

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



**Emergency Assistance  
Fiscal Year 2023  
First Quarterly Report**

Department of Housing and Community Development



**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**EA Applications and Requests for Services**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b># Applications and Requests</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>3,153</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	27%	34%	34%	31%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	35%	36%	39%	37%
White	19%	17%	16%	17%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	18%	12%	10%	14%

**Front Door Entries into the Emergency Assistance System**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b># Total Entries</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>803</b>
Shelter Entries	254	271	240	765
HomeBASE Diversions	15	10	13	38
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	42%	36%	39%	39%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	29%	39%	37%	35%
White	12%	16%	18%	15%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	0%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	15%	9%	5%	10%
<b>Reason for Homelessness</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Domestic Violence	13%	13%	12%	13%
Fire, Flood, or Natural Disaster	2%	1%	2%	2%
Eviction	5%	6%	6%	6%
Threatened Eviction	5%	4%	8%	5%
Health and Safety	75%	71%	71%	73%
Other	<1%	4%	2%	2%

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Applications for Emergency Assistance Denied**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b># Denied Applications</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>490</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	23%	30%	25%	26%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	36%	38%	43%	39%
White	25%	19%	21%	22%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	2%	2%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	15%	10%	10%	12%
<b>Reason for Denial</b>				
Did Not Complete EA Application	65%	65%	52%	62%
Over Income Limit	13%	22%	24%	19%
Lacked Qualifying Reason for Homelessness	10%	7%	9%	9%
Basic Verification of Identity Not Provided	2%	<1%	2%	1%
Terminated Employment/Reduced Hours Without Good Cause	1%	1%	2%	1%
Availability of Alternative Feasible Housing	2%	1%	1%	1%
Evicted from Public/Subsidized Housing for Nonpayment of Rent or Fraud	2%	<1%	2%	1%
Over Asset Limit	2%	0%	2%	1%
Other Denial Reasons	4%	2%	6%	4%

**Note:** DHCD may determine a household is ineligible for EA for multiple reasons.

**Applications and Service Requests Not Resulting in a Formal Denial, EA Shelter Entry, or HomeBASE Diversion**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b># Applications and Requests Not Resulting in Denial, Shelter Entry, or HomeBASE Diversion</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>1,855</b>
% of Total Applications and Requests	57%	55%	65%	59%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	22%	32%	32%	29%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	37%	36%	37%	37%
White	20%	18%	16%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	<1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	21%	15%	13%	16%

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Households Submitting Multiple Applications and Service Requests**

# Households with Multiple Applications or Requests within 1 Month	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
		13	20	17
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	38%	25%	29%	30%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	38%	45%	53%	46%
White	15%	10%	12%	12%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	8%	20%	6%	12%

# Households with Multiple Applications or Requests within 6 Months	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
		99	98	103
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	27%	29%	26%	28%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	45%	34%	45%	40%
White	18%	18%	17%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	9%	18%	11%	14%

**Note:** Quarterly totals may not equal the sum of the months if households with multiple requests were reported in multiple months during the quarter.

**HomeBASE Diversions**

# Households Diverted with HomeBASE	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
		15	10	13
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	36%	45%	7%	28%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	50%	27%	7%	28%
White	14%	27%	73%	40%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	13%	5%

**Department of Housing and Community Development**  
**Emergency Assistance Legislative Report**  
**Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**EA Shelter Exits**

# Households Exiting EA Shelter	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
	164	194	164	522
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	26%	26%	33%	28%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	40%	47%	39%	42%
White	20%	21%	22%	21%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	15%	5%	6%	8%
<b>Reason for Exit</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Feasible Alternative Housing	71%	73%	78%	74%
HomeBase and Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	39%	46%	36%	41%
HomeBase, No Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	12%	11%	19%	14%
No HomeBASE, Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	10%	9%	13%	11%
No HomeBASE, No Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	10%	7%	10%	9%
Abandoned Shelter	18%	16%	12%	16%
Temporary Shelter Interruption	7%	7%	7%	7%
Ineligible, Lost Custody of Children	2%	3%	1%	2%
Rejected Shelter Placement	2%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Noncompliance	0%	0%	1%	<1%
Criminal Activity	<1%	0%	0%	<1%
Death	<1%	0%	0%	<1%

# Households Transitioned to Affordable, Subsidized, or Otherwise Assisted Housing	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
	81	106	81	268
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	31%	34%	25%	30%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	43%	39%	56%	45%
White	20%	20%	17%	19%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	8%	2%	5%
<b>Types of Affordable, Subsidized, or Assisted Housing</b>				
Section 8 Voucher	28%	32%	26%	29%
State Public Housing	15%	19%	14%	16%
MA Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)	12%	9%	23%	15%
Federal Public Housing	12%	12%	10%	12%
Private Subsidized Development	11%	10%	11%	11%
Transitional Housing (non-LHA THP)	5%	3%	2%	3%
Local Housing Auth. Transitional Housing Program (LHA THP)	2%	2%	1%	2%
Other	14%	12%	12%	13%

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Applications and Service Requests Not Resulting in  
EA Shelter Entry within 48 Hours**

# Applications/Service Requests Not Resulting in Shelter Entry Within 48 Hours	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
		512	615	489
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	32%	39%	34%	35%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	34%	34%	40%	36%
White	19%	16%	19%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	14%	10%	6%	10%

**Note:** Data include non-entries attributable to a written denial, pending documentation or verification, no imminent risk of homelessness, or withdrawal of application.

**Average, Minimum, and Maximum Cost of Emergency Assistance**

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
Average Days in Shelter	426	413	452	429
Average Household Cost	\$65,121	\$63,210	\$69,202	\$65,648
Minimum Household Cost	\$153	\$153	\$153	\$153
Maximum Household Cost	\$354,047	\$328,059	\$292,593	\$354,047

**Note:** Data based on households completing an episode of homelessness within the EA system during the reporting period.

**Households Exiting EA Requiring Later Assistance**

# Households Needing Later Assistance	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
		55	45	42
Shelter Entries	54	44	42	140
HomeBASE Entries	1	1	0	2
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	35%	42%	40%	39%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	29%	38%	31%	32%
White	29%	20%	21%	24%
Other Race/Ethnicity	2%	0%	0%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	0%	7%	4%

**Note:** Data based on households exiting EA shelter within the previous 5 years (N = 14,131).

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Households Who Received EA Shelter or HomeBASE Assistance Within the Previous 3 Years Who Entered EA Shelter or HomeBASE During Q1**

# Households Who Previously Received Assistance	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q1
	15	13	16	44
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	20%	46%	31%	32%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	60%	46%	25%	43%
White	20%	8%	44%	25%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Children Served in EA Shelters**

# Children Served in EA Shelter	7/31/2022	8/31/2022	9/30/2022
	6,134	6,227	6,301
<b>Age</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
0-2 yrs.	26%	25%	25%
3-4 yrs.	15%	15%	15%
5-8 yrs.	21%	22%	22%
9-11 yrs.	13%	13%	13%
12-14 yrs.	12%	12%	12%
15-18 yrs.	10%	10%	10%
19-20 yrs.	2%	2%	2%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Black, African American, or African	30%	31%	31%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	42%	42%	42%
White	15%	15%	14%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	12%	13%	13%

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Requests for EA from Households Ending HomeBASE within 12 Months**

<b># Requests for EA from Households Ending HomeBASE</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
Ending HomeBASE	10	19	12	41
Denied Requests	1	4	2	7
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	40%	21%	25%	27%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	60%	42%	58%	51%
White	0%	21%	8%	12%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	5%	0%	2%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	0%	11%	8%	7%
<b>Reason for Homelessness</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Health and Safety	20%	24%	25%	23%
Domestic Violence	10%	24%	8%	16%
Eviction	20%	10%	8%	12%
Asked to Leave, Overcrowded	0%	14%	8%	9%
Fire, Flood, or Natural Disaster	20%	0%	8%	7%
No Reason for Homelessness	0%	0%	8%	2%
Other	10%	5%	0%	5%
Reason Not Reported	20%	24%	33%	26%

**Note:** A household may report multiple reasons for homelessness.

**Average and Maximum Days in Shelter for Households Active in EA**

	<b>7/31/2022</b>	<b>8/31/2022</b>	<b>9/30/2022</b>
# of Households	3,181	3,246	3,314
Average Days in EA	433	430	429
Maximum Days in EA	3,036	3,067	3,097
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	34%	35%	35%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	40%	39%	39%
White	18%	18%	17%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	7%	7%	7%

**Note:** Race/Ethnicity indicates the race/ethnicity of the head of household.



**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Health and Safety Assessments**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b>Total Health and Safety Referrals</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>528</b>
# Households Determined to be at Substantial Risk	128	164	160	452
# Households with Multiple HAS Assessments in Previous 6 Months	36	37	34	107
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Black, African American, or African	39%	47%	41%	43%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	33%	30%	38%	33%
White	13%	12%	14%	13%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	<1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	14%	10%	5%	10%

**Note:** The standard used to determine substantial health and safety risk is at the following link:  
<https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/07/oe/healthandsafetyassessmentinitiativeadministrativeplan.pdf>

**Reasonable Accommodation Requests**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b>Total Families Requesting Accommodation(s)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Black, African American, or African	33%	35%	13%	29%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	48%	38%	50%	44%
White	15%	24%	33%	23%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	3%	3%	4%
<b>Reason(s) for Request</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>144</b>
Developmental Disability/Behavioral/Cognitive	7%	16%	18%	14%
Mental / Emotional Health	29%	26%	35%	29%
Physical Health	61%	52%	47%	53%
Other	0%	3%	0%	1%
Reason Not Identified	2%	3%	0%	2%

**Note:** A household may submit an accommodation request for multiple reasons.

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
<b>Approved Requests Waiting Transfer</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Types of Accommodations Requested</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>62</b>
Placement Unit Close to Service Providers	12%	21%	38%	23%
Scattered Site Placement Unit/Co-housing Unit	29%	21%	19%	23%
Assistance Animal within Placement Unit	6%	24%	6%	15%
First Floor or Elevator Access	24%	3%	19%	13%
Access to Full Cooking Facilities	0%	7%	0%	3%
Non-Carpeted Placement Unit	0%	0%	6%	2%
Wheelchair Accessible Placement Unit	0%	3%	0%	2%
Other	29%	21%	13%	21%

	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Q1</b>
Average Days Until Transfer	28	14	17	14
Maximum Wait Time Until Transfer	77	28	26	77

**Households Sheltered More Than 20 Miles from Their Home Community**

	<b>7/31/2022</b>	<b>8/31/2022</b>	<b>9/30/2022</b>
# Households Placed More than 20 Miles	223	258	272
Average Days Outside 20 Miles	132	136	150
Maximum Days Outside 20 Miles	1,105	1,136	1,166
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	42%	43%	43%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	28%	27%	28%
White	14%	16%	16%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	15%	14%	12%

**Note:** Data exclude households indicating that they do not want to transfer to a shelter within 20 miles of their home community. 35% of reported households had not indicated their transfer preference at time reporting.

**Department of Housing and Community Development  
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report  
Quarter 1, SFY 2023**

**Households With At Least Once Child Not Attending Their School of Origin  
As a Result of Shelter Placement Outside of Home Community**

<b># Households with a Child Not Attending School of Origin Due to Shelter Placement</b>	<b>7/31/2022</b>	<b>8/31/2022</b>	<b>9/30/2022</b>
	<b>169</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>186</b>
Average Days Not Attending School of Origin	481	439	353
Maximum Days Not Attending School of Origin	2,727	2,758	2,788
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	27%	31%	30%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	46%	46%	44%
White	21%	18%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	5%	9%