

2025 MA SDVHT HOUSING STATUS REPORT

Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking Housing Stability Subcommittee & Jane Doe Inc.

Executive Summary

This point-in-time housing stability report presents critical data on the housing experiences of survivors of sexual violence, domestic violence, and human trafficking (SDVHT) across Massachusetts. The survey collected information from 53 responding agencies during the reporting period (September 10, 2025), capturing clients' housing status at a specific point in time to provide a snapshot of housing instability among survivor populations.

Survey Participation

Total Responding Agencies: 53

Service Types Provided by Responding Agencies:

- **Domestic Violence Services:** 92% (n=42)
- **Sexual Violence Services:** 49% (n=26)
- **Human Trafficking Services:** 32% (n=17)

Client Population Overview

- **Total Number of Clients Served:** 4,911 heads of households
- **Percentage & Total Number of Clients Experiencing Homelessness or Housing Instability:** 39% (n=1,934)

Housing Status Breakdown

The following data represents the most recent known housing status of clients experiencing homelessness or housing instability as of the end of the reporting period:

A. Temporary Housing (Family/Friends or Motel/Hotel)

Percentage of Unstably Housed Clients: 41% (n=801)

Clients temporarily staying with family/friends (e.g., couch surfing, "doubled up") or in a hotel/motel due to a lack of housing options, economic hardship, or similar reasons, without a formal lease or written agreement.

B. Homeless–Unsheltered

Percentage of Unstably Housed Clients: 6% (n=110)

Clients living in places not meant for human habitation, including streets, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, and similar locations.

C. Emergency Shelter

Percentage of Unstably Housed Clients: 17% (n=330)

Clients staying in emergency homeless shelters or transitional shelter programs.

D. Unaccounted Housing Status

Percentage of Unstably Housed Clients: 36% (n=693)

Note: This represents the difference between the total number of clients experiencing homelessness/housing instability (1,062) and those accounted for in categories A, B, and C (954).

Key Findings

1. **High Rate of Housing Instability:** More than one-third (39%) of all clients experienced homelessness or housing instability during the reporting period.
2. **Temporary Housing Dominates:** Most unstably housed clients (41%) relied on temporary arrangements with family/friends or motels/hotels, representing the most precarious form of housing instability.
3. **Significant Emergency Shelter Use:** About one in six (17%) unstably housed clients were residing in emergency or transitional shelters, indicating substantial demand for crisis housing resources.
4. **Homelessness:** One hundred and ten (6%) clients were experiencing unsheltered homelessness, living in places not meant for human habitation, representing the most dangerous housing situation.

This point-in-time data underscores the critical need for expanded housing resources and interventions for survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking. The prevalence of temporary housing arrangements highlights the

vulnerability of survivors who may be at risk of returning to dangerous situations due to a lack of stable housing options.

Methodology Note

This report reflects a point-in-time survey methodology, capturing the housing status of clients served during a specific reporting period. Agencies reported the most recent known housing status for each head of household who received services during this timeframe. When clients experienced multiple housing situations, only their most recent status was recorded.

For questions about this report, please get in touch with the Housing Stability Subcommittee of the [Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking](#) or [Jane Doe Inc.](#)