



## Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties Unsheltered Client Totals

	2018 HMIS	2018 Estimated Total Count	2019 HMIS	2019 Estimated Total Count	% Change
<b>Genesee County</b>	65	304	183	209	-31.20%
<b>Orleans County</b>	236	280	271	300	+7.18%
<b>Wyoming County</b>	0	56	0	69	+23.21%

Table 1: Total homelessness in the last 2 years

Overall, it appears there was a decrease in the number of individuals served across Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties during fiscal year 2019 (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019). While we believe this year's data is accurate, Genesee County's Department of Social Services informed us that in previous years, their data may have included duplicate clients who sought shelter more than once during the reporting period; this would suggest that the total number of individuals served in Genesee county last year is more in line with the total this year. With this in mind, it is likely that there was a slight increase in the number of individuals served across Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.

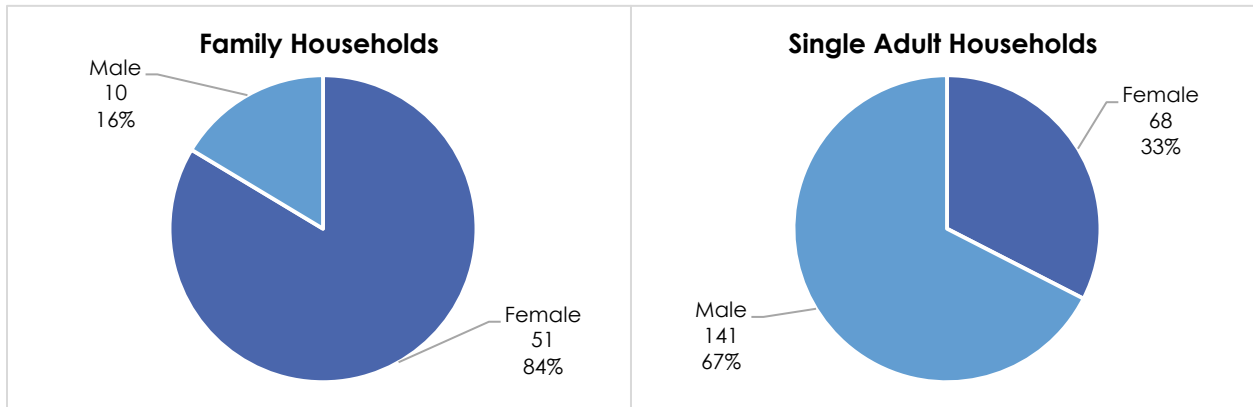
### Demographics for Clients Seeking Shelter through Genesee & Orleans DSS

In FY2019, both Genesee County and Orleans County's Department of Social Services were the only HMIS-participating providers for clients seeking immediate shelter in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties. The other HMIS-participating program, Eagle Star, is based in Genesee county but works with veterans who are often referred to them from outside of the Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming region. For this reason, we have not included their demographics.

The following charts represent the 394 clients that the both county's Department of Social Services served and entered into HMIS. DSS serves as the entry point for individuals to gain homeless services in both Genesee and Orleans county and is considered the first step for clients who are looking for shelter and other housing assistance.

Household Type	Household Count	%
<b>Single Adult</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>77.41%</b>
<b>Families</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>22.59%</b>
Couple with No Children	6	2.22%
Two Parent Family	17	6.30%
Female Single Parent	31	11.48%
Male Single Parent	6	2.22%
Grandparent(s) and Child	1	0.37%

Table 2: Family type distribution of the households experiencing homelessness (1 single adult = 1 household)



Figures 1 and 2: Gender distribution of all heads of households who reported their gender (270 clients)

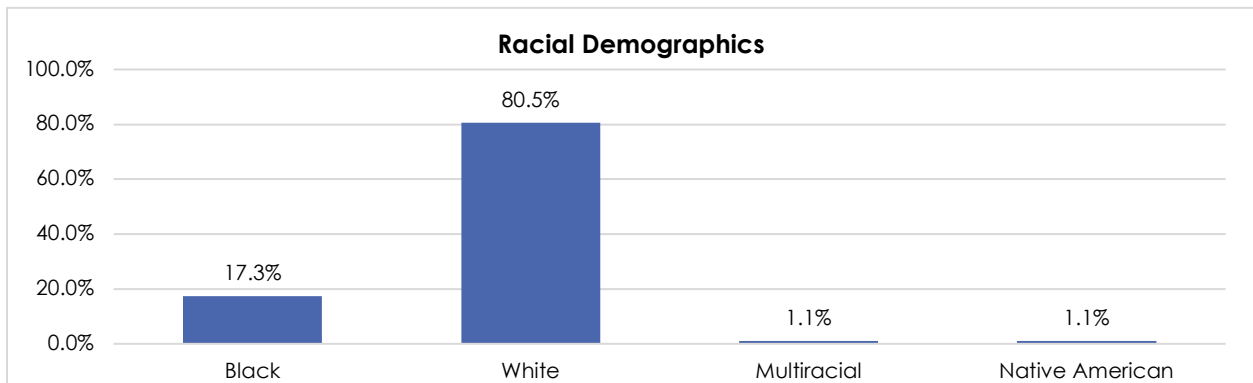


Figure 3: Percent of population in each racial category who reported their race (323 clients)

	Hispanic/Latino	Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Data not collected	Total
<b>Black</b>	1	54	9	64
<b>White</b>	15	266	17	298
<b>Native American</b>	0	3	1	4
<b>Multiracial</b>	0	3	1	4
<b>Data not collected</b>	9	2	13	24

Table 3: Breakdown of the race and ethnicity for all clients served (394 clients)

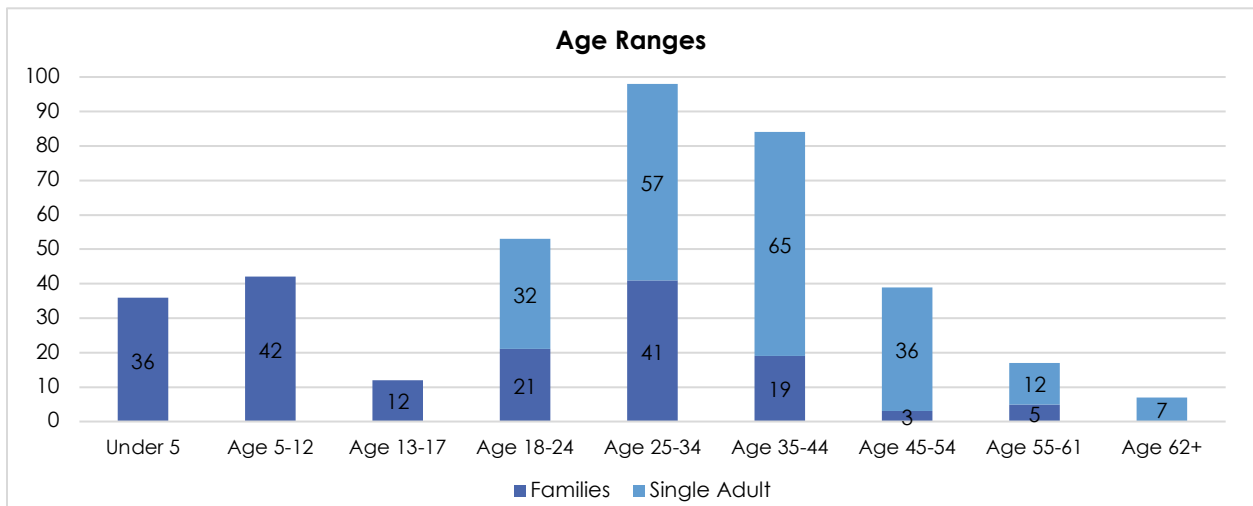


Figure 4: Age of all clients who provided a date of birth broken down by household type (388 clients)

Residence Prior to Project Entry	Client Count	Percent
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	77	28.5%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	33	12.2%
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	30	11.1%
Emergency shelter, hotel/motel paid for w/ voucher, RHY Host Home shelter	24	8.9%
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	23	8.5%
Place not meant for habitation	14	5.2%
Interim Housing	6	2.2%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	5	1.9%
Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	3	1.1%
Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy	1	0.4%
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	1	0.4%

**Table 4: Reasons cited for homelessness by heads of households, not including those who did not provide a response (217 clients)**

Exit Destinations		
<b>Permanent</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>48.3%</b>
Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	1	0.4%
Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy	1	0.4%
Rental by client, no ongoing subsidy	101	38.4%
Rental by client, with other ongoing subsidy	18	6.8%
Staying or living with family, permanent tenure	5	1.9%
Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure	1	0.4%
<b>Temporary</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
Emergency shelter, hotel/motel paid for w/ voucher, or RHY Host Home shelter	5	1.9%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	3	1.1%
Staying or living with family, temporary tenure	3	1.1%
Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure	1	0.4%
<b>Institution</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6.8%</b>
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	13	4.9%
Long-term care facility or nursing home	1	0.4%
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	4	1.5%
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>40.3%</b>
Client doesn't know	34	12.9%
Client refused	31	11.8%
Data not collected	34	12.9%
No exit interview completed	3	1.1%
Other	4	1.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>263</b>	

**Table 5: Exit destinations provided by the heads of household at their latest exit in fiscal year 2019**

## Demographics for Clients Assisted Through Rapid Rehousing

Clients from Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties who are seeking housing assistance after experiencing homelessness are referred to Independent Living of the Genesee Region's Rapid Rehousing program. This is the only HMIS-participating housing program that serves clients in this region. These clients are housed for most of their stay in the program, so they are not included in the count of clients experiencing homelessness.

The following charts represent the clients Independent Living of the Genesee Region's Rapid Rehousing program has served and entered into HMIS. These clients have already been assessed by a shelter or DSS and reached a level of vulnerability that recommends housing assistance.

Household Type	Household Count	%
<b>Single Adult</b>	<b>19</b>	52.8%
<b>Families</b>	<b>17</b>	47.2%
Female Single Parent	11	30.6%
Male Single Parent	1	2.8%
Other Relative	1	2.8%
Two Parent Family	4	11.1%

Table 6: Breakdown of household types served by Independent Living's rapid rehousing program

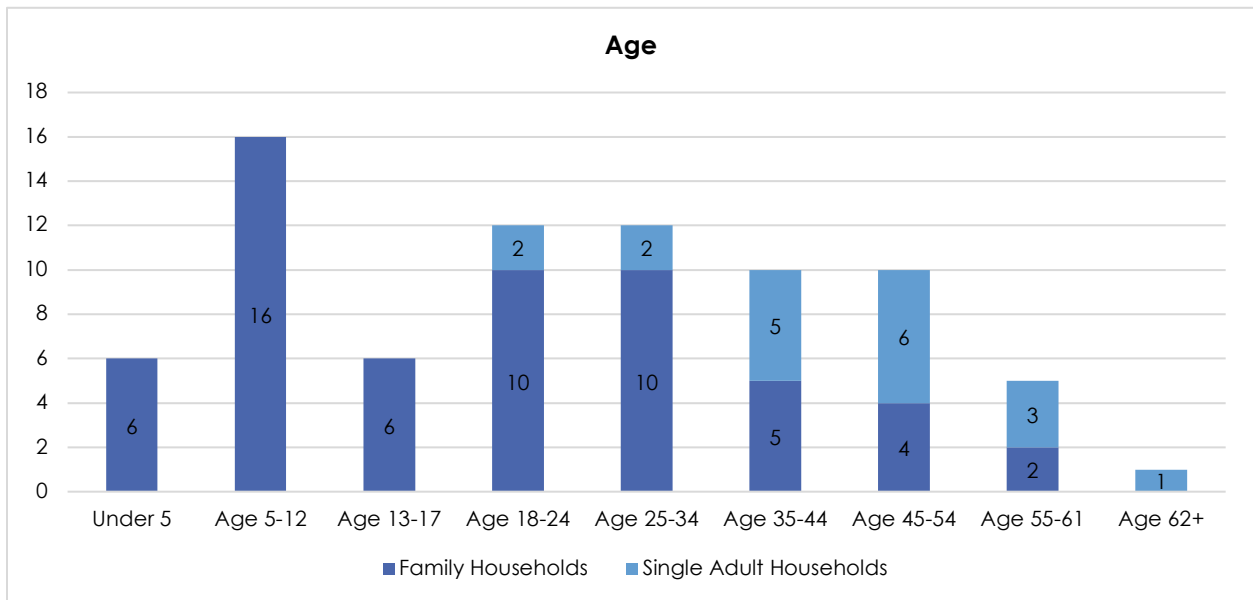
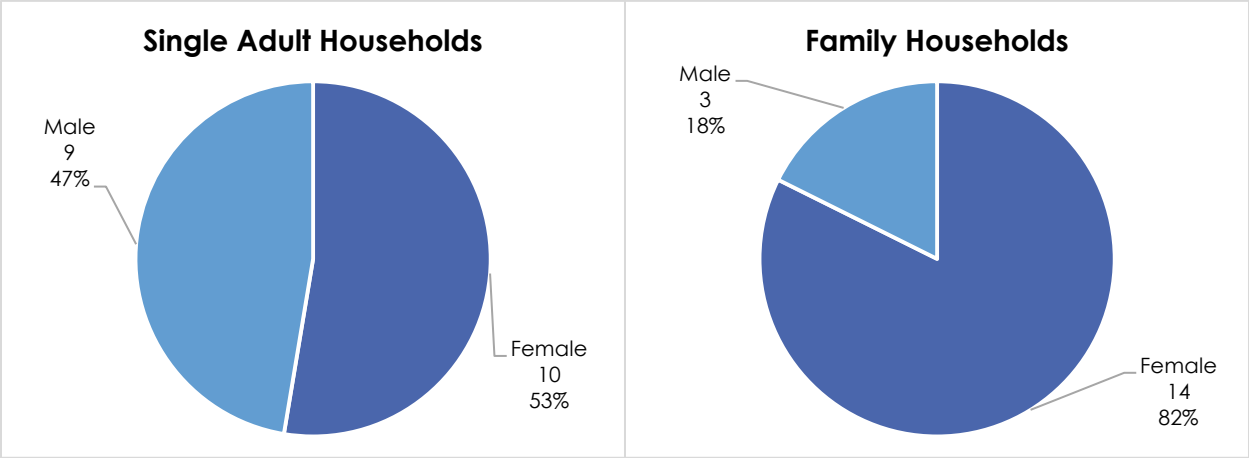


Figure 4: Count of all rapid rehousing client ages broken down by household type



Figures 5 and 6: Breakdown of gender by household type for heads of households served by rapid rehousing

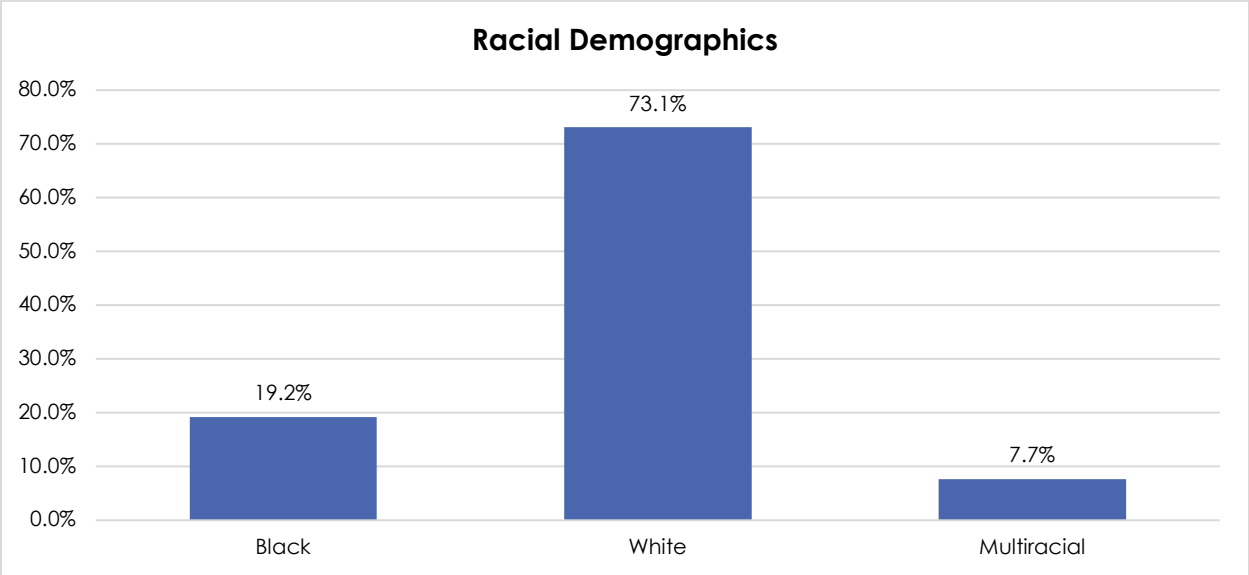


Figure 7: Racial demographics of all 78 clients served by rapid rehousing

	Hispanic/Latino	Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Total
<b>Black</b>	0	15	<b>15</b>
<b>White</b>	5	52	<b>57</b>
<b>Multiracial</b>	0	6	<b>6</b>

Table 7: Breakdown of race and ethnicity for clients served by rapid rehousing

Residence Prior to Project Entry	Client Count	Percent
Emergency shelter, hotel/motel paid for w/ voucher, RHY Host Home shelter	15	41.7%
Place not meant for habitation	11	30.6%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	4	11.1%
Interim Housing	2	5.6%
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	1	2.8%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	1	2.8%
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	1	2.8%
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	1	2.8%

**Table 8: Breakdown of where heads of households were living before entering rapid rehousing**

Exit Destinations	Count	%
<b>Permanent</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>91.3%</b>
Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	1	4.3%
Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy	1	4.3%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	11	47.8%
Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy	5	21.7%
Rental by client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy	2	8.7%
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	1	4.3%
<b>Institution</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility	1	4.3%
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23</b>	

**Table 9: Breakdown of where heads of households exit to after exiting from rapid rehousing**

## Conclusion: Policy Recommendations

There is a growing affordable housing crisis throughout Western New York. Rents are increasing at alarming rates and those living in poverty are getting priced out of housing altogether.

A report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition states that the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metropolitan area has a shortage of 46,000 affordable housing units.

### All Levels of Government should together:

- Fund the production of more housing specifically for single adults, separate and apart from their respective existing supportive housing commitments.
- Fund the production of units for families that include units for large families.
- Fund a Market Study to determine the number of units by bedroom size needed to house people at various income levels, especially at the lowest income levels.
- Once the market study is complete, the State, County and Municipalities should use their available resources to direct funding for those units.

### New York State Must:

- Implement the [Home Stability Support \(HSS\)](#) program to create a State-funded, long-term rent subsidy for households receiving public assistance who are homeless

or at risk of losing their housing due to eviction, domestic violence, or hazardous housing conditions.

- Follow the recommendations of the Bring it Home Campaign and adequately fund existing community based housing programs for individuals with psychiatric disabilities.
- Ensure effective reentry planning for individuals being released from State prisons in order to identify viable housing options prior to each individual's scheduled release date.
- Reform punitive parole practices that allow parole officers to exercise wide discretion and deny placement at potentially viable addresses for individuals leaving State prisons.
- Reconstitute the New York State Interagency Council on Homelessness to continue the coordination of state and federal efforts to end homelessness.

**Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance must:**

- Permanently eliminate the statewide requirement that shelter residents pay rent for shelter or enroll in a savings program as a condition of receiving shelter.
- Stop sanctioning individuals with higher needs that have difficulties in complying with complex assistance requirements.

*The solution to homelessness is a home.*