

# Toledo/Lucas County Continuum of Care Performance Indicators

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## Quarterly Report, First Quarter 2014

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# Executive Summary

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This report covers performance of homeless service programs participating in a shared database for homeless services providers in Lucas County, Ohio. As a whole, participating programs are meeting a majority of the performance targets adopted for 2014. Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing met all targets for the first quarter of 2014.

Emergency Shelter programs met all but one of their respective targets for 2014. Rapid Re-Housing programs fell short of targets in positive or neutral reasons for leaving, employment outcomes, income improvement, and short-term recidivism.

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# Background

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In July 2012 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published an interim rule regarding Continuums of Care (CoCs). The responsibilities in that rule included a requirement for CoCs to establish how they will measure performance.

As the lead agency in the Toledo/Lucas County Continuum of Care, the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board (TLCHB) reviewed statutory and regulatory requirements; examined metrics in use by other CoCs; referenced best practices guidance; and consulted in-depth with homeless services providers funded through the CoC. In November 2012, TLCHB adopted its first formal performance indicators and targets for calendar year 2013. In November 2013, TLCHB adopted updated performance indicators and targets for calendar year 2014.

This is the fifth quarterly report in an indefinite series on the performance of homeless service programs participating in the Toledo Homeless Management Information System (Toledo HMIS). These reports will be presented quarterly to the TLCHB Board of Directors and published on the TLCHB website.

# Scope of Report

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This report is intended to illustrate trends and provide a snapshot of the CoC's most recent outcomes for several of its adopted indicators.

Quarterly trends are provided for primary indicators: exits to permanent housing, short-term recidivism, length of stay in programs, reasons for leaving programs, and retention in permanent supportive housing. The exact set of indicators varies by type of program. Where possible, trends are provided through the previous eight quarters.

A snapshot of the most recent quarter is given for both primary indicators and a set of supporting indicators, which include improvements in income by program participants, client employment rates at program exit, and the percent of households receiving non-cash benefits.

## Total Households Exiting by Program Type

Indicators are generally either percentages or averages based on exits during the reporting period. To provide context, the most recent quarter's total household exits and the average quarterly household exits from 2012 to present are listed below.

<b>Total Households Exiting</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>Transitional Housing</b>	<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	<b>Rapid Re-Housing</b>
First quarter 2014	149	10	35	47
Quarterly average, 2012-present	182	19	38	42

# Discussion of Outcomes

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The CoC is meeting a majority of its adopted 2014 targets. A brief discussion of indicator outcomes for each program type is provided here, followed by visualization of trends for primary indicators and a snapshot of outcomes for the most recent quarter. It may be helpful to refer to the charts and snapshot table while reading the discussion of outcomes for each program type.

## Emergency Shelter

During the first quarter, emergency shelters met three of the four outcome targets for calendar year 2014. The only unmet outcome was average length of stay.

Average length of stay increased slightly over the quarter. In fourth quarter 2013, the average length of stay in emergency shelters was 46 days, compared with 47 days in first quarter 2014.

Emergency shelters continued to maintain positive results in exits to permanent housing and positive or neutral reasons for leaving programs. The percentage of exits to permanent housing was 36 percent for first quarter 2014, beating the target of 30 percent. Positive or neutral reasons for leaving programs decreased slightly to 65 percent in first quarter 2014, but still beat the 2014 target of 60 percent.

## Transitional Housing

During the first quarter, transitional housing met all seven outcome targets for calendar year 2014.

Transitional housing has shown improvements in exits to permanent housing and positive or neutral reasons for leaving. The percentage of exits to permanent housing continued an increase through first quarter 2014 to the target of 80 percent, compared to 67 percent in third quarter 2013 and 73 percent in fourth quarter 2013. Positive or neutral reasons for leaving improved to 90 percent in first quarter 2014, compared to 67 percent in the third quarter and 73 percent in fourth quarter 2013.

Although transitional housing met their targets for improvement in income and adults employed at exit, the outcomes decreased from fourth quarter 2013. Improvement in income decreased from 27 percent in fourth quarter 2013 to 20 percent in first quarter 2014. Adults employed at exit decreased from 25 percent in fourth quarter 2013 to 20 percent in first quarter 2014.

## Permanent Supportive Housing

During the first quarter, permanent supportive housing met all six outcome targets for calendar year 2014.

Indicators with large improvements over the quarter include adults employed at exit and improvement in income. Permanent supportive housing reported 23 percent of adults employed at exit, which increased from 12 percent in fourth quarter 2013. Improvement in income increased to 63 percent in first quarter 2014 from 53 percent in the fourth quarter.

That said, all other outcome targets were met, with most showing steady improvement during the past eight quarters. Exits to permanent housing were 86 percent in the most recent quarter, an increase of 9 points from the same quarter last year and well above the target of 70 percent.

Of note is the extremely high six-month retention rate for clients in permanent supportive housing. Retention has consistently been at or above 99 percent, which may warrant further investigation to determine whether the most difficult to house are truly being enrolled in such programs.

## **Rapid Re-Housing**

During the first quarter, rapid re-housing met three of the seven outcome targets for calendar year 2014. The outcomes that met their targets were average length of stay, exits to permanent housing, and households exiting with non-cash benefits.

Rapid re-housing programs reported only 33 percent of adults employed at exit, well below the target of 40 percent and down six percentage points from the previous quarter. Positive or neutral reasons for leaving programs were only 45 percent for first quarter 2014, also well below the target of 75 percent and down 11 points from fourth quarter 2013. Short-term recidivism worsened from four percent for exits in second quarter 2013 to ten percent for exits in third quarter 2013. Improvement in income declined to 30 percent in first quarter 2014 from 44 percent in the fourth quarter of 2013.

All other outcome targets were met. Households exiting with non-cash benefits decreased over the past quarter from 98 percent in fourth quarter 2013 to 91 percent in first quarter 2014, and just slightly above the target of 90%. Exits to permanent housing continued a significant increase to 98 percent in first quarter 2014 from 82 percent in the third quarter and 91 percent in fourth quarter 2013. Average length of stay increased slightly to 158 days from 157 days in fourth quarter 2013.

## **Notes on Graphs of Trends**

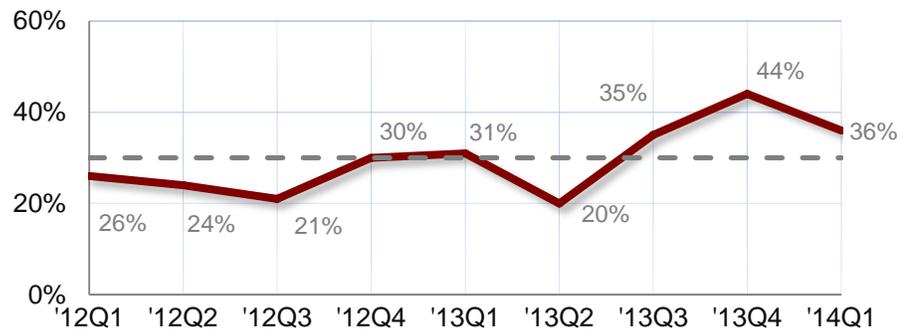
The solid red line on each of the following charts is the observed quarterly outcome for each indicator. Where applicable, a dotted line represents the target for that indicator.

# Trends for Emergency Shelter

## Exits to Permanent Housing

Target: 30%

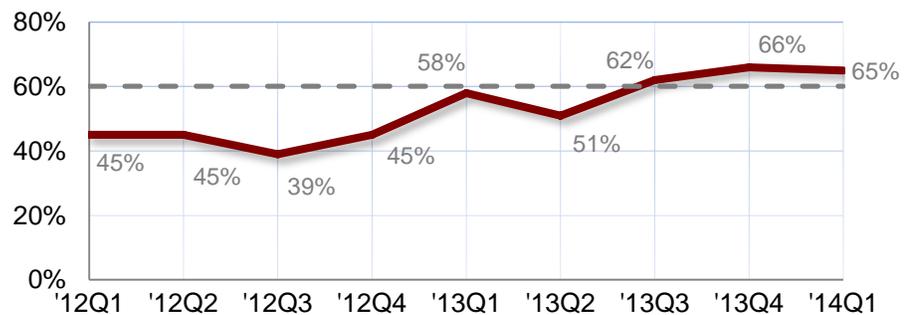
Percent of households whose destination at exit was a category of permanent housing (higher is better).



## Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving Programs

Target: 60%

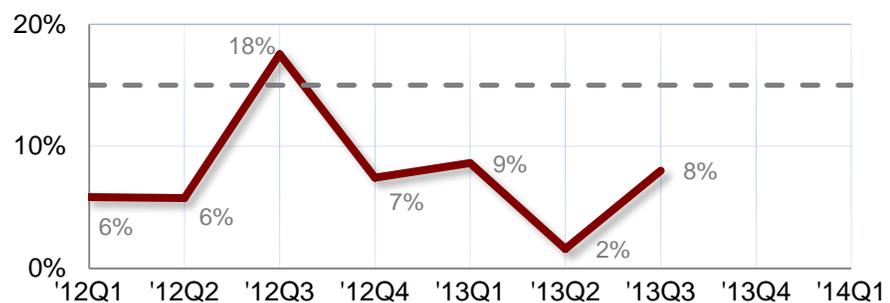
Percent of households whose reason for leaving at exit was not a category such as "Disagreement with rules/persons" or "Needs could not be met by program" (higher is better).



## Short-term Recidivism

Target: 15%

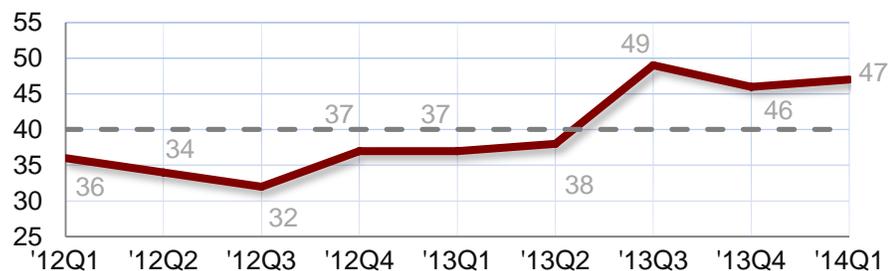
Percent of persons who exited to permanent housing and then entered emergency shelter or transitional housing within six months (lower is better).



## Average Length of Stay

Target: 40 days

Average number of days between a household's entry and exit (lower is generally better).

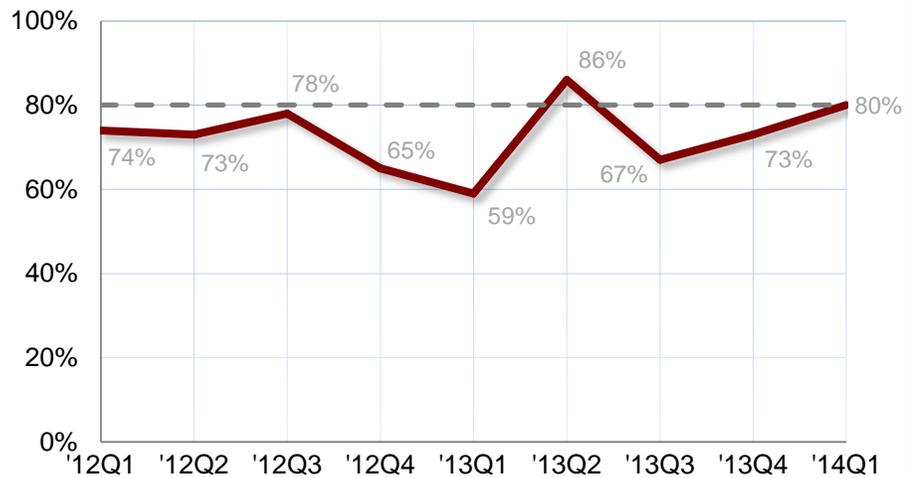


# Trends for Transitional Housing

## Exits to Permanent Housing

Target: 80%

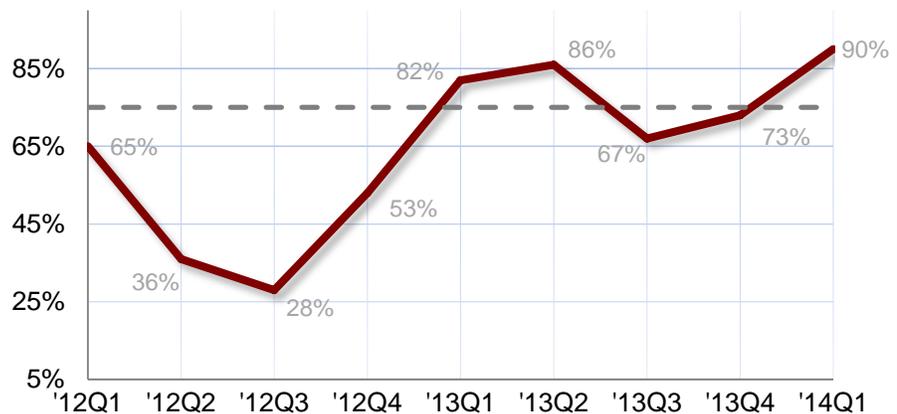
Percent of households whose destination at exit was a category of permanent housing (higher is better).



## Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving Programs

Target: 75%

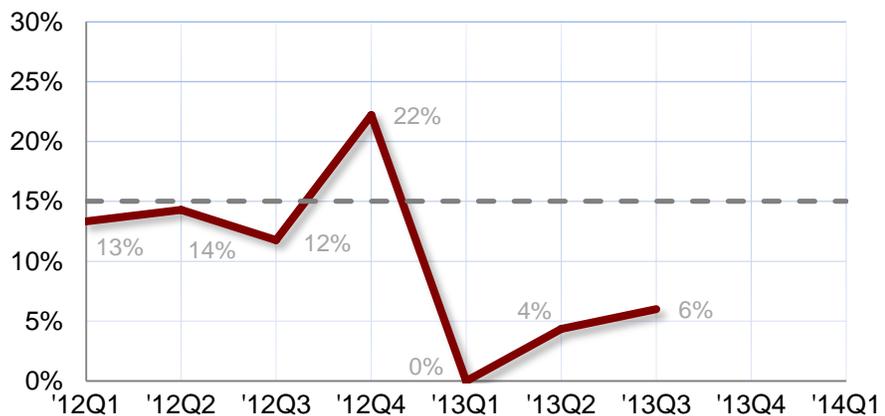
Percent of households whose reason for leaving at exit was not a category such as "Disagreement with rules/persons" or "Needs could not be met by program" (higher is better).



## Short-term Recidivism

Target: 15%

Percent of persons who exited to permanent housing and then entered emergency shelter or transitional housing within six months (lower is better).

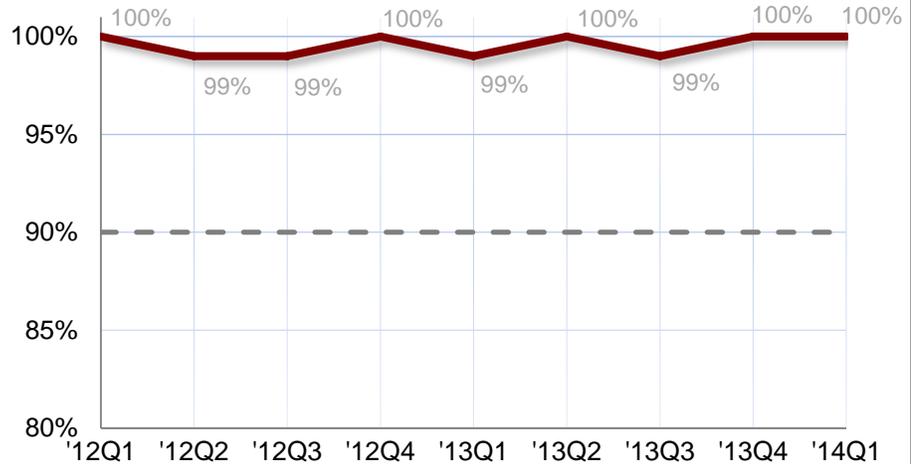


# Trends for Permanent Supportive Housing

## Retention

Target: 90%

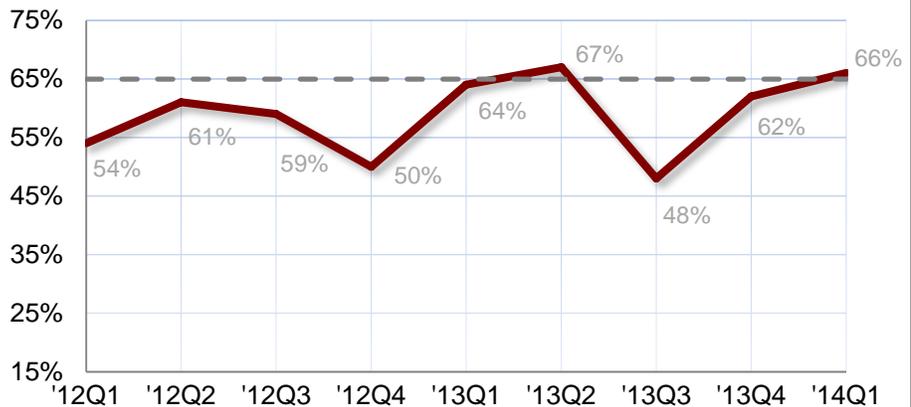
Percent of households whose length of stay in Permanent Supportive Housing is at least 181 days (higher is better).



## Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving Programs

Target: 65%

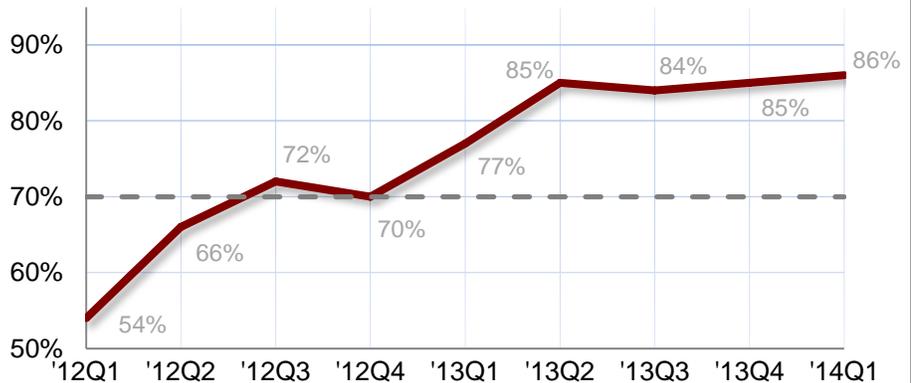
Percent of households whose reason for leaving at exit was not a category such as “Disagreement with rules/persons” or “Needs could not be met by program” (higher is better).



## Exits to Permanent Housing

Target: 70%

Percent of households whose destination at exit was a category of permanent housing (higher is better).

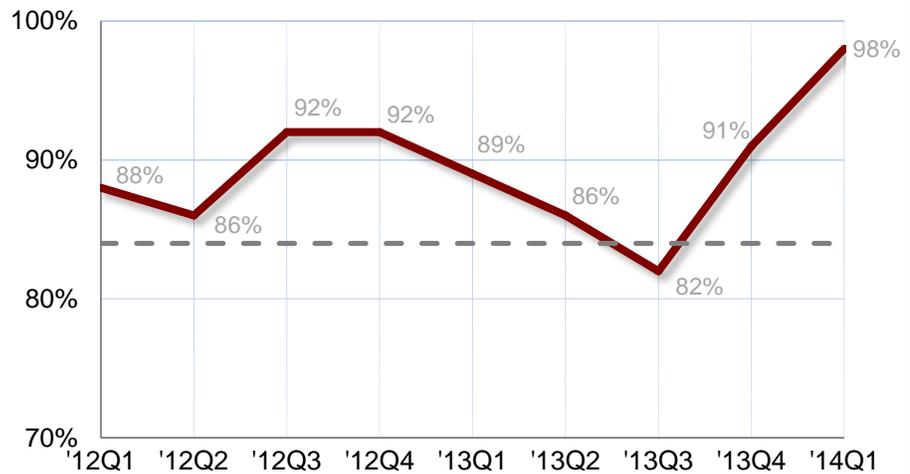


# Trends for Rapid Re-Housing

## Exits to Permanent Housing

Target: 84%

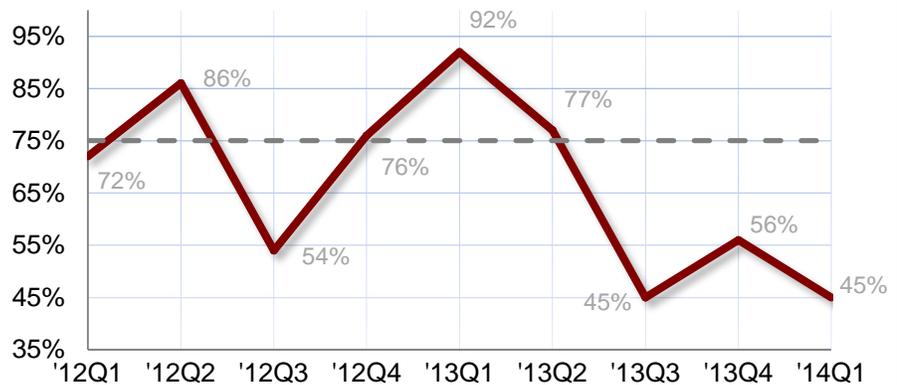
Percent of households whose destination at exit was a category of permanent housing (higher is better).



## Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving Programs

Target: 75%

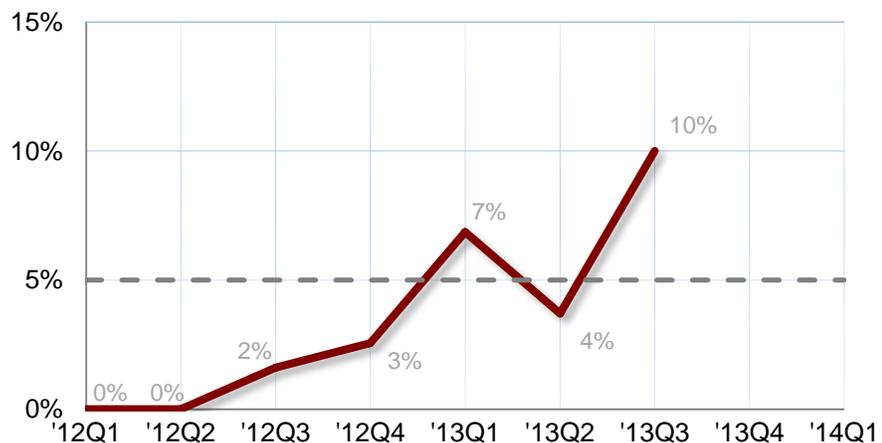
Percent of households whose reason for leaving at exit was not a category such as "Disagreement with rules/persons" or "Needs could not be met by program" (higher is better).



## Short-term Recidivism

Target: 5%

Percent of persons who exited to permanent housing and then entered emergency shelter or transitional housing within six months (lower is better).



# Indicator Snapshot for First Quarter 2014

Targets for a given indicator are listed in parentheses, where applicable.

Indicator	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing	Rapid Re-Housing
Exits to Permanent Housing	36% (30%)	80% (80%)	86% (70%)	98% (84%)
Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving Programs	65% (60%)	90% (75%)	66% (65%)	45% (75%)
Short-term Recidivism for exits during 2013Q3	8% (15%)	6% (15%)	7%	10% (5%)
Average Length of Stay, in days	47 (40)	186 (180 - 270)	n/a	158 (270)
PSH Retention	n/a	n/a	100% (90%)	n/a
Improvement in Income	17%	20% (20%)	63% (35%)	30% (50%)
Adults Employed at Exit	18%	20% (10%)	23% (10%)	33% (40%)
Households Exiting with Non-Cash Benefits	82%	Overall: 60% (Families: 90%)	97% (90%)	91% (90%)
<b>Coordinated Assessment KPIs (no targets)</b>				
Average days between shelter entry and re-housing assessment				8
Average days between re-housing assessment and referral				20
Average days between referral and response from provider				17
Average days between referral and project entry with provider				31

# Appendix I: Indicator Definitions

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Except where noted, all indicators in this report use definitions adopted by TLCHB in November 2013. Excerpts from that definition are included in this appendix for convenience. The full document describing TLCHB's adopted indicators is available at [www.tlchb.org](http://www.tlchb.org).

## 1. Length of Stay in Program

Defined as the average number of days a household is enrolled in a given program.

For example, a household who enters a program on the first day of a month and exits on the tenth day of the same month would have a Length of Stay equal to 10 days. In cases where members of a household enter or exit at different times, the earliest entry date and latest exit date should be used.

## 2. Exits to Permanent Housing

Defined as percent of households whose destination at exit was

- a. Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy;
- b. Owned by client, with housing subsidy;
- c. Owned by client, no housing subsidy;
- d. Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless persons (such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab);
- e. Rental by client, no housing subsidy;
- f. Rental by client, other (non-VASH) housing subsidy;
- g. Rental by client, VASH Subsidy;
- h. Staying or living with family, permanent tenure; or
- i. Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure.

## 3. Recidivism\*

Defined as percent of persons who return to homelessness within six months (180 days) after an exit to a permanent housing destination as defined above.

For example, a person who exits from a rapid re-housing project with a destination of "Rental by client, without subsidy," and then enters an emergency shelter 175 days later would count as a recidivist client. If the person enters an emergency shelter 200 days after the exit to permanent housing, they are not counted as a recidivist.

## 4. Improvement in Income

Defined as percent of households whose total household income at program exit is greater than their total household income at program entry. For example, a household whose members total income added up to \$550 per month at program entry and whose members total income added up to \$600 per month at program exit.

N.B., Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps) benefits are considered non-cash benefits and are not included in calculations for Improvements in Income.

## 5. Adults Employed at Exit

Defined as percent of persons aged 18 years or older who are employed at program exit. This figure includes those who were unemployed at program entry that gained employment by the time they exited as well as those who were employed at program entry that maintained the employment through to program exit.

**6. Households Exiting with Non-Cash Benefits**

Defined as percent of households with at least one member receiving at least one non-cash benefit at program exit, including

- a. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps);
- b. Medicaid;
- c. Medicare;
- d. SCHIP;
- e. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC;
- f. Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Services;
- g. TANF Child Care Services;
- h. TANF Transportation Services;
- i. Other TANF-Funded Services; or
- j. Section 8 Public Housing or rental assistance.

**7. Positive or Neutral Reasons for Leaving**

Defined as a percent of households whose Reason for Leaving at program exit was **not** among the following:

- a. Criminal activity/destruction of property/violence;
- b. Disagreement with rules/persons;
- c. Needs could not be met by program;
- d. Non-payment of rent/occupancy charge;
- e. Non-compliance with program;
- f. Reached maximum time allowed by program; or
- g. Unknown/disappeared.

**8. PSH Retention**

Defined as the percentage of households whose length of stay in Permanent Supportive Housing is at least 181 days.

**9. Timeliness**

Defined as the average number of days per household between two events in the Coordinated Assessment and Re-Housing process. These figures are averages of lag times with shelter entry dates starting after 1/1/2014.

\*In this report, even Short-Term Recidivism will be somewhat underestimated. Calculations of recidivism are based on whether or not clients have returned to participating (CHO) emergency shelter or transitional housing programs within six months. As a result, clients who enter non-participating shelters or transitional housing programs or who become "street" homeless will not be counted in recidivism calculations, and the shown recidivism rates will be somewhat below actual returns to homelessness.

# Appendix II: Data Sources

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All data used in this report were contributed by participating service providers to a database managed by the Toledo HMIS.

Providers participating in Toledo HMIS (aka Contributory HMIS Organizations or CHOs) receive monthly reports that include exits to permanent housing, negative reasons for leaving, length of stay, improvement in income, adults employed at exit, households receiving non-cash benefits, and retention in permanent supportive housing. CHOs are given the opportunity to review and correct any of these which appear to be out of place, and can request incidental reports covering any time period.

This report contains data only from providers and programs participating in Toledo HMIS who have met certain standards for data quality. In particular, this edition includes data from the CHOs listed below.

- **Emergency Shelter**
  - Beach House Family Shelter
  - Family House
  - La Posada Family Shelter
  - St. Paul's Community Center Shelter (excluding Winter Crisis program)
- **Transitional Housing**
  - Aurora Project
  - Harbor House
  - Neighborhood Properties Inc. Road to Recovery
  - St. Paul's Community Center Dwelling Place
- **Permanent Supportive Housing**
  - Catholic Charities Permanent Supportive Housing (formerly SAFAH)
  - Family Outreach Community United Services Steps to Home PSH
  - Neighborhood Properties Inc. Families with Mental Illness, Families with Mental Illness Expansion, First Avenue, Fresh Start, Housing First, ODMH Homeless Prevention, Veterans-Griffin, MHR SB HUD Pact, MHR SB Affordable Housing, MHR SB Shelter Plus Care, MHR SB Shelter Plus Care Site, and MHR SB Shelter Plus Care 3
  - St. Paul's Community Center Home Base
  - Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities Walls for All and Women of Tomorrow
  - Volunteers of America Family Steps and Chestnut Hill
- **Rapid Re-Housing (formerly Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing)**
  - Family Outreach Community United Services Steps to Home and Steps to Home TH-C
  - Lutheran Social Services Project Home and Tenant Based Rental Assistance
  - Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities Project Home and Tenant Based Rental Assistance
  - Beach House Project Home and Tenant Based Rental Assistance