



Disparity Report by Race/Ethnicity

Across the United States, Black/African American households are more likely to experience homelessness as White households. Racial discrimination and disparities in housing, criminal justice, health care and more often contribute to higher rates of homelessness among Black/African American individuals and families. This is not only true at a national level, but also in every jurisdiction that has examined racial disparities among its local homeless population. The most striking disparity can be found among African Americans, who represent 13 percent of the general population but account for 39 percent of people experiencing homelessness and more than 50 percent of homeless families with children (NAEH, 2022). This imbalance has not improved over time.

From slavery to segregation, African Americans have been systemically denied rights and socioeconomic opportunities. Other minority groups, including Indigenous and Latinx people, share similar histories. The disproportionality in homelessness is a by-product of systemic inequity: the lingering effects of racism continue to perpetuate disparities in critical areas that impact rates of homelessness (NAEH, 2022).

Poverty, and particularly deep poverty, is a strong predictor of homelessness. Black and Latinx groups are overrepresented in poverty relative to their representation in the overall population, and are most likely to live in deep poverty, with rates of 10.8% and 7.6% percent, respectively (NAEH, 2022).

Other factors that contribute to homelessness rates are redlining practices, segregation, and rental housing discrimination which has disproportionately concentrated people of color in neighborhoods where they have limited access to services, healthcare, nutrition and economic opportunities. Criminal history can also keep people from being housed and employed. The incarceration rate for African Americans has tripled between 1968 and 2016 and is more than six times the rate of White incarceration (NAEH, 2022).

This report serves as an essential step in identifying, examining and addressing racial disparities and equity in Calhoun County's homeless population. With this report, the Continuum of Care (CoC) presents its commitment to understanding the negative impact of homelessness on people and communities of color. This report highlights known racial disparities in homelessness, identifies gaps in knowledge, and proposes actions steps for moving towards a more equitable future.

Demographics by Race/Ethnicity

The CoC compared Calhoun County Census and HMIS data and calculated that Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) represent 24% of people in the county in 2021 and represent 49% of people served within the CoC homeless service delivery system in 2021 according to the 2021 R8 Overall Homeless Count Report. This finding demonstrates the disproportionate representation of our BIPOC population within our homeless service delivery system.

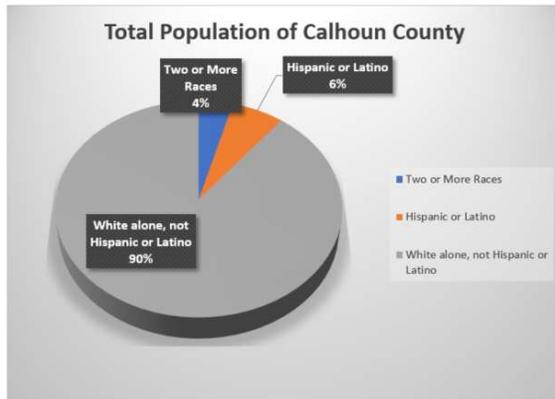
Additional significant findings along with the data visually represented are as follows:



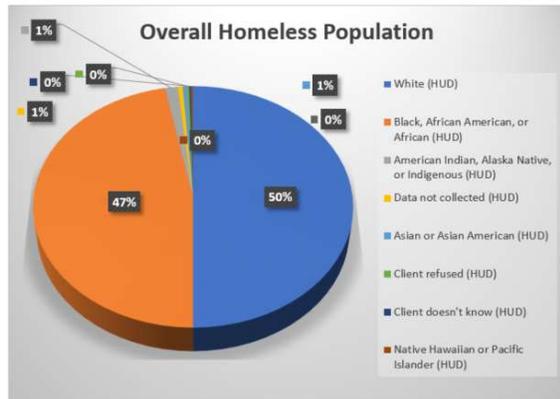
Overall Homeless Count

- Black and African Americans make up 11% of the overall population and account 47% of persons experiencing Category 1 homelessness, served through our CoC partner organizations during 2021. (2021 Census (Estimated) and R8 Overall Homelessness Report)

Total Population: 133,819

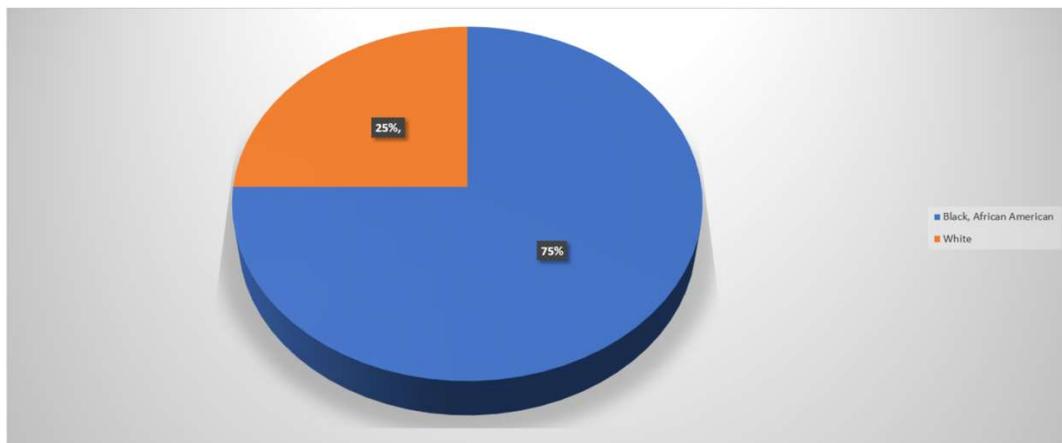


Homeless Population: 1,139



- 75% of Category 1 homeless unaccompanied youth, ages 18-24, were Black or African American in 2021.

Overall Demographics 2021: Unaccompanied Youth -2021



R8 Chronic Homeless Count

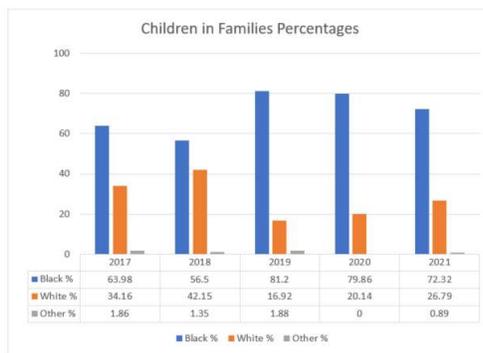


- 72% of Category 1 homeless children in families, aged 0-17, were Black or African American and the rates of homelessness in this category has exceeded the percentage of Whites from 2017-2021.

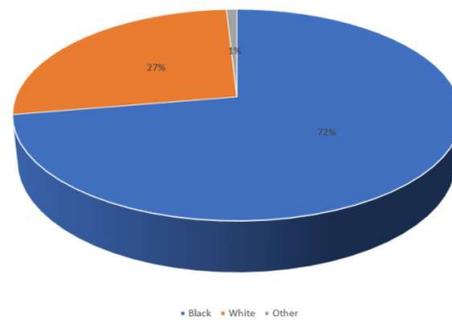
Overall Homeless: Children in Families By Race

R8 Overall Homeless Count

Percentage of Homeless Children in Families By Race from 2017-2021



Percentage of Homeless Children in Families By Race in 2021

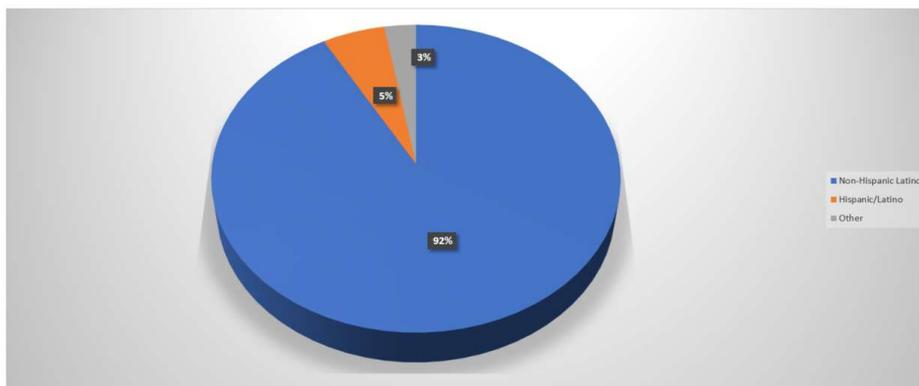


The percentage of Black/African American Homeless Children in Families is disproportionately high to the percentage of the total population at 72%. It has been high and is trending upward between 2017-2021.

- Hispanics comprise approximately 5% of the overall population in Calhoun County and represent about 5% of persons experiencing Category 1 Homelessness, served through our CoC partner organizations in 2021, according to the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness.

Enrollment By Ethnicity – Jan 2021-May 2022

Enrollment Report for clients enrolled between Jan 1, 2021 – May 9, 2022



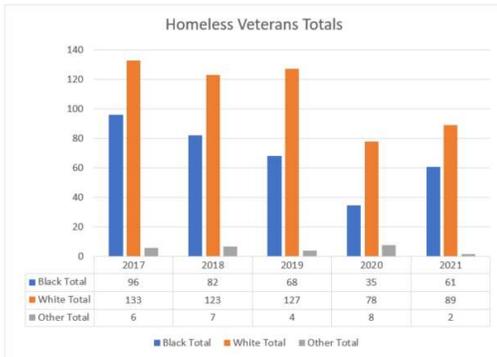


- 40% of Category 1 homeless Veterans are Black or African American.

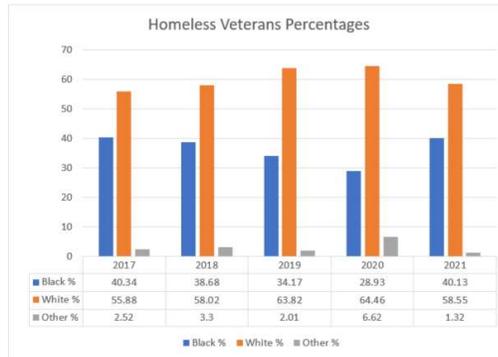
Overall Homeless Trend: Veterans By Race

R8 Overall Homeless Count 2017-2021

Total Number of Homeless Veterans By Race



Percentage of Homeless Veterans By Race



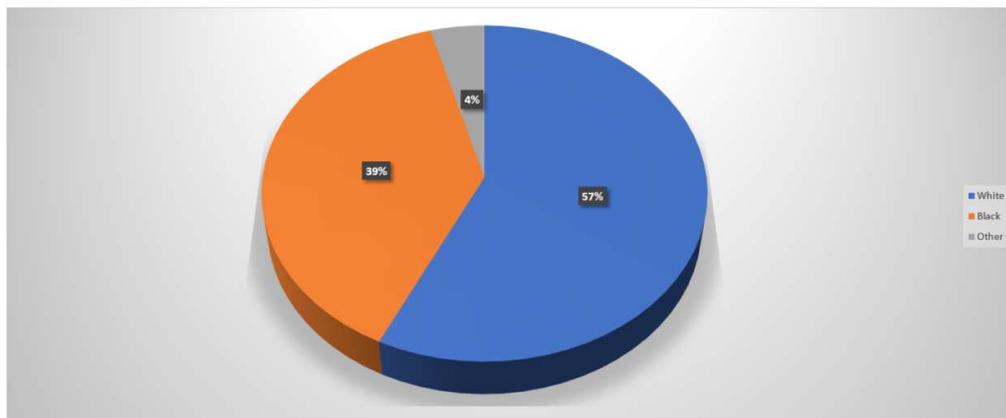
The percentage of Black/African American Homeless Veterans decreased between 2017 and 2020. However, there was an increase of 74% in 2021 and Black Homeless Veterans represented 40% of the Overall Homeless in 2021 despite Blacks/African Americans making up only 11% of the population in Calhoun County.

Chronic Homeless Count

- 39% of the chronic homeless, served through our CoC partner organizations in 2021, were Black or African American.

Chronic Homeless, By Race 2021:

Total Population 70



R8 Chronic Homeless Count

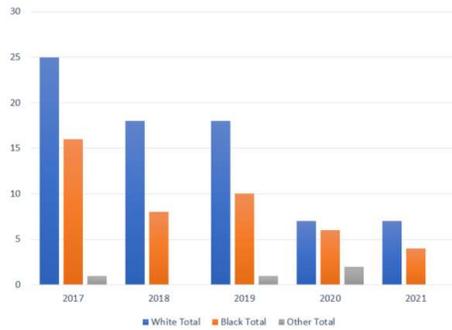


- 36% of chronic homeless Veterans in 2021 are Black or African American.

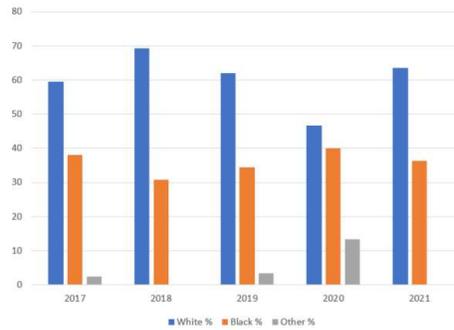
Chronic Homeless Trend: Homeless Veterans By Race

R8 Chronic Homeless Count

Total Number of Chronic Homeless Veterans By Race



Percent of Chronic Homeless Veterans By Race



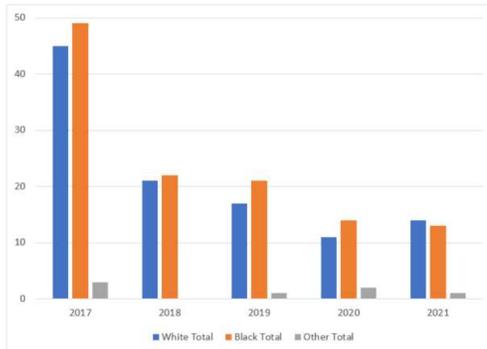
The percentage of Black/African American Chronic Homeless Veterans has remained over 30% between 2017-2021, despite decreasing slightly from 2020 to 2021.

- 46% of chronically homeless seniors are Black or African American.

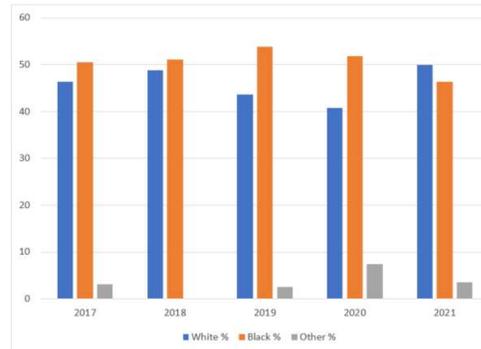
Chronic Homeless Trend: Seniors By Race

R8 Chronic Homeless Count

Total Chronic Homeless Seniors By Race between 2017-2021



Percentage of Chronic Homeless Seniors By Race between 2017-2021



The total number of Chronic Homeless Seniors has been decreasing between 2017-2021. However, the percentage of Black/African American Chronic Homeless Seniors has remained high at 50% or higher, decreasing slightly in 2021 to 46%.

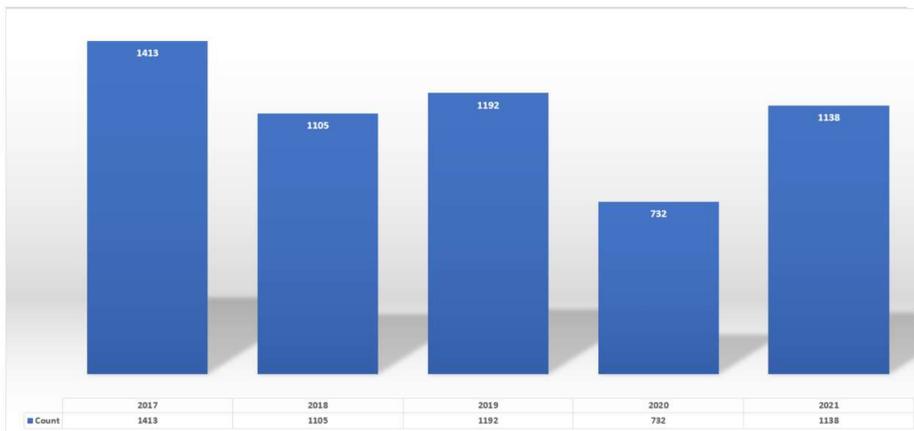


Post Pandemic Trends

The COVID -19 pandemic is continuing to have an impact on BIPOC community. At the start of the pandemic in 2020, we saw a sharp drop in overall homelessness by 39% due to efforts to temporarily house people experiencing homelessness and prevent evictions.

Overall Homeless Trend -2017-2021

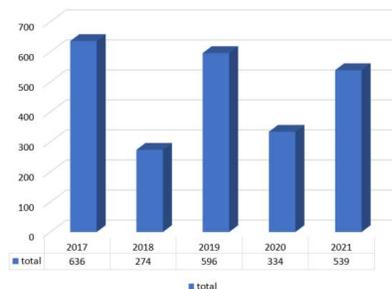
R8 Overall Homeless Count



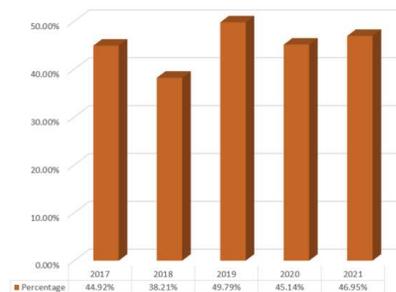
- Homelessness among African Americans dropped by 44%. However, in 2021 the numbers started to go up particularly for Black and African Americans, increasing by 61% from 2020.

Homeless Trend: Black, African American 2017 - 2021

Black, African American Homeless Totals



Black, African American Homeless Percentage of Total Homeless 2017-2021



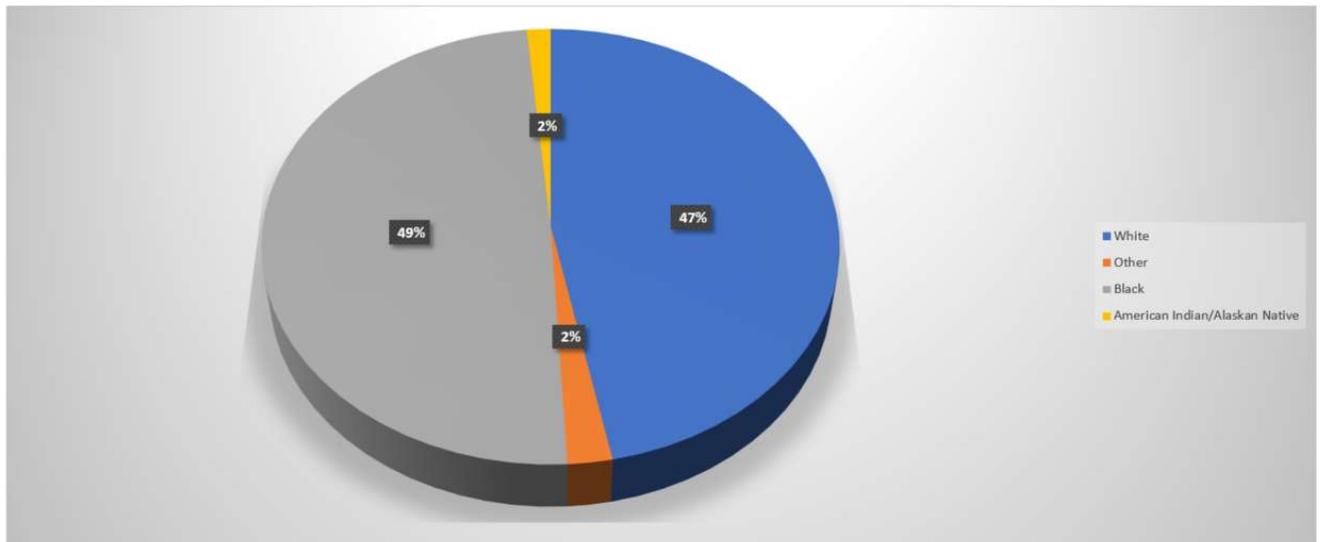
There was an increase of 61% in Black/African American Overall Homeless in 2021, despite the decrease in 2020 due to COVID-19.



- According to Enrollment Reports, between January 2021 and May 2022 Blacks and African Americans were the largest percentage of homeless enrolled in client organizations at 49%. In the same report, those identifying as Hispanic/Latino represented 5% of the population.

Enrollment By Race – Jan 2021-May 2022

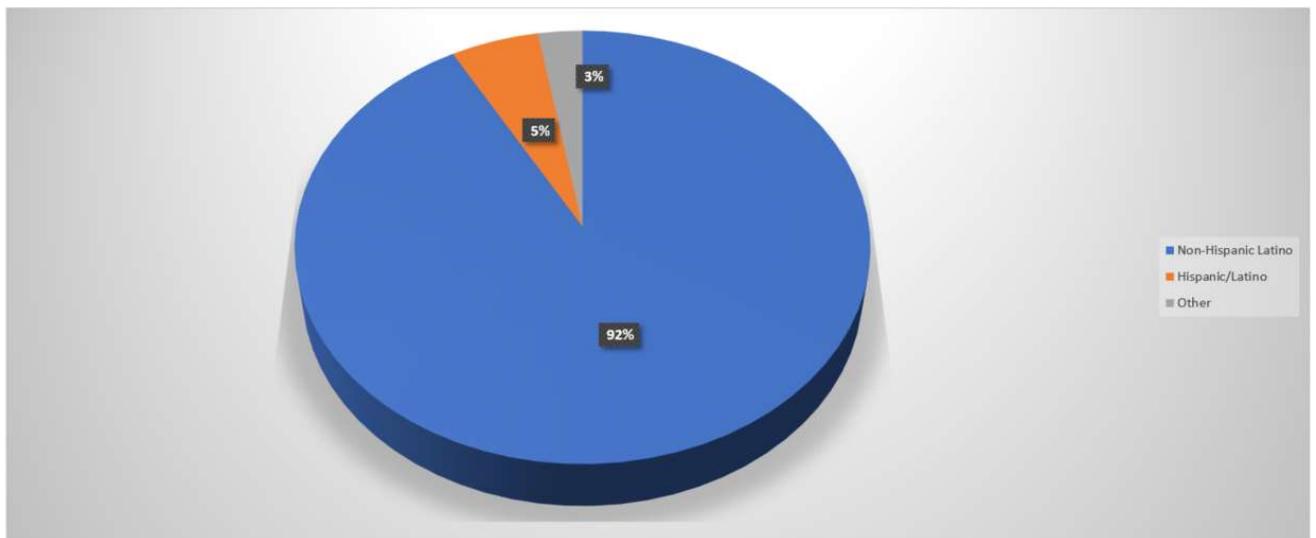
Enrollment Report for clients enrolled between Jan 1, 2021 – May 9, 2022



Other includes: Asian American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Other Multi-Racial, Not Recorded, Data Not collected and Client doesn't know

Enrollment By Ethnicity – Jan 2021-May 2022

Enrollment Report for clients enrolled between Jan 1, 2021 – May 9, 2022





Action Steps

The CoC will continue to focus on assessing racial disparities over the next 12 months, underpinned by data through ongoing evaluation and communications with the Michigan Coalition Against Homeless and the local HMIS System Administrator. We will continue to work with the Racial Equity Task Force to explore and implement strategies that will strengthen service delivery and better reach all populations within the community.

Current Actions:

- Initiate a CoC Equity Results Team (CERT) of 4 members and increase it to 6 members by the end of 2022. The CERT is made up of representatives from our BIPOC population who have experience homelessness or are active in the homeless delivery system for Calhoun County. The CERT participate in statewide trainings and will develop an action plan for Calhoun County.
- Promote available homeless response system programs quarterly with local BIPOC community organizations and Truth Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT).
- Provide Training Refresher to HMIS users to strengthen data quality within the county.
- Continue twice-monthly Data Quality meetings to strengthen data team and relationship with MCAH.
- Present Racial Disparity Report to the Homeless Coalition and Housing Solutions Board.

Continuing Actions:

- Engage local stakeholders, leaders, culturally specific organizations, faith-based groups, social services agencies, landlords, housing providers, school systems, and people of color with lived experience of homelessness to discuss racial disparities.
- Endeavor to build a shared understanding of the systemic issues that affect people of color and create open and ongoing opportunities for continued conversations.
- Use demographic data from the most recent census to map the racial profile of our community and compare it to HMIS data to understand who experiencing homelessness at disproportionate rates in our community.
- Assess and regularly revisit data indicators that link to equitable outcomes, particularly outcomes related to rates of permanent housing placement and connections to services.
- Develop data-driven goals for including people of color with lived experience of homelessness into CoC planning efforts.
- Integrate person-centered data to build out an understanding of service utilization patterns and the connection between those patterns and housing placements and/or other outcomes, and use these data points to inform planning and resource allocation.
- Share successful strategies and insights with community and national partners, as well as other systems, and commit to supporting others in undertaking the work to rectify racial inequities. In addition, the following additional action steps are underway with support from the City of Battle Creek, the Population Health Alliance, and the Racial Equity Task Force:
- Address language barriers through increased access to interpretation and translation services through local BIPOC community organizations.



- Increase advocacy efforts for those experiencing homelessness and navigating the Coordinated Entry process.
- Investigate opportunities for funding to support undocumented immigrants.
- Meet regularly with the Racial Equity Task Force to discuss progress towards affirmative marketing plans, objectives and outcomes.

Back-up Documentation: Census Data

United States Census Bureau QuickFacts Calhoun County, MI

Race and Hispanic Origin	Q	Calhoun County, Michigan
Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)		133,819
Race and Hispanic Origin		
White alone, percent		81.4%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)		11.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)		0.8%
Asian alone, percent (a)		3.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)		3.0%
Two or More Races, percent		5.5%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)		77.1%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent		

Population	Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)
Population	133,819
Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)	133,819
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2021)	134,310
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2021, (V2021)	-0.4%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020	134,310
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	136,146

Backup
Documentation
Michigan
Coalition Against
Homelessness

Ethnicity Breakdowns

Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	896	93.43%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	40	4.17%
Client doesn't know	0	0.00%
Client refused	0	0.00%
Data not collected	23	2.40%



Total Homeless: 70 | **OVERALL CHRONIC HOMELESS**

Average Age Adults Overall: 48 | **Average Age Adult Female:** 42.3571 | **Average Age Adult Males:** 49.7

Gender	Total	Percentage
Client doesn't know	1	1.43%
Female	14	20.00%
Male	55	78.57%
Sum:	70	100.00%

All Clients Age	Total	Percentage
5. 18 to 24	4	5.63%
6. 25 to 34	6	8.45%
7. 35 to 44	18	25.35%
8. 45 to 54	15	21.13%
9. 55 to 64	20	28.17%
99. 65 and up	8	11.27%
Sum:	71	100.00%

Race	Total	Percentage
White (HUD)	40	57.14%
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	27	38.57%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (HUD)	1	1.43%
Asian or Asian American (HUD)	1	1.43%
Client refused (HUD)	1	1.43%
Sum:	70	100.00%

Client Veteran Status	Total	Percentage
No (HUD)	59	84.29%
Yes (HUD)	11	15.71%
Sum:	70	100.00%

Ethnicity	Total	Percentage
Percentage:		

Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Client doesn't know	99. 65 and up	1	1.41%
Female	5. 18 to 24	1	1.41%
Female	6. 25 to 34	1	1.41%
Female	7. 35 to 44	7	9.86%
Female	8. 45 to 54	3	4.23%
Female	9. 55 to 64	2	2.82%
Male	5. 18 to 24	3	4.23%
Male	6. 25 to 34	5	7.04%
Male	7. 35 to 44	11	15.49%
Male	8. 45 to 54	12	16.90%
Male	9. 55 to 64	18	25.35%
Male	99. 65 and up	7	9.86%
Sum:		71	
Percentage:			100.00%

Housing Status	Total	Percentage
Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	69	100.00%
Sum:	69	
Percentage:		100.00%

DV Victim/Survivor	Total	Percentage
No (HUD)	54	76.06%
Yes (HUD)	16	22.54%
Client doesn't know (HUD)	1	1.41%
Sum:	71	
Percentage:		100.00%

DV Victim/Survivor - Last Occuranc	Total	Percentage
More than a year ago (HUD)	6	35.29%
Within the past three months (HUD)	5	29.41%
From six to twelve months ago (HUD)	4	23.53%
Three to six months ago (HUD)	1	5.88%
	1	5.88%
Sum:	17	



Total Homeless:	4	UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH (Under 18) (CATEGORY 1 & 2)	
Average Age Adults Overall:	15	Average Age Adult Female:	16.5
		Average Age Adult Males:	14

Gender	Total	Percentage
Female	2	50.00%
Male	2	50.00%
Sum:	4	100.00%

Age Range	Total	Percentage
3. 11 to 14	2	50.00%
4. 15 to 17	2	50.00%
Sum:	4	100.00%

Race	Total	Percentage
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	3	75.00%
White (HUD)	1	25.00%
Sum:	4	100.00%

Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Female	4. 15 to 17	2	50.00%
Male	3. 11 to 14	2	50.00%
Sum:		4	
Percentage:			100.00%

Housing Status	Total	Percentage
Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	3	75.00%
Category 2 - At imminent risk of losing housing (HUD)	1	25.00%
Sum:	4	
Percentage:		100.00%

DV Victim/Survivor	Total	Percentage
No (HUD)	3	75.00%
Yes (HUD)	1	25.00%

Total Homeless:	225	CHILDREN IN FAMILIES (CATEGORY 1 & 2)	
Average Age Adults Overall:	7	Average Age Adult Female:	7.13761
		Average Age Adult Males:	7.14

Gender	Total	Percentage
Female	109	48.44%
Male	116	51.56%
Sum:	225	100.00%

All Clients Age	Total	Percentage
1. Newborn to 4	87	38.67%
2. 5 to 10	68	30.22%
3. 11 to 14	47	20.89%
4. 15 to 17	23	10.22%
Sum:	225	100.00%

Race	Total	Percentage
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	162	72.32%
White (HUD)	60	26.79%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (HUD)	2	0.89%
Sum:	224	

Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Female	1. Newborn to 4	37	16.44%
Female	2. 5 to 10	40	17.78%
Female	3. 11 to 14	23	10.22%
Female	4. 15 to 17	9	4.00%
Male	1. Newborn to 4	50	22.22%
Male	2. 5 to 10	28	12.44%
Male	3. 11 to 14	24	10.67%
Male	4. 15 to 17	14	6.22%
Sum:		225	
Percentage:			100.00%

Housing Status	Total	Percentage
Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	153	67.11%
Category 2 - At imminent risk of losing housing (HUD)	75	32.89%
Sum:	228	
Percentage:		100.00%



Overall Homeless Veterans -2021

Total Homeless: 150			Homeless Veterans (Category 1 and 2)			
Average Age Adults Overall: 53			Average Age Adult Female: 53.25			
Average Age Adult Males: 53.5						
Gender	Total	Percentage	Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Female	4	2.67%	Female	7.35 to 44	1	0.65%
Female, Transgender	1	0.67%	Female	9.55 to 64	3	1.93%
Male	145	96.67%	Female, Transgender	7.35 to 44	1	0.65%
Sum: 150			Sum: 153			100.00%
All Clients Age			Housing Status			Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)
5.18 to 24	2	1.31%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Category 2 - At imminent risk of losing housing (HUD)
6.25 to 34	9	5.88%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	101	66.01%	No (HUD)
7.35 to 44	36	23.53%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	21	13.82%	Yes (HUD)
8.45 to 54	30	19.61%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Sum:	152	Percentage:
9.55 to 64	66	43.40%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
99.65 and up	30	19.61%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Sum:	152	Percentage:
Sum: 153			100.00%			100.00%
Race			DV Victim/Survivor			No (HUD)
White (HUD)	89	58.52%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Yes (HUD)
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	61	40.13%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	13	8.50%	Yes (HUD)
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (HUD)	1	0.66%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	14	9.15%	Client doesn't know (HUD)
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (HUD)	1	0.66%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	1	0.65%	
Sum: 152			100.00%			100.00%

Chronic Homeless Veterans - 2021

Total Homeless: 11			CHRONIC HOMELESS VETERANS			Total Single Veterans: 11				
Average Age Adults Overall: 51			Average Age Adult Female: 51			Average Age Adult Males: 53.8				
Total Vets in Families: 0										
Gender	Total	Percentage	Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage	Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Male	11	100.00%	Male	5.18 to 24	1	9.09%	Male	5.18 to 24	1	9.09%
Sum: 11			100.00%			100.00%			100.00%	
All Clients Age			Housing Status			Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)				
5.18 to 24	1	9.09%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage		
6.25 to 34	1	9.09%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	11	100.00%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	11	100.00%		
8.45 to 54	2	18.18%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Sum:	11	Percentage:	100.00%			
9.55 to 64	4	36.36%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Sum:	11	100.00%				
99.65 and up	3	27.27%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Sum:	11	100.00%				
Sum: 11			100.00%			100.00%				
Race			DV Victim/Survivor			No (HUD)				
White (HUD)	7	63.64%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage		
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	4	36.36%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	11	100.00%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	8	72.73%		
Sum: 11			100.00%			100.00%				
						Yes (HUD)				
						3			27.27%	

Total Homeless: 28			CHRONIC HOMELESS SENIORS			Total Single Seniors: 28				
Average Age Adults Overall: 62			Average Age Adult Female: 60.5			Average Age Adult Males: 61.6				
Total Seniors in Families: 1										
Gender	Total	Percentage	Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage	Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Client doesn't know	1	3.57%	Client doesn't know	99.65 and up	1	3.57%	Client doesn't know	99.65 and up	1	3.57%
Female	2	7.14%	Female	9.55 to 64	2	7.14%	Female	9.55 to 64	2	7.14%
Male	25	89.29%	Male	9.55 to 64	18	64.29%	Male	9.55 to 64	18	64.29%
Sum: 28			100.00%			Sum: 28			100.00%	
All Clients Age			Housing Status			Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)				
9.55 to 64	20	71.43%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage		
99.65 and up	8	28.57%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	27	100.00%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	27	100.00%		
Sum: 28			100.00%			Sum: 27			100.00%	
Race			DV Victim/Survivor			No (HUD)				
White (HUD)	14	50.00%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	Total	Percentage		
Black, African American, or African (HUD)	13	46.43%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	24	82.76%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	4	13.79%		
Asian or Asian American (HUD)	1	3.57%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	4	13.79%	Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	1	3.45%		
Sum: 28			100.00%			Sum: 28			100.00%	
						Client doesn't know (HUD)				
						1			3.45%	



References

- *Battle Creek ## Enrollment Report – Jan 2021-May 2022*
- <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/>. (2022). *Four categories in the homeless definition*.
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/>. Retrieved June 12, 2022, from <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/>
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- *R8 Battle Creek Overall Homeless Coalition Report 2017-2021*
- *R8 Battle Creek Chronic Homelessness Report 2017-2021*
- *U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts: United States*. U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). Retrieved June 12, 2022, from <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/US>