HOMELESS SERVICE UTILIZATION REPORT

HAWAI'I 2014

CENTER ON THE FAMILY

INTRODUCTION: A PARADIGM SHIFT

This was a milestone year for the state of Hawai'i's homeless services network. Collaborative efforts across governmental agencies and service providers have secured new resources for enhancing the state's capacity to end homelessness. There was a synergy around making system-level changes to improve the coordination of care and to adopt a "housing-first" philosophy in programming. The housing-first approach emphasizes providing support for stable housing as an important first (rather than last) step in a transition to independently sustained permanent housing. Several evidence-based strategies—such as the Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT), the Rapid Rehousing Program, and the Pathways Housing First Model—are being piloted on a small scale while planning for system-wide implementation is underway.

Hale 'O Malama, the "House of Care" initiative, is the catalyst of these changes. In October 2013, Hawai'i embarked on this venture as a part of the 25 Cities Initiative sponsored by the U.S. Departments of Veteran Affairs (VA) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. The federal initiative provides technical assistance to cities, aiming to end homelessness for veterans and chronically homeless individuals through a housing-first approach. Key local collaborators include the Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness, the State's Homeless Programs Office, the City's Office of Housing, and O'ahu's Partners In Care—the organizations defined by HUD as Continuum of Care organizations for homelessness.

In recognition of the fact that efforts to implement system-level changes should employ a data-driven and evidence-based approach, Hale 'O Malama has identified the critical need to build a coordinated assessment and housing placement system for Hawai'i where all potential homeless service users will be assessed by a common tool and matched with appropriate services based on the results. In the past 12 months, over 1,300 people have been assessed by VI-SPDAT. The housing placement system currently focuses only on the permanent supportive housing option and has successfully found homes for 29 chronically homelessness individuals, including veterans.

In the past few months, additional funding has become available through State Legislature appropriation, and a federal grant was awarded to the State Department of Health to help accelerate the adoption of a housing-first approach to end chronic homelessness in Hawai'i. The Pathways Housing First model, an evidence-based housing-first program, is now being piloted to provide supportive services to chronically homeless individuals with substance abuse issues and/or mental health disorders. Additional resources have recently been committed by the City Council for the Housing First initiative. Private foundations and business communities have contributed substantial resources for capacity-building and direct services to help in ending homeless for everyone in Hawai'i.

The collaborative and policy changes that are currently underway represent a major paradigm shift, one that has the potential to radically restructure the homeless service system in the state of Hawai'i. However, a systemic change of this magnitude will take time and should be guided by a detailed understanding of the problem. Homelessness is an extremely complicated issue, and high-quality data are necessary and useful to evaluating the impact of these systemic changes. While these impacts have not yet taken full effect, the data presented in this report will represent a baseline to which future change can be compared. Through the next several years, regular monitoring of data related to the homeless system will help practitioners and policy-makers alike better understand the extent of the need for services and the effectiveness of new and ongoing programs, as well as the different needs of distinct populations of homeless individuals and families.

The 2014 *Homeless Services Utilization Report* is the ninth annual report produced by the Center on Family at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the Homeless Programs Office in the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services. This year, the report aims to provide data related to four types of programs that have been implemented in the state of Hawai'i and are intended to address homelessness. Results from the system- and program-level analysis will be presented. As in previous years, the report includes usage information about shelter programs and outreach programs. Shelter programs provide temporary shelter for homeless individuals and include both emergency shelters and transitional shelters. Typically, emergency shelters are designed for short-term immediate shelter needs and transitional shelters allow a more extended stay with the intention of transitioning residents into more stable permanent housing. Outreach programs are often the first point of contact for many homeless individuals. The primary goal of outreach programs is to identify homeless individuals and connect them with services.

This year's report also includes data related to two newer federally-funded programs. The first is the Rapid Rehousing Program, which uses a housing-first philosophy and is designed to provide financial and housing support services to homeless individuals and families who are living in either 1) situations not meant for human habitation or 2) emergency or transitional shelters. The goal of the Rapid Rehousing Program is to transition these individuals and families as quickly as possible into permanent housing situations. Finally, the report will provide data related to the Homelessness Prevention Program. Unlike the other three programs, which target homeless populations, the Homelessness Prevention Program is targeted towards individuals and families who may have homes but are at risk of becoming homeless.

DATA NOTES

This report is based on data collected from the state's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a centralized electronic data system on homeless persons. All service providers who receive State and Federal funds to provide homeless and prevention assistance must enter client intake, service encounter, and exit information into the HMIS. The data system also includes a few other service providers who report data on a voluntary basis. Domestic violence shelters and state-funded rapid rehousing services do not enter data into the HMIS and therefore are not included in this report.

The most current data from the 2014 fiscal year (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014) are presented for the Shelter, Outreach, Rapid Rehousing, and Prevention Programs. The characteristics of the client population and program outcomes are presented at the state and county or Continuum of Care levels. Recidivism rates are given for clients who received services and exited in FY 2013 but returned to the homeless system within 12 months or during the 2014 fiscal year. A system analysis utilizes HMIS data dating from FY 2007 to identify new clients and returnees to the system. Outcome data trends have been revised using historical data retrieved from the HMIS database in August 2014.

Client data are reported as an unduplicated count of individuals who received services. When there are multiple records of an individual, the last intake and exit records are reported, unless stated otherwise. When data are reported on specific types of programs, clients are counted in each type of program in which they were enrolled within the reporting period; therefore, the sum of these counts consists of a duplicated count of individuals who received services from multiple programs. The same holds true for client data tabulated by specific types of households, as clients with multiple intakes could have different household characteristics across intakes. Individuals are identified as having multiple records of services through the personal identification information entered into the HMIS. This information is provided by the clients on a voluntary basis, and not all clients provide complete information, making it difficult to accurately assess prior service utilization. Despite these limitations, the data contained in this report are the best and most current available on individuals and families in Hawai'i who have utilized the homeless service system.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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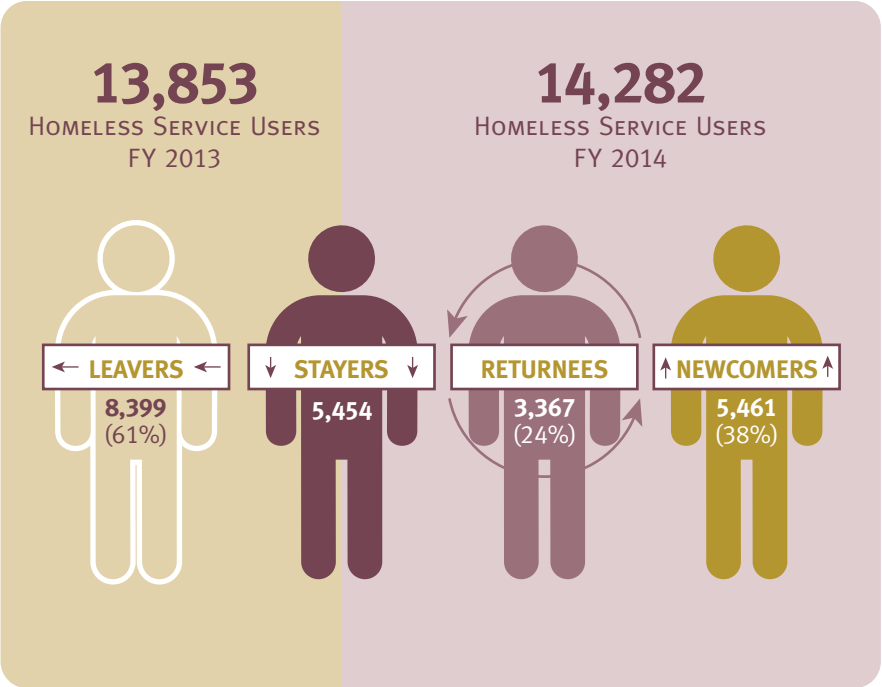
HOMELESS SERVICE SYSTEM OVERVIEW

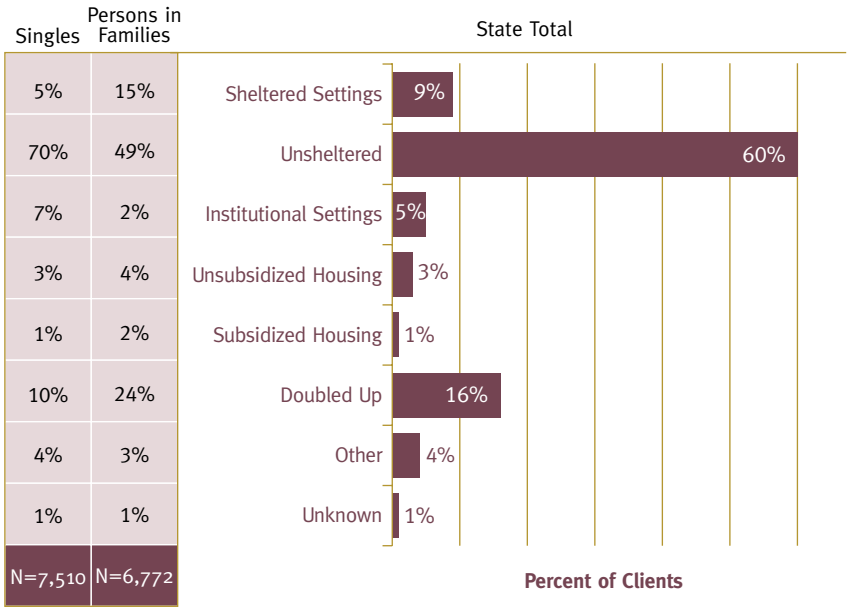
In order to better understand patterns of homelessness in the state, this year the *Homeless Services Utilization Report* has included data on the system-wide inflow, outflow, and return flow of clients. This section analyzes the increased or decreased numbers of individuals utilizing homeless services. The homeless services described below include the Emergency Shelter, Transitional Shelter, Outreach, and Rapid Rehousing Programs. Data are reported as an unduplicated count of individuals who experienced homelessness and received one or more of the above services at some point during the reporting period.

Figure 1. Homeless Service System: Inflow, Outflow, and Return Flow, FY 2013–2014



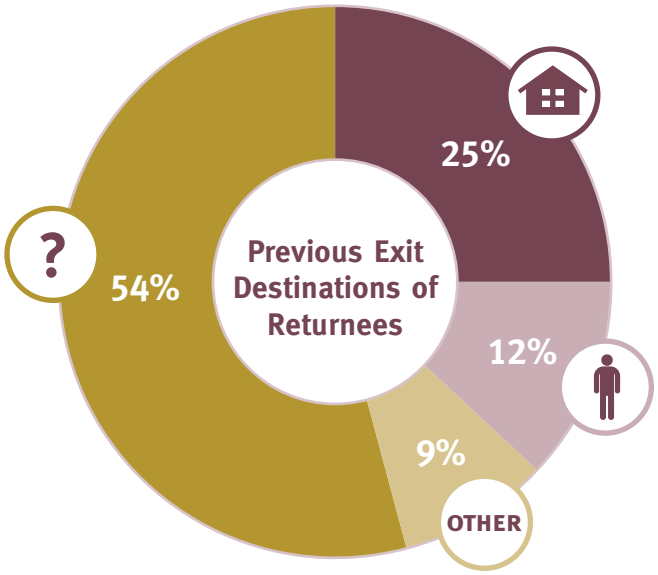
A total of 14,282 individuals were served by the homeless service system in Hawai'i during the 2014 fiscal year. This represents a 3% increase from the 2013 fiscal year. Of the total clients served last year, 8,399 (61%) left the system and 5,454 (39%) stayed. The continuing clients made up 38% of the client population in the 2014 fiscal year. Another 38% (5,461) were new clients who were served by the homeless service system for the first time. About a quarter of the 2014 clients (24% or 3,367) were returnees who had exited the system in previous years and accessed homeless services again during the 2014 fiscal year.

Figure 2. Living Situations Prior to Participation in Homeless Program, FY 2014



The majority of clients, 9,915 or 69%, were literally homeless prior to enrolling in their respective homeless programs. This included 9% (1,329) who came from shelters and 60% (8,586) who lived in places not meant for human habitation. The remaining 31% of clients were at imminent risk of homelessness or were considered homeless under other federal statutes. The most common prior living situation of this group was "doubled up" with family or friends, which represented 16% (2,349) of all clients, followed by other less common points of entry: institutional settings such as hospitals and prisons (5% or 679 clients), unsubsidized housing (3% or 474), subsidized housing (1% or 169), other living situations (4% or 505), and unknown (1% or 191).

Figure 3. A Snapshot of Returnees, FY 2014

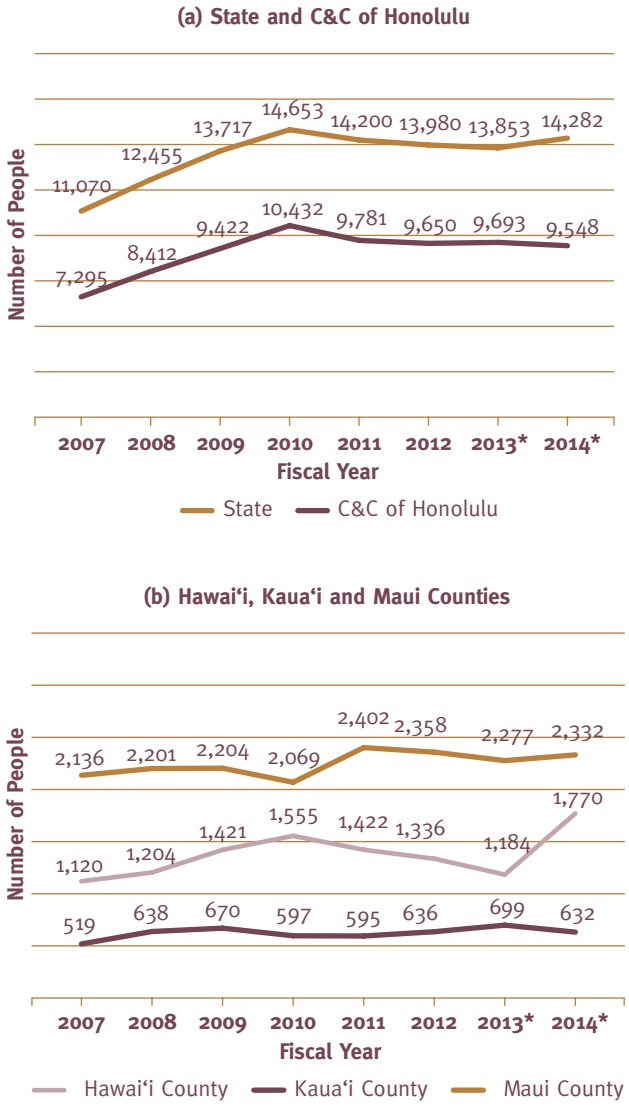


One fourth (25%) of all returnees in the 2014 fiscal year came back to the homeless service system after previously exiting into a permanent housing situation, such as subsidized or unsubsidized housing, moved in with family or friends as a permanent arrangement, or permanent supportive housing. A smaller percentage of returnees had previously exited to a homeless situation (12%), or to other destinations (9%). Over half of the returnees (54%) came back after originally exiting to unknown destinations.

DEFINITION

Homelessness: This report used the Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of homelessness. Under the HUD definition, an individual or family is considered homeless if they are either a) sleeping in a public or private place not ordinarily considered to be a place for humans to live, including campgrounds, abandoned buildings, or cars; b) sleeping in a publicly or privately operated shelter; or c) exiting an institution, such as a prison or hospital, where they stayed 90 days or less, before which they had been considered homeless. Please refer to the official HUD definition of homelessness for more information.

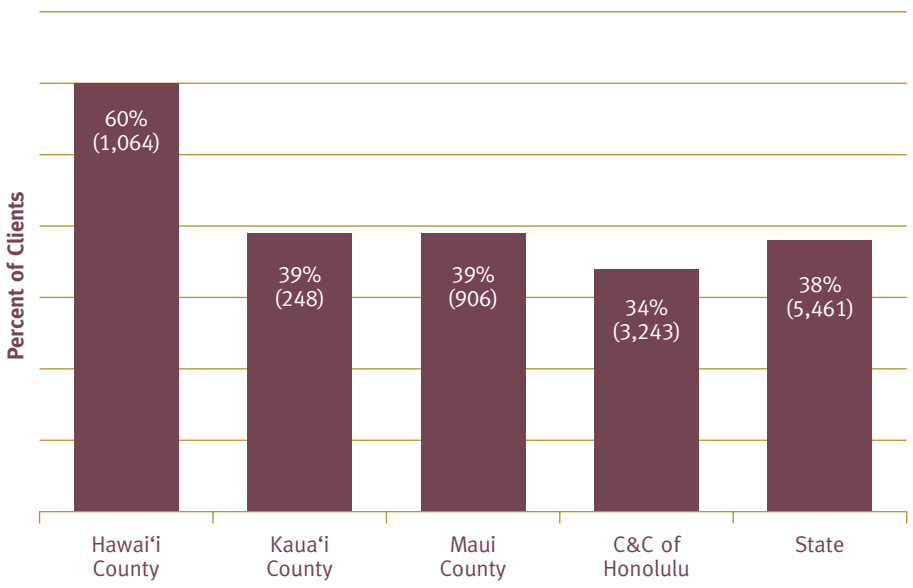
Figure 4. Homeless Service Clients, FY 2007–2014



*Note: *Data for FY 2013 have been updated to include the Rapid Rehousing Program in order to be comparable with the data for FY 2014. Data for earlier years (FY 2009–2012) do not include the Rapid Rehousing Program, as it was reported under a combined Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program funded by President Obama's Recovery Act.*

Statewide, the use of homeless services has seen a 3% increase in the 2014 fiscal year. Much of the increase in statewide use of services seems attributable to increases in Hawai'i County, which experienced a net increase of 49% more individuals utilizing homeless services compared to the 2013 fiscal year. Since the peak of service utilization in 2010, both the state as a whole and the City and County of Honolulu have experienced net decreases (3% and 8% respectively) in the number of people utilizing the homeless service system.

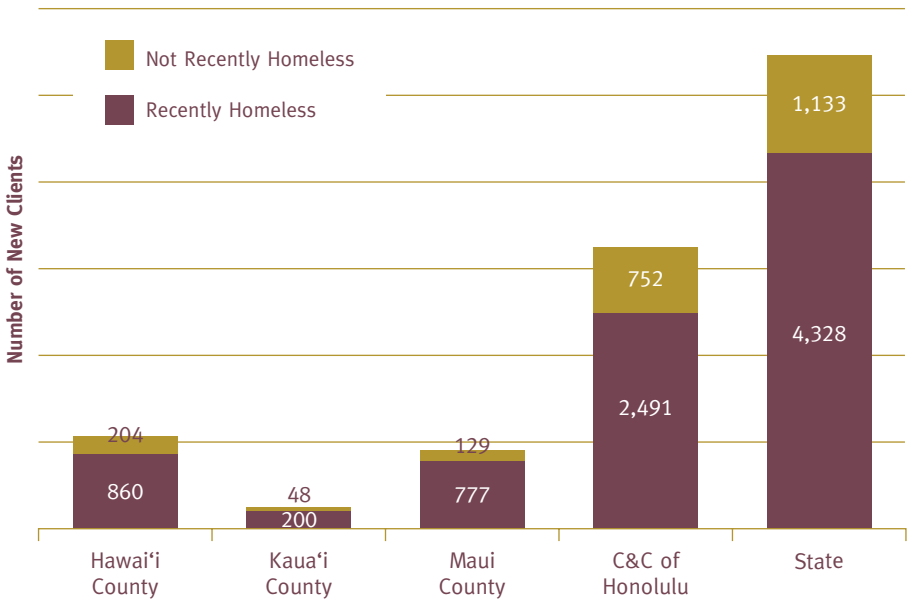
Figure 5. New Homeless Service Clients, FY 2014



Statewide and for most of the counties, new clients comprised a little under 40% of the total homeless client population in the 2014 fiscal year. In Hawai'i County, new clients represented the majority (60%) of the homeless clients served, a similar proportion as last year (FY 2013). However, this county also saw a 53% increase in the total number of new homeless clients since last year. In contrast, the new client population dropped by 5% statewide and 11–33% for each of the other counties as compared to the 2013 fiscal year.

Note: New clients are defined as individuals 1) who completed the intake process with the Outreach, Shelter, or Rapid Rehousing Programs in FY 2014 and 2) for whom no previous intake records could be found in the HMIS since July of 2006.

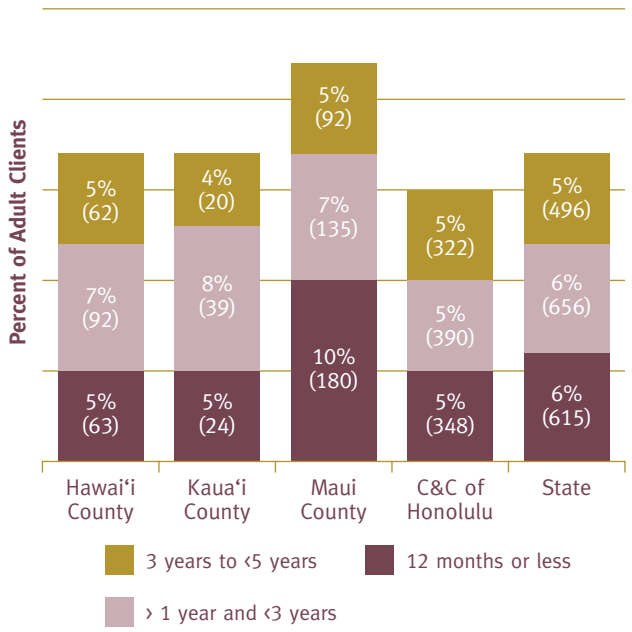
Figure 6. New Clients Who Were Recently Homeless, FY 2014



As part of the regular intake process, clients were asked a series of questions about how long they were homeless before seeking services. In Figure 6, "recently homeless" was defined as those who experienced homelessness less than one year previous to their receiving homeless services. In all counties recently homeless clients made up between 77% (Honolulu County) and 86% (Maui County) of all new clients who completed the intake process for the first time this year. Statewide, an average of 79% of all clients new to the homeless service system were recently homeless.

Note: The "not recently homeless" category included new clients who did not provide information on the length of homelessness, which was about 5% of all new clients statewide. The above data include an estimated number of "recently homeless" for a small group of Rapid Rehousing Program clients (410 statewide) whose homeless history data were not available. The estimation was calculated based on the average rate of all other clients whose data were available.

Figure 7. Newer Hawai'i Residents, FY 2014



Statewide 1,767 or 16% of adult clients reported living in Hawai'i for less than five years, one third of which (615) had come to the state within the past 12 months. Compared to the state and other counties, Maui County had the largest proportion of newer residents at 22%, with 10% of the total number of adult clients having lived in Hawai'i for 12 months or less prior to program enrollment in the 2014 fiscal year.

Figure 8. Chronic Homelessness, FY 2014

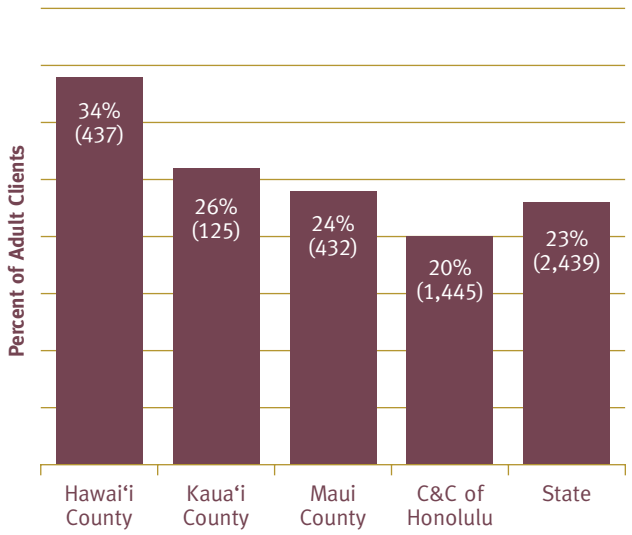


Figure 8 shows percentages of chronically homeless individuals, defined as adults who have a disabling health or mental health condition AND who have been homeless continuously for one year or more or have had at least four homeless episodes in the past three years. Hawai'i County had the highest proportion of chronically homeless clients at 34%. The City and County of Honolulu had the lowest proportion of chronically homeless clients at 20%. Statewide and in all counties, a larger number and/or proportion of adults were identified as chronically homeless in FY 2014 than in FY 2013.

Table 1. Number of Clients and Households Served, FY 2014

	Hawai'i County		Kaua'i County		Maui County		C&C of Honolulu		State	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Number of Clients, Total	**1,770**	**100%**	**632**	**100%**	**2,332**	**100%**	**9,548**	**100%**	**14,282**	**100%**
Singles	843	48%	348	55%	1,503	64%	4,816	50%	7,510	53%
Persons in Families	927	52%	284	45%	829	36%	4,732	50%	6,772	47%
Children	478	27%	146	23%	495	21%	2,440	26%	3,559	25%
Adults	1,292	73%	486	77%	1,837	79%	7,108	74%	10,723	75%
Number of Households, Total	**1,137**	**100%**	**436**	**100%**	**1,773**	**100%**	**6,130**	**100%**	**9,476**	**100%**
Single-person households	843	74%	348	80%	1,503	85%	4,816	79%	7,510	79%
Family households without children	70	6%	14	3%	20	1%	242	4%	346	4%
Family households with children	224	20%	74	17%	250	14%	1,072	17%	1,620	17%
Average Size of Family Households		3.2		3.2		3.1		3.6		3.4

Of the total 14,282 homeless clients served in the state of Hawai'i in the 2014 fiscal year, about half were persons in families (47%). One in four homeless service users were children. A total of 9,476 households were served statewide. The majority of households served were single-person households (79%), with 17% of households having children and 4% of households consisting of families without children. The average size of family households was 3.4 persons statewide. The City and County of Honolulu had the largest average family household size (3.6) among all counties.

HOMELESS PROGRAMS

This section of the report examines three types of homeless programs and the clients that they served. Statewide, 824 clients (6%) received rapid rehousing services, 7,608 clients (53%) received outreach services, and 8,574 clients (60%) received shelter services. Of the 8,574 clients receiving shelter services statewide, 4,669 clients (54%) received emergency shelter services, and 4,968 clients (58%) received transitional shelter services. These represent an unduplicated count of clients for each program. Clients who received services from multiple programs were counted in each of the programs in which they participated.

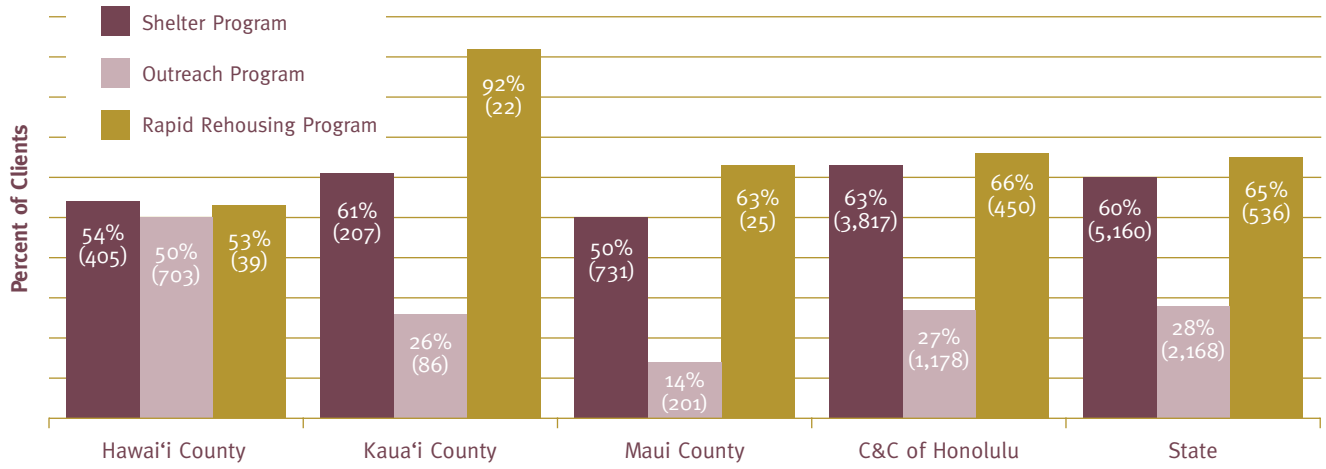
Table 2. Number of People Served by Program Type, FY 2014

	Hawai'i County		Kaua'i County		Maui County		C&C of Honolulu		State	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Homeless Programs Total	**1,770**	**100%**	**632**	**100%**	**2,332**	**100%**	**9,548**	**100%**	**14,282**	**100%**
Rapid Rehousing	74	4%	24	4%	40	2%	686	7%	824	6%
Outreach	1,401	79%	328	52%	1,488	64%	4,391	46%	7,608	53%
Shelter	746	42%	341	54%	1,448	62%	6,039	63%	8,574	60%
Shelter Program Total	**746**	**100%**	**341**	**100%**	**1,448**	**100%**	**6,039**	**100%**	**8,574**	**100%**
Emergency	516	69%	214	63%	1,212	84%	2,727	39%	4,669	54%
Transitional	287	38%	152	45%	770	53%	3,759	68%	4,968	58%

Note: Total number of clients is an unduplicated count of people served. Some clients accessed multiple types of homeless programs during the reporting period; therefore, the sums of percentages in the program type subcategories exceed 100%.

Both statewide and in each county, the highest rates of service utilization were found in either the Outreach or Shelter Programs. The number of homeless individuals receiving the federally-funded rapid rehousing services was below 10% of the total population of homeless service clients for all counties. The City and County of Honolulu had the highest rate of usage for this program at 7%, and Maui County had the lowest rate at 2%. Both Hawai'i and Kaua'i Counties had 4% of homeless clients accessing the Rapid Rehousing Program.

Figure 9. Percent of Clients in Family Households by Program Type, FY 2014



Each homeless service program serves both individuals and families. Persons in families are defined as those who are accompanied by at least one other household member at program entry. Statewide, persons in families made up the greatest proportion of both Shelter Program (60%) and Rapid Rehousing Program (65%) clients. Unaccompanied individuals made up the greatest proportion (72%) of Outreach Program users. A similar trend of service usage holds true for most of the counties. The one exception to this trend was seen in the Hawai'i County service usage patterns, where clients in family households represented about half of all clients in all three programs (50–54%).

Table 3. Type of Household by Program Type, FY 2014

Household Type	Hawai'i County	Kaua'i County	Maui County	C&C of Honolulu	Total
Shelter Program					**4,790 Households, avg. size 1.8**
Single person	341	134	717	2,222	72%
Family without children	14	8	3	93	2%
Family with children	97	54	221	886	26%
Outreach					**6,141 Households, avg. size 1.2**
Single person	698	242	1,287	3,213	89%
Family without children	57	7	14	148	4%
Family with children	163	21	63	228	8%
Rapid Rehousing					**448 Households, avg. size 1.8**
Single person	35	2	15	236	64%
Family without children	12	0	8	49	15%
Family with children	4	5	3	79	20%

Statewide and across counties, single-person households were the most common among types of households in all homeless programs. In general, family households with children under the age of 18 outnumbered family households without children. The average household size for the Shelter Program was 1.8 persons, the same as that of the Rapid Rehousing Program. The Outreach Program served smaller households, with an average size of 1.2 persons.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

This section examines data related to client outcomes for emergency shelter services, transitional shelter services, outreach services, and rapid rehousing services at the state and Continuum of Care levels. The average length of stay in the program, the rate of exit to permanent housing, the rate of permanent housing exits in less than 60 days, and the rate of return to the homeless service system were used, where applicable, as program outcome indicators. Data retrieved from the HMIS database in August 2014 were also used to update trends in program outcomes.

Length of Stay in Shelter Program

The average lengths of stay for single persons in emergency shelters and both single persons and families in transitional shelters have shown modest decreases for the last three fiscal years (FY 2012–2014). Conversely, families in emergency shelters have stayed 20 days longer on average over the same time period. The average lengths of stay for both families and singles in all shelter types were about 1.6–4.3 times longer in the City and County of Honolulu compared to other counties.

Table 4. Average Length of Stay, FY 2012–2014

	Emergency, Singles	Emergency, Persons in Families	Transitional, Singles	Transitional, Persons in Families
FY 2012	113	113	238	347
FY 2013	117	116	221	345
FY 2014	100	133	216	331
C&C of Honolulu	136	193	239	365
Other Counties	52	45	152	219

Note: Data for FY 2012–2013 have been revised.

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Exiting to Permanent Housing

Statewide, 6,414 or 45% of clients exited the homeless service system during the 2014 fiscal year. Of the clients who exited, 41% left for permanent housing. These data must be seen as provisional numbers because exit reporting from the Outreach Program tends to have a long time lag due to the highly transient nature of the unsheltered population.

In FY 2014, the rates of exit from shelter programs to permanent housing dropped slightly from the previous year (Table 5). The highest rates of exit to permanent housing were seen in the Rapid Rehousing Program, followed by the Transitional Shelter Program. Lower rates were seen in the Emergency Shelter Program and the Outreach Program. Other exit destinations are presented in Table 6.

In all programs, persons in families tended to have higher rates of exit to permanent housing than their single counterparts. The Emergency and Transitional Shelter Programs in the City and County of Honolulu tended to have higher rates of exit to permanent housing compared to the rates of these programs in other counties. One exception to this trend was that the Emergency Shelter Program had rates of exit to permanent housing for single individuals that were similar in both the City and County Honolulu and neighbor island counties. For the Outreach and Rapid Rehousing Programs, Honolulu had lower rates of exit to permanent housing than other counties.

Table 5. Rates of Exit to Permanent Housing by Program and Household Types, FY 2012–2014

	Emergency, Singles	Emergency, Persons in Families	Transitional, Singles	Transitional, Persons in Families
FY 2012	17%	26%	48%	70%
FY 2013	19%	34%	49%	72%
FY 2014	18%	31%	47%	68%

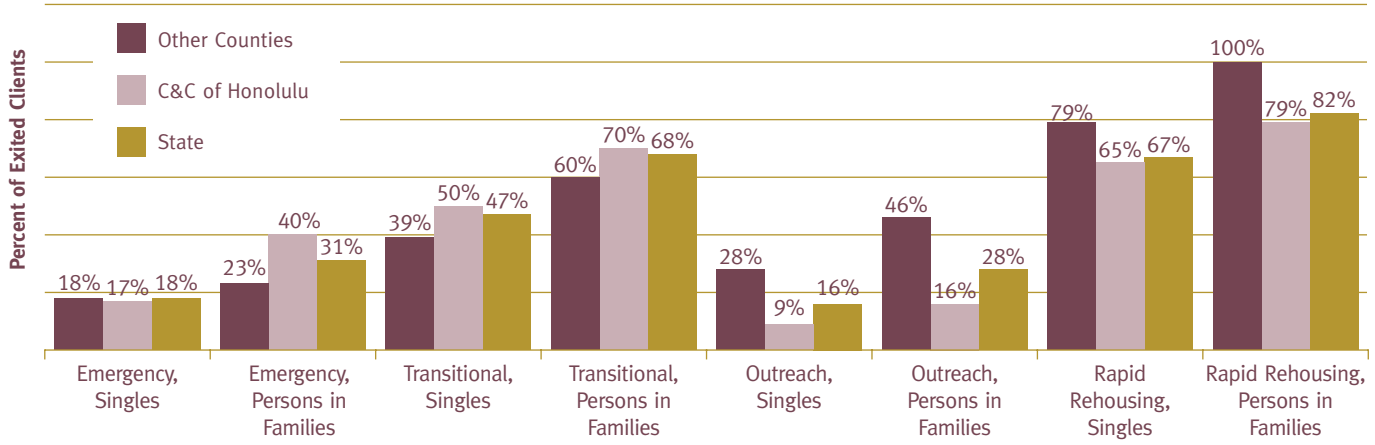
Note: Data for FY 2012–2013 have been revised.

Table 6. Exit Destination by Program and Household Types, FY 2014

Exit Destination	Emergency, Singles	Emergency, Persons in Families	Transitional, Singles	Transitional, Persons in Families	Outreach, Singles	Outreach, Persons in Families	Rapid Rehousing, Singles	Rapid Rehousing, Persons in Families
Permanent Housing	18%	31%	47%	68%	16%	28%	67%	82%
Homeless	43%	42%	9%	3%	24%	34%	17%	11%
Other	13%	8%	17%	13%	8%	8%	9%	3%
Unknown	26%	19%	27%	16%	52%	30%	6%	4%
Total Number of Clients Who Exited	**1,882**	**1,673**	**824**	**1,624**	**2,035**	**1,028**	**127**	**219**
Percent of Clients Who Exited	79%	71%	57%	46%	37%	46%	44%	41%
Total Number of Clients Served	**2,384**	**2,342**	**1,437**	**3,551**	**5,519**	**2,237**	**288**	**538**

Note: Data represent an unduplicated count of clients within each program and household type category. Clients who participated in multiple types of programs and/or enrolled as a single person and as an accompanied person at different times were counted in multiple categories accordingly.

Figure 10. Rates of Exit to Permanent Housing by Program and Household Types, FY 2014



Exiting to Permanent Housing in Less Than 60 Days

Over the last three fiscal years (FY 2012–2014), there has been a trend toward higher proportions of those who exit to permanent housing from both the Emergency Shelter Program and the Transitional Shelter Program doing so after less than 60 days of service.

In the 2014 fiscal year, the Emergency Shelter Program accomplished around half of the permanent housing exits within 60 days. Lower percentages of permanent housing exits that occurred within 60 days were seen in the Outreach Program, followed by the Rapid Rehousing Program and the Transitional Shelter Program. In general, single persons who left for permanent housing were more likely to do so within 60 days of program enrollment compared to their counterparts in family groups. One exception to this pattern was found in the Outreach Program, where rapid transition to permanent housing was more prevalent among persons in families than single persons. Additionally, neighbor island counties, when compared to the City and County of Honolulu, had higher proportions of exits to permanent housing within 60 days of service in almost all categories, except for the Rapid Rehousing Program.

Table 7. Rates of Exit to Permanent Housing in Less Than 60 Days of Service, FY 2012–2014

	Emergency, Singles	Emergency, Persons in Families	Transitional, Singles	Transitional, Persons in Families	Outreach, Singles	Outreach, Persons in Families	Rapid Rehousing, Singles	Rapid Rehousing, Persons in Families
FY 2012	49%	36%	15%	6%				
FY 2013	49%	41%	16%	6%				
FY 2014	53%	43%	18%	12%	28%	45%	28%	19%
C&C of Honolulu	42%	26%	18%	10%	15%	24%	28%	19%
Other Counties	65%	73%	20%	19%	35%	55%	27%	17%

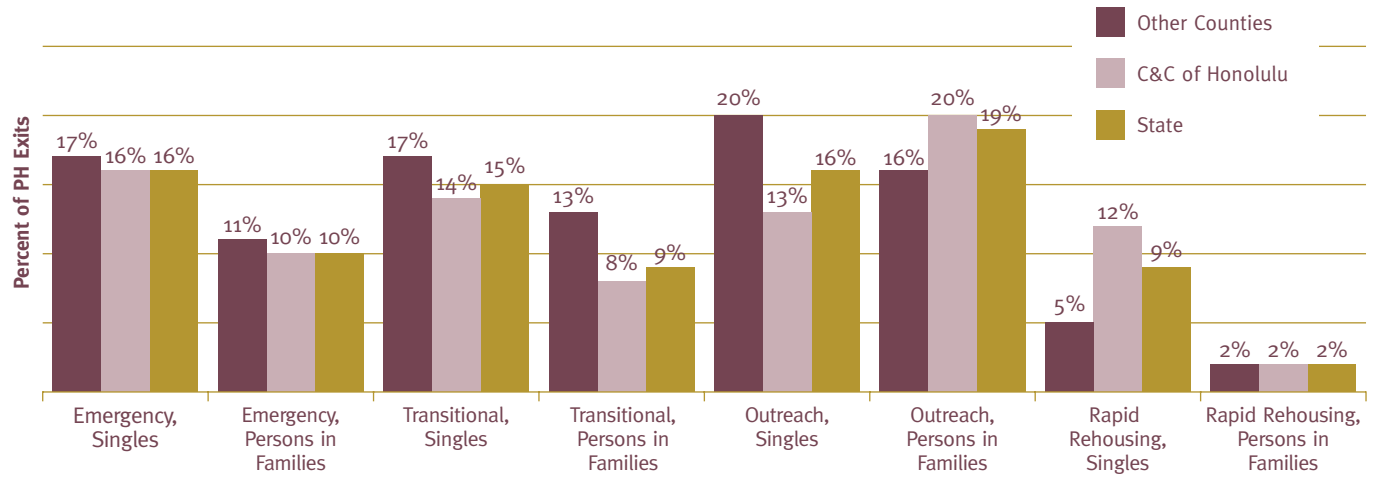
Note: Data for FY 2012–2013 have been revised.

Return to Homelessness

Returning to the homeless service system was defined as enrolling in one of the homeless service programs within 12 months of exiting to permanent housing. The rates of return are illustrated in Figure 11. In general, persons in families tended to have lower rates of return to homeless services than those who were single. The Rapid Rehousing Program had the lowest state-level post-exit rates of return (9% for singles and 2% for persons in families), followed by the Transitional Shelter Program (15% and 9%), the Emergency Shelter Program (16% and 10%), and the Outreach Program (16% and 19%).

The rates of return were generally lower for programs in the City and County of Honolulu than for those in other counties. The two exceptions to this trend were the rates of return from the Outreach Program for families and the Rapid Rehousing Program for single persons, both of which showed higher recidivism rates for Honolulu.

Figure 11. Rates of Return for Clients Who Exited to Permanent Housing in FY 2013



RAPID REHOUSING PROGRAM

The Rapid Rehousing Program aims to provide financial and social support to homeless individuals and families in order to transition them as quickly as possible into permanent housing situations. This report included data from eight organizations that received funding from HUD's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and/or the VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program to provide rapid rehousing services in the state.

In FY 2014, a total of 824 individuals received rapid rehousing assistance statewide, about 2.6 times higher than the number served in FY 2013 (323). The increase was likely attributable to an improved outreach effort by the service providers. One fourth of the clients (209) were children under 18 years old, 73% were adults, and 2% were of unknown age. Of the adult clients, 49% (295) were veterans.

Statewide, 29% of the individuals served by the Rapid Rehousing Program were of Caucasian decent; 28% were Native Hawaiians or part-Hawaiians; 12% were Blacks; another 12% were Other Pacific Islanders; and 7% were Filipinos. The remaining groups each represented less than 5% of the total population served and included Micronesians (4%), Other Asians (4%), Marshallese (3%), and Native Americans (1%).

Of the 448 total households that were served statewide during FY 2014, the majority (54%) were self-reported to be unsheltered when they enrolled in services. Around a quarter of the households served (26%) were residing in transitional shelters at enrollment, 11% were residing in emergency shelters, and 9% had unknown previous residence statuses. Counting ***individual clients***, 431 clients were unsheltered at enrollment, 223 were living in transitional shelters, 77 were living in emergency shelters, and 93 came from unknown residences.

Rapid Rehousing Services Received

Two types of services were available to participants in the Rapid Rehousing Program: financial assistance to relocate them to more permanent housing and housing-related support services to help successfully transition them to stable housing. Of the 448 households enrolled in the program in FY 2014, 318 households (71%) received some kind of direct financial assistance towards providing stable housing. Each of these households received an average of $1,227 in this reporting period. In addition to or in lieu of financial assistance, 84% of the total number of households received other housing-related support services.

In the 2014 fiscal year, a total of $543,165 was spent on financial assistance. The majority of that total sum—85% or $460,010—was spent to assist 256 households in the City and County of Honolulu. The remaining 15% or $83,155 was used to help 62 households in other counties. Statewide, 95% of financial assistance was spent almost equally for security deposits (49%) and rental assistance (46%).

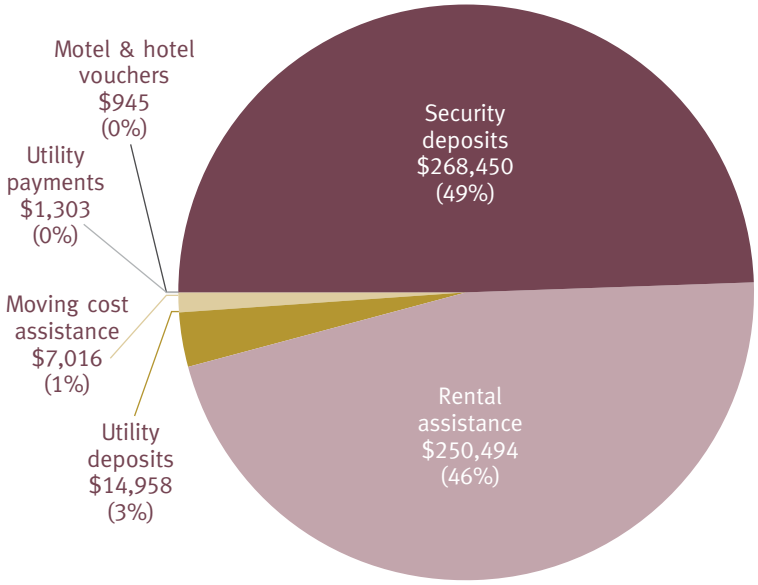
Table 8. Rapid Rehousing Services Received by Households, FY 2014

	#	%
Number of Households Enrolled	**448**	**100%**
Number of Households That Received Financial Assistance	318	71%
Security deposits	265	59%
Rental assistance	159	35%
Utility deposits	43	10%
Moving cost assistance	34	8%
Utility payments	5	1%
Motel & hotel vouchers	1	0%
Number of Households That Received Services	376	84%
Case management	357	80%
Outreach and engagement	59	13%
Housing search and placement	58	13%
Legal services	2	0%

Table 9. Median Amount of Financial Assistance Received per Household, Rapid Rehousing Program, FY 2014

Type of Assistance	Median Amount per Household
Total Financial Assistance	**$1,227**
Security deposits	$995
Rental assistance	$1,200
Utility deposits	$316
Moving cost assistance	$120
Utility payments	$228
Motel & hotel vouchers	$945

Figure 12. Total Amount of Financial Assistance Provided, Rapid Rehousing Program, FY 2014



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROGRAM

Homelessness has been associated with several negative impacts on the health and well-being of individuals and families. One approach to addressing homelessness is to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless in the first place. In FY 2014, seven organizations received funding from HUD's ESG and the VA's SSVF programs to provide services that were targeted to individuals and families at risk of losing stable housing and that were intended to keep them housed. These services included both financial assistance and housing-related support services. The financial assistance included either time-limited rental and utility assistance to keep participants housed in their existing locations or relocation support to transition them to more suitable stable housing.

Statewide, 1,084 people completed the intake process to participate in the Homelessness Prevention Program in the 2014 fiscal year. This number was double the enrollment from the 2013 fiscal year (530), possibly due to an improved outreach effort. The majority of clients (92% or 1,000) were served in the City and County of Honolulu.

A large proportion of the individuals who benefited from the Homelessness Prevention Program were children under the age of 18 (45% or 492). The majority of clients (87% or 942) were part of family households, and 13% were single-person households (142). The three ethnic groups that made up the largest percentage of individuals served were Native Hawaiians or part-Hawaiians (39%), Caucasians (20%), and Other Pacific Islanders (16%). Other ethnic groups served were Blacks (9%), Filipinos (7%), Other Asians (4%), Marshallese (2%), Micronesians (1%), and Native Americans (1%). Of the 589 adults served, 28% (165) were veterans.

A total of 384 households were served statewide. More than half of the households (53%) served were families with children under 18 years old, 10% were families without children, and 37% were single-person households. Almost all households (93%) had some income, and 54% reported earned income. The median household income at the time of program enrollment was $1,520 per month. More than a quarter (29%) of households served had at least one member with a disability.

Three fifths of the households served (231) were identified as at risk of homelessness and the remaining two-fifths (153) were identified as being at imminent risk of housing loss (see definitions on page 15). Figure 13 shows the living situations of ***individual clients*** at the time of enrollment in prevention services. Almost two thirds of the clients (65%) were living in unsubsidized housing, and 25% were either doubling up with family or friends (14%) or living in subsidized housing (11%).

continued on page 14

continued from page 13

Homelessness Prevention Services Received

Two types of services were available to participants in the Homelessness Prevention Program: financial assistance and housing-related support services. In FY 2014, of the 384 households enrolled in the program, 323 households (84%) received some kind of financial assistance. The average amount of assistance received in this reporting period was $1,420 per household. In addition to or in lieu of financial assistance, 293 households (76%) received other housing-related support services.

In the 2014 fiscal year, a total of $600,667 was spent on financial assistance for 323 households. The majority of that total sum, 93% or $557,724, was spent in the City and County of Honolulu to provide financial assistance to 300 households. The program spent 7% or $42,943 to support 23 households in other counties. Statewide, the Homelessness Prevention Program spent three quarters of the financial assistance on rental assistance (74%), and a smaller but significant portion—20%—was spent on security deposits.

Figure 13. Living Situations Prior to Participation in Homelessness Prevention Program, FY 2014

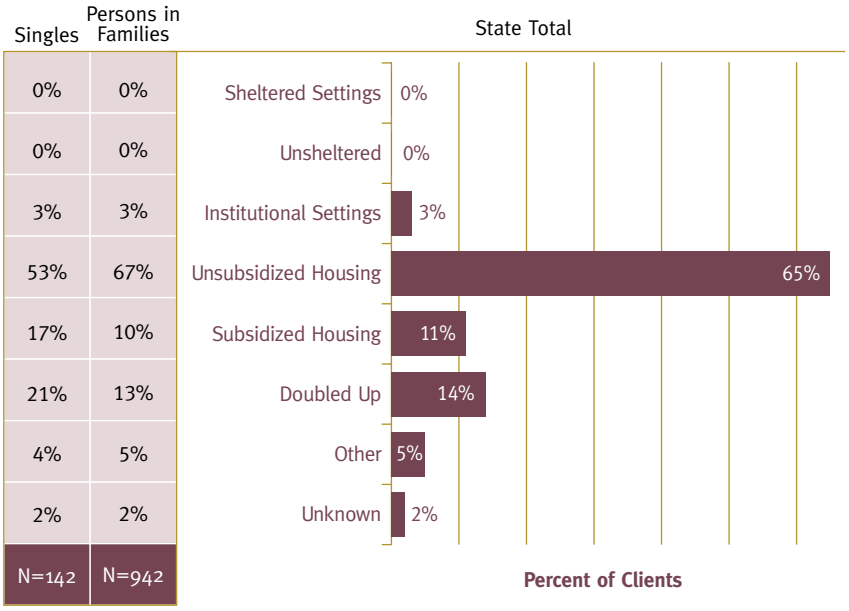


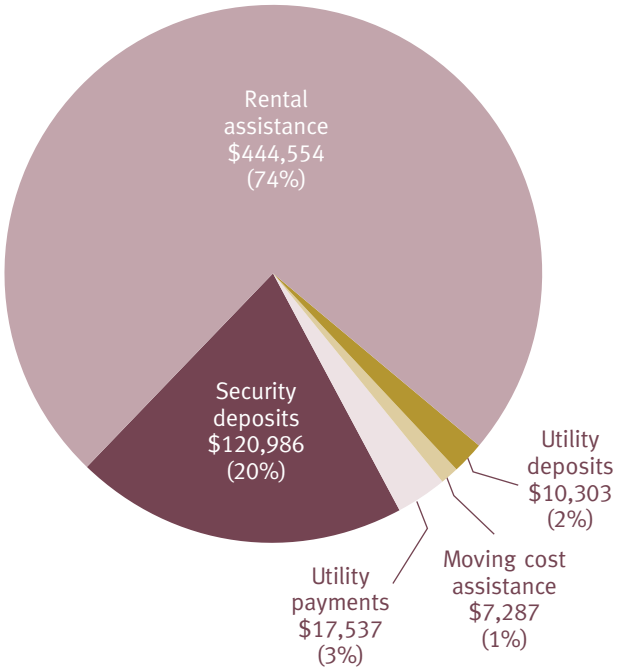
Table 10. Prevention Services Received by Households, FY 2014

	#	%
Number of Households Enrolled	**384**	**100%**
Households That Received Financial Assistance	323	84%
Security deposits	102	27%
Rental assistance	254	66%
Utility deposits	20	5%
Moving cost assistance	26	7%
Utility payments	24	6%
Households That Received Services	293	76%
Case management	291	76%
Outreach and engagement	16	4%
Housing search and placement	4	1%
Legal services	5	1%

Table 11. Median Amount of Financial Assistance Received per Household, Homelessness Prevention Program, FY 2014

Type of Assistance	Median Amount per Household
Total Financial Assistance	**$1,420**
Security deposits	$1,109
Rental assistance	$1,340
Utility deposits	$353
Moving cost assistance	$190
Utility payments	$614

Figure 14. Total Amount of Financial Assistance Provided, Homelessness Prevention Program, FY 2014



Homelessness Prevention Service Outcomes

In FY 2014, 478 clients were successful in staying housed, as evaluated at the time of exit from the Homelessness Prevention Program. This represents 86% of the total 559 clients who exited the program. The average length of time within the program, from enrollment to exit, was 116 days. Compared to people receiving services as families, single clients had a higher success rate and a shorter program period.

Table 12. Exit Destination of Clients Enrolled in Homelessness Prevention Program, FY 2014

	Singles	Persons in Families	Total
Permanent Housing	93%	85%	86%
Homeless	0%	2%	2%
Other	5%	7%	7%
Unknown	2%	7%	6%
Total Number of Clients Who Exited	**61**	**498**	**559**
Percent of Clients Who Exited	43%	53%	52%
Average Program Length Among Clients Who Exited (days)	106	117	116
Total Number of Clients Served	**142**	**942**	**1,084**

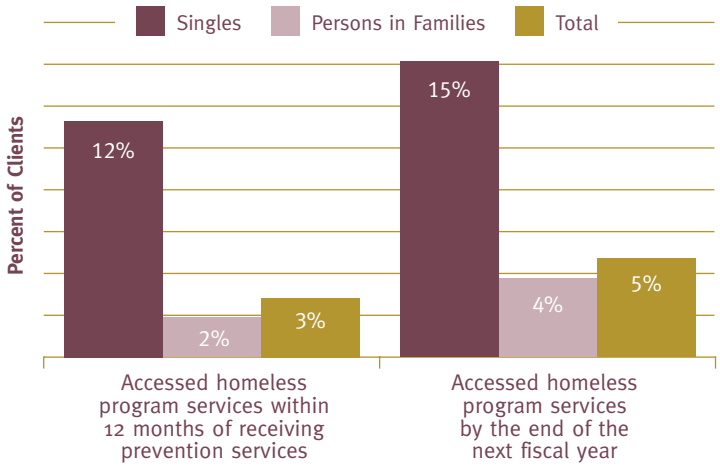
Of the 530 clients enrolled in the program last year (FY 2013), 17 (3%) accessed a homeless services program within 12 months of enrolling in the Homelessness Prevention Program, and 24 (5%) sought homeless services by the end of FY 2014. Prevention service users who were single had a higher rate of later accessing homeless services compared to those who were in families.

DEFINITIONS

Imminent risk of losing housing: An individual or family is considered to be at imminent risk of losing housing at the time they apply for homelessness prevention services if they will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days, have not yet identified an alternative residence, AND do not have the resources or support networks to help them obtain suitable housing. Please refer to HUD's definition for details.

At risk of homelessness: An individual or family is considered to be at risk of homelessness if they have an annual income 30% below the median family income for the area AND they do not have the resources or social networks to acquire suitable housing AND they have at least one other risk factor for homelessness such as currently residing in a hotel or motel; residing in a room, house, or apartment that is overcrowded; currently living with family or friends; exiting an institution; or receiving written notice that they need to exit current housing accommodations within 21 days. Please refer to HUD's definition for details.

Figure 15. Use of Homeless Services by Homelessness Prevention Program Clients Who Enrolled in FY 2013



AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS REPORTING FY 2014 HMIS DATA

	Emerg. Shelter		Trans. Shelter	
HAWAI'I COUNTY				
Hawai'i Island Home for Recovery				
Hawai'i Island Home for Recovery Shelter			S	
HOPE Services Hawaii				
Beyond Shelter			S	F
HOPE Resource Center			S	
Kaloko Transitional Housing				F
Kihei Pua	S	F		
Kuleana House				F
West Hawaii Emergency Housing Facility	S			
Wilder House				F
KAUA'I COUNTY				
Kaua'i Economic Opportunities				
Komohana Group Home			S	
Līhu'e Court				F
Mana'olana	S	F	S	F
Women in Need				
WIN Bridge to Success Kaua'i				F
MAUI COUNTY				
Family Life Center				
Ho'olanani	S	F		
Maui Economic Concerns of the Community				
Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Center	S	F	S	F
Na Hale O Wainee Resource Center	S	F	S	F
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU				
Alternative Structures International				
'Ohana Ola 'O Kahumana				F
Ulu Ke Kukui			S	F
Catholic Charities Hawai'i				
Mā'ili Land Transitional Shelter				F
Family Promise Hawaii				
Honolulu Family Center	S	F		
Windward Family Center	S	F		
Gregory House				
Community Residential Program			S	
Gregory House			S	
Hale Kipa				
A'awa			S	
Apaa			S	
Maka'aloa			S	
Holomua Na Ohana				
Onemalu			S	F
Weinberg Village Waimanalo				F
Honolulu Community Action Program				
Kumuhonua			S	F
Housing Solutions				
Kulaokahua Apartment			S	
Loliana Apartment				F
Na Kolea Rooming House			S	
Vancouver House				F
Institute for Human Services				
Kaa'ahi Street Shelter	S	F		
Sumner Street Shelter	S			

	Emerg. Shelter		Trans. Shelter	
Kahikolu Ohana Hale O Wai'anae				
Kahikolu			S	F
Mental Health Kokua				
Safe Haven			S	
River of Life Mission				
Lighthouse	S	F		
Salvation Army				
Ka 'Ohu Hou O Mānoa			S	F
Shelter of Wisdom				
Great Joy	S			
Streams of Joy	S			
Steadfast Housing Development Corporation				
Hale Ulu Pono			S	
United State Veterans Initiative				
ADVANCE Women			S	
HHFDC 1			S	F
Respite Beds	S			
Veterans in Progress			S	
Waianae Civic Center	S	F	S	F
Wai'anae Community Outreach				
Onelau'ena	S	F		
Waikiki Health Center				
Next Step Shelter	S	F	S	F
Women in Need				
WIN Bridge to Success				F
WIN Family House				F

	Program		
HAWAI'I COUNTY			
Catholic Charities Hawai'i		RR	HP
HOPE Services Hawaii	OR	RR	
KAUA'I COUNTY			
Kaua'i Economic Opportunities	OR	RR	HP
MAUI COUNTY			
Family Life Center	OR	RR	HP
Salvation Army, Maui County	OR		
United State Veterans Initiative		RR	HP
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU			
Catholic Charities Hawai'i		RR	HP
Institute for Human Services	OR	RR	HP
Kalihi-Palama Health Center	OR	RR	HP
Legal Aid Society of Hawaii	OR		
Mental Health Kōkua	OR		
United State Veterans Initiative	OR	RR	HP
Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center	OR	RR	HP
Wai'anae Community Outreach	OR		
Waikiki Health Center	OR		

Key: S=Single individuals; F=Families; OR=Homeless Outreach; RR=Rapid Rehousing; HP=Homelessness Prevention

For more information on each agency and program, visit the Hawai'i Stare Homeless Program Office Website at: http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/hp/