

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



**Emergency Assistance, HomeBASE,
and RAFT Programs**

Fiscal Year 2020, First Quarterly Report

Department of Housing and Community Development
November 14, 2019



**Department of Housing and Community Development
EA, HomeBASE and RAFT Legislative Report
Quarter 1, SFY 2020**

Emergency Assistance (EA)

Disability Accommodation	
Number Families who Applied for a Disability Accommodation	384
Mental Health	152
Physical Disability	147
Development, Cognitive, or Behavioral	35
Combination of Disability Needs	25
Disability Not Identified in Request	25
Families Approved for Disability Accommodation Waiting Transfer	80
Average Days Until Transfer for Disability Accommodation	50

Families Placed More than 20 Miles from their Home Communities	
Families in EA Shelter/Hotels located more than 20 Miles from their home community.	260
Average Days Placed Outside 20 Miles	79

Notes:

Data indicate families identified outside of 20 miles as of September 30, 2019

Data do not include families whose home community is outside of Massachusetts, who are fleeing domestic violence, or who requested to remain in their current placement

Average days placed outside of 20 miles is based on families who transferred or exited during the quarter.

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HomeBASE

Families Served by HomeBASE	SFY 2020 Quarter 1		SFY 2020 Quarter 1			SFY 2020	
	# Families	% of Total	Jul	Aug	Sep	# Families	% of Total
Families Beginning HomeBASE	800	100%	263	308	229	800	100%
Shelter Diversions	207	26%	57	75	75	207	26%
Exits from Shelter	593	74%	206	233	154	593	74%

HomeBASE Caseload and Payments	SFY 2020 Quarter 1
Families Served by HomeBASE	3,627
Families Beginning HB during Quarter	800
Families Continuing HB during Quarter	2,827
Families Entering Shelters/Hotels within 3 Years of Receiving HB	59
Average HomeBASE Payment	\$2,414
Minimum HomeBASE Payment	\$59
Maximum HomeBASE Payment	\$10,000

Note: Data reflect the average benefit amount per household during the quarter. Actual payments per participant will be higher since households can use HomeBASE for up to 12 months.

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Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT)

RAFT Applications and Approvals	SFY 2020 Quarter 1		SFY 2020 Quarter 1			SFY 2020	
	# Families	% of Total	Jul	Aug	Sep	# Families	% of Total
Families Applying	1,944		560	727	657	1,944	
Families Approved	1,794	100%	468	690	636	1,794	100%
Upstream rent arrears-public/subsidized	87	5%	14	40	33	87	5%
Upstream rent arrears-market rent	152	8%	17	60	75	152	8%
Upstream mortgage arrears	14	1%	2	4	8	14	1%
Doubled up and asked to leave	507	28%	154	175	178	507	28%
Domestic violence	30	2%	14	10	6	30	2%
Eviction-public/subsidized	184	10%	31	86	67	184	10%
Eviction-market rent	395	22%	100	151	144	395	22%
Foreclosure	31	2%	12	7	12	31	2%
Fire/flood/natural disaster	17	1%	6	7	4	17	1%
Health/safety	105	6%	45	31	29	105	6%
Overcrowding	23	1%	9	10	4	23	1%
Utility shutoff	167	9%	45	73	49	167	9%
Other	82	5%	19	36	27	82	5%

RAFT Payments	
Total Families	1,314
Average	\$2,654
Minimum	\$115
Maximum	\$4,000

Income level	Total Assistance	# Families	Average Per Family
0-15% AMI	\$951,572	418	\$2,276
15-30% AMI	\$1,371,330	506	\$2,710
30-50% AMI	\$1,164,634	390	\$2,986
50-60% AMI*	\$0	0	\$0

Note: The FY20 RAFT budget language authorized an increase to the income limit, up to 60% AMI, for households using RAFT to flee domestic violence