Orange County

HUD System Performance Measures

2021 - 2025

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 data to HUD annually for all measures excluding measure 6, which is not applicable to the Orange County 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 2021 to 2025. 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 Orange County's bed participation information?

Project Type	Non-DV Beds on HIC	HMIS Participating Beds	HMIS Participation Rate
All ES, SH	2984	2948	99%
All PSH-OPH	5519	5519	100%
All RRH	490	490	100%
All TH	800	272	34%

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 2024.

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.

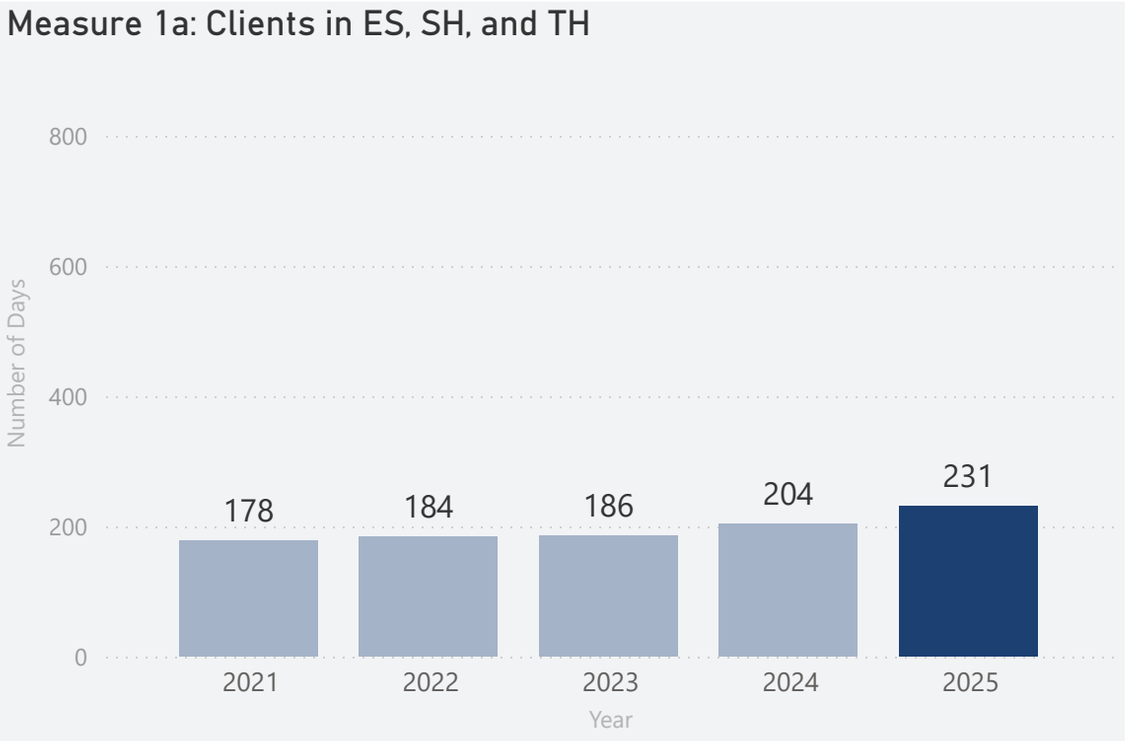
Measure 1
Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

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.

Orange County's average length of time in ES-SH-TH is 204 days compared to California's 154 days and the national average of 121 days.



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.

This measure is calculated using the client's self-reported date their current episode of homelessness began. 211OC has identified errors in data collection for this field, and is engaging ongoing training and data review to correct this data for future reports.

Measure 2
Returns to Homelessness

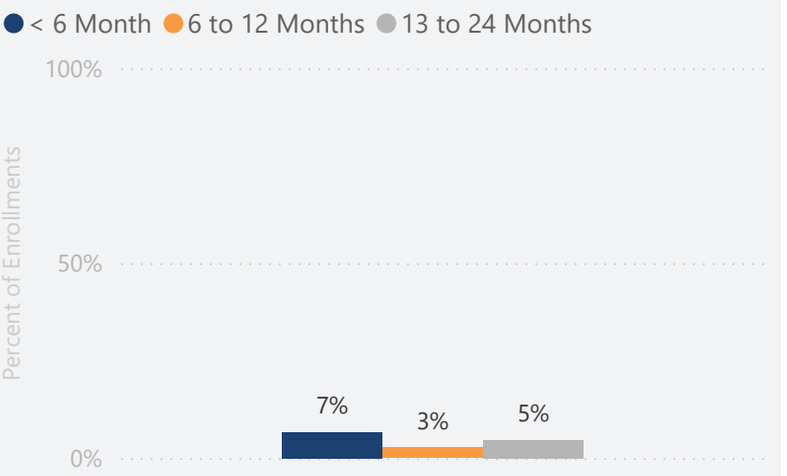
Measure 2 looks at the percentage of clients who exit to a Permanent Housing destination during the reporting period plus one year prior to the report start date, and subsequently return to homelessness within 6, 12, or 24 months. This measures helps CoCs determine the effectiveness of their coordinated 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.

The chart to the right shows when clients returned to the homeless system after exiting to a permanent housing situation.

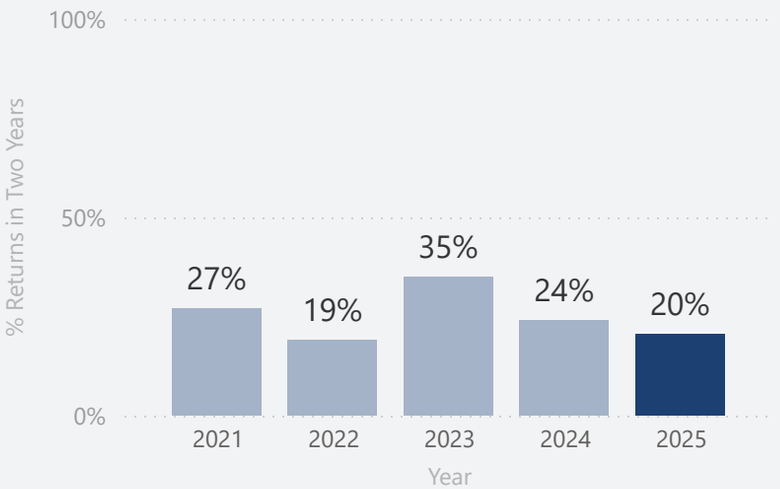
The charts below show a year over year look at what percentage of clients exited to Permanent Housing and returned to homelessness within 2 years for each project type.

Orange County's score for total returns to homelessness within 2 years was 19% compared to California's 18% and the national average of 17%.

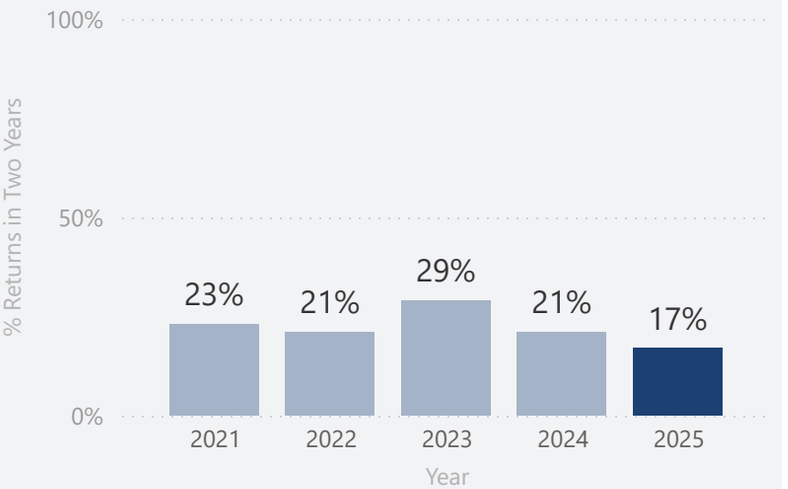
OC 2025 Returns to Homelessness



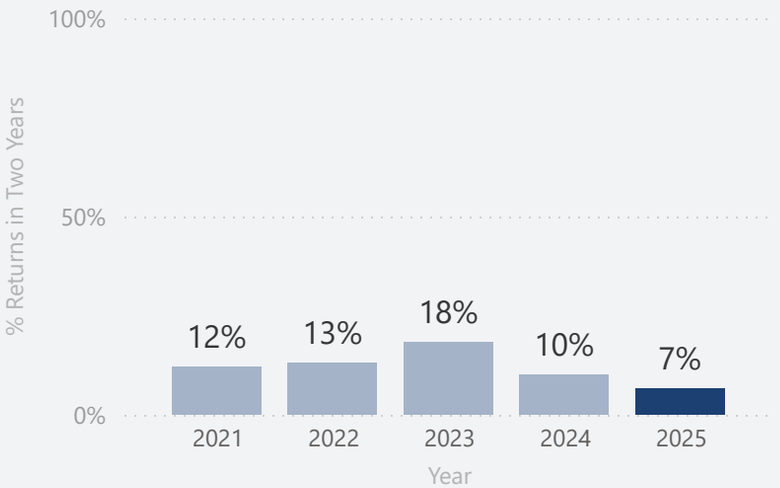
Returns From Street Outreach



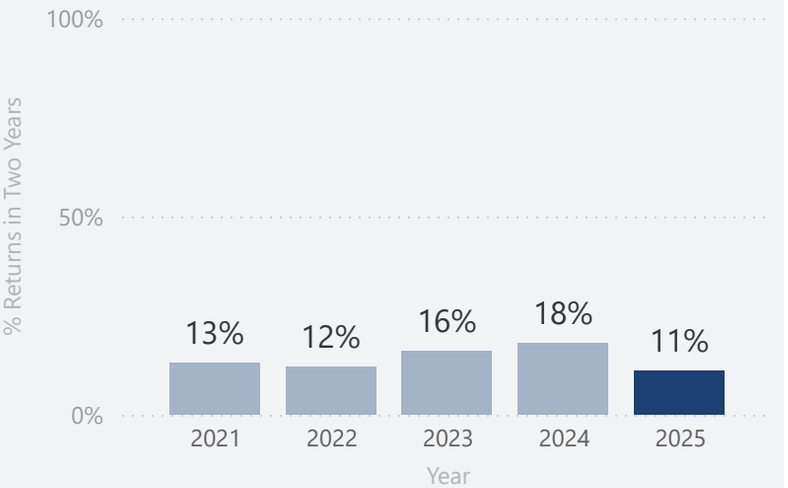
Returns From Emergency Shelter



Returns From Transitional Housing



Returns From Permanent Housing



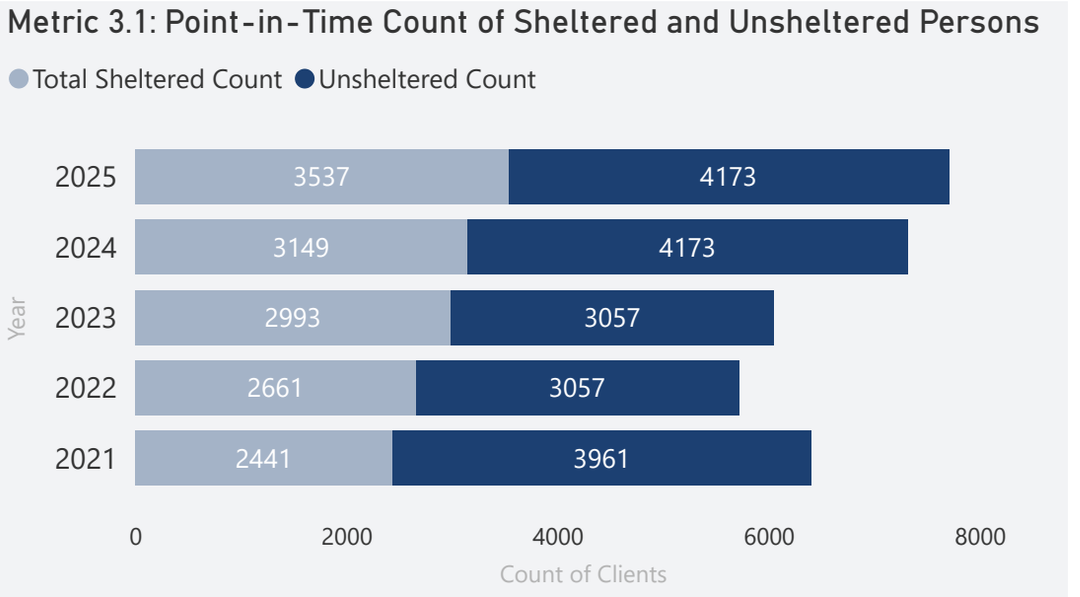
Measure 3
Number of Homeless Persons

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.

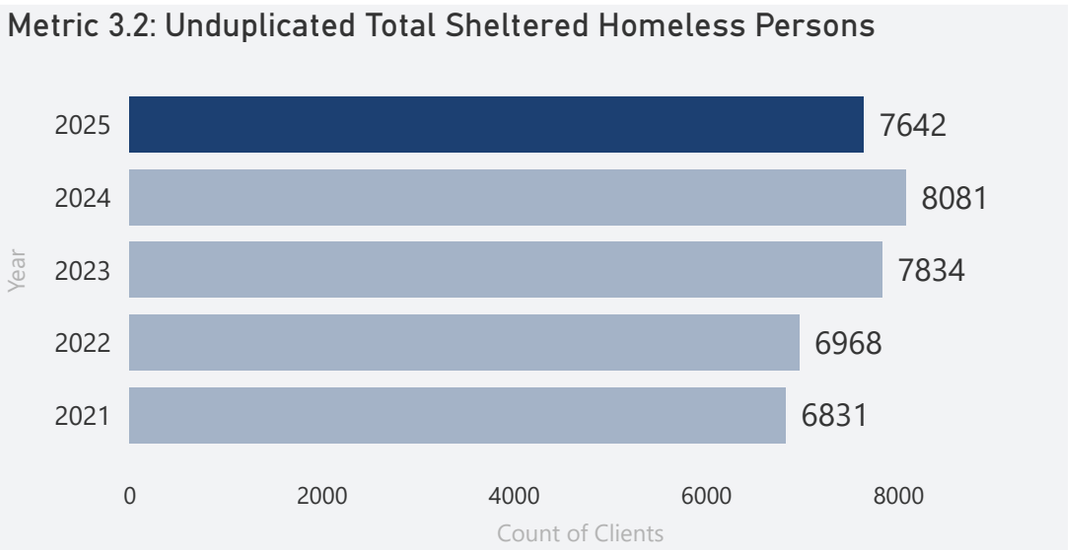
Metric 3.1 is a count of sheltered clients using Point-In-Time Count (PIT) data. This data comes from the PIT count data submitted to HUD, which includes projects that participate in HMIS and projects that do not participate in HMIS.

Unsheltered counts occur every other year. Data from the previous year is used in years when the count isn't completed.

The 2021 unsheltered PIT count was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so unsheltered data from the 2019 PIT was used.



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.



The table below shows 2024 data for Metric 3.2 for Orange County CA-602 and surrounding continuums of care.

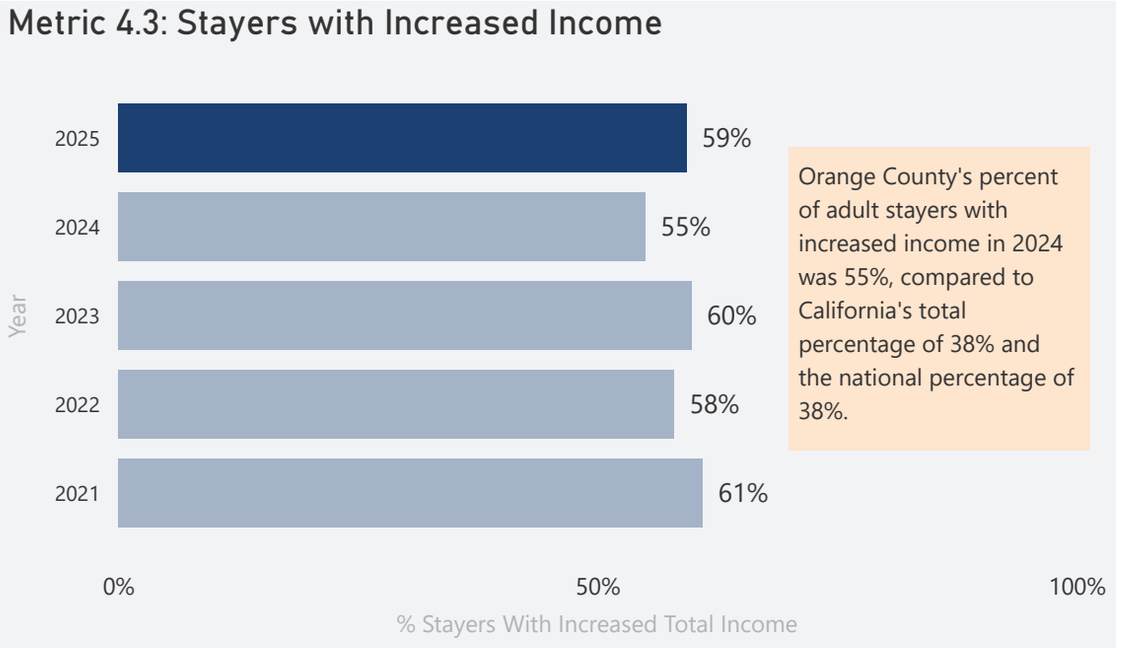
Jurisdiction	Total Population	Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons (3.2)	% of Population Experiencing Homelessness (3.2)	% of California's Homeless Population (3.2)
Los Angeles (CA-600) + Long Beach (CA-606)	9748868	49793	0.51%	30%
Orange County (CA-602)	3158027	8081	0.26%	5%
Riverside (CA-608)	2529112	6583	0.26%	4%
San Bernardino (CA-609)	2218764	2838	0.13%	2%
San Diego (CA-601)	3287542	14250	0.43%	9%

Measure 4
Increase in Income For Adults in CoC Funded Projects

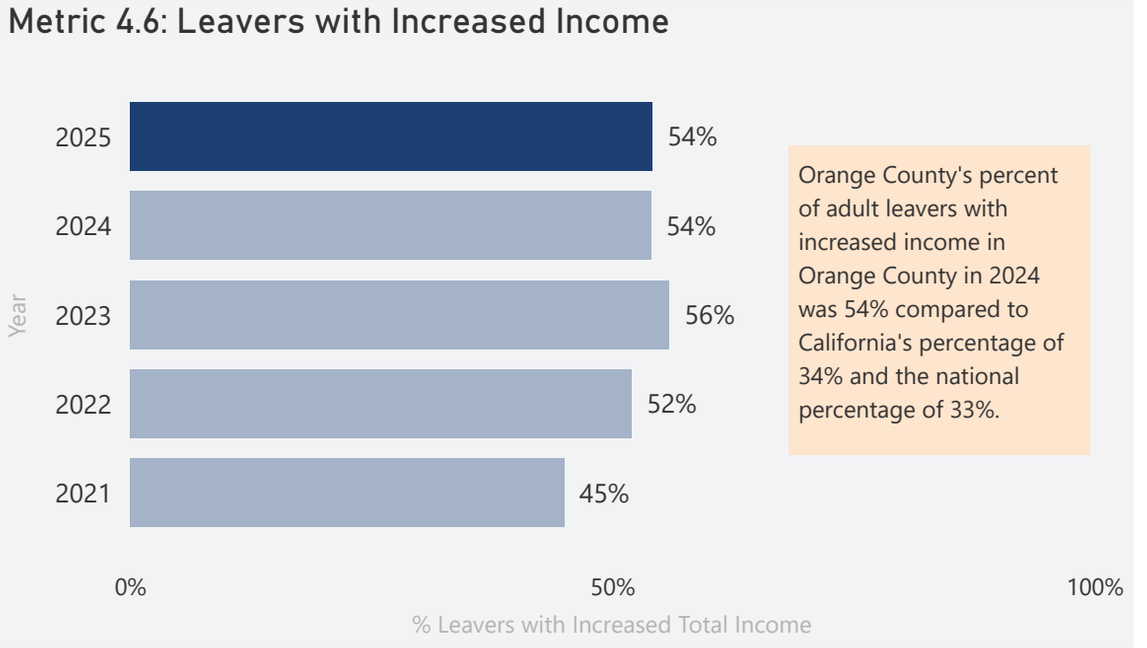
Measure 4 is comprised of 6 metrics which measure the percentage of adult clients enrolled in CoC funded projects who have increased their earned and non-employment cash income during the reporting period.

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.



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.

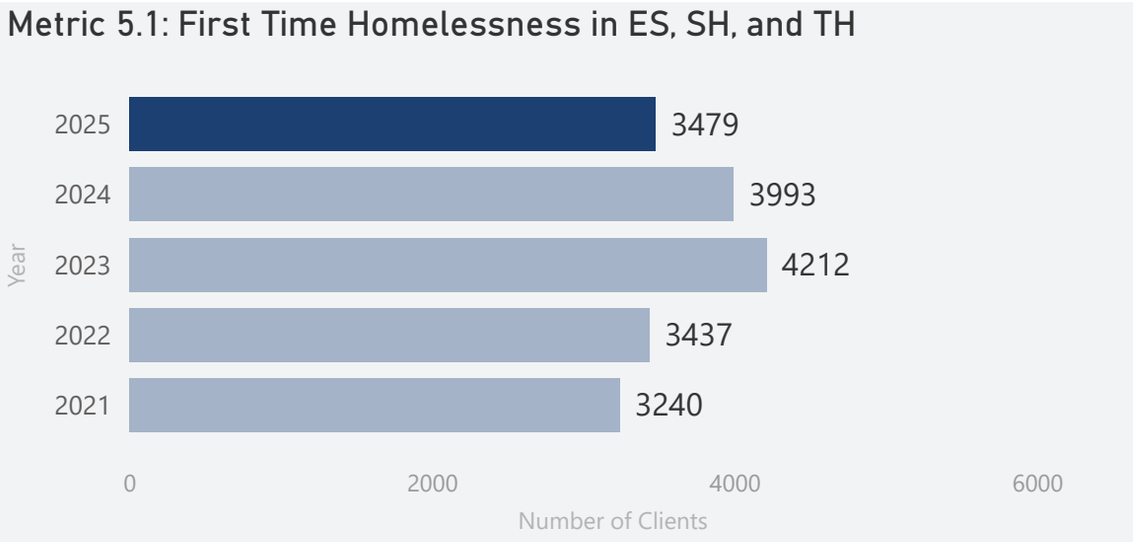


Measure 5

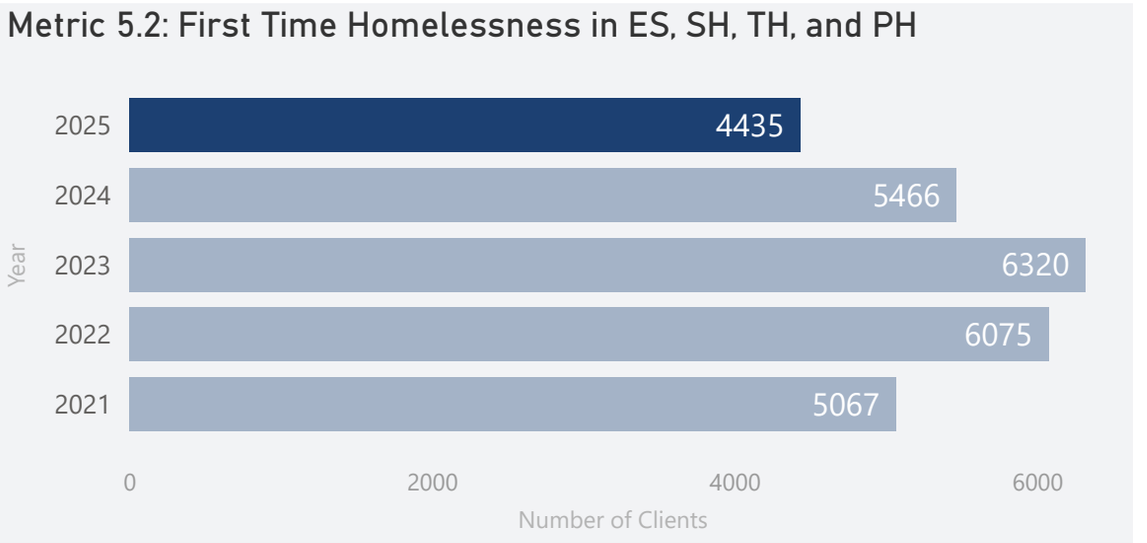
Number of Persons Who Become Homeless for the First Time

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



The table to the right shows 2024 data for Metric 5.2 for Orange County CA-602 and surrounding Continuums of Care.

Jurisdiction	Total Population Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time (5.2)	% of California's Population Experiencing Homelessness for the First Time
Long Beach (CA-606)	2127	2%
Los Angeles (CA-600)	30933	24%
Orange County (CA-602)	5466	4%
Riverside (CA-608)	7511	6%
San Bernardino (CA-609)	3872	3%
San Diego (CA-601)	9065	7%

Measure 7
Successful Placement From Street Outreach and Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

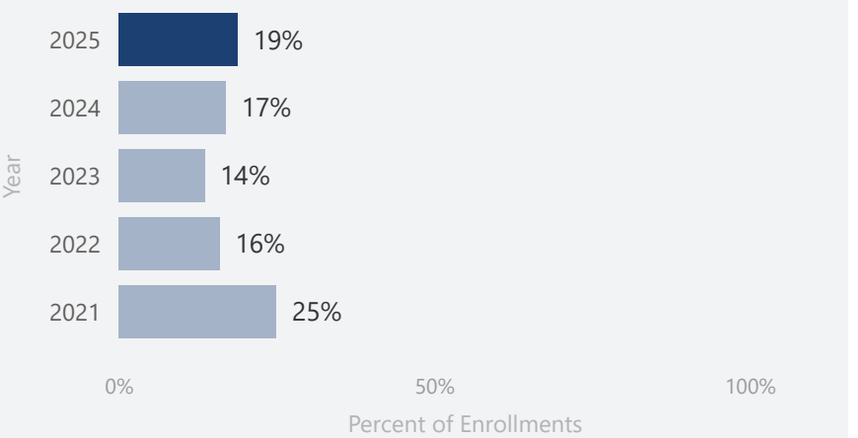
Measure 7 is comprised of three metrics that report on the ability of a CoC to exit its clients to successful destinations or for those enrolled in Permanent Housing projects, their ability to maintain Permanent Housing. Destinations that are considered successful vary between project types. The goal 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 17% in 2024, compared to California's score of 24% and the national score of 32%.

Due to the nature of Street Outreach projects, clients are frequently exited without providing Destination data, resulting in an error rate of 55%.

Metric 7.a1: Successful Exits From Street Outreach

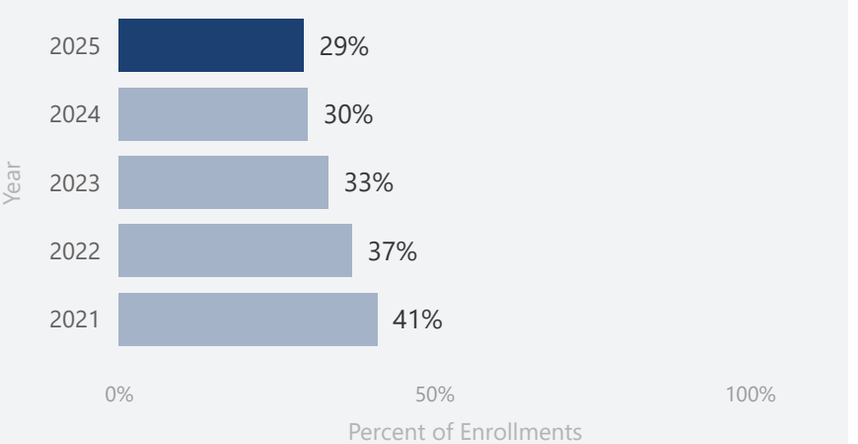


Because the goal and function of project types in Metric 7.b1 is to move clients into permanent housing, destinations considered "successful" for these project types are Permanent Housing situations.

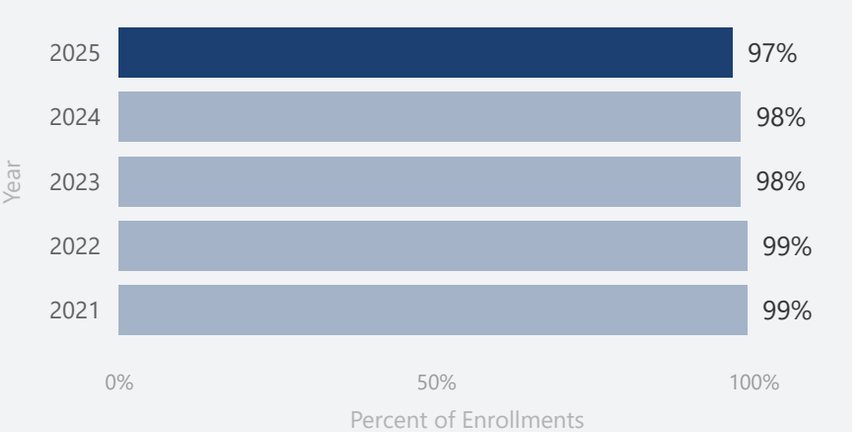
Orange County's score for successful exits from ES, SH, TH, and RRH was 30% in 2024, compared to California's score of 35% and the national score of 34%.

Due to the nature of Emergency Shelter projects, clients are frequently exited without providing Destination data, resulting in an error rate of 39%.

Metric 7.b1: Successful Exits From Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing



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 98% in 2024, compared to California's score of 96% and the national score of 96%.

Metric 7.b2: Retention of or Exit to Permanent Housing from PSH or OPH