Orange County
HUD System Performance Measures
2015 - 2019

What are the HUD System Performance Measures?

A key aspect of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the HEATH Act, is a focus on viewing the local homeless response as a coordinated system of homeless assistance options as opposed to independently operating programs and funding sources. Because of this change, Continuums of Care (CoCs) are now required to measure their performance as a coordinated system. The System Performance Measures (SPM) allows CoCs to regularly measure their progress in meeting the needs of people experiencing homelessness in their community and to report this progress to HUD.

The SPM is pulled from the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and submitted to HUD annually by CoCs around the country. The reporting period for all SPM reports is October 1st to September 30th. With the exception of Metric 3.1 which includes data from the Unsheltered Point-In-Time count, all data comes from Orange County's HMIS.

What gets measured?

There are 7 System Performance Measures, some made up of 2 to 4 submeasures or metrics. The measures are:

Measure 1. Length of time persons remain homeless
Measure 2. The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness
Measure 3. Number of homeless persons
Measure 4. Jobs and income growth for homeless persons in CoC Program-funded projects
Measure 5. Number of persons who become homeless for the first time;
Measure 6. Homelessness prevention and housing placement of persons defined by Category 3 of HUD's homeless definition in CoC Program-funded projects
Measure 7. Successful housing placement

Orange County submits measures one through five and seven to HUD annually. Measure 6 has yet to be applicable to any CoC.

What is included in this report?

This report contains a comparison of Orange County's performance on certain System Performance Measures for each funding year (10/1 - 9/30) from 2015 to 2019. This report will be updated on an annual basis after 211OC completes the final analysis for that year's System Performance Measures submission.

For measures with multiple sub-measures, we have chosen to highlight the most comprehensive sub-measure or metric. For example, Measure 4, Employment and Income Growth for Homeless Persons in CoC Program-funded Projects, includes 6 metrics that differentiate sources of income a client may receive. In this report, we focus on metrics 4.3 and 4.6 which include all income sources.

To view all of Orange County's System Performance Reports submitted to HUD, please visit ochmis.org.

What is 2019's bed participation information?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Non-DV Beds on HIC</th>
<th>HMIS Participating Beds</th>
<th>HMIS Participation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All ES, SH</td>
<td>1771</td>
<td>1381</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All PSH-OPH</td>
<td>2351</td>
<td>2295</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All RRH</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All TH</td>
<td>1017</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National System Performance Measures data is released by HUD each year for the previous funding year’s analysis. Throughout this report, look for orange boxes that will show you how Orange County compared to California and the United States in 2018.

The extent to which data is missing or incomplete in HMIS affects the accuracy of the metrics on the System Performance Report. Look for teal boxes throughout the report that will let you know when and if a measure is affected by data quality.
Measure 1 contains two sub-measures. Both submeasures calculate the average lengths of time (in days) spent homeless for clients active during the reporting period. The goal for this measure is for the average lengths of homelessness to decrease each year.

Measure 1a looks at clients in Emergency Shelter (ES), Safe Haven (SH), and Transitional Housing (TH) projects.

The measure is calculated using clients' length of time in the project strictly as entered in HMIS.

Measure 1b looks at clients in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Permanent Housing (PSH), Other Permanent Housing (OPH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects.

The measure is calculated using data from the start of clients' current episode of homelessness through either the date they are housed or exit the project.

*Note: Since this measure began, calculation methods have changed multiple times. These changes resulted in scores, particularly for Measure 1b, that vary from year to year due to methodology changes and not necessarily changes in the length of time people experience homelessness.*
Measure 2 looks at the percentage of clients who exit to a Permanent Housing destination during the reporting period plus one year prior to the report start date, and subsequently return to homelessness within 6, 12, or 24 months. This measure helps CoCs determine the effectiveness of their coordinated efforts at keeping people from falling into homelessness after having received CoC services. The goal for this measure is to decrease the number of people falling back into homelessness each year.

Since 2015, new agencies have joined the Orange County HMIS each year. This gives our CoC a more comprehensive look at possible returns to homelessness that would not have been captured before the agency joined HMIS.

The chart to the right shows a breakdown of the 15.4% of all clients who returned to homelessness after exiting to Permanent Housing by how long after project exit the return to homelessness took place.

The charts below show a year over year look at what percentage of clients exited to Permanent Housing and returned to homelessness within 2 years for each project type.

In 2018, Orange County saw a lower percentage of clients exiting to permanent housing and subsequently returning to homelessness than California or the United States as a whole! Orange County’s score for total returns to homelessness within 2 years was 12.7% compared to California's 18.5% and the United States' 19.4%.
Measure 3
Number of Homeless Persons

Measure 3 directly assesses a CoC’s progress toward eliminating homelessness by counting the number of people experiencing homelessness both at a point in time and over the course of a year. The goal for this measure is for the total counts of people experiencing homelessness to decrease each year.

Metric 3.1 is a count of sheltered clients using Point-In-Time Count (PIT) data. This data comes from the PIT count data submitted to HUD, which includes projects that participate in HMIS and projects that do not participate in HMIS.

Unsheltered counts occur every other year in January during odd numbered years. The previous year’s count is used for even numbered SPM years.

Metric 3.2 is a count of clients using HMIS data from ES, SH, and TH projects. This data is unduplicated across all applicable project types, meaning that if a client enrolls in the same project type twice during the reporting period, they are represented in this number only once.

In 2018 there were 1,073,780 total unduplicated people experiencing homelessness in the United States and 113,531 in California. 6,250 unduplicated Orange County residents experienced homelessness in 2018 accounting for 5.5% of California’s population experiencing homelessness and 0.6% of the United States’.

Orange County experienced a large uptick in measure 3.2 from 2018 to 2019 due to the addition of Emergency Shelter projects in HMIS since the 2018 System Performance Measures were submitted. In the 2019 System Performance report there were over one thousand additional Emergency Shelter clients reported.
Measure 4
Increase in Income For Adults in CoC Funded Projects

Measure 4 is comprised of 6 metrics which measure the percentage of adult clients enrolled in CoC funded projects who have increased their earned and non-employment cash income during the reporting period. As of 2019, Orange County only receives CoC funding for PSH and RRH projects.

Measures 4.3 and 4.6 calculate the percentage of stayers and leavers who have increased their total income, irrespective of income source. The goal for this measure is for the percentage of clients with increased income to increase each year.

Metric 4.3 represents the percentage of adult stayers (clients still enrolled in the project as of the end of the reporting period with a length of stay of at least 365 days as of the end of the reporting period) who have an increase in total income recorded in HMIS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Metric 4.3: Stayers with Increased Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Orange County’s percent of adult stayers with increased income in 2018 was 61%, compared to California’s total percentage of 34% and the national percentage of 36%.

Metric 4.6 represents the percentage of adult leavers (clients who exited the project before the end of the reporting period) who have an increase in total income recorded in HMIS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Metric 4.6: Leavers with Increased Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Orange County’s percent of adult leavers with increased income in Orange County in 2018 was 50% compared to the national percentage of 33% and California’s percentage of 31%.
Measure 5
Number of Persons Who Become Homeless for the First Time

Measure 5 allows CoCs to track and assess whether they are effectively reducing the number of people who become homeless by analyzing the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time. The goal for this measure is for the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time to decrease each year.

Metric 5.1 reports the change in the percentage of persons entering Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects who have no prior enrollments in HMIS.

Metric 5.2 reports the change in the percentage of persons enrolling in any of the project types mentioned in Metric 5.1 plus Permanent Housing who have no prior enrollments in HMIS.

Of the total 818,893 people experiencing homelessness in the United States for the first time in 2018, Orange County accounted for 0.6% of that population and 5% of California’s total 102,450.
Measure 7
Successful Placement From Street Outreach and Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

Measure 7 is comprised of three metrics that report on the ability of a CoC to exit its clients to successful destinations or for those enrolled in Permanent Housing projects, their ability to maintain Permanent Housing. Destinations that are considered successful vary between project types. The goal for this measure is for the percentage of successful outcomes to increase each year.

Successful destinations from SO projects include almost all known destinations other than jail or the streets because it represents a client moving from an unsheltered to sheltered living situation.

Orange County’s score for successful exits from Street Outreach was 6% in 2018, compared to California’s score of 21% and the national score of 36%.

An increase in positive exits from Street Outreach projects from 2018 to 2019 was due in part to changes in local guidance regarding when project exit should occur. This has also resulted in a decrease in the percentage of missing Destination data, with the error rate dropping almost 28% from last year.

Because the goal and function of project types in Metric 7.b1 is to move clients into permanent housing, destinations considered “successful” for these project types are Permanent Housing situations.

Orange County’s score for successful exits from ES, SH, TH, and RRH was 39% in 2018, compared to California’s score of 37% and the national score of 42%.

Due to the nature of Emergency Shelter projects, clients are frequently exited without providing Destination data, resulting in an error rate of 49%. However, over the past year the percentage of missing Destination data has improved by about 10%.

Measure 7.b2 represents the percentage of enrollments in Permanent Supportive Housing and Other Permanent Housing projects with a Housing Move-In Date which either were still enrolled or had exited to a Permanent Housing destination as of the end of the reporting period.

Orange County’s score for retention of permanent housing or permanent housing exits from PSH-OPH was 97% in 2018, compared to California’s score of 96% and the national score of 96%.