Data Highlights from the Chicago Homelessness Services System, October to December 2020

Contents

Introduction

All Chicago assembled the data sets contained in this report in support of a request for this information. The participant level data was pulled from the Chicago Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database in January 2021 and aggregated into the analyses contained herein. This is comprised of information about homelessness and the homelessness services system in Chicago. This information relates to time period, October 01, 2020 through December 31, 2020 labeled Q4.

Terminology

This document uses the All Chicago Data Dictionary to define several terms. You may find the All Chicago Data Dictionary [here](). These are terms that are used for multiple client sources:

- **Person/Client** – A person is any individual in the system that meets the calculation criteria; This includes minors and youth.
- **Household** – A single person or group of people connected by a unique group ID; Any calculation processed for households will be pulling data associated with the client that is identified as the Head of Household
- **Currently Enrolled** – A client is considered currently enrolled in a project if the following criteria is met:
    - Entry date is on or before calculation date, AND
    - Exit date is after calculation date
- **System Identification** – For all enrollments associated with a client's unique ID, the earliest enrollment date a client has recorded is considered the date of *system identification*
- **Experiencing Literal Homelessness** – Individuals experiencing literal homelessness must meet the first of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) categories of homelessness: people who are living in a place not meant for human habitation, in emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or who are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided. Someone is considered to be experiencing literal homelessness if they meet one of the following criteria:
    - They are currently enrolled in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or a safe haven project;
    - They are enrolled in a project type that is not Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), other Permanent Housing (PH) or a joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing (TH-RRH) project and their current or prior living situation indicates they are experiencing literal homelessness; or
    - They exited a project to a literal homeless destination.

Homelessness Data Selections: including analysis methodology

On Active List

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/20), counted as of a single day.

Client Selection: Includes all clients that are considered "Active" in the system as of the end of the quarter (December 31, 2020). Being "active" in HMIS means an individual has accessed services from an HMIS participating agency within specified time periods based on the type of project.

Clients considered in this calculation must have an enrollment that has had recent activity, meaning that they have either had an entry, interim review, update to their current living situation or service transaction conducted within a set amount of days based on the type of project they are enrolled in.

The criteria based on each project type may be found here:

- For Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven/Transitional Housing, projects are expected to do an annual assessment, regardless of when they did the most recent update, every 12 months. When individuals are continuously enrolled for 13 months, with no sign of activity (meaning, no service transactions or updates in that project), the HMIS team will interpret this to mean that the individual is no longer enrolled in the project. While the expectation is that the update should occur at 12 months, the HMIS team incorporates a one-month grace period in case the annual assessment is delayed.
- For Street Outreach and Drop-in programs, projects are expected to do updates every 30 days. Therefore, when individuals are continuously enrolled for 45 days, with no sign of activity (meaning no service transactions or updates in that project), the HMIS team will interpret this to mean that the individual is no longer engaged in this project. While the expectation is that the update should occur every 30 days, the HMIS team incorporates a 15-day grace period in case the update is delayed.

Additional information may be found in our data dictionary.

Table 1. Active List

| | Q4 | |
	Households	**Persons**
On Active List	4,383	5,398

Number Sheltered

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/2020), counted as of a single day.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that are considered experiencing literal homelessness that have a current enrollment into an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or safe haven project.

Table 2. Number Sheltered

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Sheltered	1,928	2,593

Number Unsheltered

Provides the total count of clients/households that are without shelter.

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/2020), counted as of a single day.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that are considered experiencing literal homelessness that have a current enrollment into street outreach, day shelter and service only (including drop-in center) projects.

Table 3. Number Unsheltered

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Unsheltered	573	735

Average number of days from system identification to end of quarter – for those experiencing homelessness at end of quarter

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/2020), counted as of a single day.

Client/Household Selection: Includes all clients that were found to be experiencing literal homelessness at the end of quarter.

Notes: System Identification in this instance means the very first instance that a client was enrolled in a project.

The total average days will be much larger for heads of households since they are typically the first points of contact with the system. Homeless Prevention Call Center calls and Coordinated Entry assessments are completed using only the head of household, meaning that heads of households will typically be in the system much earlier than the rest of their household members.

Table 4. Average number of days from system identification to current date

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
Average # days from system identification to current date - those experiencing literal homelessness at end of quarter	1,490	1,381

Median number of days from system identification to end of quarter – for those experiencing homelessness at end of quarter

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/2020), counted as of a single day.

Client/Household Selection: Includes all clients that were found to be experiencing literal homelessness at the end of quarter.

Notes: System Identification in this instance means the very first instance that a client was enrolled in a project.

The median number of days will be much larger for heads of households since they are typically the first points of contact with the system. Homeless Prevention Call Center calls and Coordinated Entry assessments are completed using only the head of household, meaning that heads of households will typically be in the system much earlier than the rest of their household members.

Table 5. Median number of days from system identification to current date

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
Median # days from system identification to current date - those experiencing literal homelessness at end of quarter	716	625

Number currently experiencing homelessness identified more than 150 days earlier

Time Span: This includes any clients that were active on the last day of the quarter (12/31/2020), counted as of a single day.

Client/Household Selection: Includes all clients that were found to be experiencing literal homelessness at the end of quarter, this calculation counted anyone that was found to be homeless 150 days prior as well.

Table 6. Number currently experiencing homelessness identified for than 150 days earlier

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Currently experiencing literal homelessness identified more than 150 days earlier	2,291	3,654

Average number of days from identification to housing - those housed from the start of the year to end of this quarter

Time Span: This includes any clients that moved into housing from 1/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that were housed during the time frames above. This includes clients moving into Permanent Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Youth Intentional Permanent Supportive Housing, Youth Project Based Transitional Housing, and Youth Scattered Site Transitional Housing.

Notes: System Identification in this instance means the very first instance that a client was enrolled in a project.

The average number of days will be much larger for heads of households since they are typically the first points of contact with the system. Homeless Prevention Call Center calls and Coordinated Entry assessments are completed using only the head of household, meaning that heads of households will typically be in the system much earlier than the rest of their household members.

Table 7. Average number of days from identification to housing

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
Avg # days from identification to housing - those housed from the start of the year to end of this quarter	1,632	1,421

Median number of days from identification to housing - those housed from the start of the year to end of this quarter

Time Span: This includes any clients that moved into housing from 1/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that were housed during the time frames above. This includes clients moving into Permanent Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Youth Intentional Permanent Supportive Housing, Youth Project Based Transitional Housing, and Youth Scattered Site Transitional Housing.

Notes: System Identification in this instance means the very first instance that a client was enrolled in a project.

The median number of days will be much larger for heads of households since they are typically the first points of contact with the system. Homeless Prevention Call Center calls and Coordinated Entry assessments are completed using only the head of household, meaning that heads of households will typically be in the system much earlier than the rest of their household members.

Table 8. Median number of days from identification to housing

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
Median # days from identification to housing - those housed from the start of the year to end of this quarter	939	680

Number placed in permanent housing

Time Span: This includes any clients that moved into housing throughout Q4, 10/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that were housed during the time frames above. This includes clients moving into Permanent Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Youth Intentional Permanent Supportive Housing, Youth Project Based Transitional Housing, and Youth Scattered Site Transitional Housing.

Table 9. Number placed in permanent housing

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Placed in permanent housing	302	335

Number exited to permanent destination from non-Homeless Prevention Projects (e.g. Shelter, Outreach, etc.)

Time Span: This includes any clients that had an exit documented throughout Q4, 10/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that had an exit date from any kind of project (excluding the call center and state homeless prevention projects) throughout the quarter with a recorded exit destination that match any of the following:

- "Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with family, permanent tenure"
- "Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure"
- "Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA PH"
- "Rental by client, with GPD TIP housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy"
- "Permanent housing (other than RRH) for formerly homeless persons"
- "Rental by client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) (tenant or project based)"
- "Rental by client in a public housing unit"
- "Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"

Table 10. Number exited to permanent destination from non-Homeless Prevention Projects

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Exited to permanent destination from non-Homeless Prevention Projects (e.g. Shelter, outreach, etc.)	474	660

Number exited to permanent destination from Call Center and State Homeless Prevention Projects

Time Span: This includes any clients that had an exit documented throughout Q4, 10/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that had an exit date from the call center and state homeless prevention projects throughout the quarter with a recorded exit destination that match any of the following:

- "Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with family, permanent tenure"
- "Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure"
- "Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA PH"
- "Rental by client, with GPD TIP housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy"
- "Permanent housing (other than RRH) for formerly homeless persons"
- "Rental by client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) (tenant or project based)"
- "Rental by client in a public housing unit"
- "Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"

Table 11. Number exited to permanent destination from Call Center and State Homeless Prevention Projects

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
# Exited to permanent destination from Call Center and State Homeless Prevention Projects	4,268	4,288

Number of housing or shelter placements from street outreach

Time Span: This includes any clients that had an exit documented throughout Q4, 10/1/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Client/Household Selection: Includes any clients that exited from a Street Outreach project to one of the following exit destinations:

- "Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher"
- "Safe Haven"
- "Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher, or RHY-funded Host Home shelter"
- "Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with family, permanent tenure"
- "Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house"
- "Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure"
- "Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA PH"
- "Rental by client, with GPD TIP housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy"
- "Permanent housing (other than RRH) for formerly homeless persons"
- "Rental by client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) (tenant or project based)"
- "Rental by client in a public housing unit"
- "Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy"
- "Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy"

Table 12. Number of housing or shelter placements from street outreach

	Q4	
	Households	**Persons**
Number of housing or shelter placements from street outreach	89	102