

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Remote

**Thursday, October 15, 2020
9:00 AM**

AGENDA

1. Zoom Meeting Information

- a. Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84397034551?pwd=K0Z5NE9PUTJSYkc3NCsvdDd0b29KQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 9703 4551

Passcode: 161158

Dial by your location

- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84397034551?pwd=K0Z5NE9PUTJSYkc3NCsvdDd0b29KQT09>

2. Welcome and review of agenda (2 minutes) 9:00 – 9:02

- a. Review and approval of September 17, 2020 meeting minutes

3. Meeting Norms (3 mins) 9:02 – 9:05

4. Concerns not on the Agenda (10 minutes) 9:05 – 9:15

5. Rapid Rehousing Program Update (5 minutes) 9:15 – 9:20

6. Status of Shelter Accessibility for Adults (20 minutes) 9:20 – 9:40

- a. Includes monthly statistics
- b. Expo

7. **Unsheltered Homelessness (15 minutes) 9:40 – 10:00**

8. **LTS (7 minutes) 10:00 – 10:07**

9. **Legislation (18 minutes) 10:07 – 10:25**

a. Federal, State, Local issues

b. Discussion

10. **Governance Update (5 minutes) 9:15 – 9:20**

a. Brief overview of governance work

11. **General Organization Updates (5 minutes) 10:25 – 10:30**

Next Meeting

November 19, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Remote

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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Social Services Division
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Social Services Division
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Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

Remote Meeting

Thursday, August, 2020

9:00 am – 10:30 am

Minutes

Name	Organization
Adam Harr	City of Portland
Cullen Ryan	CHOM
Eleanor Ginder	
Aaron Geyer	City of Portland
Jim Devine	HVJ
Benjamin Strick	Spurwink
Bill Higgins	Ha4aLL
Jeff Tardif	City of Portland
Donna Yellen	Preble Street
Anna Brewer	Preble Street
Anne Pringle	Friends of Deering Oaks
Cat Bates	Portland Resident
Kerrie Keller	United Way
Beka Burns	Portland resident
Jenny Stasio	Through These Doors
Peter McLaughlin	Portland Resident

Name	Organization
Norm Maze	Shalom House
Ginny Dill	Shalom House
Vickey Rand	CHOM
Amy Geren	Portland Downtown
George Rheault	
Brian Townsend	Amistad
Rob Liscord	MEJP
Rich Bianculli	Neighborhood Prosecutor
Mason Norton	
Jonathan Sahrbeck	District Attorney
Sarah Michniewicz	BNA
Riley	Youth Without Barriers
Jess Falero	Maine People's Housing Coalition
Dan Coyne	United Way
Aaron Porter	Unhoused community member
Elizabeth Jackson	Greater Portland Health

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- **Introductions**
 - Aaron moved to approve the meeting minutes from August, Brian seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.
 - Dan went over the new format of the agenda.
- **Meeting Norms**
 - Executive committee took the governance committee recommendations to balance the meetings so everyone has a voice in the meetings.
 - Assume best intent.
 - If you would like to speak please use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom.
 - Provide space for all voices.
 - Questions can be emailed or in the chat; the chat feature is not working.
- **Concerns not on the Agenda**
 - Concerns not on the agenda can be brought up now and will be addressed at the end of the meeting or at later date.
 - George asked if the Preble Street 40 bed shelter part of the agenda.
 - It can come up in the status of shelter or the Preble Street organizational update.
 - Cullen suggested discussing the green new deal in Portland as it will influence the availability of affordable housing.
 - Dan asked that people share suggestions on the meeting format to
- **Status of Shelter Accessibility for Adults**
 - August Shelter Statistics
 - GA hotels
 - Add an asterisk that GA hotels are supplanting bed nights.
 - Add GA hotel reporting.
 - HMIS Data on where people spent the last three months.
 - Donna asked if because people aren’t being going into OSS because they had not stayed at OSS in the past 6 months, some people who may be from Portland are staying elsewhere.
 - Danna asked for clarification between the warming center and the family shelter.
 - Pre-COVID, when the family shelter units are full, the shelter opens the bottom floor of 58 Chestnut street to shelter 35 families the City contrasted with the salvations army to provide emergency shelter to people when the family shelter space is full.
 - Currently, families counted in the warming center are staying in three hotels. The first hotel families stay at is for a 14-day quarantine before moving to the other hotels.
 - Expo
 - The City is looking for space to replace the EXPO as the initial plan was to be out by September 25th; this deadline was pushed back to October 25th due to the Red Claws season getting pushed back.

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- There was a vote on Monday by the County Commissioners to not use the Cross-Insurance Arena (noted: formerly the Civic Center).
- There is not much space that align with Covid related guidelines.
- More people are going into OSS.
- The City will allow the use of outside bathroom to the public.
- OSS working to overturn non-violent CTOs.
- o Family Shelter
 - Seen an uptick in the number of families.
 - 32 families for just over 100 individuals have come from one detention center in Phoenix, Arizona.
 - About a family per day.
- o Preble Street
 - Preble Street has been looking for shelter space since the ramp down of the Sullivan Wellness Shelter.
 - Preble Street has an application for a 40-bed wellness shelter.
 - The City, MaineHousing and Preble Street have been in talks about the Preble Street Shelter taking on the quarantine shelters, PUI and Respite, shelters, currently in the Family Shelter.
 - This is separate from
- o CTOs
 - The CTOs have gone down by about 100 since March
 - Do these include CTOs from Deering Oaks Park.
 - They do not; the CTOs in the current slides only reflect those reported by the shelters.
 - Explore how to add, maybe its own slide?
 - Jess asked about recourse for CTOs.
 - They asked about this at the last meeting.
 - Brian from Amistad mentioned last month we discussed Portland Police being invited in a general way and wondered if there should be a specific invitation to discuss this.
 - Aaron Porter agreed on going into CTOs and feel PD should have already been involved with these discussions.
 - o With rethinking what ESAC should be and which organizations should be here, we will have broader and more intentional representation and invitations.
 - Riley of Youth without barriers agreed with the above; they work with homeless youth many of whom are trans and people of color, including one who was recently barred from all of Preble Street's resources.
 - o What are the CTO policies at each shelter?
 - o What is the process with police?
 - Rich Bianculli, the neighborhood prosecutor for the police department gave an overview of the CT process:

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Shelters can call PD to rescind CTOs.
- Dearing Oaks and Public Areas:
 - CTs can be rescinded if they contact Rich directly; he then would discuss it with the issuing officer and decide if they would rescind the CT.
 - Richb@portandmaine.gov
 - 756-8350
 - In addition to the hotels currently being used now, is there more capacity?
 - Preble Street has up to 40 rooms for quarantine in one shelter.
 - There is likely capacity at hotels, but it may come down to where these hotels are located.
 - There is not capacity in Portland for a huge increase.
 - Some hotels have refused to work with shelters.
 - Greater Portland hotels have capacity but it present logistical issues sheltering a number of individuals over ten miles away.
 - Community partners are supporting local hotels and guests and that may get strained further out.
 - How much does CARES Act money influence this?
- **Unsheltered Homelessness**
 - There are several group meetings.
 - Donna said Preble Street is still seeing about 100 unsheltered people accessing their services.
 - Donna invited Riley to discuss
 - PATH is active but no one from The Opportunity Alliance was on the call.
 - George suggested a group examine how well the PATH program and street outreach is working.
 - Access to detox.
 - Milestone detox is closed.
 - Portland has a robust sober house community; when someone has a temporary relapse, they are unable to stay at a sober house. This leads to unsheltered homelessness and may require detox to get back in but access is difficult.
 - Amistad staff is bringing people up to Lewiston to detox multiple times a day.
 - Pine Tree Detox has scholarship beds available.
 - Riley explained that 5% of their beds are scholarship beds. That is about 3 beds. The remaining are sliding scale.
 - They are extremely expensive.
 - Peter agreed and said Pine Tree doesn't take Maine Care.
 - Brian thanked Donna for bringing it up.
 - Milestone handing over these services to hospitals is a risk.
 - They are in a transition period and we should support them.

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- These should be agenda items for this meeting.
- Cullen said that we need full, easy access for the full continuum of care: detox, sober living and a flexible system that works around relapse.
 - Need a continuum of care that is low barrier that doesn't keep people out.
 - Everyone needs pathways to housing.
 - Encampments don't help.
- Bill Higgins asked if we have any measure on evictions or the affidavit needed to prevent evictions.
 - Rob Liscord of MEJP: Maine evictions court had a moratorium end in august and there is a federal moratorium for evictions for nonpayment with and affidavit saying they did not pay due to COVID-19.
 - No other reason for evictions; no because evictions are not covered.
 - Nationally, landlords are quickly trying to forget into eviction court before affidavits are submitted.
 - Reach out to pine tree as quickly as possible.
- George noted that he had an email conversation with Bob Fowler in late June that said the pre-covid capacity at their 31 and their pre-covid capacity was 16 and tried to go down to 8. The Mary Dodd house had 10 beds. He was not aware that milestone was not participating today.
- Peter is attending as a community member but works with Maine Renters United trying to do eviction support and defense. A lot of people being given eviction notices are moving out because they do not know their rights or are undocumented and are afraid of going to court. Section 8 voucher holders and tenants in Avesta run facilities and large landlords are handing down evictions.
 - He asked DA Sahrsbeck to speak to the situation and how judges are looking at the moratorium, if it is being used narrowly or broadly.
 - DA Sahrsbeck had to leave for another meeting but his phone number is 871-8344.
- **LTS**
 - Meeting as a smaller group as key line staff are pulled into meeting emergency shelter needs.
 - There were 4 LTS placements.
 - Rental subsidies are available.
 - Rental units are available but still difficult.
 - Focusing on people who have been on the list for the full 5.5 years.
 - LTS and placements into permanent housing from shelter: it would be valuable to track where people are being placed out of homelessness.
 - Is this possible because of affordable housing projects or tax credits here?

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- Is it only possible to live here with significant financial subsidy?
 - People are being placed all over and it has a combination to do with how flexible people are; housing is more available outside of Portland.
 - People with subsidies are mostly limited to tax credit housing but covid is seeing a small shift where landlords are accepting people with vouchers since rent is not contingent on employment.
 - Biggest challenge is the availability of people who were supplanted to respond to Covid emergency shelter.
 - City is hiring two housing counselors.
 - We need rental subsidies and affordable housing.
 - Ben said the LTS group focuses on people especially hard to house; there are no available placements; how to create new opportunities for these individuals?
- **Policy Update**
 - **Federal**
 - Federal moratorium on evictions is an unfunded mandates; rent is piling up and will be due December 31st.
 - No Agreement to supplement the CARES Act.
 - House \$3 trillion was not considered in senate and the last two senate efforts did not go anywhere.,
 - HUD: house put out a THUD appropriations but not from senate; an omnibus bill or continuing resolution needed.
 - Trump Administration rules on preserving neighborhood choice takes away the affirmative fair housing rule from the last administration that makes it easier to discriminate in housing. This was put through without public comment.
 - ESAC comments will be sent out September 22nd.
 - Change access to SNAP and Medicaid are not active.
 - **State**
 - State budget cuts due to revenue shortfalls that had some recent alcohol sale offset.
 - Legislature is not reconvening.
 - FUSE on hold.
 - Shelter funding on hold.
 - These bills will start from scratch and knowledgeably folks who are term limited are leaving.
 - MaineHousing rent relief program of \$3,000 for three months.
 - Portland has ballot questions with well intentioned. 15 applicants for tax credits but only \$3 million available. Changes to the cost structure of development in Portland may push that money to other communities.
 - Local Green New Deal: Question C
 - Inclusionary zoning changes. Labor and prevailing wage pushing past cost caps. HUD sets what is affordable housing.

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- Rent Control: Question D
 - May have unintended consequences.
- Owner Occupied Short Term Rentals Only: Question E
 - Can't have air bnb style short term rentals unless owner lives in building.
- **Governance Committee Recommendations**
 - Ran out of time before coming to this item.
- **General Organization Updates**
 - HVJ
 - Election is coming up. Outreach is difficult under COVID
 - Scheduling interviews with candidates.
 - Access to recovery services
 - Shelter access
 - Affordable housing.
 - Previously would hold at the soup kitchen so unhoused folks could ask their own questions.

Action Items

- Invite PD to discuss CTOs and how to appeal/reverse them.
 - Rich was here this meeting and is willing to come to future meetings.
- Invite PATH to the meeting and examine its efficacy.
- Agenda item on detox and an update from Milestone.
- Send out link on how to navigate moratorium.

PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters per Night:

	SEPTEMBER 2019	SEPTEMBER 2020
ADOLESCENTS	16 Individuals	13 Individuals
FAMILIES	159 Individuals 51 Average Families	249 Individuals 59 Average Families
ADULTS	233 Individuals	162 Individuals
Total	408 Individuals	424 Individuals*

*Does not capture everyone in emergency shelter as General Assistance assisted 260 unduplicated cases with alternative emergency shelter in hotels in September.

OXFORD STREET SHELTER

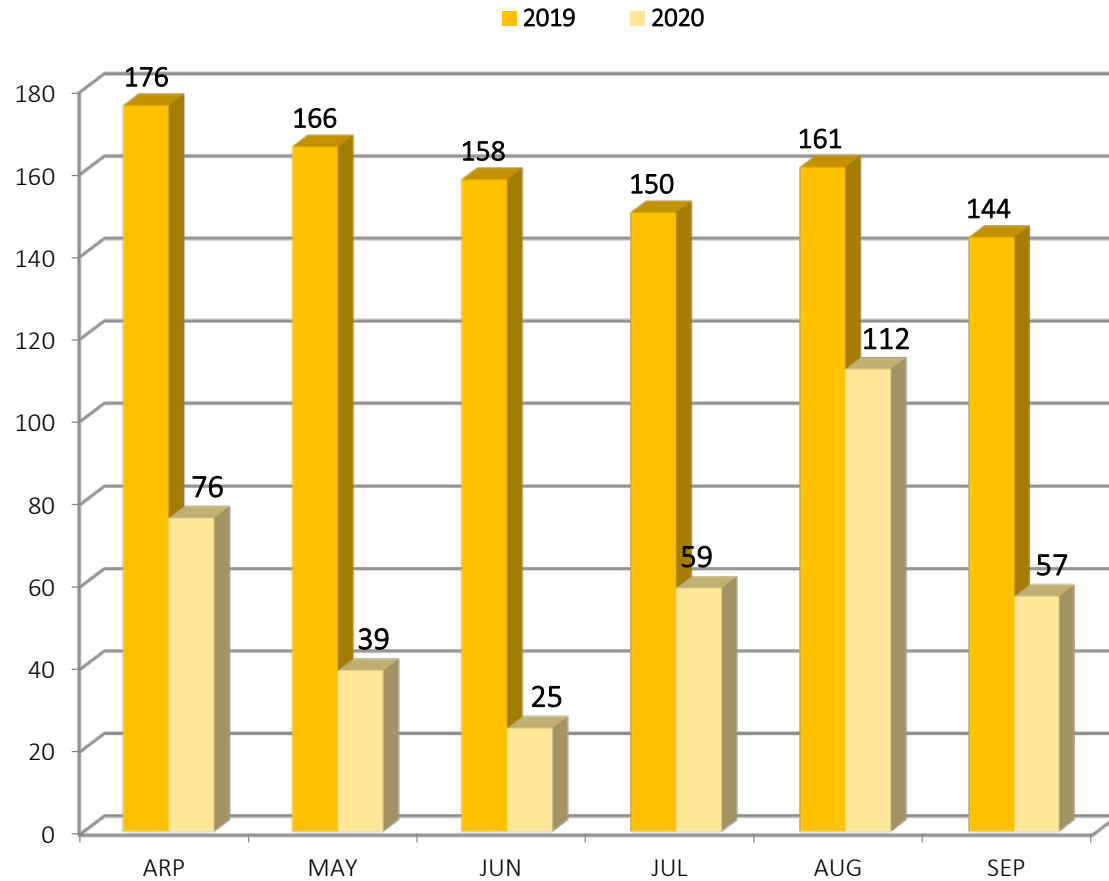
SEPTEMBER 2020

Intakes by Residency

MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE						OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Augusta	1					CA	1						
Biddeford						FL	2						
Houlton	1					LA	1						
Kennebunk	1					NH	1						
Lewiston	1					NY	1						
Saco	1					VA	1						
South Portland	4												
Standish	1												
Westbrook	2												

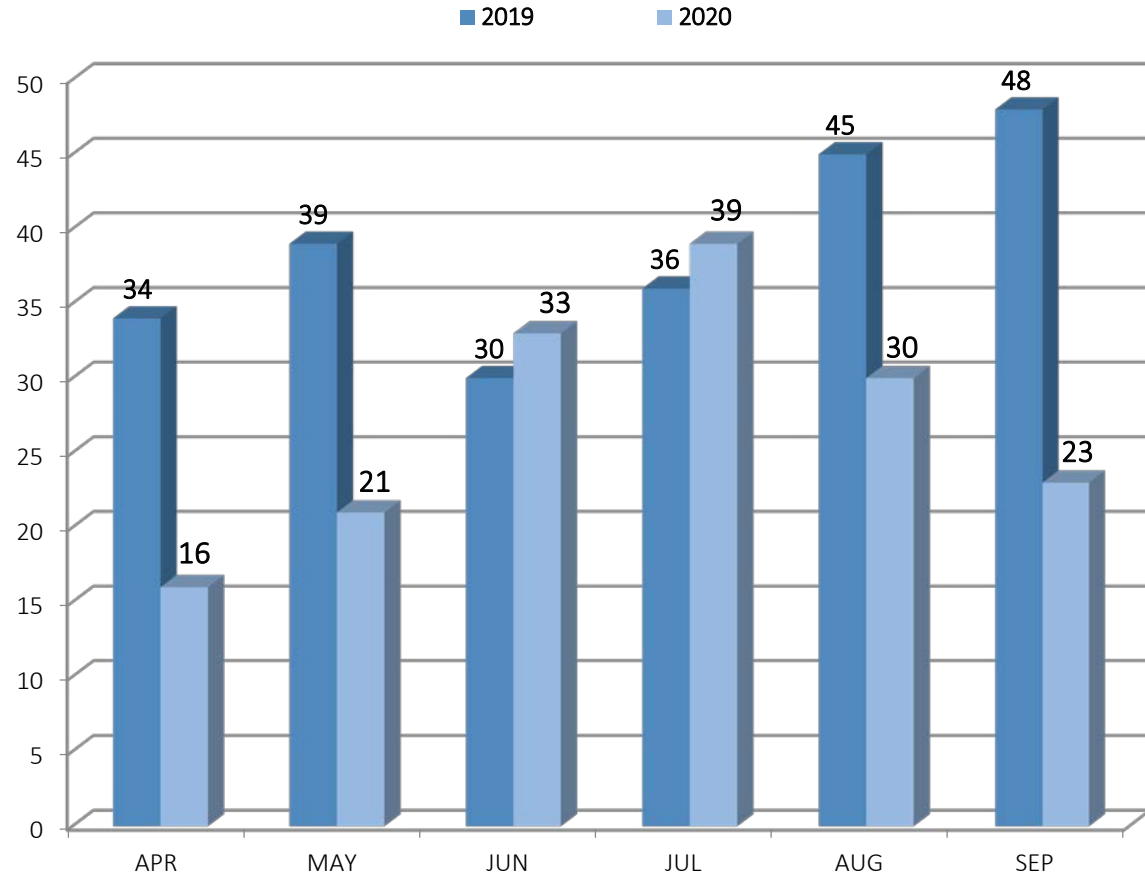
MAINE TOWN:	13	OUT-OF-STATE:	7	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	0	PORTLAND:	12	Unknown:		TOTAL:	32
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PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH



	INTAKES
Through These Doors	2/5
Family Shelter	9/25
Joe Kreisler	4
Milestone	5
Oxford Street (Men)	27
Oxford Street (Women)	4
Florence House	6
TOTAL	57

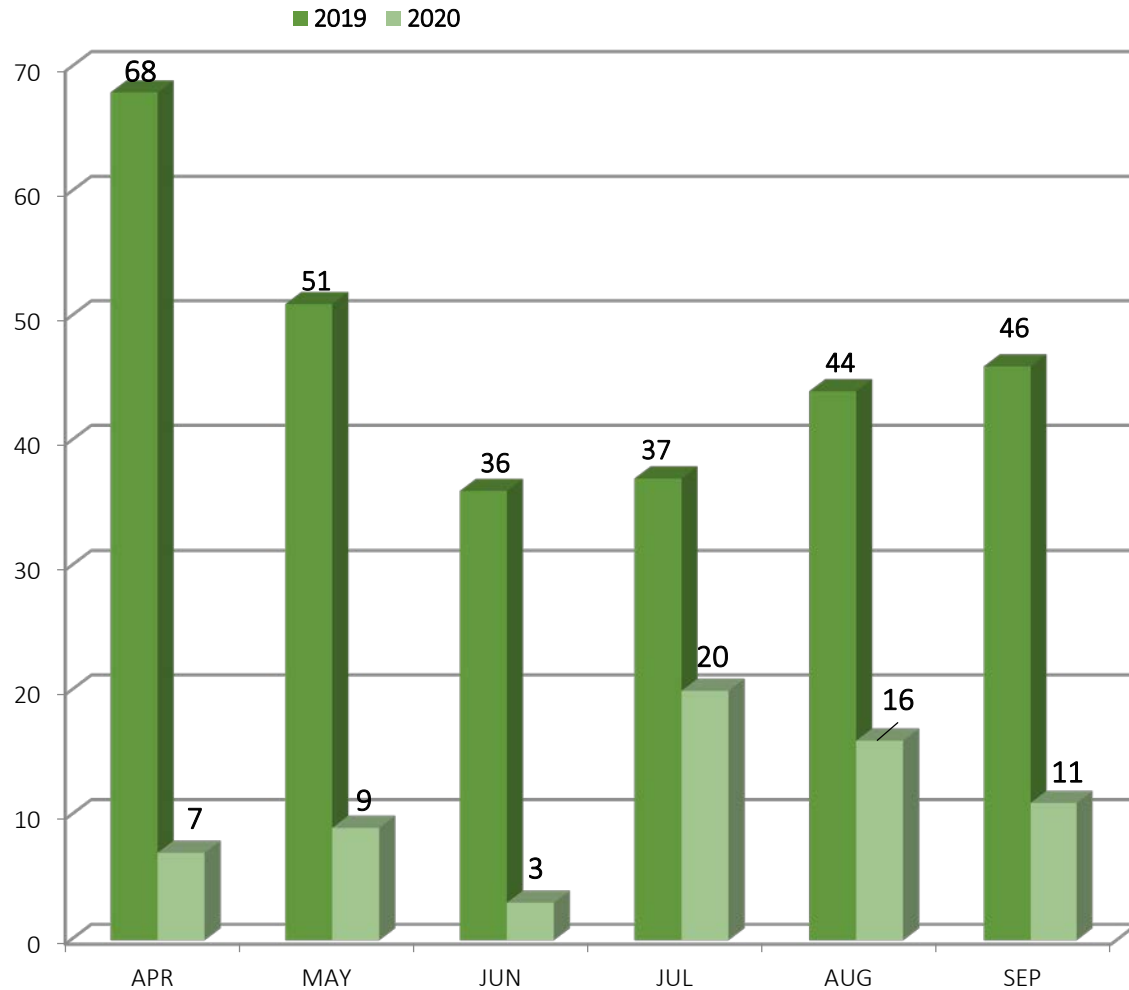
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



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

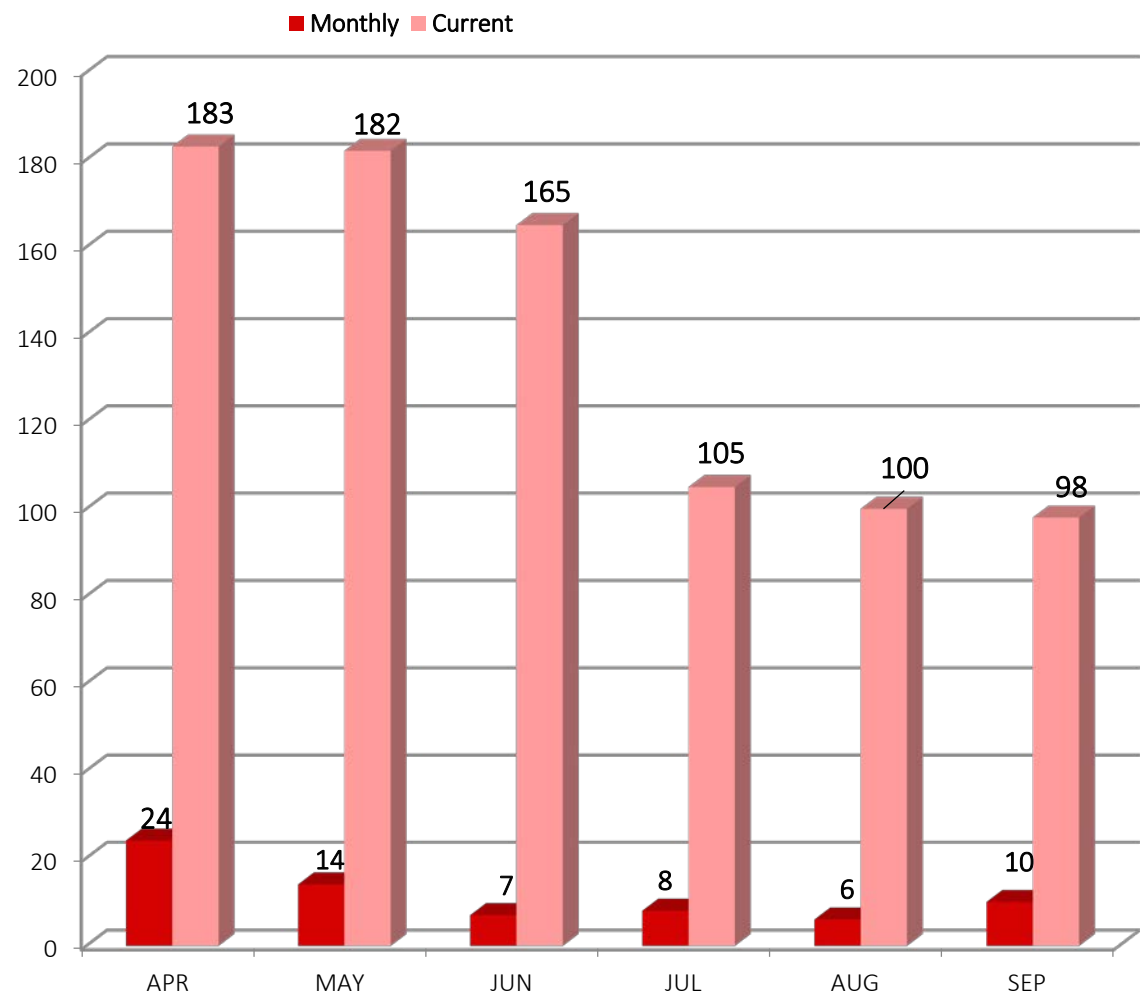
	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	TRANSITIONAL	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	2/2	2/2	
Family Shelter	5/14		5/14
Joe Kreisler	4	2	2
Milestone	2		2
Oxford Street (Men)	4		4
Oxford Street (Women)	1		1
Florence House	5	1	4
TOTAL	23	5	18

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)



1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of Total Intake	% of Total First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	1/3	1.8%	9%
Family Shelter	8/21	14%	72.7
Joe Kreisler	2	3.5%	1.8%
Milestone	0		
Oxford Street (Men)	0		
Oxford Street (Women)	0		
Florence House	0		
TOTAL	11	19.3%	100%

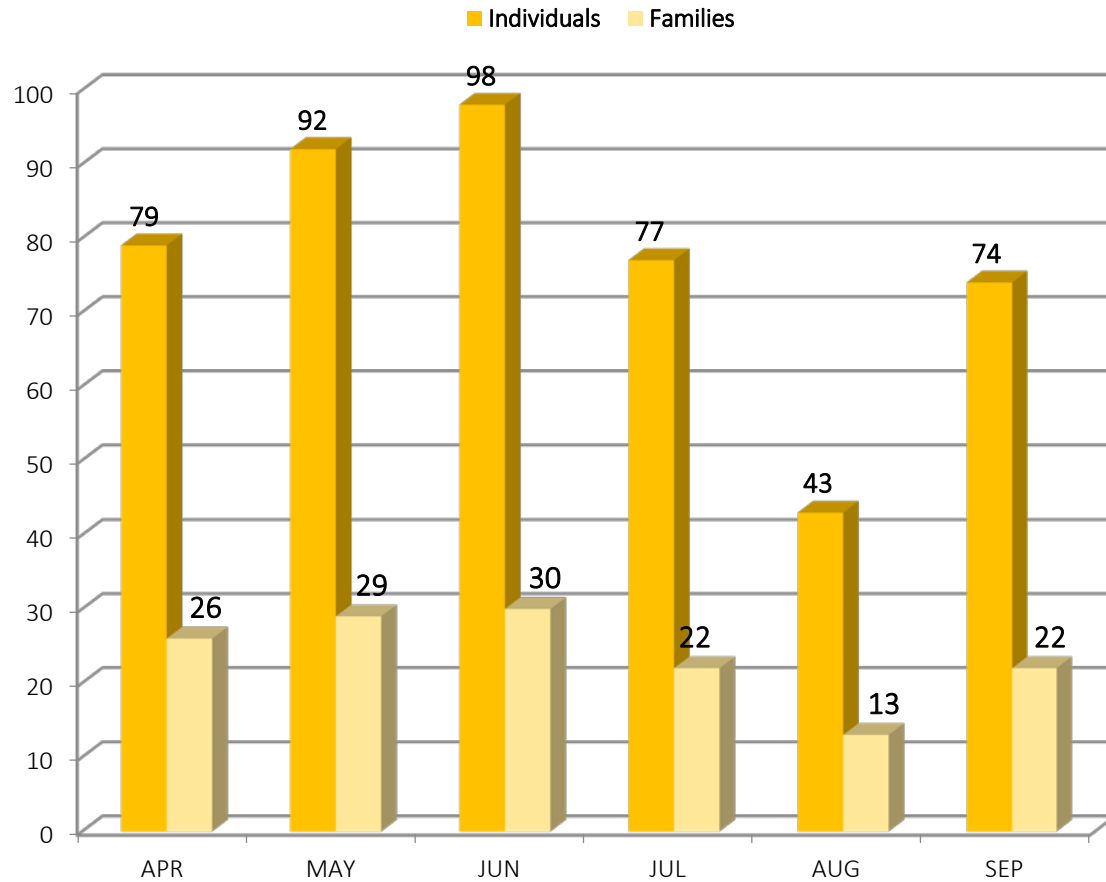
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 CTOs FROM SHELTER



CTO STATISTICS	CTOs in the Month	Medical Restrictions by Month	Current CTOs
Family Shelter	0		0
Joe Kreiser	1		4
Milestone	1		8
Oxford Street Shelter	8		85
Florence House	0		1
TOTAL	10		98



PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 WARMING CENTER STATISTICS BY MONTH



Warming Center	
Intakes	21/74
Housing Placements	/
Family Promise	/

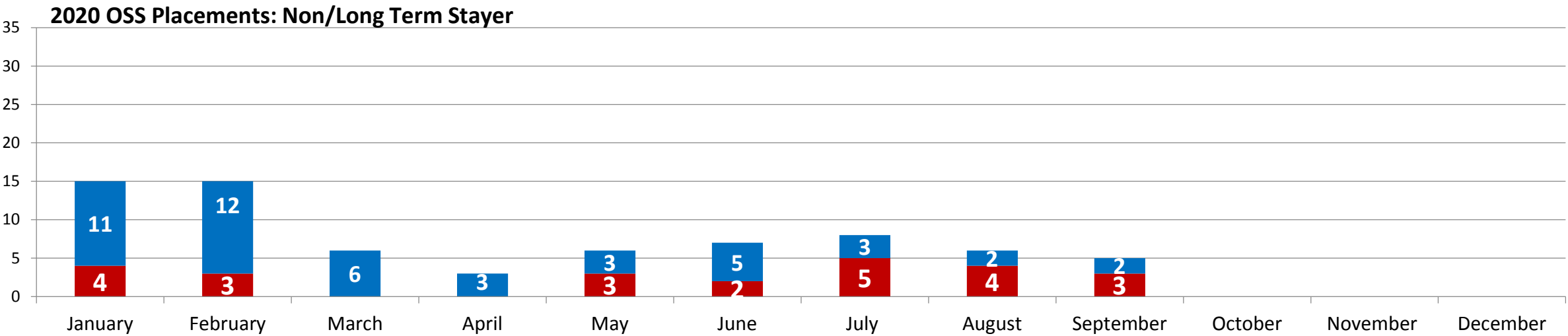
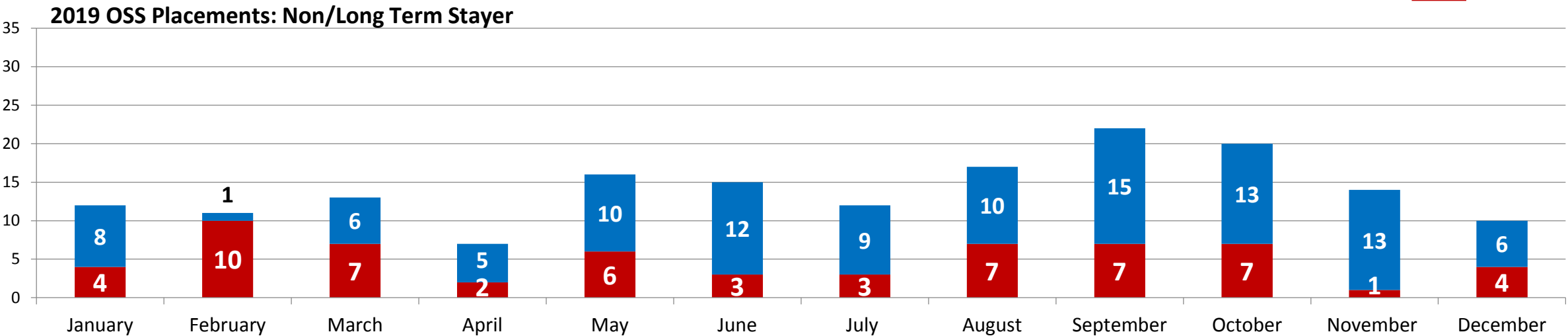
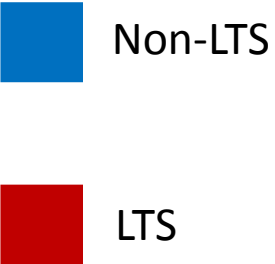
Date	Families	Individuals
1	15	48
2	15	48
3	16	51
4	16	51
5	15	48
6	15	48
7	15	48
8	18	55
9	17	51
10	20	64
11	21	69
12	21	69
13	21	69
14	23	75
15	24	78
16	24	78
17	25	81
18	26	85
19	26	85
20	26	85
21	24	79
22	26	88
23	26	88
24	26	91
25	27	93
26	27	93
27	27	93
28	28	97
29	30	103
30	26	94

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE SEPTEMBER 2020 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

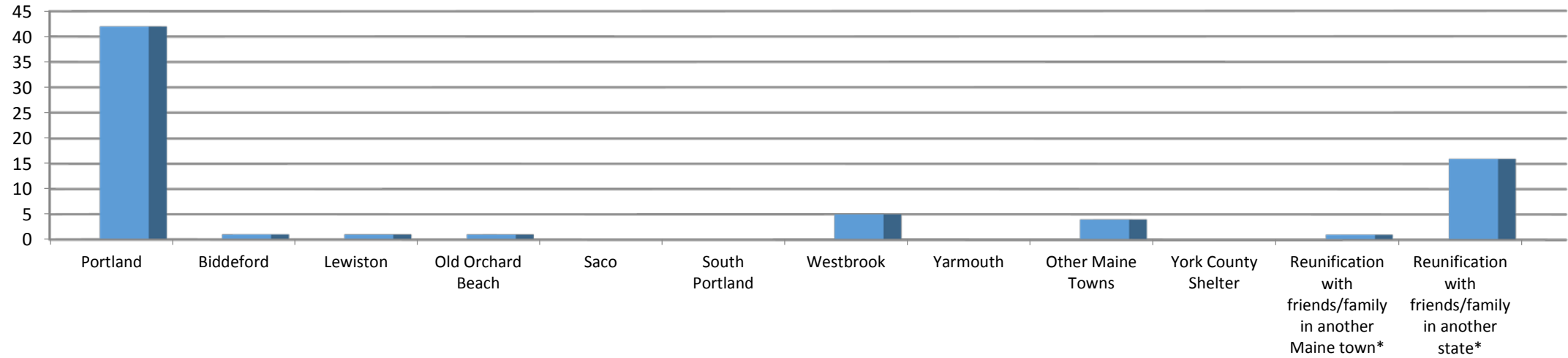
On September: 30
488 individuals
(including families)
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	OSS Chairs	Total Bed Nights
1	82	129	37	16	26	105	0	395
2	83	129	38	18	24	103	0	395
3	84	132	38	15	21	94	0	384
4	82	129	37	17	19	90	0	374
5	86	129	38	17	23	98	0	391
6	86	128	40	16	23	95	0	388
7	87	128	36	18	26	100	0	395
8	84	131	39	13	25	99	0	391
9	89	131	36	17	21	93	0	387
10	90	144	38	18	21	89	0	400
11	91	149	39	14	23	95	0	411
12	92	149	39	16	26	98	0	420
13	93	149	40	11	27	106	0	426
14	94	155	37	12	28	108	0	434
15	95	158	37	12	24	113	0	439
16	96	158	37	12	25	103	0	431
17	94	158	39	12	24	109	0	436
18	93	160	34	11	27	109	0	434
19	94	160	34	9	31	104	0	432
20	95	160	35	9	28	105	0	432
21	102	160	34	10	25	100	0	431
22	103	169	36	11	22	109	0	450
23	102	167	36	9	23	92	0	429
24	105	172	37	12	22	95	0	443
25	106	174	38	13	27	101	0	459
26	107	174	39	11	27	95	0	453
27	108	174	38	10	26	84	0	440
28	109	178	39	10	28	95	0	459
29	110	184	39	10	31	99	0	473
30	118	182	39	9	31	109	0	488
Total*	2,860	4,600	1,123	388	754	2,995	0	12,720
Avg/night*	95	153	37	13	25	100	0	424
Highest*	118	184	40	18	31	113	0	488
Lowest*	82	128	34	9	19	84	0	374

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



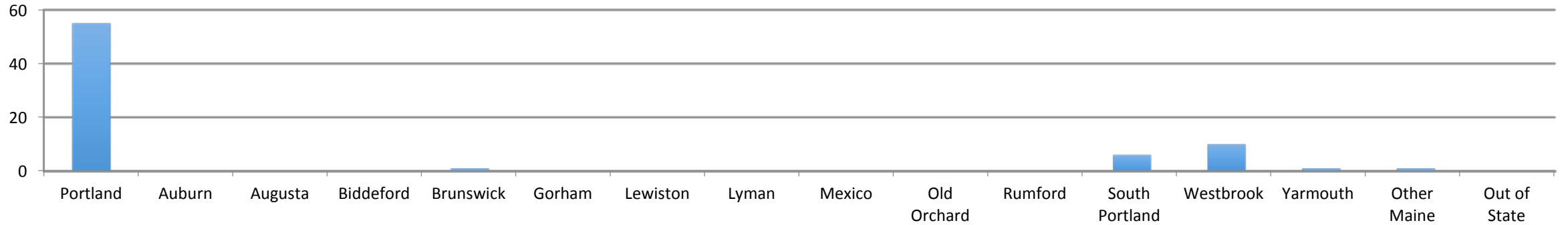
OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2020 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	15	15	6	3	6	7	8	6	5				71	100%
Portland	6	7	2	1	5	7	6	5	3				42	59.2%
Biddeford									1				1	1.4%
Lewiston							1						1	1.4%
Old Orchard Beach	1												1	1.4%
Saco														0.0%
South Portland														0.0%
Westbrook			1	2	1				1				5	7%
Yarmouth														0.0%
Other Maine Towns		2	1				1						4	5.6%
York County Shelter														0.0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*	1												1	1.4%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	7	6	2					1					16	22.5%

FAMILY SHELTER PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

■ 2020



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	100%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	10	12	9	2	3	11	14	8	5				74	
Portland	9	11	6			11	11	5	2				55	74.324%
Auburn														
Augusta														
Biddeford														
Brunswick								1					1	1.351%
Gorham														
Lewiston														
Lyman														
Mexico														
Old Orchard Beach														
Rumford														
South Portland		1		1			2	2					6	8.108%
Westbrook	1		3		3		1		2				10	13.514%
Yarmouth				1									1	1.351%
Other Maine Town									1				1	1.351%
Out of State														