

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



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

Department of Housing and Community Development



**Department of Housing and Community Development
Emergency Assistance Legislative Report
Quarter 2, SFY 2023**

EA Applications and Requests for Services

# Applications and Requests	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
	879	763	810	2,452
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	37%	36%	36%	36%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	39%	41%	34%	38%
White	13%	13%	16%	14%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	0%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	10%	9%	13%	11%

Front Door Entries into the Emergency Assistance System

# Total Entries	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
	282	310	308	900
Shelter Entries	263	292	285	840
HomeBASE Diversions	19	18	23	60
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	43%	50%	37%	43%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	38%	31%	40%	36%
White	13%	15%	14%	14%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	2%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	6%	4%	8%	6%
Reason for Homelessness	100%	100%	100%	100%
Domestic Violence	12%	11%	11%	11%
Fire, Flood, or Natural Disaster	1%	1%	1%	1%
Eviction	5%	6%	7%	6%
Threatened Eviction	6%	4%	4%	5%
Health and Safety	75%	75%	76%	75%
Other	1%	2%	2%	2%

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Applications for Emergency Assistance Denied

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
# Denied Applications	153	115	90	358
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	25%	28%	26%	26%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	49%	46%	36%	45%
White	16%	18%	22%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	2%	0%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	10%	6%	17%	11%
Reason for Denial				
Did Not Complete EA Application	61%	53%	49%	55%
Over Income Limit	20%	24%	28%	23%
Lacked Qualifying Reason for Homelessness	6%	5%	10%	6%
Availability of Alternative Feasible Housing	4%	5%	4%	4%
Verifications Not Completed Within 30 Days of Presumptive Placement	1%	3%	1%	2%
Basic Verification of Identify Not Provided	3%	2%	0%	2%
Other Denial Reasons	7%	8%	8%	8%

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

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

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
# Applications and Requests Not Resulting in Denial, Shelter Entry, or HomeBASE Diversion	412	377	475	1,264
% of Total Applications and Requests	47%	49%	59%	52%
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	34%	31%	30%	31%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	40%	41%	37%	39%
White	12%	16%	17%	15%
Other Race/Ethnicity	2%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	13%	12%	16%	14%

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Households Submitting Multiple Applications and Service Requests

# Households with Multiple Applications or Requests within 1 Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		13	16	12
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	46%	44%	33%	41%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	46%	50%	33%	44%
White	8%	6%	8%	7%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	8%	2%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	17%	5%

# Households with Multiple Applications or Requests within 6 Months	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		95	79	72
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	32%	30%	35%	32%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	42%	52%	35%	43%
White	15%	10%	17%	14%
Other Race/Ethnicity	2%	0%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	9%	8%	13%	10%

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	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		19	18	23
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	21%	28%	35%	28%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	37%	44%	48%	43%
White	37%	28%	17%	27%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	0%	0%	2%

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EA Shelter Exits

# Households Exiting EA Shelter	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
	167	176	136	479
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	36%	32%	32%	33%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	34%	39%	40%	38%
White	24%	24%	19%	23%
Other Race/Ethnicity	2%	2%	3%	2%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	4%	3%	6%	4%
Reason for Exit	100%	100%	100%	100%
Feasible Alternative Housing	78%	81%	75%	78%
HomeBase and Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	40%	41%	33%	38%
HomeBase, No Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	17%	17%	21%	18%
No HomeBASE, Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	14%	12%	10%	12%
No HomeBASE, No Other Subsidized/Assisted Housing	8%	10%	10%	9%
Abandoned Shelter	14%	11%	13%	13%
Temporary Shelter Interruption	5%	5%	11%	7%
Ineligible, Lost Custody of Children	2%	3%	0%	2%
Criminal Activity	1%	0%	0%	< 1%
Noncompliance	0%	1%	0%	< 1%
Death	0%	0%	1%	< 1%

# Households Transitioned to Affordable, Subsidized, or Otherwise Assisted Housing	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
	90	98	63	251
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	38%	24%	27%	30%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	34%	44%	49%	42%
White	22%	24%	16%	22%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	3%	0%	2%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	4%	4%	8%	5%
Types of Affordable, Subsidized, or Assisted Housing				
Section 8 Voucher	30%	30%	30%	30%
State Public Housing	19%	20%	17%	19%
MA Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)	12%	15%	8%	12%
Federal Public Housing	13%	8%	10%	10%
Private Subsidized Development	4%	6%	6%	6%
Local Housing Auth. Transitional Housing Program (LHA THP)	4%	3%	3%	4%
Transitional Housing (non-LHA THP)	0%	5%	5%	3%
Other	17%	12%	21%	16%

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

# Applications/Service Requests Not Resulting in Shelter Entry Within 48 Hours	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		382	333	338
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	34%	30%	33%	32%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	41%	44%	37%	41%
White	15%	15%	19%	16%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	2%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	9%	9%	10%	9%

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

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
Average Days in Shelter	408	483	383	428
Average Household Cost	\$62,339	\$73,770	\$58,570	\$65,423
Minimum Household Cost	\$917	\$611	\$153	\$153
Maximum Household Cost	\$417,145	\$395,780	\$274,402	\$471,145

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	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		45	48	42
Shelter Entries	43	46	40	129
HomeBASE Entries	2	2	2	6
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	33%	35%	10%	27%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	42%	44%	48%	44%
White	22%	19%	38%	26%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	2%	2%	5%	3%

Note: Data based on households exiting EA shelter within the previous 5 years (N = 13,664).

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**Households Who Received EA Shelter or HomeBASE Assistance Within the Previous 3 Years
Who Entered EA Shelter or HomeBASE During Q2**

# Households Who Previously Received Assistance	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
	31	33	31	95
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	32%	33%	13%	26%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	42%	39%	48%	43%
White	23%	24%	35%	27%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	3%	3%	3%	3%

Children Served in EA Shelters

# Children Served in EA Shelter	10/31/2022	11/30/2022	12/31/2022
	6,538	6,653	6,812
Age	100%	100%	100%
0-2 yrs.	25%	26%	25%
3-4 yrs.	16%	16%	16%
5-8 yrs.	21%	22%	21%
9-11 yrs.	13%	13%	13%
12-14 yrs.	12%	11%	11%
15-18 yrs.	10%	10%	10%
19-20 yrs.	2%	2%	2%
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	32%	33%	34%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	41%	40%	40%
White	15%	14%	13%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	12%	12%	12%

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Requests for EA from Households Ending HomeBASE within 12 Months

# Requests for EA from Households Ending HomeBASE	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
Denied Requests	0	0	1	1
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	20%	0%	0%	14%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	60%	100%	100%	57%
White	20%	0%	0%	29%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	0%	0%
Reason for Homelessness	100%	100%	100%	100%
Health and Safety	60%	100%	0%	43%
Domestic Violence	0%	0%	0%	14%
Eviction	20%	0%	0%	14%
Asked to Leave, Overcrowded	20%	0%	0%	14%
Fire, Flood, or Natural Disaster	0%	0%	0%	0%
No Reason for Homelessness	0%	0%	100%	14%

Average and Maximum Days in Shelter for Households Active in EA

	10/31/2022	11/30/2022	12/31/2022
# of Households	3,412	3,503	3,618
Average Days in EA	427	422	423
Maximum Days in EA	2,819	2,849	2,880
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	36%	37%	38%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	38%	38%	38%
White	18%	17%	16%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	7%	7%	7%

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

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Health and Safety Assessments

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
Total Health and Safety Referrals	191	185	175	551
# Households Determined to be at Substantial Risk	175	171	159	505
# Households with Multiple HAS Assessments in Previous 6 Months	29	22	32	83
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	44%	43%	47%	45%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	35%	36%	30%	34%
White	11%	11%	12%	11%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	<1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	8%	9%	11%	9%

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

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
Total Families Requesting Accommodation(s)	21	47	32	100
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	24%	28%	19%	24%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	43%	40%	53%	45%
White	24%	23%	25%	24%
Other Race/Ethnicity	5%	0%	3%	2%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	5%	9%	0%	5%
Reason(s) for Request	23	57	35	115
Developmental Disability/Behavioral/Cognitive	22%	9%	23%	16%
Mental / Emotional Health	26%	40%	29%	34%
Physical Health	39%	39%	43%	40%
Other	4%	5%	0%	3%
Reason Not Identified	9%	7%	6%	7%

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

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Households with Approved Requests Waiting Transfer	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
		9	19	13
Types of Accommodations Requested	9	23	13	45
Placement Unit Close to Service Providers	44%	26%	38%	33%
Scattered Site Placement Unit/Co-housing Unit	22%	39%	23%	31%
Assistance Animal within Placement Unit	0%	13%	8%	9%
First Floor or Elevator Access	11%	4%	8%	7%
Access to Full Cooking Facilities	0%	4%	0%	2%
Non-Carpeted Placement Unit	0%	4%	0%	2%
Physical Modifications to Placement Unit	0%	4%	0%	2%
Other	22%	4%	23%	13%

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q2
Average Days Until Transfer	10	3	4	4
Maximum Wait Time Until Transfer	10	3	7	10

Households Sheltered More Than 20 Miles from Their Home Community

	10/31/2022	11/30/2022	12/31/2022
# Households Placed More than 20 Miles	341	407	430
Average Days Outside 20 Miles	133	127	139
Maximum Days Outside 20 Miles	1,197	1,227	1,258
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	46%	50%	53%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	26%	26%	24%
White	16%	14%	13%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	11%	9%	8%

Notes:

Data exclude households indicating that they do not want to transfer to a shelter within 20 miles of their home community. 40% of reported households had not indicated their transfer preference at time reporting.

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

# Households with a Child Not Attending School of Origin Due to Shelter Placement	10/31/2022	11/30/2022	12/31/2022
	288	225	239
Average Days Not Attending School of Origin	397	345	340
Maximum Days Not Attending School of Origin	2,819	2,849	2,880
Race/Ethnicity	100%	100%	100%
Black, African American, or African	30%	32%	32%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	43%	40%	39%
White	18%	19%	18%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0%	0%	1%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	9%	9%	9%