

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Remote Meeting

**Thursday, December 15, 2022
8:30 AM**

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions - Aaron Geyer Facilitating

- a. Approval of minutes (5 minutes)
- b. Join Zoom Meeting
<https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/82678924051?pwd=dTZ2Rms0bTlrcVl1cHl1bGRrRjROZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 7892 4051

Passcode: 914543

One tap mobile

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+13017158592,,82678924051#,,, *914543# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 826 7892 4051

Passcode: 914543

Find your local number: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/u/kc9mn0MMir>

2. Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics

a. November, 2022

3. **Update on Emergency Rental Assistance program (10 minutes)**
4. **Winter planning discussion - Group conversation (15 minutes)**
5. **Region I update - Norman Maze, others (10 minutes)**
6. **Cumberland County Service Hub update - United Way (5 minutes)**
7. **Federal, State, and Local Legislation update (Cullen Ryan, others) - (20 minutes)**
8. **Other items, updates, and announcements - (10 minutes)**

a. HVJ: Winter Solstice Vigil, 21st of December

Next Meeting

January 19, 2023

Time: 8:30 AM - 10:00

Location: Remote Meeting

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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Social Services Division
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aeg@portlandmaine.gov

Adam Harr
Health & Human Services Department
Social Services Division
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ash@portlandmaine.gov

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

Remote Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Aaron Geyer	City of Portland	Norm Maze	Shalom House
Taylor Cray	Preble Street	Brian Townsend	Amistad
Heather Sylvester	Episcopal Diocese	Jim Divine	HVJ
Anne-Marie Brown	UWSM	Jenny Stasio	Through These Doors
Mary Tracy	Portland Friends Meeting	Heather Zimmerman	Portland Resident
Robbie Feinberg	Maine Public	Ann Dodd-Collins	Greater Portland Family Promise
Valerie DeVuyst	Portland Adult Ed.	Ben Martineau	HVJ
Fritz Weiss	Portland Friends Meeting	Mathew Simpson	District 2 Resident
K Scott Morrison	Resident	Kristine Jenkins	CDC
Susanne Randall	HA4All	Jessica McCurdy	Public Health Nurse
Devon Stockmayer	Preble Street	Hannah Brier	UWSM
Joe McNally	Milestone Recovery	Lauren Chan	CoP P&D

Meeting Summary

Discussion surrounded the end of ERA and winter planning, specifically the lack of options for both. Many households in hotels using ERA were served eviction notices on November 1st. Providers are encouraged to have clients look at PTLA guidance and help them apply at their local GA office as GA is the likely solution to ERA ending; to that end, GA administrators have been advocating at the state level for changes to GA. Data around encampments was requested but it is a decentralized process, so requests for data will be made to Outreach and Parks and Rec to try and capture a holistic view. Winter planning, specifically replicating the warming centers we had last year is being looked at a 2:00 PM meeting today, recognizing the same barriers that occasionally prevented warming centers from opening last year, lack of staffing and logistics, persist. The PIT count needs leadership. The annual Winter Solstice Vigil is 12/21/22.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

Approval of Minutes

- Ben moved to approve September minutes Aaron second minutes were approved unanimously. Noted: There was no October meeting.

Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)

- ERA program is winding down.
- Eviction notices have gone to people staying in hotels ins South Portland and Freeport: 30 day notices that will have folks out by December 1st.
- State is trying to get some of the money clawed back by the treasury to extend ERA.
- TOA and Prosperity ME administer ERAS in Cumberland County.
- Looking for alternatives to keep people in hotels beyond December 1st
 - Looking for GA guidance form the State.
 - Portland has continued to go over guidelines for GA to keep people sheltered.
 - Not change the guidance of not being required to go over, but change messaging that it is ok to go over; it doesn't change policy or statute to be able to go over during an emergency.
- ERA Money will likely be extended but it depends on the hotel based on license issues.
- What conversations are having at the multiple community level as we are on the brink of a crisis in Southern Maine and Statewide.
 - Bangor has the largest number of ERA households; it is a statewide issue.
 - South Plotland is lower on the list but still has 400 cases.
 - There has been unity in the message among communities. Housing Commission public testimony from MMA has garnered momentum.
 - GA administrators have sent a letter to the state outlining changes to GA that would help with this crisis.
 - HVJ has formed a relationship with Scarborough to advocate for people who will end up on the street.
 - There are people who are struggling but make just over cut offs to receive assistance. Oil is a barrier for some landlords and renters from being over GA guidance; it is important to appeal GA decisions in a fair hearing.

Winter Planning Discussion

- Community Planning Meeting this afternoon at 2:00 PM.
 - Bridget Rauscher of Public Health will convene the meeting.
 - Is the 2:00 PM open to residents or is it a closed meeting?
 - It is unclear if it is open to the public as it is a provider meeting, not an official city meeting.
 - Contact Adam for invite, ash@portlandmaine.gov.
- Email threads talking to reestablish what was done last year.
 - Opening warming centers at churches when a certain temperature threshold was opened.
 - The Expo us not available as they have a tenant, the Maine Celtics.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- What is the City doing as last year was based on volunteers?
 - They City will participate as it has before in this meeting and this afternoon; GA is going over guidelines to keep people in hotels, and advocate at the State level for coordination of services.
- Will the City Camping policy change during the winter months? Is there a way to get data on the camping policy like the CTO slide (would it come from the Portland Police Dept.? # of contacts with police, #of CTOs, disaggregated by race)
 - There hasn't been discussion to changes of enforcement in the Winter months.
 - We will contact PD, Parks and Rec, and community partners for data.
- When CTOs are issued, is there a way for people to access electronic CTOs and the appeal process? Is info on the appeal process being handed out to folks.
 - Will follow up.
- Who would be the best person to follow up with camping enforcement documentation?
 - Social Services gets an email about campsites and then outreach teams are contacted.
 - Local outreach teams are the best first stop for information as they likely track contacts, then Parks and Rec would be the next step on information on enforcement.
 - Outreach teams often hear from people after camps have been broken down.
 - Amistad outreach have lots of examples of Social Services calling to activate around certain individuals.
 - Those encounters are all documented but data is in a vacuum of the calls received and situations they managed, nit the whole picture.
- What doe enforcement look like?
 - Have heard of people not having their belongings stored for certain reasons.
- How are camp breakdowns being documented?

Region 1 Update

- Met in October around Winter warming options, lack of affordable housing, and ERA closure.
 - Covers York and Cumberland Counties.
- Portland Winter Planning is this afternoon, and there could be another meeting for other communities possibly organized by Region 1.
- When a family with an infant is kicked out of the hotel in Freeport on December 1st, do they have nowhere to go?
 - In order to be removed they need to receive an eviction notice, cause to quit, and after that court date, they have 9 days to move out.
 - Look for the court date and have them go to the court date as sometimes folks can get extra time.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Pine Tree Legal Assistance has eviction from ERA hotel guidance on their website, as does Maine Equal Justice. Seniors can contact legal services for the elderly.
- Freeport hotel clients are asylum seekers and are averse to interacting with the courts.
- Assist clients with going to their local GA office.
 - Make sure the GA office takes an application; denials can be appealed.
- At this point, there is nowhere to go.
- Region 1 mentioned warming center.
 - The issue is staffing not space for warming centers.
 - What activates the warming center was confusing last year but staffing is crucial.
 - Sometimes it did not open due to lack of staffing.
 - Freeport PD is looking to establish warming centers. The community services group have been fantastic with the entire community embracing welcoming new Mainers.

Cumberland County Hub

- In process of hiring new coordinator.
- Point In Time Count (PIT Count) needs planning as the HUB Coordinator would take the lead; please reach out.

Federal State & Local Update

- Federal
 - Continuing resolution on the budget needed to keep the government funded.
 - We will have a split government with a Republican House and a Democrat Senate.

Winter Solstice Vigil

- 12/21/22 at 4:30 PM at the parking lot across from the resource center/Elena's Way, the Learning Collaborative's parking lot, procession up to monument square with speakers and the names of people lost are read.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 AM.

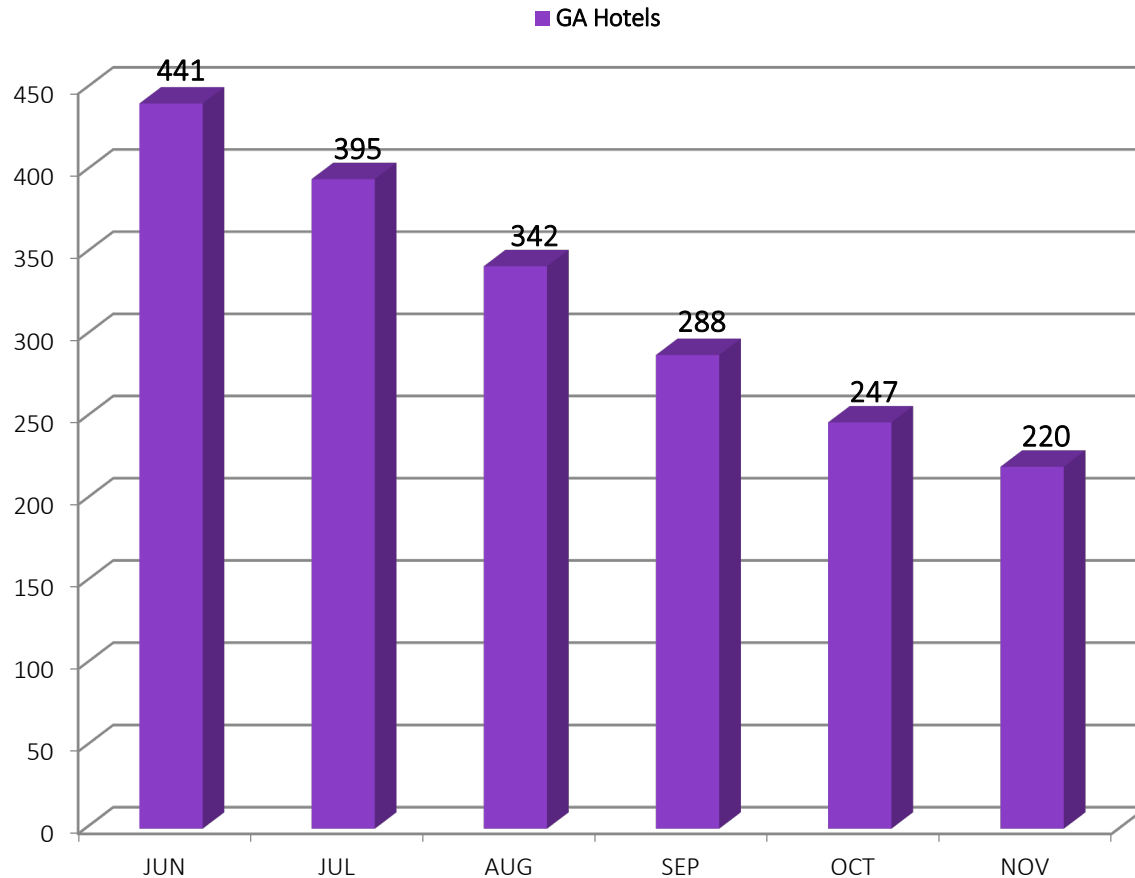
PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters* per Night:

	November 2021	November 2022
ADOLESCENTS	19 Individuals	22 Individuals
FAMILIES	93 Individuals 36 Average Families	77 Individuals 99 Average Families
ADULTS	261 Individuals	376 Individuals
Total	372 Individuals	475 Individuals

*GA hotels are on the next slide.

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 General Assistance Hotels



	Month*	Total
Unduplicated GA Hotels	220	3,118

Total Unduplicated GA Hotels are the cases granted General Assistance hotel rooms from June, 2020 through the end of the month being reported.

Portland GA no longer makes McKinney Vento referrals as of the May 5, 2022 policy change.

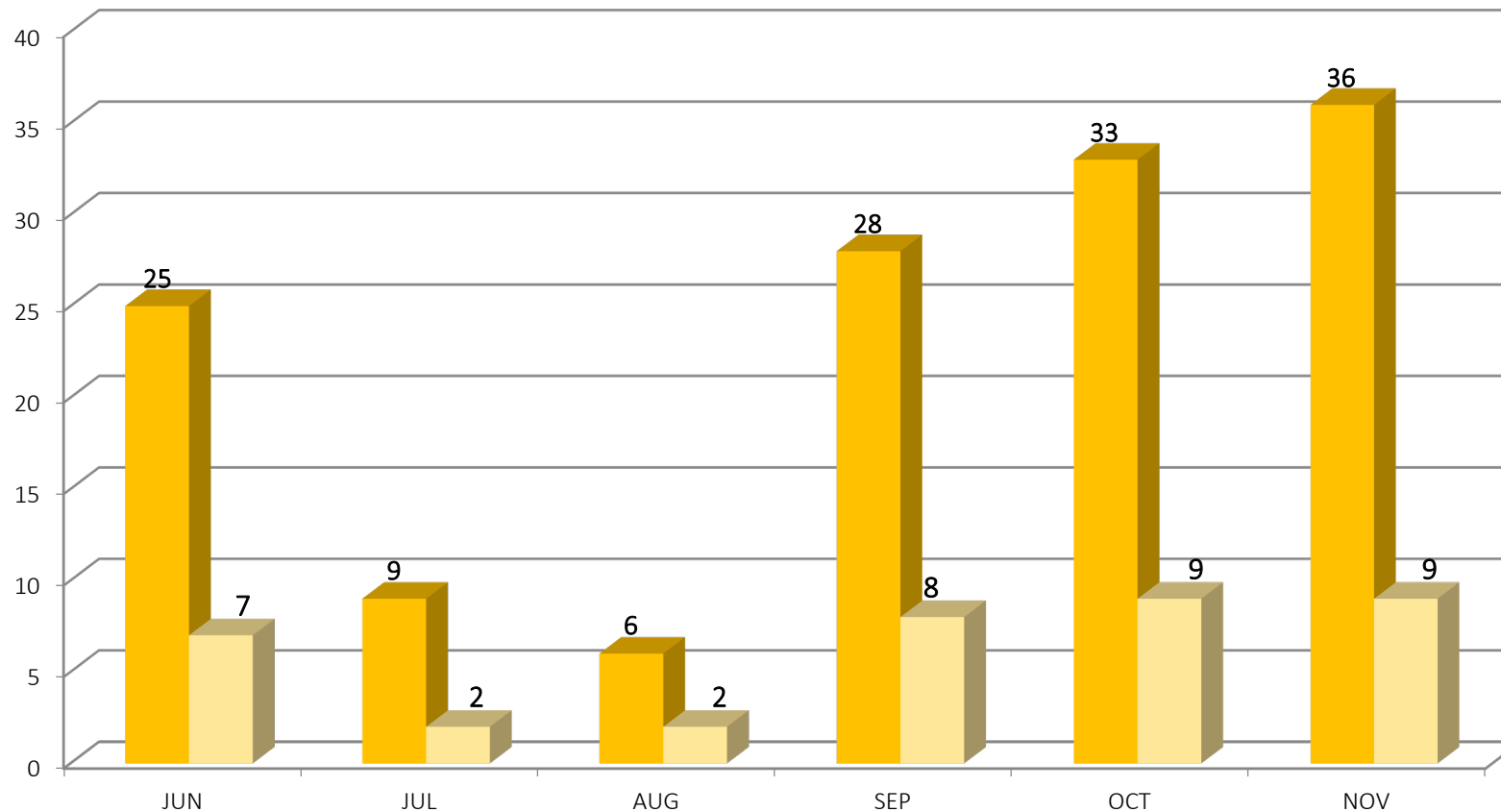
*Started referral partnership with South Portland Schools in December, 2020.

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 WARMING CENTER STATISTICS BY MONTH

The Warming Center is an overflow space in the City of Portland Family Shelter used year round as needed.

Monthly Average

■ Individuals ■ Families



Date	Families	Individuals
1	12	52
2	9	36
3	9	36
4	9	36
5	9	36
6	9	36
7	9	36
8	9	36
9	9	36
10	9	36
11	8	36
12	7	31
13	7	31
14	7	31
15	7	31
16	7	31
17	8	36
18	7	31
19	7	31
20	7	31
21	9	34
22	7	29
23	8	35
24	9	40
25	9	40
26	9	40
27	8	37
28	8	37
29	8	37
30	16	67

OXFORD STREET SHELTER

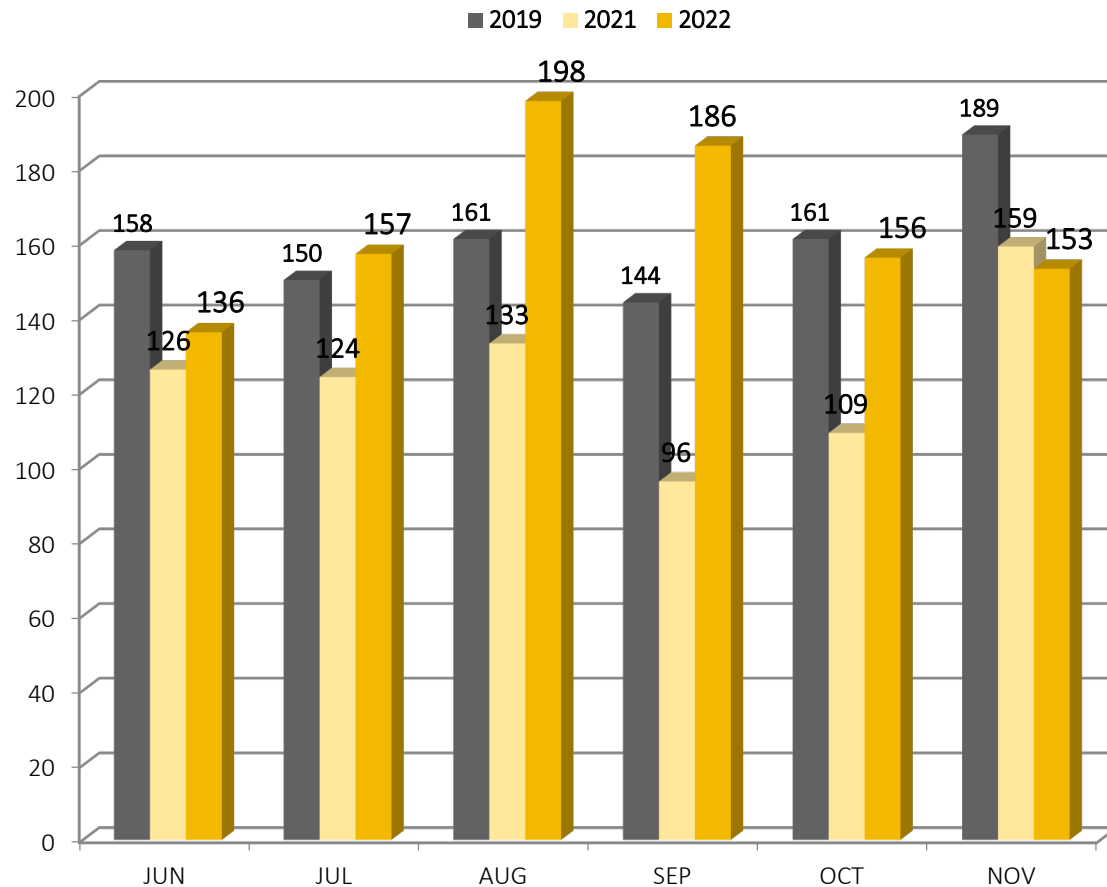
NOVEMBER, 2022

Intakes by Residency

24 people indicated refugee services for reason at intake and are likely asylum seekers.

MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE						OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Alfred	3	Rumford	2			AZ	3	VT	1				
Auburn	2	Saco	2			CA	16						
Bangor	3	Shapleigh	1			DC	1						
Biddeford	3	South Portland	1			FL	1						
Bridgton	1	Windham	2			GA	1						
Brunswick	1	Mexico	1			IN	1						
East Baldwin	1	Yarmouth	1			MA	1						
Gorham	1					NH	3						
Gray	1					NJ	4						
Houlton	1					NY	2						
Lewiston	1					TX	7						
Parsonsfield	1					VA	1						
MAINE TOWN:	29	OUT-OF-STATE:	43	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	0	PORTLAND:	31	Unknown:	7	TOTAL:	110		

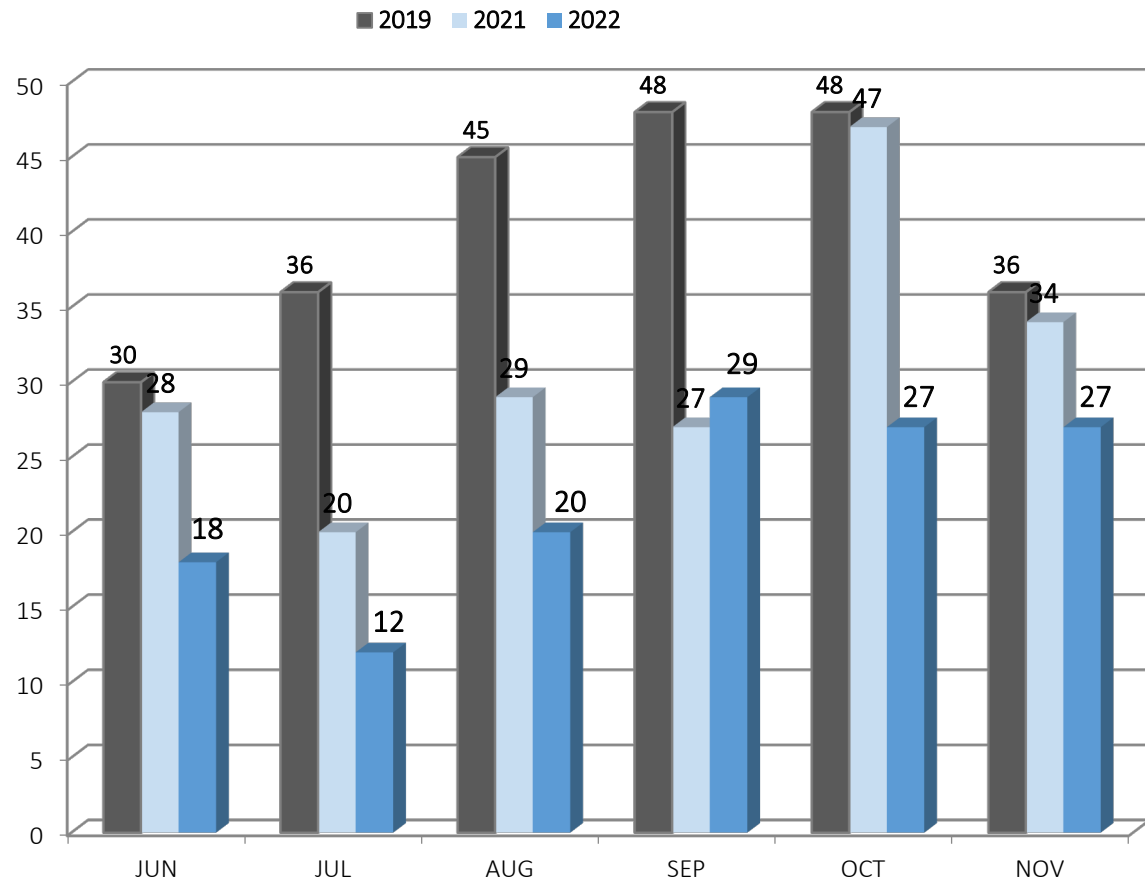
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH



*NOTE: Ramping up shelter capacity to 40 as additional staff are onboarded.

	INTAKES	Pre-COVID Bed Capacity	Current Bed Capacity
Through These Doors	3/3	16	16+ at shelter and hotel overflow
Family Shelter	5/17	146	146
Joe Kreisler	9	24	24
Milestone	6	41	34
Oxford Street (Men)	74	154 at OSS, 75 at PSRC overflow	154 at OSS, 149 at contracted hotel
Oxford Street (Women)	36		
Florence House	12	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven
Elena's Way	8	NA	40*
TOTAL	153	496	474+

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



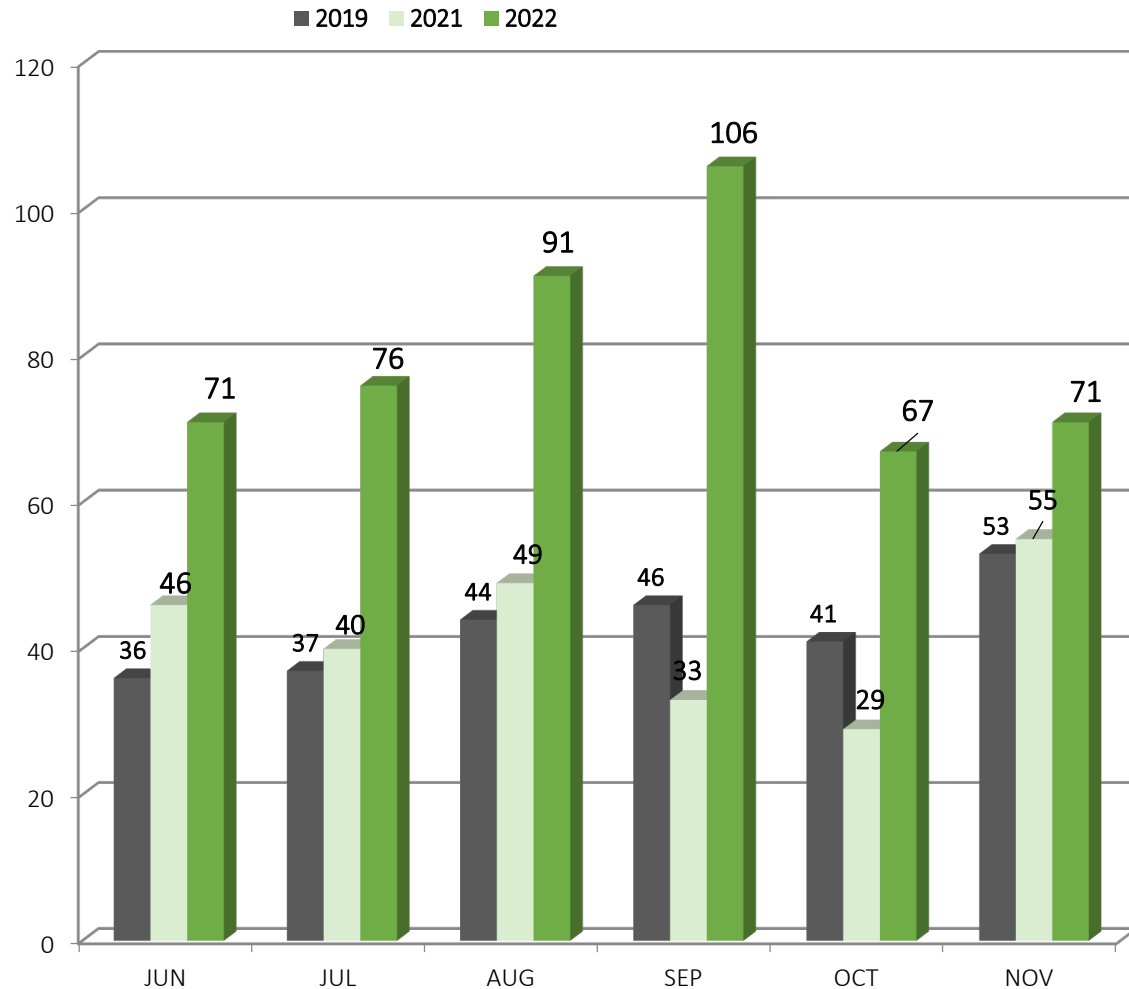
*Starting October, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.

	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	BED NIGHTS	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	1/1	194		1/1
Family Shelter	5/22	1,461		5
Joe Kreisler	9	1,127	1	8
Milestone	1	270		1
Oxford Street (Men)	4	214		4
Oxford Street (Women)	2	668		2
Florence House	5	908	1	4
Elena's Way	0			
TOTAL	27	4842	2	25

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

NOVEMBER, 2022

1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)



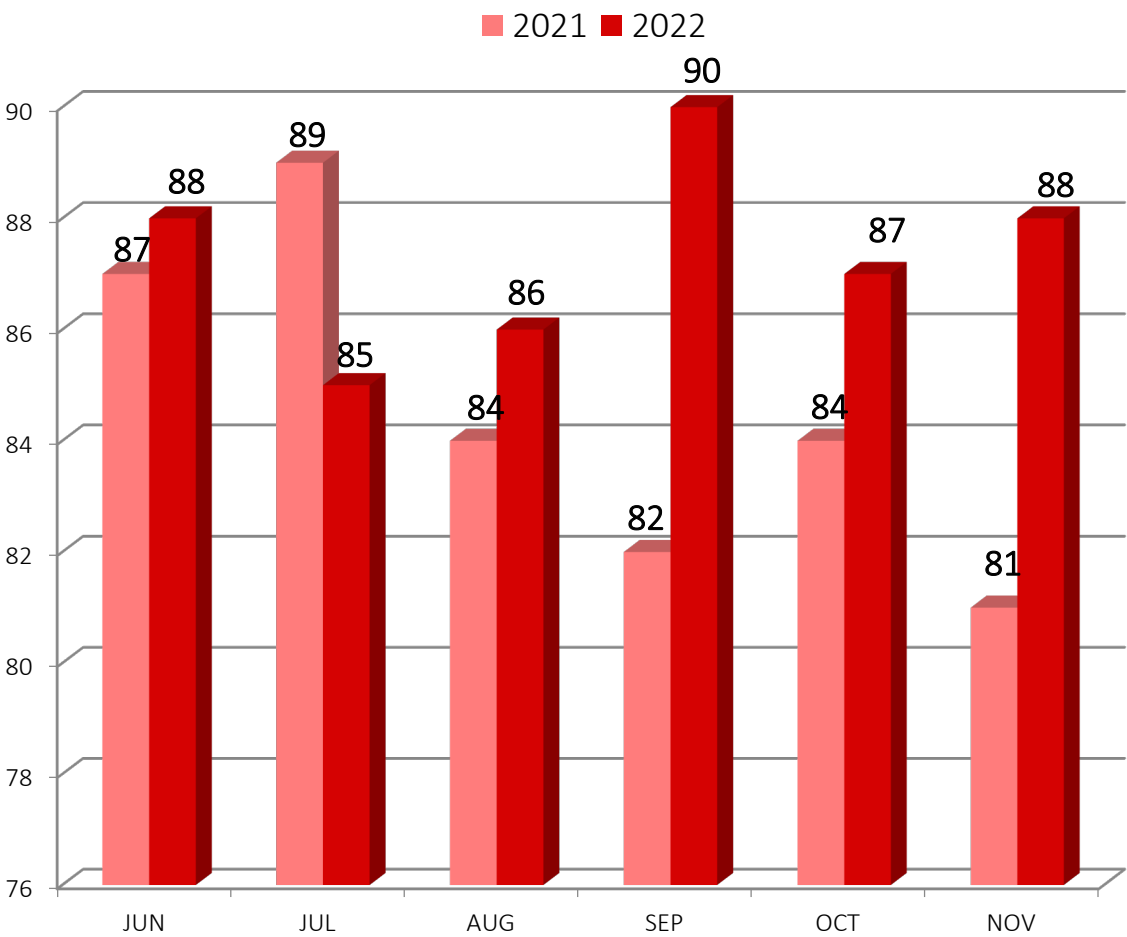
1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS	All Intakes	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of the Shelter's Intakes	% of All Intake	% of Portland First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	3/3	0	-	-	-
Family Shelter	5/17	4/15	80%	7%	3%
Joe Kreisler	9	3	33%	4%	2%
Milestone	6	3	50%	4%	2%
Oxford Street (Men)	74	42	57%	59%	27%
Oxford Street (Women)	36	18	50%	25%	12%
Florence House	12	1	8%	1%	1%
Elena's Way	8	0	-	-	-
Page 13 TOTAL	153	71		46%	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

NOVEMBER, 2022

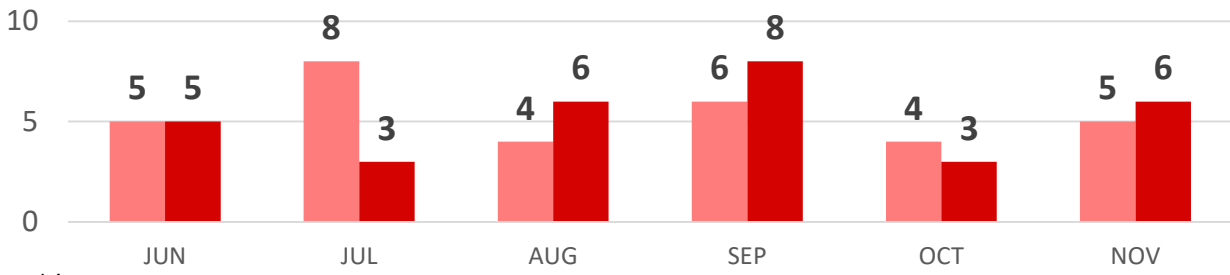
CTOs FROM SHELTER

Total Current CTOs



CTO STATISTICS	CTOs in the Month	Medical Restrictions in Month	Current CTOs
Family Shelter	0		0
Joe Kreisler	0		3
Milestone	1		19
Oxford Street Shelter	4		62
Florence House	1		3
Elena’s Way	0	0	1
TOTAL	6		88

CTOs Issued in the Month



PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY TYPE

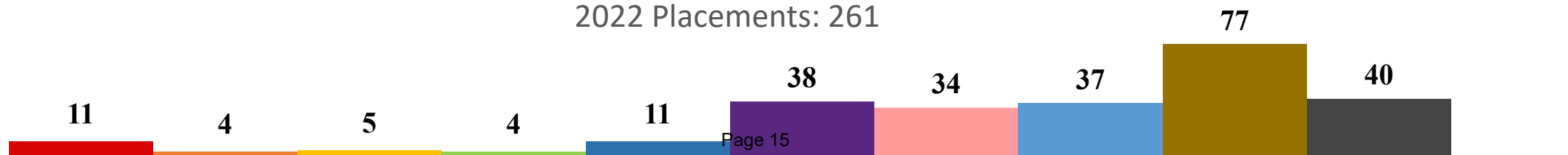
	S+C	BRAP	Recovery Home	Public Housing	STEP	Family Reunification	Sect. 8/ HCV	OTHER	GA	No Subsidy
Through These Doors					1					
Family Shelter									5	
Joe Kreisler						3		2*	3	1
Milestone							1			
Oxford Street (Men)						1			3	
Oxford Street (Women)	1						1*			
Florence House			1					*3		1
Elena's Way										
TOTAL	1		1		1	4	2	5	11	2

*Avesta. transitional housing for female veterans, subsidized apartments, First Place TLP, foster family.

Distribution of Placements in the Month: 27



2022 Placements: 261

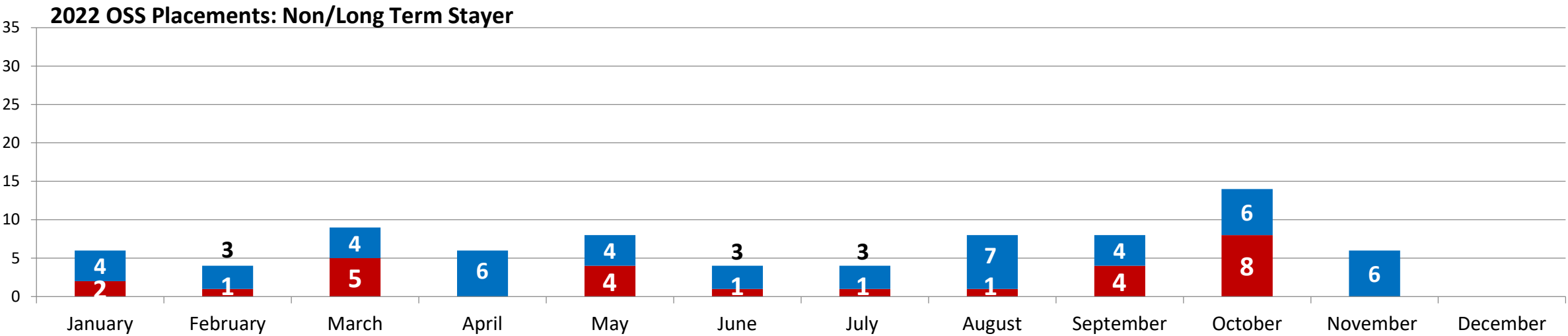
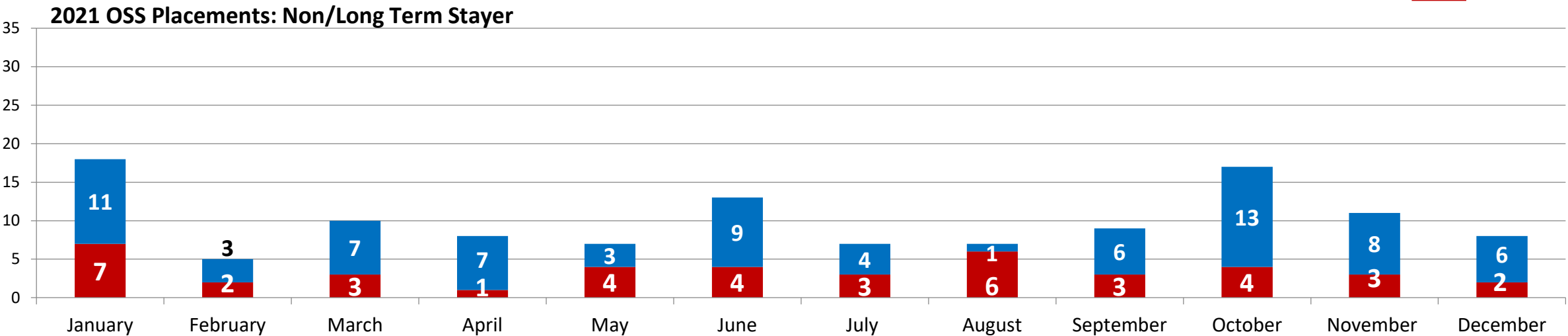
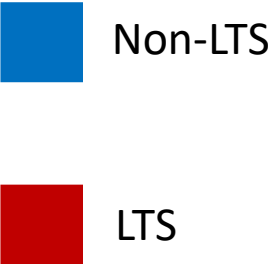


PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2022 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

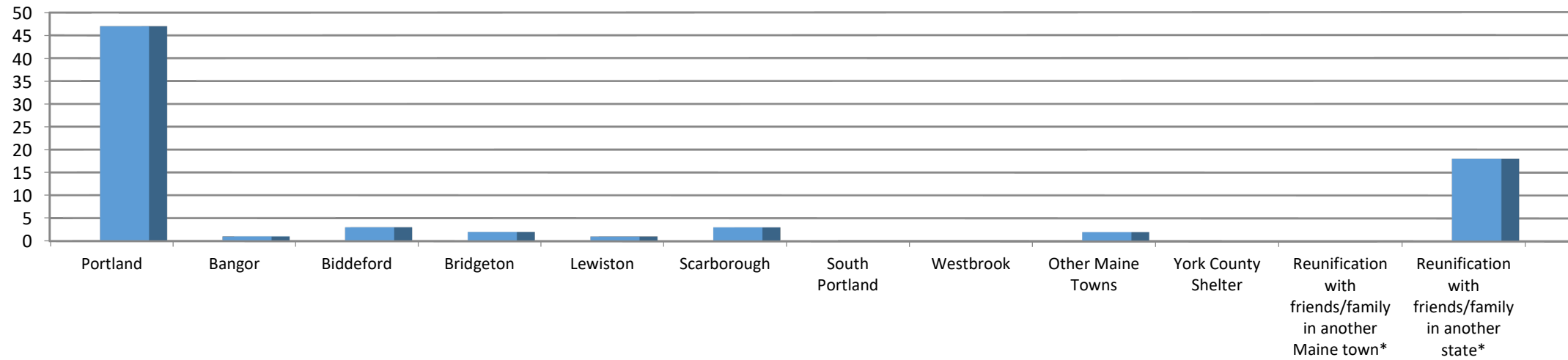
On November: 30
504 individuals
(including families)
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	FS WC	Elena's Way	Total Bed Nights
1	16	27	37	23	32	283	52	14	484
2	16	24	38	26	34	277	36	12	463
3	16	24	38	25	37	284	36	11	471
4	16	24	38	24	36	278	36	11	463
5	16	24	37	20	35	280	36	13	461
6	16	24	38	25	37	287	36	12	475
7	16	23	38	26	38	294	36	11	482
8	16	23	36	24	35	293	36	13	476
9	16	23	36	26	35	297	36	14	483
10	17	25	36	19	35	286	36	14	468
11	16	25	40	17	40	290	36	12	476
12	16	25	39	19	38	290	31	12	470
13	16	25	40	24	36	289	31	12	473
14	16	25	40	23	35	288	31	11	469
15	15	25	39	25	37	294	31	14	480
16	15	26	38	25	36	290	31	14	475
17	15	26	40	24	35	286	36	12	474
18	15	26	40	23	37	292	31	15	479
19	15	26	40	19	38	285	31	14	468
20	15	26	39	23	36	284	31	13	467
21	15	26	40	23	37	292	34	13	480
22	15	26	40	22	37	291	29	17	477
23	15	27	40	21	35	283	35	15	471
24	14	27	40	21	35	276	40	16	469
25	14	27	40	23	35	283	40	16	478
26	14	27	40	21	35	285	40	15	477
27	14	27	37	22	35	288	37	17	477
28	15	27	40	20	35	295	37	14	483
29	15	27	37	20	41	293	37	16	486
30	15	27	36	18	36	290	67	15	504
Total	461	764	1,157	671	1,083	8,623	1,092	408	14,259
Avg/night	15	25	39	22	36	287	36	14	475
Highest	17	27	40	26	41	297	67	17	504
Lowest	14	23	36	17	32	276	29	11	461

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



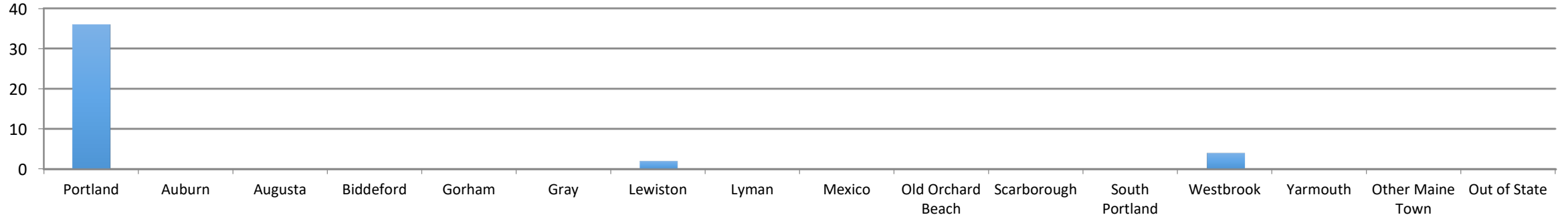
OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2022 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	6	4	9	6	8	4	4	8	8	14	6		77	100%
Portland	5	4	4	2	7	3	3	3	2	9	5		47	61.0%
Bangor			1										1	1.3%
Biddeford			1				1			1			3	3.9%
Bridgton									2				2	2.6%
Lewiston										1			1	1.3%
Scarborough				1						2			3	3.9%
South Portland														0.0%
Westbrook														0.0%
Other Maine Towns						1			1				2	2.6%
York County Shelter														0.0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*														0.0%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	1		3	3	1			5	3	1	1		18	23.4%

FAMILY SHELTER PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

■ 2022



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	100%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	3	10	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	5	5		42	
Portland	3	9	3	3	3	2		2	3	4	4		36	85.7%
Auburn														0.0%
Augusta														0.0%
Biddeford														0.0%
Gorham														0.0%
Gray														0.0%
Lewiston						1	1						2	4.8%
Lyman														0.0%
Mexico														0.0%
Old Orchard Beach														0.0%
Scarborough														0.0%
South Portland														0.0%
Westbrook		1						1		1	1		4	9.5%
Yarmouth														0.0%
Other Maine Town														0.0%
Out of State														0.0%



Portland's Annual Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil

Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 4:30 pm

The longest night of the year is a time to remember our homeless friends who have died and to recommit ourselves to the task of ending homelessness.

A candlelight procession will start at the Maine Medical Center-Preble Street Learning Collaborative at 20 Portland Street at 4:30 pm and will proceed to Monument Square for a ceremony dedicated to those persons who have died in our community.

All persons who are homeless, who have been homeless, who work with people who are homeless, or who are thankful they are not homeless are welcome to participate.

An ASL interpreter will be present for the ceremony.