

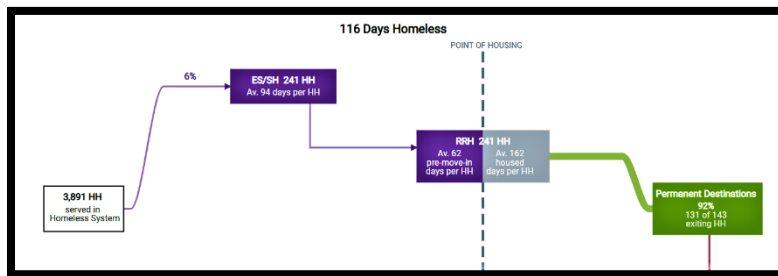
STELLA P PATHWAY IMPACT INSIGHTS GUIDE



This guide explains the logic of pathway insights and how to use them to understand system performance.

WHAT'S A PATHWAY?

A **pathway** is distinct combination of project types in which a household has been enrolled during the report period, including any continuous (i.e. unbroken by a period of 7 days or more) enrollments prior to the start of the report period. The pathway is defined by the project types included, which the household may have experienced in any order, including multiple enrollments in the same project type.



A **pathway group** is a group of households that used the same pathway.

Stella P includes analysis by pathway charts for Days Homeless, Exits, and Returns. Each chart looks at the size of the pathway group (the number and percent of households that used that pathway) as well as the performance of the pathway, in terms of average number of days homeless, percent exits to permanent housing, or percent returns to the homeless system.

WHAT IS A PATHWAY IMPACT INSIGHT?

System-generated Pathway Insights help users sort through the layers of information available in Stella P and zero in on parts of the system that are likely to have the biggest impact on system performance.



Pathway insights use “impact scores” to quantify how much each pathway is impacting the performance measure for the entire household type. Impact scores take into consideration both how many households use a pathway and how that pathway is performing.

There is a separate impact score calculated for each performance measure: days homeless, exits, and returns. Each type of impact score is based on the same principle: Stella P does the math behind the scenes to weigh both the size of the pathway group and performance of the pathway in order to focus system improvement efforts to parts of the system that are likely to have the greatest impact.

The insights highlight the top three pathways that are impacting the performance for each of the seven household types: All households, Adult Only, Adult Only Veteran, Adult Only Non-Veteran 25+, Adult & Child, and Child Only.

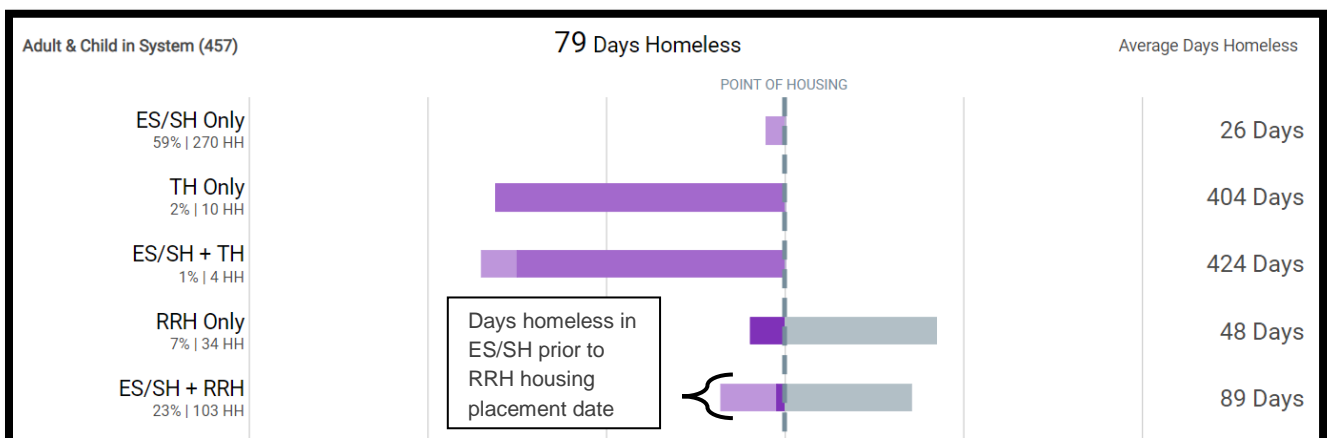
HOW CAN PATHWAY INSIGHTS BE USED TO UNDERSTAND SYSTEM PERFORMANCE?

In the example below, we look to the Days Homeless Pathway Impact to understand which pathways are having the biggest contribution to total number of days homeless for adult and child households. We see that, when considering both the number of households that used the pathway and the average days homeless for that pathway, the ES/SH + RRH pathway has the biggest impact.

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Name | Days Homeless Pathway Impact |
| Description | The Days Homeless Impact Score is calculated based on the average days homeless for the pathway multiplied by the number of households who used that pathway to generate a measure of "unit-days." The number of unit-days for each pathway is then divided by the number of unit-days for all pathways, generating an "Impact Score" which indicates the relative impact that the pathway has on the Days Homeless performance for the specified household type. An Impact Score greater than 50 means that pathway group represents more than half of the CoC's Days Homeless for the household type. |

- Improving the following pathways would have the greatest impact on the system's overall days homeless for **Adult & Child (AC)**.
1. ES/SH + RRH pathway, days homeless impact score 28
 2. ES/SH + PSH pathway, days homeless impact score 18
 3. ES/SH Only pathway, days homeless impact score 16

Though the ES/SH Only pathway includes more households, the days homeless in that pathway is very low. The TH Only and ES/SH + TH pathways have much longer days homeless; however, so few households are in those pathways, the impact on the system average days homeless is marginal. Shortening the days homeless that households spend in the ES/SH + RRH pathway would thus have the greatest impact on the system days homeless for adult and child households. Since most of these days homeless are in the ES/SH part of the pathway, the community should work to move these households more quickly into RRH.



HOW ARE PATHWAY IMPACT SCORES CALCULATED?

Days Homeless Pathway Impact Score

The Days Homeless Impact Score is calculated based on the average days homeless for the pathway multiplied by the number of households who used that pathway to generate a measure of "unit-days." The number of unit-days for each pathway is then divided by the number of unit-days for all pathways, generating an "Impact Score" which indicates the relative impact that the pathway has on the overall Days Homeless performance for the specified household type.

Exits Pathway Impact Score

The Exits Pathway Impact Score is calculated by adding the number of exits to temporary and unknown destinations for each pathway and dividing that number by the total number of exits to temporary and unknown destinations for specified household type.

Returns Pathway Impact Score

The Returns Pathway Impact Score is calculated by dividing the number of households who returned to homelessness after exiting to permanent housing for each pathway and dividing that number by the total number of households who returned to homelessness for the specified household typed.

Additional Resources

Still have questions? Visit the **Stella resources page** on the HUD Exchange for additional tools and guidance for making the most out of **Stella**.

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