2020 HUD System Performance Measures

Sacramento Continuum of Care

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Overview of HUD System Performance Measures (SPM)

- HUD identified 7 elements of system performance to measure the progress of each community in meeting the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness

- For each performance measure, HUD identified specific data points and sources to ensure measurement is the same across Continuums of Care (CoC).

- Data comes from Point-in-Time Count and HMIS (Homeless Management Information System)

- SPMs are submitted to HUD annually by the HMIS Lead Agency (Sacramento Steps Forward)

How HUD measures effectiveness

Does the community's homeless response system:

1. Eliminate homelessness

   SPM 3: Number of persons experiencing homelessness

2. Reduce the number of people becoming homeless

   SPM 2: Returns to homelessness

   SPM 5: First time homelessness

3. Help people become quickly and stably housed

   SPM 1: Length of time homeless

   SPM 4: Employment and income growth

   SPM 7: Successful placement and retention of housing

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Key Limitations of Systems Performance Measures

- All system performance measures are based on point-in-time (PIT) count and HMIS data, which have some limitations by design.

- SPM 1: Length of Time Homeless reflects length of stay in shelter, safe haven or transitional housing (and does not include length of time in unsheltered situations due to data limitations)

- SPM 2: Returns to Homelessness and SPM 5: First Time Homelessness only look at a 2-year timeframe within the same CoC (so returns after 2 years or homelessness prior to 2 years is not reflected, nor is homelessness elsewhere)

- SPM 4: Unlike other measures, Employment & Income Growth measures only performance of CoC-funded projects and not the entire system

How is Sacramento's system doing?

Eliminate homelessness

- SPM 4: Number of homeless persons
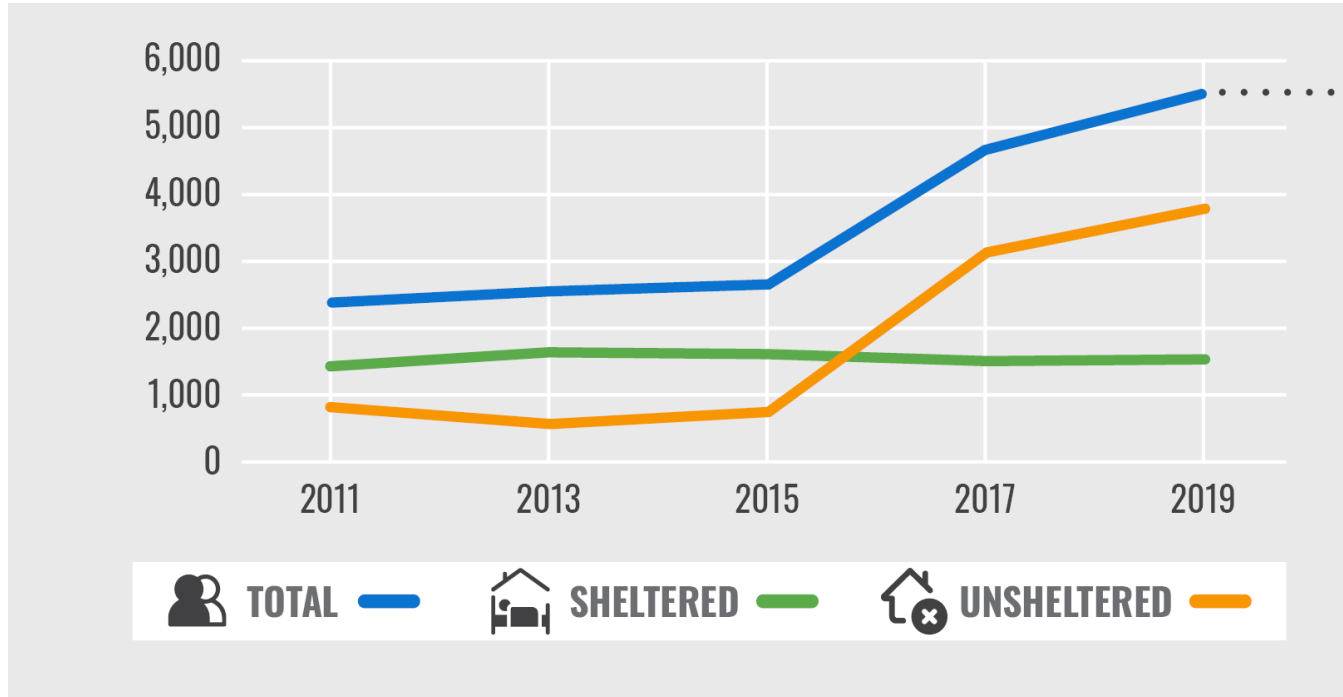
Homelessness increased **19%** between the 2017 and 2019 Point in Time Counts, driven largely by unsheltered homelessness.

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How is Sacramento's system doing?

Reduce the number of people becoming homeless

- SPM 5: First time homelessness

In Sacramento, many people are new to homelessness each year, but in 2020 the number of first time homeless dropped to the lowest level in six years, consistent with national trends.

Number of people first time homeless

Year	Number
2015	3,640
2016	3,941
2017	5,257
2018	5,108
2019	5,206
2020	3,031
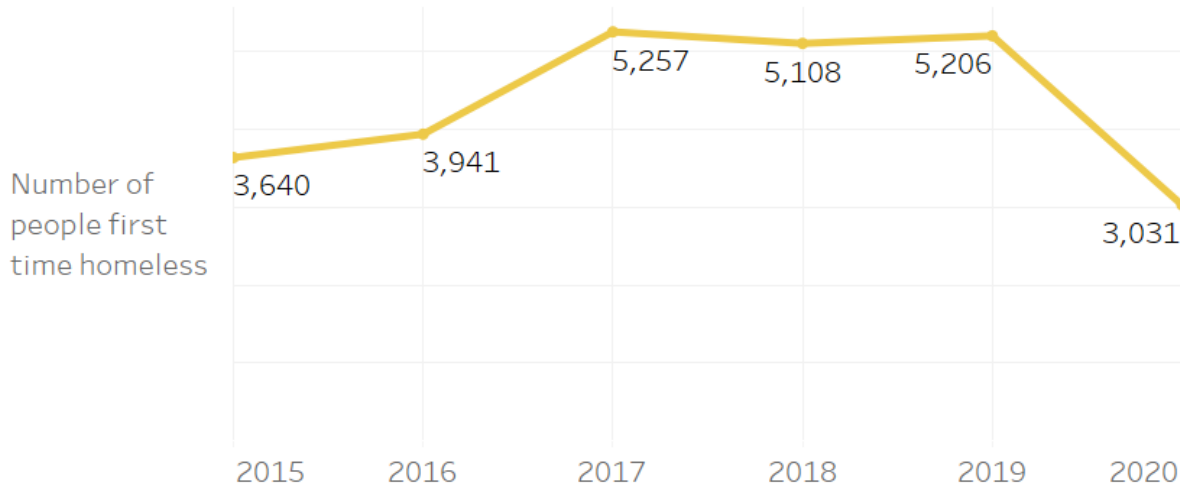
Because HMIS data only represents engaged persons, this drop in 2020 could reflect reduced engagement and services due to COVID, the impact of eviction moratoriums, and/or an overall lack of comprehensive outreach data.
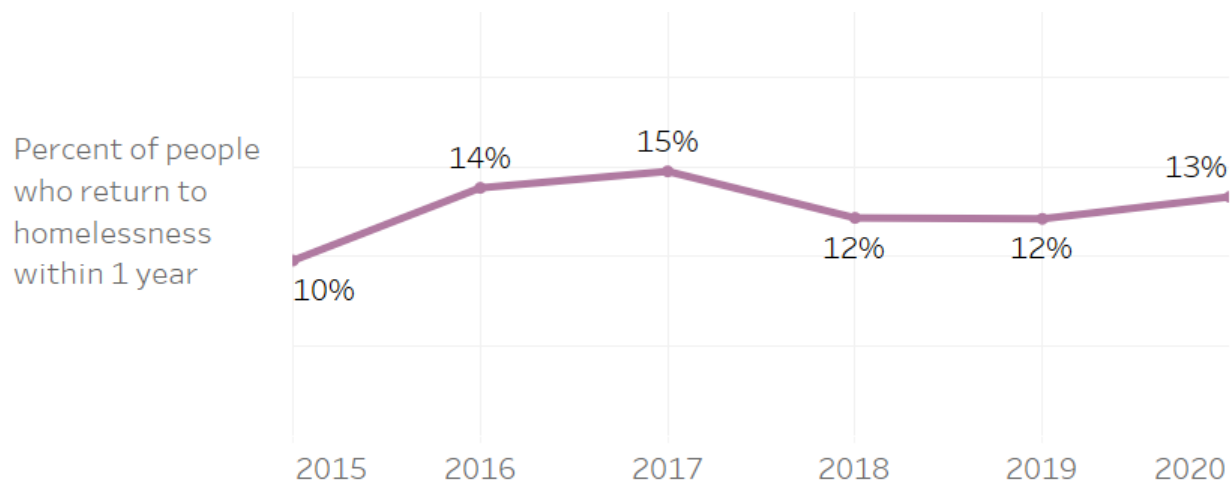
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How is Sacramento's system doing?

Reduce the number of people becoming homeless

- SPM 2: Returns to homelessness

The percent of people who exit to permanent destinations but later return to homelessness has remained relatively consistent. Then national 1-year return rate was 14% in 2020.


Percent of people who return to homelessness within 1 year

10% (2015) • 14% (2016) • 15% (2017) • 12% (2018) • 12% (2019) • 13% (2020)

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How is Sacramento's System doing?

Help people become quickly & stably housed

- SPM 1: Length of time homeless

The length of time spent in emergency shelter and transitional housing has remained relatively constant and is close to the average for similar sized CoCs* (128 days in 2020).
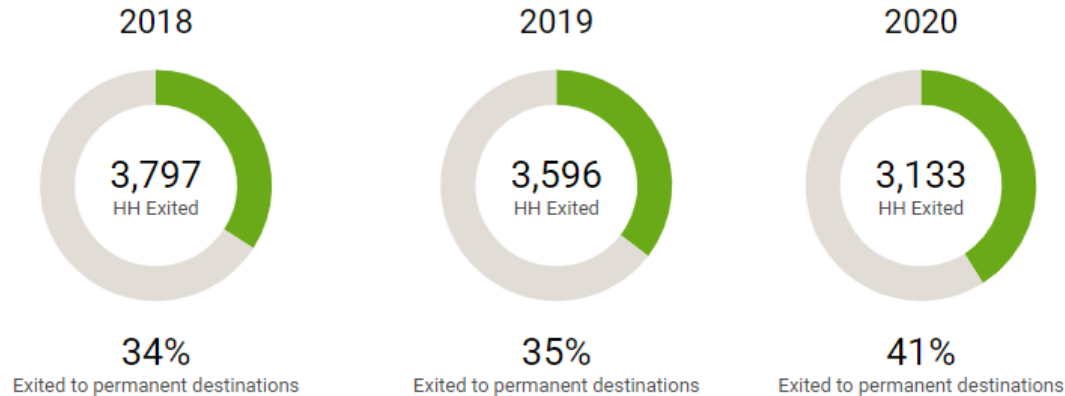

Average days homeless

130   125   118   131   144   132

2015   2016   2017   2018   2019   2020
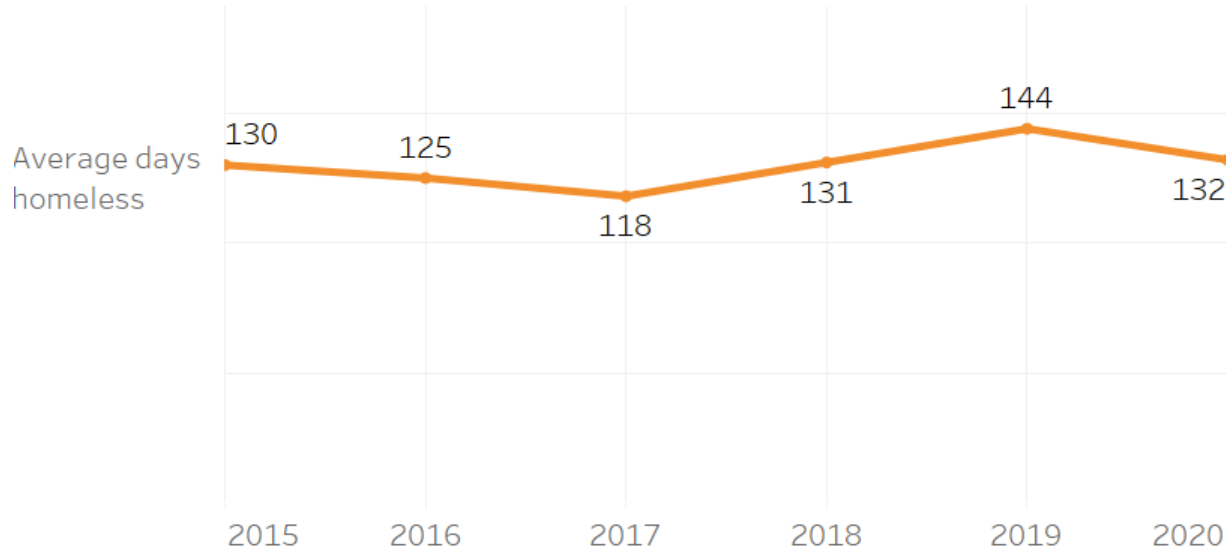
* Major City CoC category, not including Los Angeles or New York City, which are large outliers

Source: HUD System Performance Measures

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How is Sacramento's System doing?

Help people become quickly & stably housed
- SPM 7: Successful placement and retention of housing

The percent of households who left homelessness for a permanent destination increased in 2020 and is similar to the national rate of 40%.

2018	2019	2020
3,797 HH Exited	3,596 HH Exited	3,133 HH Exited
34% Exited to permanent destinations	35% Exited to permanent destinations	41% Exited to permanent destinations

98% of those who exited to a Permanent Housing program stayed in Permanent Housing, similar to the national rate of 97%.

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