by Race - FY 2021
Client refused
0
0
0
Client doesn't know
0
3
0
Other or Multiracial
11
10
19
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
4
0
2
American Indian/Alaska Native
8
6
12
Asian
3
4
4
White
129
158
224
Black or African American
32
31
58
0
50
100
150
200
250
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months


Returns to Homelessness by Ethnicity - FY 2019
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months
Data not collected
0
0
0
Client refused
0
0
0
Client doesn't know
1
0
0
Non-Hispanic/Latino
155
139
164
Hispanic/Latino
131
91
128
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180


Returns to Homelessness by Ethnicity - FY 2020
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months
Data not collected
0
0
0
Client refused
0
0
0
Client doesn't know
2
0
0
Non-Hispanic/Latino
151
137
169
Hispanic/Latino
119
98
130
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180

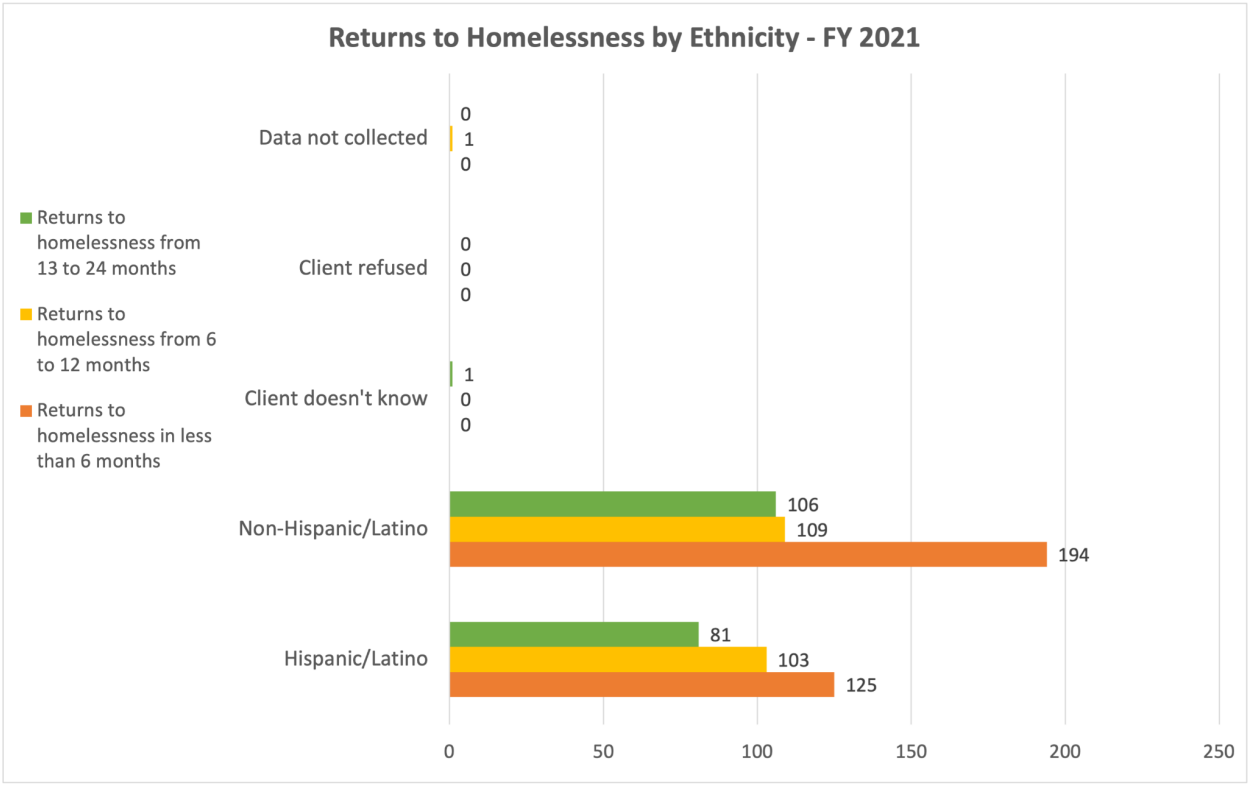

Returns to Homelessness by Ethnicity - FY 2021
Returns to homelessness from 13 to 24 months
Returns to homelessness from 6 to 12 months
Returns to homelessness in less than 6 months
Data not collected
0
1
0
Client refused
0
0
0
Client doesn't know
1
0
0
Non-Hispanic/Latino
106
109
194
Hispanic/Latino
81
103
125
0
50
100
150
200
250

Table 5 Findings

Overall, there was an 11% decrease in returns to homelessness from FY 2019 to FY 2021 (from 809 to 720 households). The overall return window with the highest total numbers of returns across all three fiscal years was during the first 6 months after exiting to a permanent housing destination. In FY 2021, 48% of Black or African American and Other or Multiracial households that returned to homelessness did so within less than 6 months of their exit from the homeless response system. This was also true for 44% of white households and 46% of American Indian/Alaska Native households in FY 2021. The total number of returns decreased from 2019 to 2021 for every racial/ethnic group except Black or African American households, which increased in 2020, and then leveled out to the pre-pandemic rate in 2021: 120 Black or African American households returned to homelessness in 2019, 130 households returned in 2020, and in 121 households returned in 2021. In contrast, the rate of white households returning to homelessness decreased by 8% from 2019 to 2021. Across this same time period, the percentage changes in return rates for Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander and Other or Multiracial households range from 21% to 62%. However, the raw numbers of returns in these groups are small, and percentage comparisons should be taken with a grain of salt. The total number of returns decreased for Hispanic/Latino households from 2019 to 2021 by 12%.

Table 5 Opportunities

It may be helpful to perform deeper inquiries into returns to homelessness by race/ethnicity to consider which homeless response system resource(s) households accessed before returning to homelessness - such as Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, or other permanent housing options. Are there any notable differences between the resources used by households who return to homelessness, by race or ethnicity? Were resources distributed equitably to households that returned to homelessness? Stella P (the visualization tool for data uploaded to the HUD HDX 2.0 database) data can show rates of return for each demographic group across the entire population of households who exited to permanent housing.

There are also opportunities to perform inquiries (quantitative or qualitative) into the reasons *why* households are returning to homelessness. What factors are present in a household's journey out of the system, and what changed when the household came back into the homeless response system? How can these factors be mitigated? What interventions are available to Black and Brown households who were not able to retain their housing, particularly in the first 6 months after moving into permanent housing? Was unemployment or underemployment a factor in a household's return to homelessness? Was the choice or location of the housing placement not a good fit? Were culturally-aligned services available to help Black, Brown, Indigenous and people of color increase housing stability upon placement so that they might remain in housing (e.g. mental health, substance use, community-based, religious supports, etc.)?

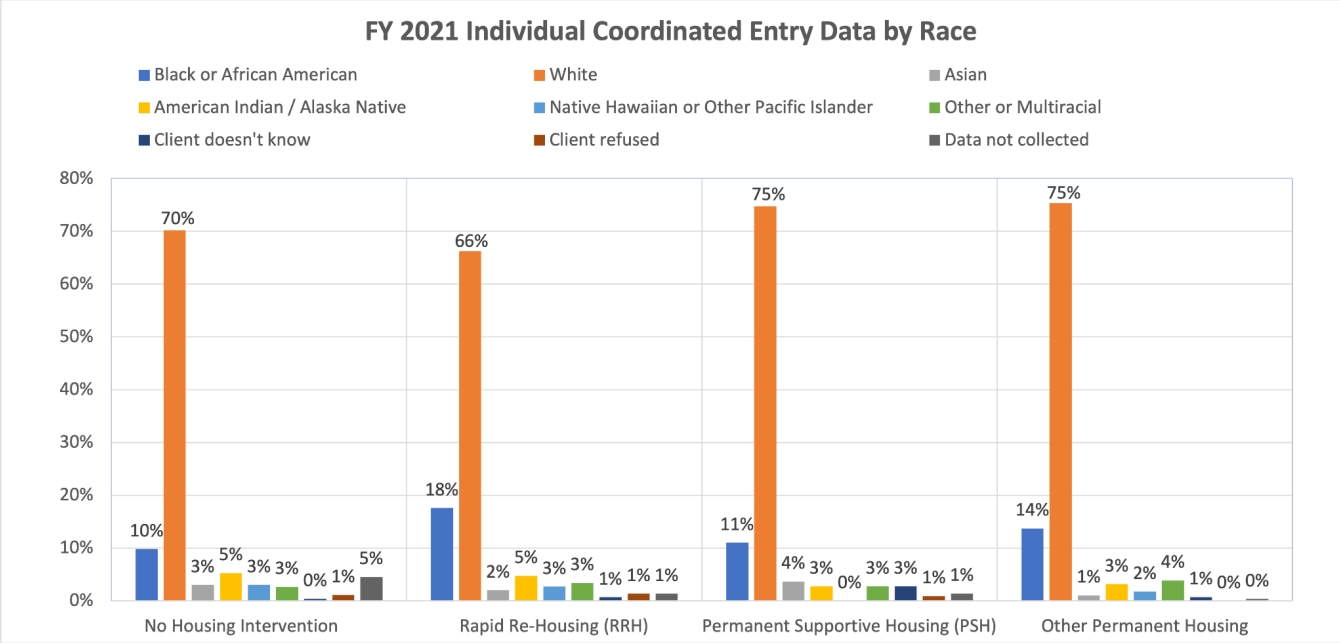
Finally, taking a deeper dive into the intersectional identities of individuals that returned to homelessness may provide further information, such as examining race and ethnicity with

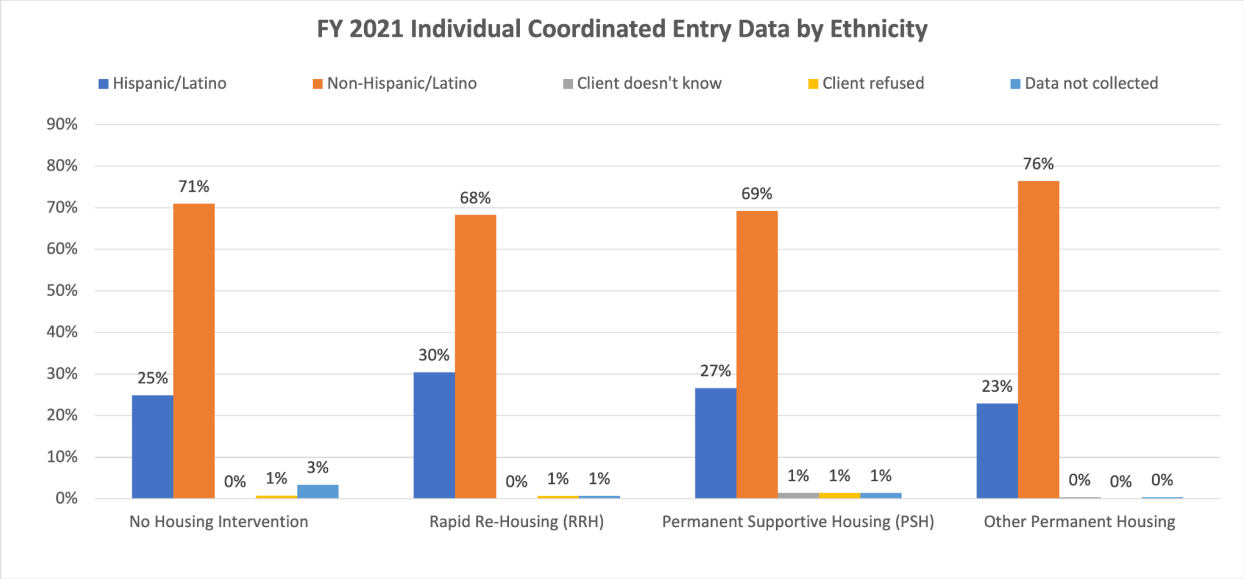
gender, race and ethnicity with household type, race and ethnicity with project type/resource level data (was the household connected to PSH, RRH, or another resource?). If the locations of permanent housing placements are known, it may also be relevant to map returns to homelessness out geographically to examine where households are being housed and consider whether that has an effect on returns to homelessness. Gathering qualitative data that illuminates the stories and experiences of households that return to homelessness may be particularly helpful, and may guide further quantitative analysis.

TABLE 6 - COORDINATED ENTRY PRIORITIZATION BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

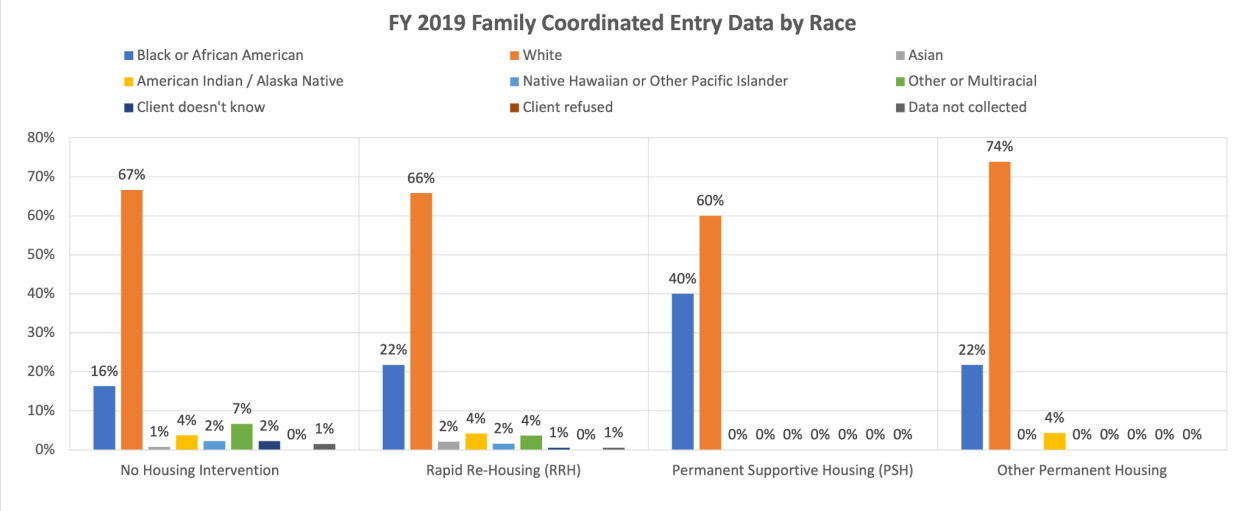
Tables 6 and 6.1 show data on households prioritized for interventions in Orange County's Coordinated Entry (CE) System. Table 6.1 shows disaggregated data for families who are prioritized for resources in Coordinated Entry. The prioritization categories for this analysis are: No Housing Intervention, Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Other Permanent Housing. (Note: Table 6 only includes FY 2021 data because data from previous years was unavailable).

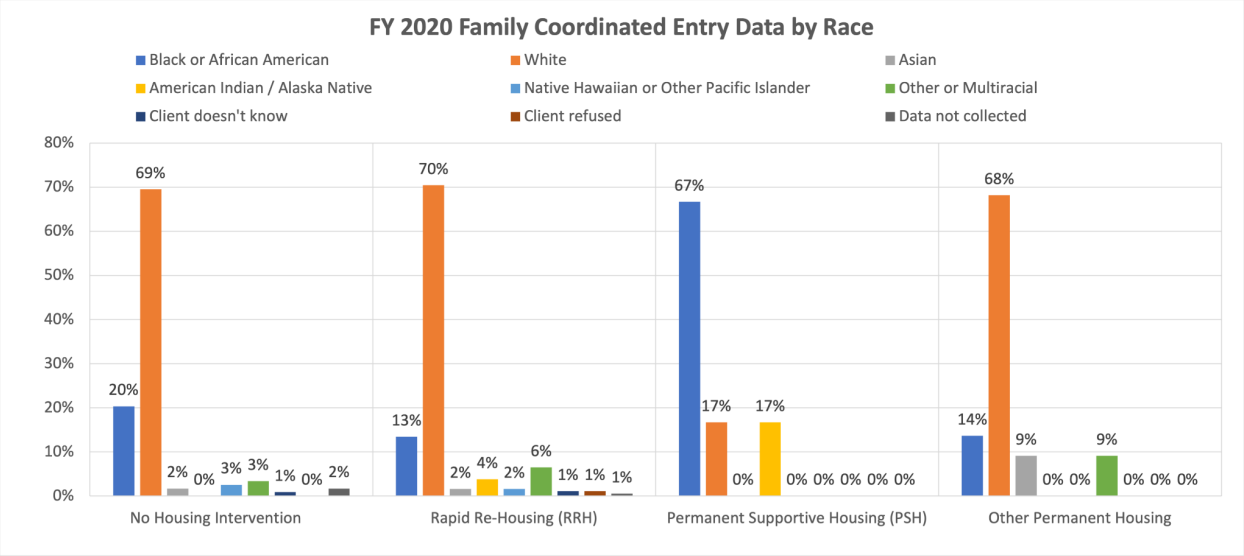
Data from Table 6

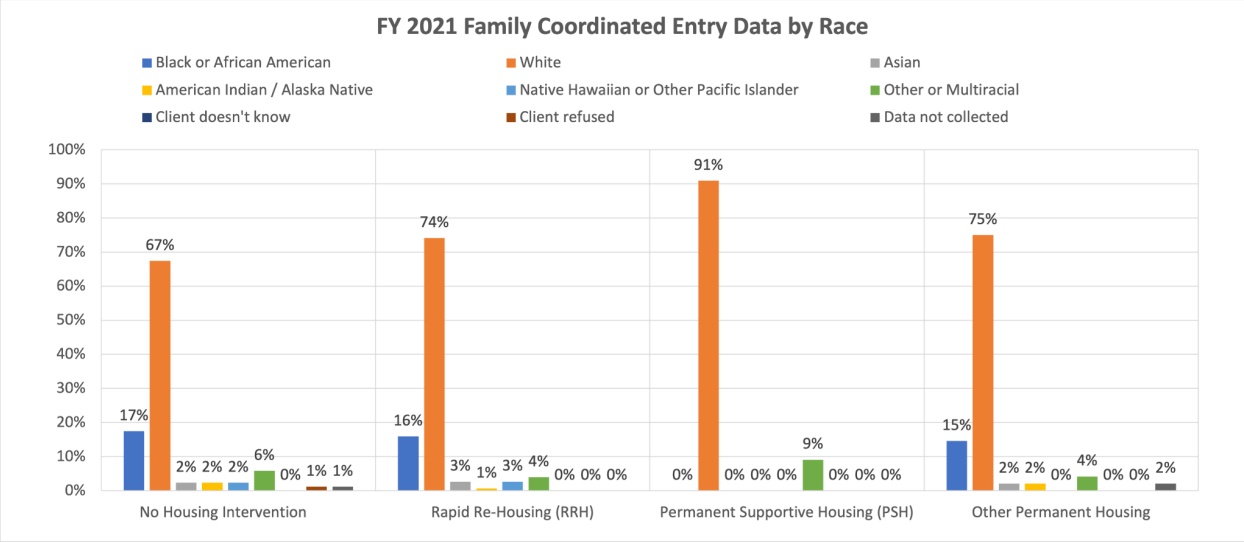


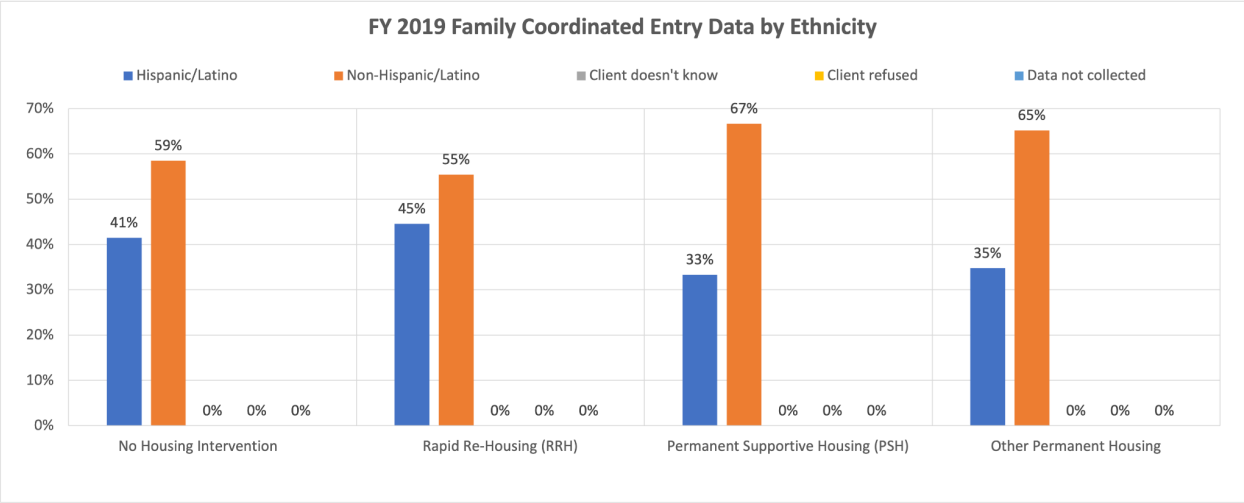


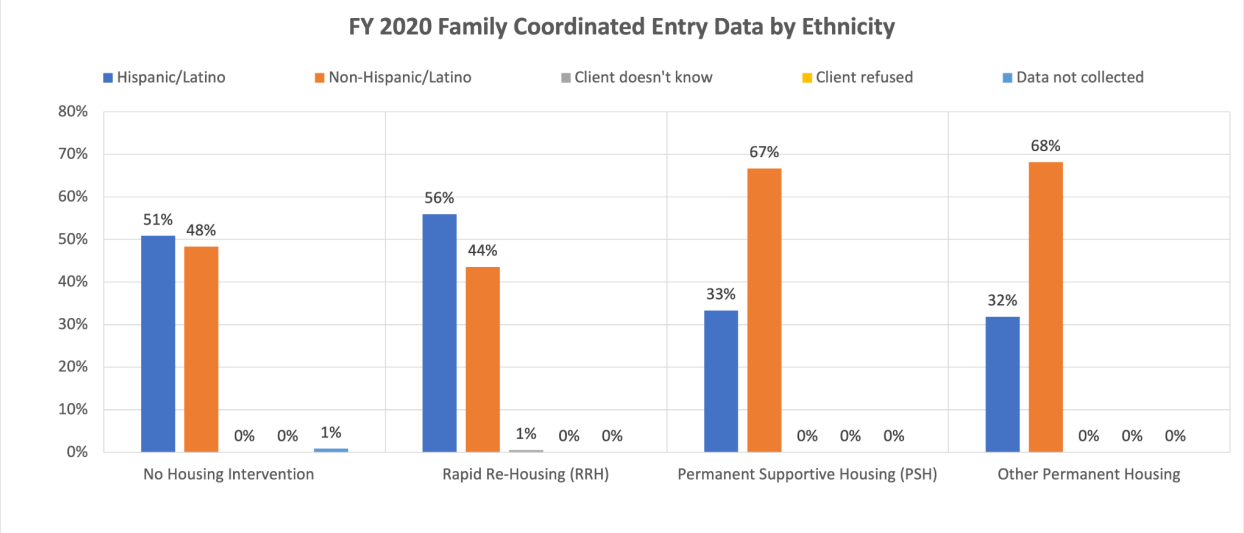
Data from Table 6.1 - Families




FY 2020 Family Coordinated Entry Data by Race
Black or African American
White
Asian
American Indian / Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Other or Multiracial
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
20% 69% 2% 0% 3% 3% 1% 0% 2%
13% 70% 2% 4% 2% 6% 1% 1% 1%
67% 17% 0% 17% 0% 0% 0% 0% 0%
14% 68% 9% 0% 0% 9% 0% 0% 0%
No Housing Intervention
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Other Permanent Housing


FY 2021 Family Coordinated Entry Data by Race
Black or African American
White
Asian
American Indian / Alaska Native
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Other or Multiracial
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
17% 67% 2% 2% 2% 6% 0% 1% 1%
16% 74% 3% 1% 3% 4% 0% 0% 0%
0% 91% 0% 0% 0% 9% 0% 0% 0%
15% 75% 2% 2% 0% 4% 0% 0% 2%
No Housing Intervention
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Other Permanent Housing


FY 2019 Family Coordinated Entry Data by Ethnicity
Hispanic/Latino
Non-Hispanic/Latino
Client doesn't know
Client refused
Data not collected
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
41% 59% 0% 0% 0%
45% 55% 0% 0% 0%
33% 67% 0% 0% 0%
35% 65% 0% 0% 0%
No Housing Intervention
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
Other Permanent Housing



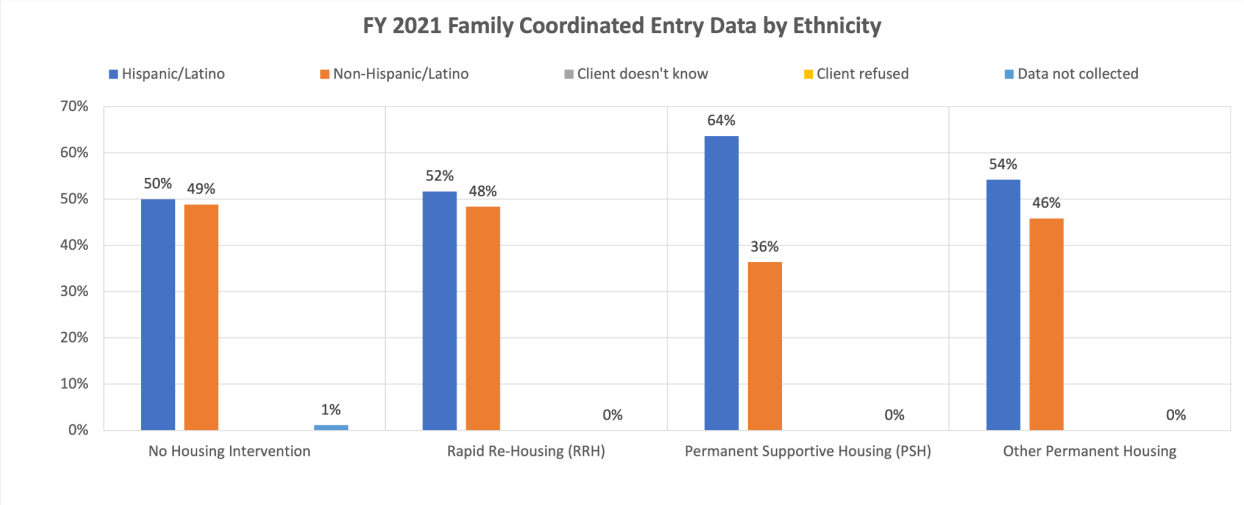


Table 6 and Table 6.1 Findings

Table 6

Generally speaking, Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, and white households are overrepresented in Orange County's Coordinated Entry (CE) system when compared to the demographics of the general population. For example, Black or African American households are prioritized for 11-18% of Orange County's CE system resources in 2021, and only account for 2% of the overall population in the area. These rates are marginally higher than the rate of Black households in the 2019 PIT count (11%). American Indian/Alaska Native households are prioritized for 3-5% of CE resources and only represent 0.46% of the overall population of Orange County. Finally, white households are prioritized for 66-75% of CE interventions and account for 62% of the overall population in the region.

In contrast, Hispanic/Latino households were prioritized for 23-30% of Coordinated Entry resources in 2021, yet this group represents 34% of the overall population of Orange County.

This demographic group is underrepresented in Orange County's Coordinated Entry system. The 2019 PIT Count data also shows a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino households (36%) may be experiencing homelessness in Orange County than we see represented in the CE system. Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and households that identify as Other or Multiracial are also underrepresented in the CE system when compared to the demographics of the general population (these groups also have small overall raw numbers). The Coordinated Entry system data in Table 6 has low rates across the Client doesn't know/Client refused/Data not collected categories (0-5% across all interventions). This potentially speaks to a high level of data quality in terms of completeness of questions being answered on assessment/intake forms.

Among all households touching Orange County's Coordinated Entry system in 2021, 31% were prioritized for Other Permanent Housing; 29% received no housing intervention; 24% were prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH); and 16% were prioritized for Rapid Rehousing. Out of all Black or African American households served in CE in 2021 (115 households) 21% were prioritized for PSH (24 households). Asian households and white households were prioritized for PSH at the highest rates (36% and 27% respectively), however it is important to note that the Asian demographic group represents a small population (only 22 Asian households were prioritized in CE in 2021). Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders were not represented among those being prioritized for PSH (0%), and they most often received no housing intervention (47% of the time). This is also a small population group (17 households). American Indian/Alaska Native households were prioritized for PSH at a rate of 17% (second lowest rate at which a population group received PSH). They received no housing intervention 39% of the time. Again, this is a relatively small population group (36 households). Hispanic/Latinx households were more likely to be prioritized for RRH (19%) than Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino households (15%). Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino households were more likely to be prioritized for Other Permanent Housing (33%) than Hispanic/Non-Latino households (28%). Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander households and Black/African American households were being prioritized for Rapid Rehousing at higher rates than other demographic groups (24% and 23% respectively).

Table 6.1

Overall, the number of families prioritized in Orange County's family Coordinated Entry system decreased notably across the three years in this dataset, serving 366 families in 2019, 332 families in 2020, and 296 families in 2021. When examining all families who received no housing intervention in Orange County's Coordinated Entry system from FY 2019-2021, the percentage of Black or African American families that received no housing intervention increased from 16% to 17%. When looking at the total group of families that were prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) during the same period of time, the percentage of Black or African American families decreased from 40% to 0%. In contrast, from 2019 to 2021, the proportion of white families that were prioritized for PSH (out of everyone who was connected to this housing resource) increased from 60% to 91%. In other words, in FY 2021 white families received 91% of all PSH resources that were distributed that year, and Black or African American families

received 0% of PSH resources. Widening this lens to include other groups, only white families and Other or Multiracial families received PSH in 2021.

Overall, the majority of resources that were prioritized through Orange County's Coordinated Entry system was Rapid Rehousing (RRH) (between 51-56% of all resources across FY 2019, 2020, and 2021). In 2021, the majority of families being prioritized for RRH were Black or African American (16%) or white (74% of all RRH). When exploring the rates of RRH within racial and ethnic groups, as opposed to across groups, some groups have a consistent rate of RRH across the three years, and for others the rate varies. Among all white families that touched Coordinated Entry, the percentage of white folks receiving RRH was the same in FY 2019 (52%) and increased in FY 2020 to 57%. In comparison, when looking at all Asian families that were engaged with CE, 80% of Asian families in 2019 received RRH, 43% of Asian families received RRH in 2020, and 57% received RRH in 2021 (caveat: the raw numbers of Asian families in Coordinated Entry is very small). In 2021, Black or African American families and white families were each prioritized for RRH at identical rates of 52%.

Table 6 and Table 6.1 Opportunities

There are opportunities to ask further questions and perform more inquiries into Orange County's Coordinated Entry (CE) system. For example, how long are households most impacted by homelessness spending in CE? Where and when are different groups referred to and enrolled in programs, and how long does this take? How long does it take for Black and Native/Indigenous households who are served by CE to move into permanent housing? Quantitative data should be supported and interrogated further by collecting qualitative datasets that are aimed at better understanding and improving the experiences of Black or African American and American Indian/Alaska Native households that move through CE, as these are the groups that are most disproportionately impacted by homelessness in Orange County.

There are also opportunities available to redesign the assessment and prioritization process to be more equitable, and to co-design all new processes with individuals with lived experience of homelessness. Orange County may consider building the capacity and infrastructure to form a group that can act as a vehicle for future and ongoing racial equity work, and having membership of that group represent a wide variety of stakeholders (including, in particular, individuals with racial/ethnic identities aligned with populations most impacted by homelessness and disparities in the homeless response system). Part of this work might begin by examining Orange County's assessment tool and performing a question-by-question analysis of assessment answers disaggregated by race and ethnicity, taking care to consider pre-COVID and "post"-COVID time periods. In addition, regularly collecting qualitative data about the experiences of Black, Brown, Indigenous and people of color will provide a direct and rich understanding of how the homeless response system in Orange County currently operates, and in what ways it should be changed.