

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



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

Fiscal Year 2020, Fourth Quarterly Report

Department of Housing and Community Development
September 23, 2020



**Department of Housing and Community Development
EA, HomeBASE and RAFT Legislative Report
Quarter 4, SFY 2020**

Emergency Assistance (EA)

Disability Accommodation	
Number of Families who Applied for a Disability Accommodation	302
Mental Health	81
Physical Disability	95
Developmental, Cognitive, or Behavioral	55
Combination of Disability Needs	47
Disability not Identified in Request	24
Families Approved for Disability Accommodation Waiting Transfer	54
Average Days Until Transfer for Disability Accommodation	30

Families Placed More Than 20 Miles From Their Home Communities	
Families in EA Shelters/Hotels Located More Than 20 Miles From Their Home Communities	137
Average Days Placed Outside 20 Miles	215

Notes:

Data indicate families identified outside of 20 miles as of June 30, 2020.

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 4		SFY2020 Quarter 4			SFY2020	
	# Families	% of Total	Apr	May	Jun	# Families	% of Total
Families Beginning HomeBASE	520	100%	224	151	145	3,023	100%
Shelter Diversions	81	16%	32	26	23	739	24%
Exits from Shelter	439	84%	192	125	122	2,284	76%

HomeBASE Household Assistance	SFY 2020 Quarter 4
Families Served by HB HomeBASE	3,452
Families Beginning HB during Quarter	520
Families Continuing HB during Quarter	2,932
Families Entering Shelters/Hotels Within 3 Years of Receiving HB	49
Average HomeBASE Payment	\$2,362
Minimum HomeBASE Payment	\$100
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	FY20 Quarter 4		Previous Quarter	FY20 Quarter 4			SFY20	
	# Families	% of Total		Apr	May	Jun	# Families	% of Total
Total Applying	1,932		1,560	558	653	721	7,704	
Total Approved	1,834	100%	1,446	517	627	690	7,189	100%
Upstream rent arrears-public/subsidized	87	5%	80	19	28	40	351	5%
Upstream rent arrears-market rent	210	11%	197	34	31	145	790	11%
Upstream mortgage arrears	24	1%	27	9	6	9	82	1%
Doubled up and asked to leave	190	10%	396	69	53	68	1,714	24%
Domestic violence	22	1%	36	13	5	4	138	2%
Eviction-public/subsidized	197	11%	183	33	79	85	822	11%
Eviction-market rent	863	47%	305	257	340	266	1990	28%
Foreclosure	31	2%	8	14	10	7	90	1%
Fire/flood/natural disaster	6	0%	10	1	2	3	43	1%
Health/safety	72	4%	89	26	27	19	377	5%
Overcrowding	18	1%	29	7	7	4	93	1%
Utility shutoff	39	2%	23	8	15	16	382	5%
Other	75	4%	63	27	24	24	317	4%

RAFT Payments	
Total Families	2,090
Average	\$2,770
Minimum	\$74
Maximum	\$4,000

Income level	Total Assistance	# Families	Average Per Family
0-15% AMI	\$1,591,181	600	\$2,652
15-30% AMI	\$1,427,663	536	\$2,664
30-50% AMI	\$1,026,071	369	\$2,781
50-60% AMI*	\$17,019	6	\$2,837

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