

STELLA PERFORMANCE

Glossary



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Terms Defined by Topic

Performance Measures

Served in the Homeless System: Households that were served in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing, or Permanent Supportive Housing projects during the report period in HMIS participating projects.

Days Homeless: The average cumulative, unduplicated number of days that households were served in ES, SH, or TH projects or in RRH or PSH prior to move-in within the report period, plus continuous time in these projects prior to the report period back to 10/1/2012. Periods of less than seven days between project enrollments are not considered a break in the continuity of homelessness and are included within the count Days Homeless. Days Homeless only includes self-reported time homeless on the Days Homeless by Pathway and Days Homeless by Population charts if “Self-reported days homeless” is selected in the “Show Additional Data” section of the legend.

Households with Days Homeless: Households that had at least one day in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, or Rapid Rehousing, or days enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing prior to move-in during the report period.

Self-reported Days Homeless: Additional days that a household reported they were homeless (as recorded in HMIS data element 3.917), beyond those days that were otherwise accounted for by enrollments in ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects.

Longstayers: Households with 180 days or more homeless.

Exiters: Households who exited the homeless system during the report period.

Exits from the Homeless System (Exits): An exit from any project where there is no subsequent enrollment in any project type for the household in the 14 days following the exit. When looking at system exits during the report period for the purposes of determining Destination, the destination for the *last* exit during the report period is reported. When looking at Returns, the *first* exit during the Exit Cohort period determines their exit destination and triggers the beginning of the [Timeframe to Measure Returns](#).

Destination: The specific location a household went to after exiting the homeless system, based on the response provided in HMIS for the destination at project exit for the household's last project enrollment before exiting from the homeless system.

Destination Type: The type of location (permanent, temporary, or unknown) the household went to when they exited the homeless system based on the response provided in HMIS for the destination at project exit for the household's last project enrollment before exiting from the homeless system.

The following table maps the destinations and destination types used in Stella P to the destination response options in HMIS, documenting how the response categories have been collapsed for the Stella P charts.

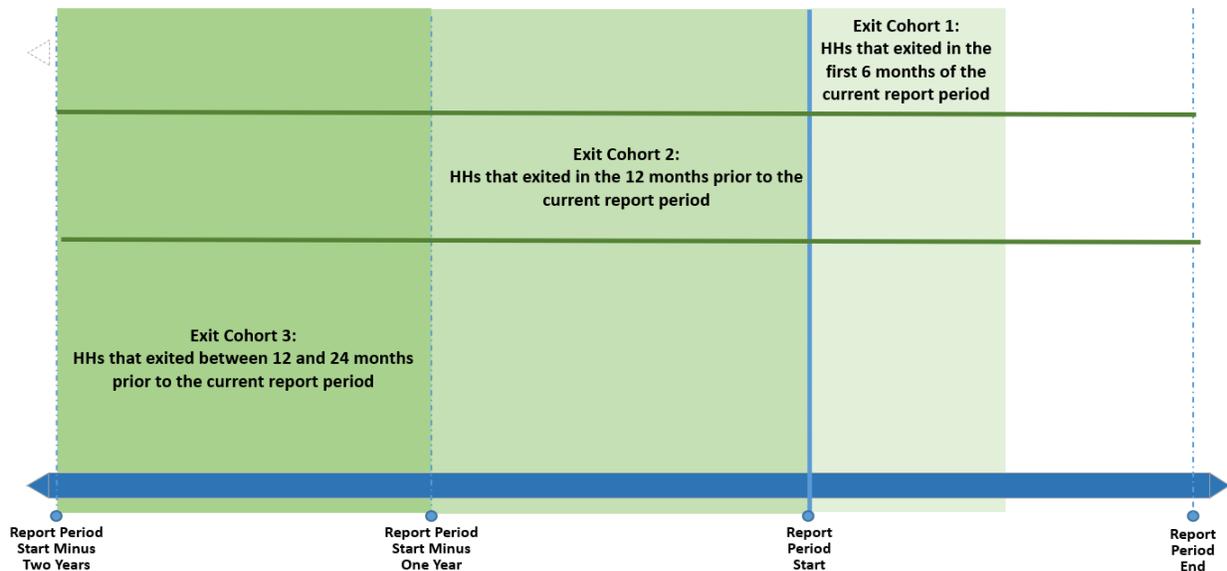
| Stella P Destination Types | Stella P Destinations | HMIS Destination Options https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3824/hmis-data-dictionary/ |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Permanent destination | Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) | Permanent Housing for formerly homeless persons (other than RRH) |
| | Permanent Housing – rent/temp subsidy | Rental by client, with RRH subsidy (or similar) |
| | Permanent Housing – rent/own with subsidy | Rental by client, with VASH subsidy |
| | | Rental by client, with GPD TIP subsidy |
| | | Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy |
| | | One HOPWA funded project to HOPWA permanent housing |
| | Permanent Housing – rent/own with no subsidy | Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy |
| | | Rental by client, with no ongoing subsidy |
| | Owned by client, with no ongoing subsidy | |
| | | |
| Family – permanent | Staying or living with family, permanent tenure | |
| Friends – permanent | Staying for living with friends, permanent tenure | |
| Temporary destination | Institutions – group/assisted | Foster care home or foster care group home |
| | | Long-term care facility or nursing home |
| | Institutions – medical | Hospital or other residential non-psych. Medical facility |
| | | Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility |
| | | Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center |
| | Institutions - incarceration | Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility |
| | Temporary - not homeless | Residential project with no homeless criteria |
| | | Hotel or motel paid for without ES voucher |
| | Homeless - ES/SH/TH | Emergency Shelter |
| | | Safe Haven |
| | | One HOPWA funded project to HOPWA Transitional Housing |
| | | Transitional Housing for homeless persons |
| | Homeless - Street | Place not meant for habitation |
| | Family - temp | Staying or living with family, temporary tenure |
| Friends - temp | Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure | |
| Unknown (missing/invalid) destination | Deceased | Deceased |
| | Unknown | Missing |
| | | Client doesn't know |
| | | Clients refused |

Returns to the Homeless System (Returns): Returns to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects after exiting the homeless system. The primary Returns measure focuses on households who return to the homeless system within six months after exiting to a permanent destination, who are referred to as Returners. Returns are also measured for

households that exited the homeless system to temporary destinations, and for households that exited to unknown destinations. Households that return from temporary or unknown destinations are referred to as [Re-Engagers](#).

Exit Cohort: A group of households that exited the homeless system during a defined time period, used as the denominator when calculating percent of households who returned to homelessness. Use the filters provided in the Returns section of Stella P to show results for different exit cohorts. The three exit cohorts used in Stella P are:

1. HH that Exited in the first 6 months of the Current Report Period
2. HH that Exited in the 12 months prior to the Current Report Period
3. HH that Exited between 12 and 24 months prior to the Current Report Period



Timeframe to Measure Returns: The time period after a household exits from the homeless system during which a return to the homeless system is counted in the Returns measure.

Returns in 6 Months: Returns to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects within 6 months after the household first exited the homeless system. Six month returns are the default return time period for all three exit cohorts.

Returns in 12 Months: Returns to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects within 12 months after the household first exited the homeless system. 12 month returns are not available for the exit cohort of households that exited in the 1st 6 months of the current report period.

Returns in 24 Months: Returns to ES, SH, TH, RRH or PSH projects within 24 months after the household first exited the homeless system. 24 month returns are only available for the exit cohort of households that exited 13-24 months before the current report period.

System-Generated Insights: Data quality and performance flags automatically generated by the system to consider when interpreting charts and information provided in Stella P.

Data Quality Insights: The data quality threshold is set at 17% or higher for all variables. The type of data quality warning is determined by the variable and how it impacts the accuracy and representativeness of Stella P.

CoC Data Quality Insight: Missing CoC code.

Major Data Quality Insight: Variables that impact household types or performance measures.

Population Data Quality Insight: Variables that impact population groups.

Demographic Data Quality Insight: Variables that impact demographic analysis.

Pathway Performance Insights: Considering both the performance of the pathway and the number of households that used the pathway, insights help Stella P users focus on which pathways will have the greatest impact on improving system performance. Performance insights use “impact scores” to represent how much that pathway is contributing to (impacting) the performance measure for the system as a whole. The impact scores indicate the percent of impact on the system level performance. For example, a score of 50 means that the pathway contributes to 50% of the performance measure. A different formula is used to calculate the impact scores for each performance measure. The insights display the pathways with the top three impact scores for each household type.

Days Homeless Pathway Impact Score: 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.

Exits Pathway Impact Score: 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: 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 type.

User-Generated Insights: Notes entered by Stella P users to track and organize observations.

Action Steps: A feature that allows users to capture ideas for next steps in exploring data quality or performance issues. Actions can be linked to related data panels and insights.

Household Types

Household (HH): A household is a single individual or a group of persons who are assisted together in a project.

Head of Household (HoH): Person to whom all other household members are associated with in HMIS at the time they enter a project. Household level performance and demographics data is based on the head of household information.

Household Type: Stella P measures performance for three main household types - Adult Only (AO), Adults with Children (AC) and Child Only (CO). Additional breakdowns by age and veteran status are available for Adult Only households for select charts in Stella P. The household type for each household is determined based on the age of household members on the first day of the report period (or at entry, if later). Households may be counted in more than one household type, if the household members are served in more than one household type in different project enrollments. Performance measures reported by household type are calculated based on project enrollments associated with the respective household type.

All Households: Includes households of every household type as well as households that are not categorized by household type due to missing data.

Adult Only (AO) Households: Households in which all members are 18 years old or older.

- **Adult Only (AO) Veteran:** Adult only households in which at least one member served in the armed forces of the United States.

- **Adult Only (AO) Non-Veteran 25+:** Adult only households in which all members are 25 years old or older and no members have been on active duty in the armed forces of the United States.
- **Adult Only (AO) 18-24:** Adult only households in which all members are under 25 years old.

Adult & Child (AC) Households: Households in which one or more member is 18 years old or older and one or more member is under 18 years old.

Child Only (CO) Households: Households in which all members are 17 years old or younger.

Universe: The collection of all households counted in a particular measure. For the performance measures included in Stella P, the universe is the same as the "N," or number of households.

Population Groups

Population Group: A group of households that share a demographic or system utilization characteristic. Households may be counted in more than one population group.

Household Composition Population Groups: Household composition categories are based on the number and ages of adults and children who make up each household.

Adult Only (AO) 55+: Households in which all members are at least 55 years old.

Adult & Child (AC) Parenting 18-24 Year Old: Adult and child households in which all adults are between 18 and 24 and one or more of the adults is the parent of a child.

Adult & Child (AC) 3+ Children: Households with at least 1 adult and 3 or more children.

Race and Ethnicity Population Groups: Groups are mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive, and based on the self-reported race and ethnicity of the head of household. Data for heads of households and adults who are White, Hispanic/Latino are reported separately from those who are White, non-Hispanic/Non-Latino. All other racial categories include both Hispanic/Latino and Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino people. Stella P includes the following race/ethnicity groups:

White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino

White, Hispanic/Latino

Black or African American

Asian

American Indian or Alaska Native

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander

Multiple Races: Includes individuals who select more than one race category.

Specialty Population Groups: Households where the head of household or any adult member identified they have a special circumstance that might affect the way in which the system provides assistance or may affect performance.

Fleeing Domestic Violence: Households where the head of household or any adult member identified they were fleeing domestic violence, as recorded in HMIS at the time of project entry for any project enrollments that coincided with the report period.

Have a Disabled Member: Households in which the head of household or an adult identified they have a disabling condition, as recorded in HMIS for any project enrollments that coincided with the report period.

System Utilization Population Groups:

Have PSH Move-In Date: Households that have a permanent supportive housing (PSH) move-in date during the report period.

First-Time Homeless: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and was not enrolled in such projects at any point in the two years prior to entry. (This designation is determined at the time of the first enrollment of the report period, in order to distinguish outcomes between those who are first-time homeless compared with those who are returning to homelessness.)

Returning: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and has a record of a previous exit to a permanent destination from a continuum ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project in the 15-730 days prior to enrollment. (This designation is determined at the time of the first enrollment of the report period, in order to distinguish outcomes between those who are first-time homeless compared with those who are returning to homelessness.)

Pathways

Pathway: The 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 in the pathway, which the household may have experienced in any order, including multiple enrollments in the same project type.

Pathway Group: A group of households that used the same pathway.

ES/SH Only: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter or safe haven projects.

TH Only: Households with a pathway that only includes transitional housing projects.

ES/SH + TH: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter/safe haven projects and transitional housing projects.

RRH Only: Households with a pathway that only includes rapid re-housing projects.

ES/SH + RRH: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter/safe haven projects and rapid re-housing projects.

TH + RRH: Households with a pathway that only includes transitional housing and rapid re-housing projects.

ES/SH + TH + RRH: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter/safe haven, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing projects.

PSH Only: Households with a pathway that only includes permanent supportive housing projects.

ES/SH + PSH: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter/safe haven and permanent supportive housing projects.

ES/SH + RRH + PSH: Households with a pathway that only includes emergency shelter/safe haven, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing projects.

RRH + PSH: Households with a pathway that only includes rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing projects.

All Other Pathways: Households that were served in any other combination of projects excluding the ones already specified by other pathways.

Demographics

Gender of Heads of Households (HoH) & Adults: Gender for all heads of households and adults that were served in the type and project type selected. People may choose how their gender is recorded in HMIS, but may only select one of the gender categories below.

Female: People who live or identify as women. This may include trans women who choose to identify as female, in which case they would not be recorded in the transgender category.

Male: People who live or identify as men. This may include trans men who choose to identify as male, in which case they would not be recorded in the transgender category.

Transgender or Gender Non-Conforming: People who live or identify as a gender different than they were assigned at birth and who do not choose to identify as “Female” or “Male”, identify as non-binary, or who otherwise do not identify exclusively as male or female

Unknown Gender: Gender recorded as “don’t know,” “refused,” or “data not collected”

Age: Age of people at the time of the report period start date or their age as of the first enrollment in the report period, whichever is earlier. Age is reassessed at the start of each project enrollment to determine if the household should be categorized in a different household type or population group for each subsequent project enrollment.

Race & Ethnicity of Heads of Households (HoH) and Adults: Race and ethnicity for all heads of household and adults that were served in the household type and project type selected. Data for heads of households and adults who are White, Hispanic/Latino are reported separately from those who are White, Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino and Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino people. The categories are mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive. For a list of the race and ethnicity categories, see Population Groups.

Household Composition: Household composition categories are based on the number of adults and children who make up each household for all households that were served in the household type and project type selected. An individual is counted as child or adult based on their age at first entry to the project type selected during the report period or their age on the first day of the report period, if enrolled in a project of that type at the beginning of the report period. If household composition changes during the course of an enrollment, the maximum size of the household is used.

Veteran Status of Adults: Veteran status of adults that were served in the household type and project type selected.

Veterans: Adults who have been on active duty in the armed forces of the United States

Non-Veterans: Adults who have not been on active duty in the armed forces of the United States

Unknown Veteran Status: Adults whose veteran status was recorded as “unknown,” “refused,” or “data not collected”

Domestic Violence Status of HoH and Adults: Domestic violence status of heads of household and adults that were served in the household type and project type selected, based on the response to HMIS data element 4.11 Domestic Violence.

Not a Domestic Violence (DV) Survivor: Did not identify as a domestic violence victim/survivor at the time of project entry.

Domestic Violence (DV) Survivor and Currently Fleeing: Identified as a domestic violence victim/survivor who was currently fleeing at the time of project entry.

Domestic Violence (DV) Survivor and Not Currently Fleeing or Unknown Fleeing Status: Identified as a domestic violence victim/survivor who was NOT currently fleeing at the time of project entry.

Domestic Violence (DV) Status Unknown: Did not know or refused to disclose domestic violence status at the time of project entry OR data was not collected at project entry.

Chronic Homelessness and Disabling Condition of Head of Household (HoH) and Adults: Includes information about the chronic homeless status of heads of households and adults, as well as heads of households and adults that meet some, but not all, of the criteria for chronic homelessness.

Chronically Homeless: Heads of households and adults that meet all of the criteria for chronic homelessness that were served in the household type and project type selected. A person is counted as chronically homeless if they report the following conditions:

1. Either 365 continuous days homeless OR 365 cumulative days homeless during four or more occasions over the past three years, AND
2. Have a disabling condition

Occasion of Homelessness (Occasion): A period of time spent continuously (i.e. unbroken by a period of 7 days or more) living in a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, or self-reported as living on the streets in data element 3.917.

Disabling Condition: One of the following conditions:

- A physical disability, chronic health condition, mental health problem, and/or substance abuse issue expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently
- A developmental disability
- HIV/AIDS

System Engagement: The household's previous participation with the homeless system at the time of their first entry to the homeless system during the report period. This analysis is based on the household unit. Though individuals may be part of different households at different times throughout the reporting period, a household will only be considered as returning or re-engaging if their household composition is the same as in their previous interaction with the homeless system.

First Time Homeless in the System: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and was not enrolled in such projects at any point in the two years prior to entry.

Returner from Permanent Destinations: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and has a record of a previous exit to a permanent destination from a continuum ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project in the 15-730 days prior to enrollment.

Re-Engage from Temporary Destinations: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and has a record of a previous exit to a temporary destination from a continuum ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project in the 15-730 days prior to enrollment.

Re-Engage from Unknown Destinations: A household that entered an ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project during the report period and has a record of a previous exit to an unknown destination from a continuum ES, SH, TH, RRH, or PSH project in the 15-730 days prior to enrollment.

Continuously Homeless: A household that does not meet the criteria for first time homeless, returner from permanent destinations, re-engage from temporary destinations, or re-engage from unknown destinations.

Re-Engager: Household that returns after an exit to a temporary or unknown destination.

Geography Where Household Was Served: The geographic classification of urban (city), suburban, or rural for the zip code of the project in which the household was served categorized according to the geographic data published by the [U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics](#) (NCES), as define below:

City: Territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city.

Suburb: Territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area AND territory inside an urban cluster that is less than or equal to 10 miles from an urbanized area.

Rural: Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 10 miles and less than or equal to 35 miles from an urbanized area AND Territory inside an urban cluster that is more than 35 miles from an urbanized area AND Census-defined rural territory.

Prior Living Situation: The location that a household was staying the night before enrolling in a project for the first enrollment of that project type during the report period or prior to the report period as part of project enrollment continuous (i.e. unbroken by a period of 7 days or more) with the report period. Stella P condenses the HMIS response options and LSA categorizations of prior living situations into six categories. The table below maps the prior living situation categories used in Stella P with the HMIS response options.

| Stella P Prior Living Situation | HMIS Prior Living Situation https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3824/hmis-data-dictionary/ |
|--|---|
| Street homelessness | Place not meant for habitation |
| Sheltered homelessness | Emergency Shelter |
| | Safe Haven |
| | Interim Housing |
| | Transitional Housing for homeless persons |
| Temporary situations | Hotel or motel paid for without ES voucher |
| | Residential project with no homeless criteria |
| Permanent situations | Staying or living with Family |
| | Staying or living with Friends |
| | Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons |
| | Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy |
| | Owned by client, with no ongoing housing subsidy |
| | Rental by client, no ongoing subsidy |
| | Rental by client, with VASH subsidy |
| | Rental by client, with GPD TIP subsidy |
| Institutional situations | Foster care home or foster care group home |
| | Long-term care facility or nursing home |
| | Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility |
| | Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility |
| | Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric medical facility |
| | Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center |
| Unknown (missing/invalid) | Client doesn't know |
| | Client refused |
| | Missing |