

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Remote Meeting

**Thursday, July 15, 2021
8:30 AM**

AGENDA

1. Introductions (8:30 – 8:40am)

- a. Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/96574340648?pwd=VUNVVVg1U2VpUms3Y2syTDlvOUZJdz09>

Meeting ID: 965 7434 0648
Passcode: 079534
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,96574340648#,,,,*079534# US (Chicago)
+19292056099,,96574340648#,,,,*079534# US (New York)

Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 965 7434 0648
Passcode: 079534
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abyDKeyrIF>

2. Returning to in-person meetings (8:40 – 8:50 am)

- a. Rotating meeting spaces to different member org spaces.

3. Monthly Emergency Shelter Bed Usage Statistics (presented by Jenny Stasio) (8:50 – 9:10am)

- a. June, 2021 Citywide Shelter Statistics

4. City Ordinance Update: Shelter Licensing, Shelter Moratorium, and Citizen's Initiative (9:10 – 9:30am)

- a. Shelter licensing & ESAC's response for the full City Council

b. Smaller shelters ballot initiative

5. Legislative Updates– Cullen (9:30 – 9:45am)

a. June updates.

6. Public Comment and Discussion (9:45 – 9:55am)

7. Wrap up (9:55 – 10am)

Next Meeting

August 19, 2021

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Remote Meeting

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters per Night:

	June 2020	June 2021
ADOLESCENTS	9 Individuals	15 Individuals
FAMILIES	194 Individuals 66 Average Families	108 Individuals 38 Average Families
ADULTS	174 Individuals	234 Individuals
Total	377 Individuals	357 Individuals

OXFORD STREET SHELTER

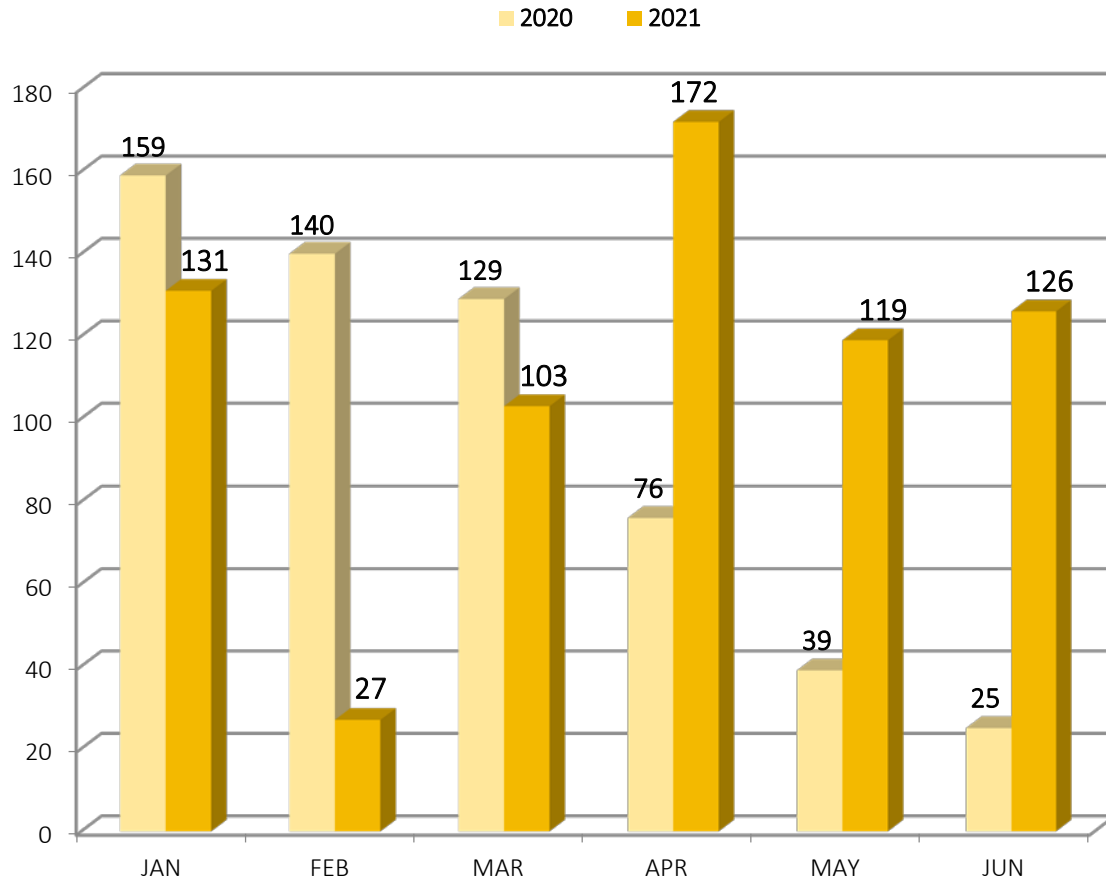
JUNE 2021

Intakes by Residency

MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE						OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Auburn	3	Warren	3			CA	3	PA	1			DRC	2
Augusta	1	Westbrook	6			CO	1	RI	2				
Bangor	3					CT	2	TX	7				
Berwick	1					FL	1	VA	2				
Biddeford	2					GA	1	WA	1				
Caribou	1					LA	1	WI	2				
Lewiston	3					MA	4						
Litchfield	1					NC	1						
Naples	1					NH	4						
Saco	3					NM	1						
Sanford	2					NY	2						
South Portland	10					OK	1						

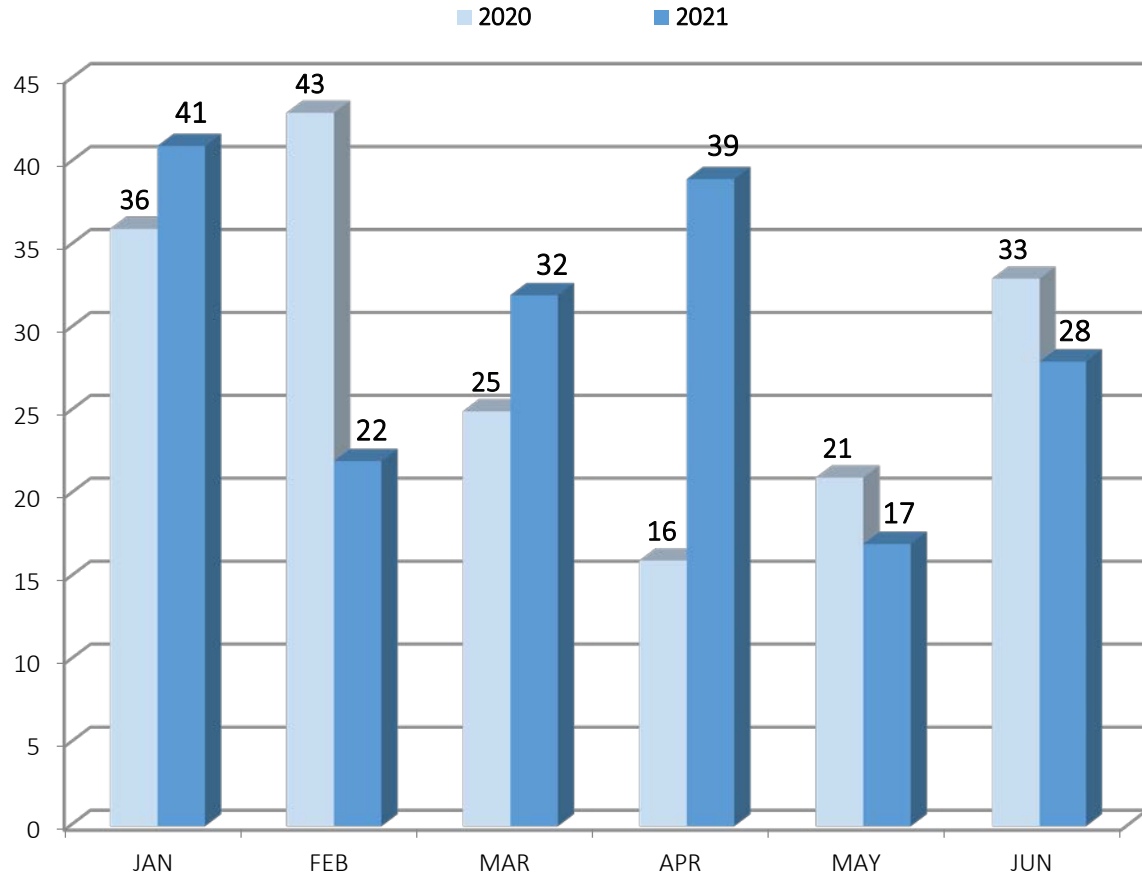
MAINE TOWN:	40	OUT-OF-STATE:	37	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	2	PORTLAND:	16	Unknown:		TOTAL:	95
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PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH



	INTAKES	Pre-COVID Bed Capacity	Current Bed Capacity
Through These Doors	2/3	16	16+ at shelter and hotel overflow
Family Shelter	3/11	146	136
Joe Kreisler	9	24	24
Milestone	6	41	34
Oxford Street (Men)	75	154 at OSS, 75 at PSRC overflow	75 at OSS, 149 at contracted hotel
Oxford Street (Women)	20		
Florence House	11	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven
TOTAL	126	496	474+

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



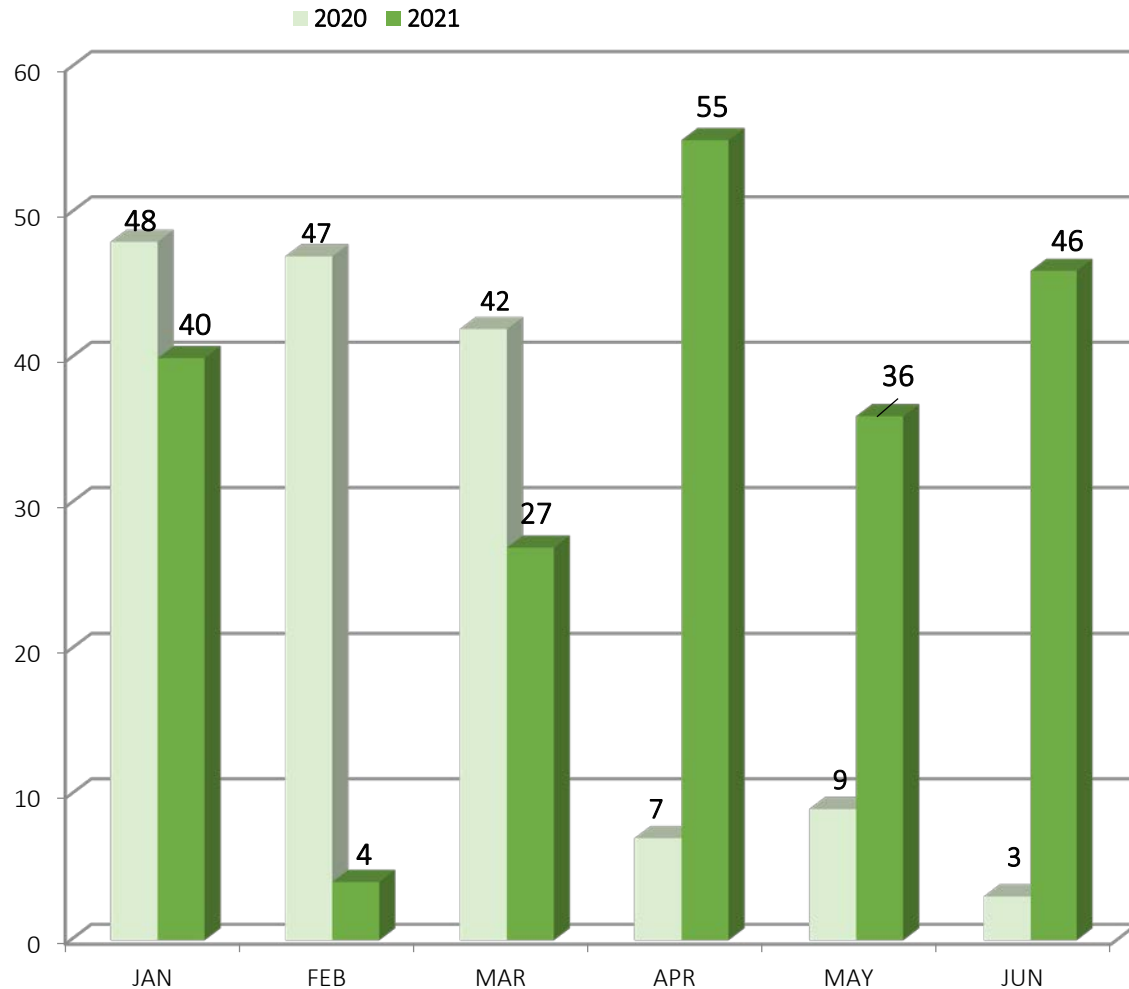
*Starting June, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.

	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	3/6		3/6
Family Shelter	4/15		4/15
Joe Kreisler	1		1
Milestone	2		2
Oxford Street (Men)	11		11
Oxford Street (Women)	2		2
Florence House	5	1	4
TOTAL	28	1	27

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE

JUNE 2021

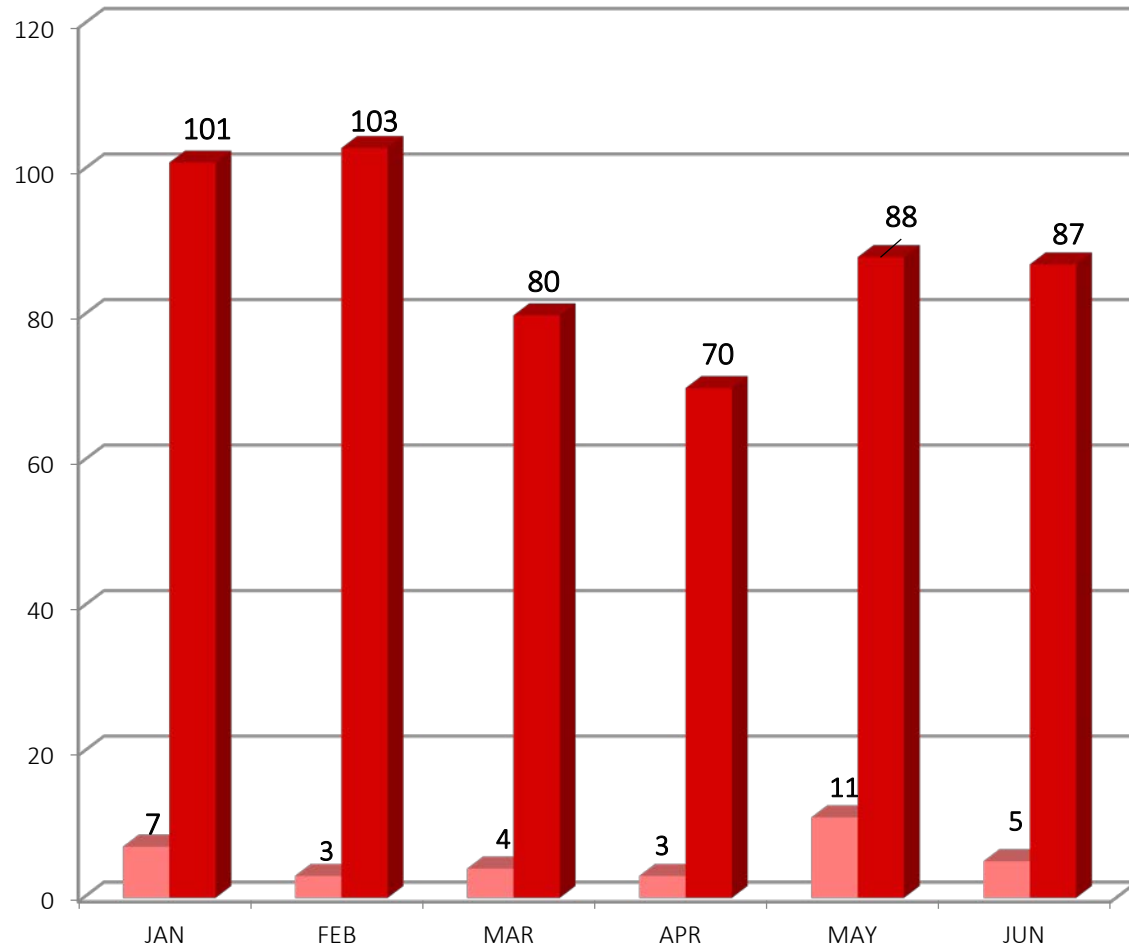
1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)



1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of Total Intake	% of Total First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	1/2	0.8%	2.2%
Family Shelter	2/9	1.6%	4.3%
Joe Kreisler	5	4%	10.8%
Milestone	2	1.6%	4.3%
Oxford Street (Men)	23	18%	50%
Oxford Street (Women)	9	7%	19.6%
Florence House	4	3%	8.7%
TOTAL	46	36.5%	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 CTOs FROM SHELTER

Monthly Current

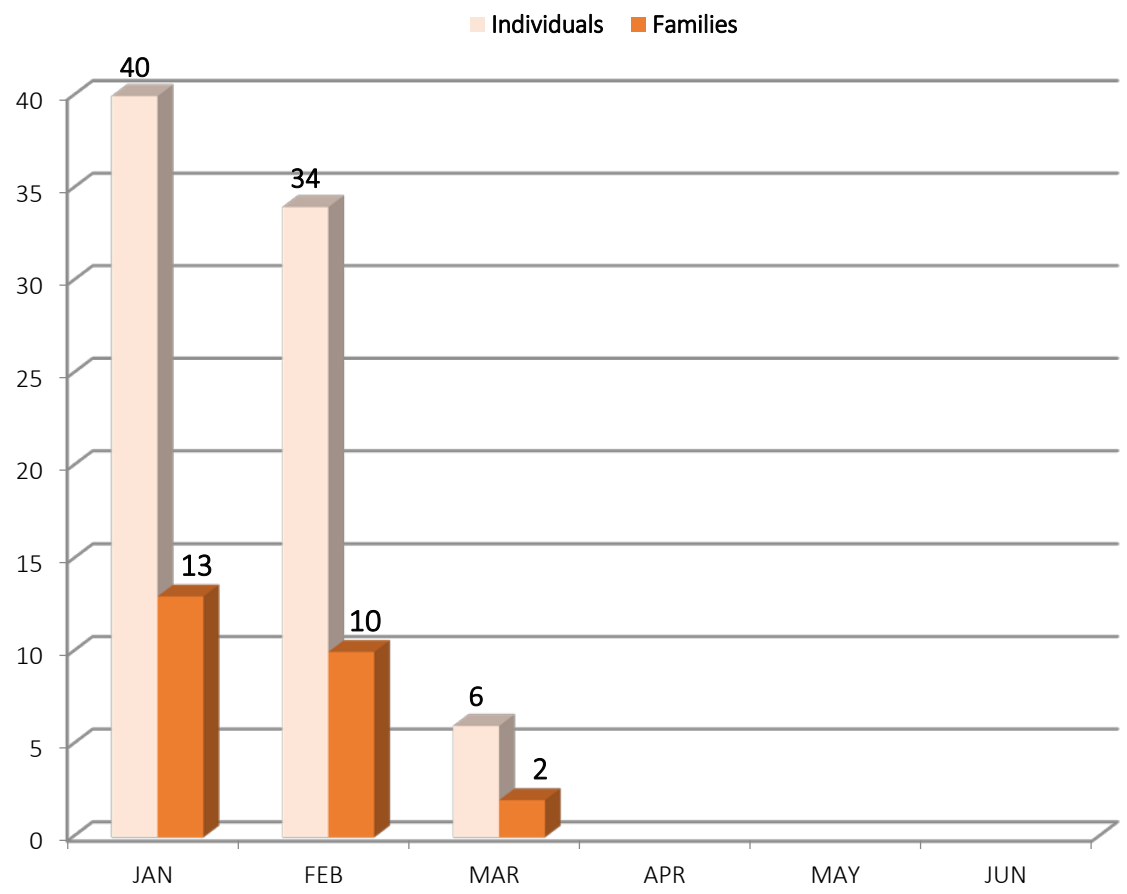


CTO STATISTICS	CTOs in the Month	Medical Restrictions by Month	Current CTOs
Family Shelter	0		0
Joe Kreisler	1		1
Milestone	1		14
Oxford Street Shelter	2		69
Florence House	1		3
TOTAL	5		87

Monthly Medical Restrictions:



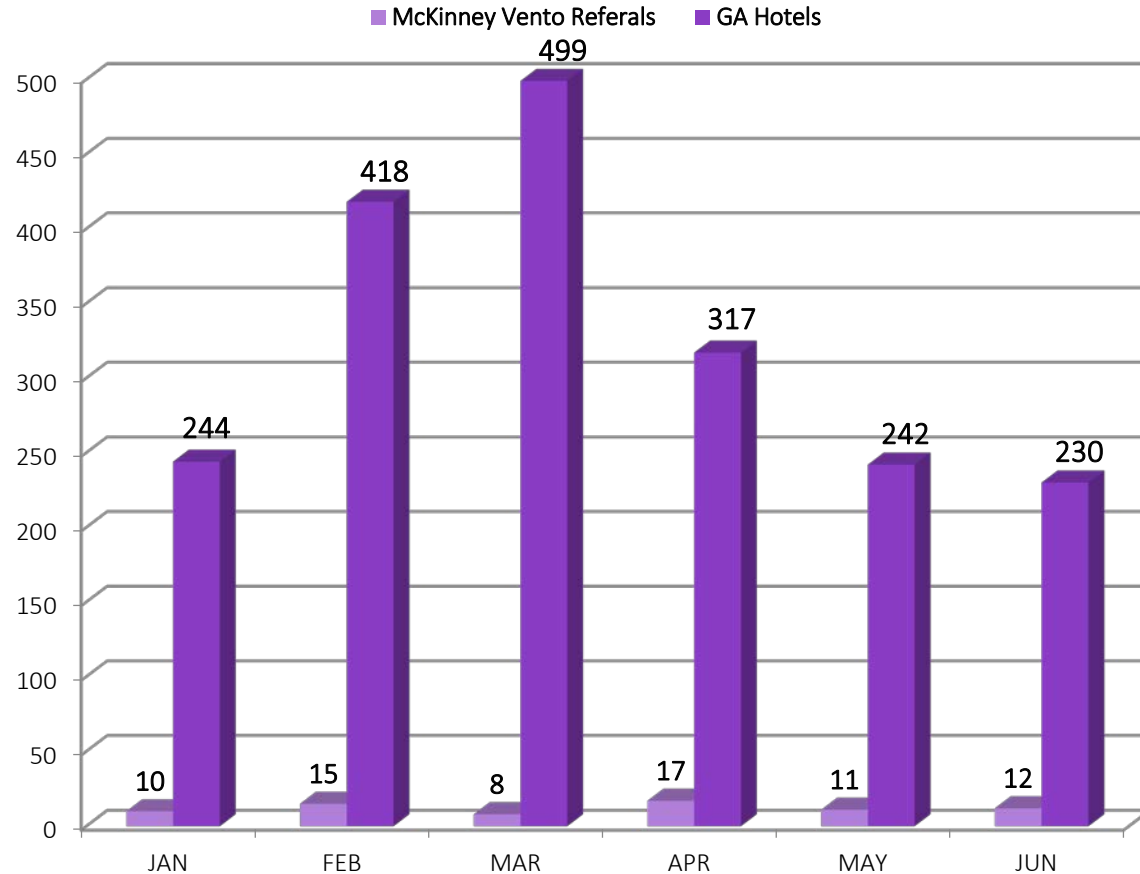
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE
JUNE 2021
WARMING CENTER STATISTICS BY MONTH



Warming Center	
Intakes	0
Housing Placements	
Family Promise	

Date	Families	Individuals
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
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22		
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26		
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29		
30		
31		

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 General Assistance Hotels



	Month*	Total
Families with School Aged Children	12	76
Unduplicated GA Hotels	230	1,666

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

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

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY TYPE

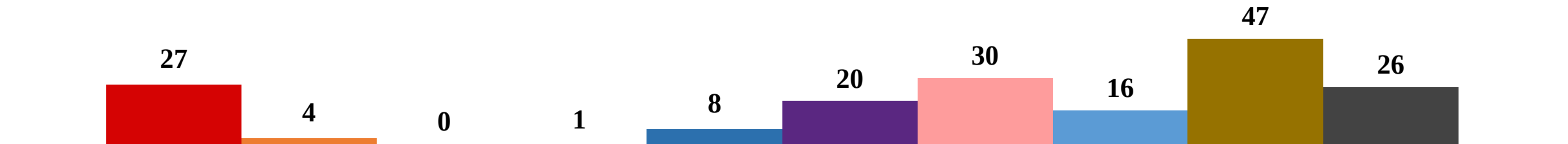
	S+C	BRAP	Sober House	Public Housing	STEP	Family Reunification	Sect. 8/HCV	OTHER	GA	No Subsidy
Through These Doors							2			1
Family Shelter									4	
Joe Kreisler					1					
Milestone							2			
Oxford Street (Men)					1	2	3		3	2
Oxford Street (Women)							1	1*		
Florence House	2					1		1*		1
TOTAL	2				2	3	8	2	7	4

*1 Avesta, 1 PNMI

Distribution of Placements in the Month:



2021 Placements:

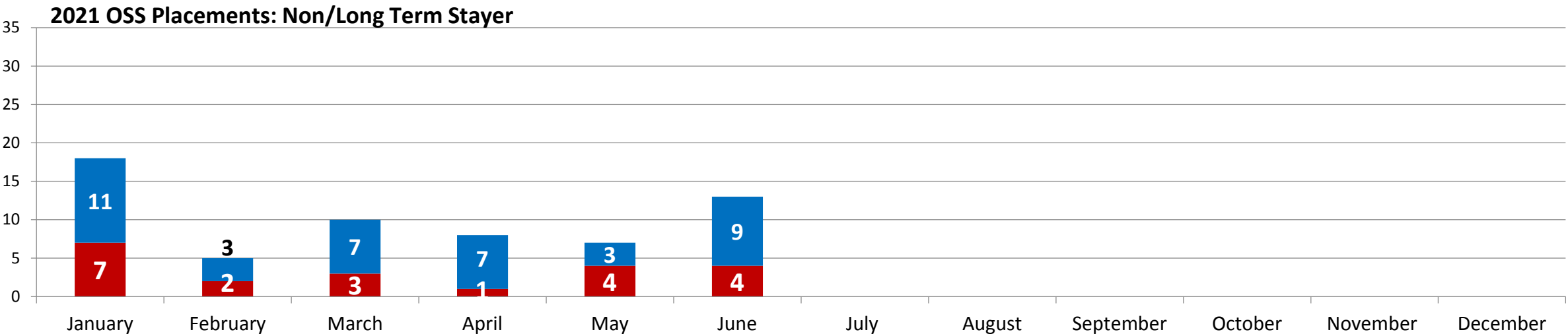
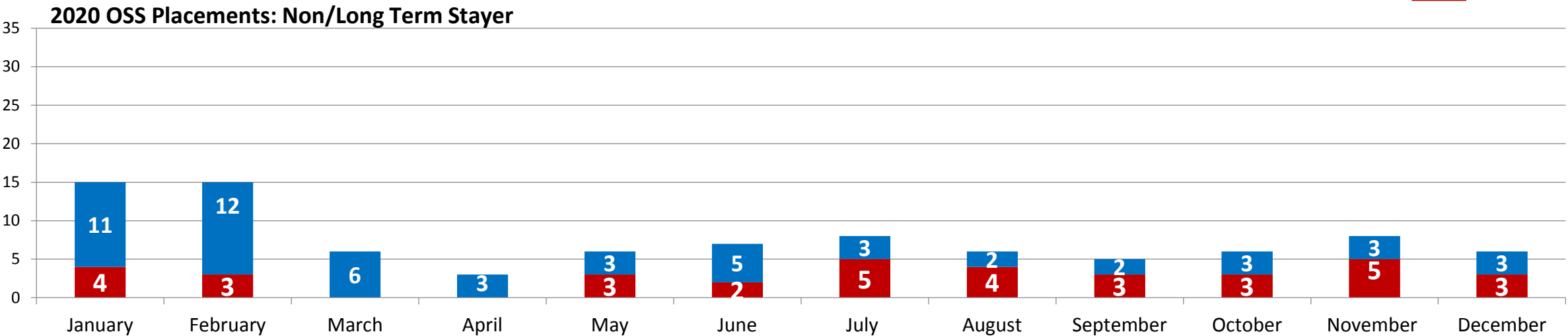
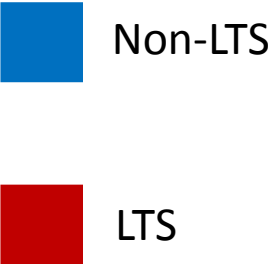


PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JUNE 2021 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

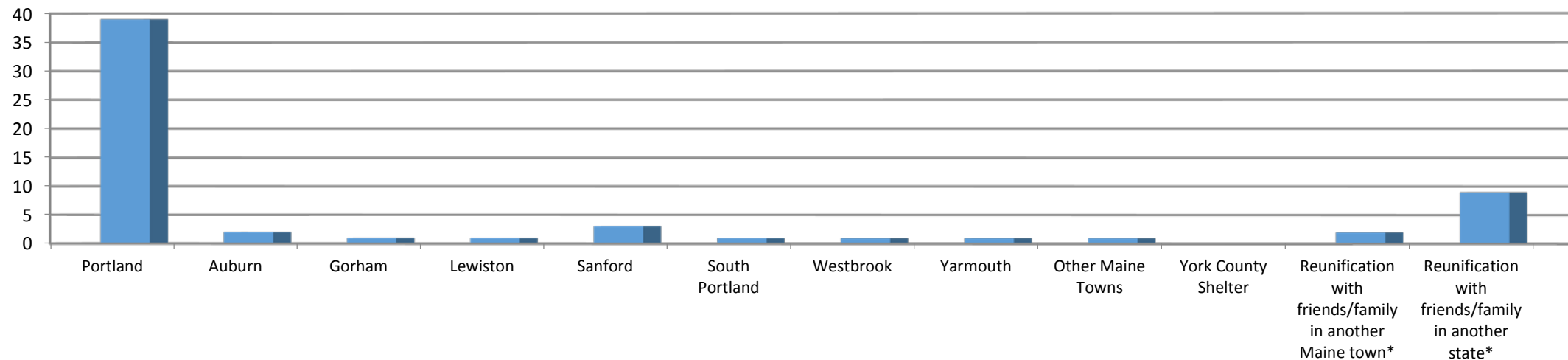
On June: 22nd
385 individuals
(including families)
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	OSS Chairs	Total Bed Nights
1	28	83	38	12	26	151	0	338
2	28	83	35	13	30	159	0	348
3	29	85	34	17	25	150	0	340
4	28	82	34	14	22	159	0	339
5	28	82	33	12	20	155	0	330
6	28	82	31	14	23	168	0	346
7	28	78	32	14	26	171	0	349
8	28	78	33	16	27	171	0	353
9	28	78	30	16	27	164	0	343
10	28	78	33	14	32	172	0	357
11	27	81	32	14	34	165	0	353
12	27	81	32	11	30	169	0	350
13	27	81	32	15	36	176	0	367
14	27	81	31	14	38	181	0	372
15	27	81	32	15	34	162	0	351
16	27	83	31	14	33	175	0	363
17	27	83	34	16	34	173	0	367
18	27	83	33	16	36	174	0	369
19	25	83	34	13	33	181	0	369
20	25	83	35	13	30	178	0	364
21	25	83	36	15	39	174	0	372
22	25	83	35	17	44	181	0	385
23	25	83	36	18	33	179	0	374
24	25	83	34	17	34	165	0	358
25	25	80	34	18	30	174	0	361
26	25	80	35	15	33	168	0	356
27	25	80	35	18	32	175	0	365
28	25	80	35	19	31	167	0	357
29	24	80	34	17	37	173	0	365
30	24	80	33	17	32	171	0	357
Total	795	2,441	1,006	454	941	5,081	0	10,718
Avg/night	27	81	34	15	31	169	0	357
Highest	29	85	38	19	44	181	0	385
Lowest	24	78	30	11	20	150	0	330

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



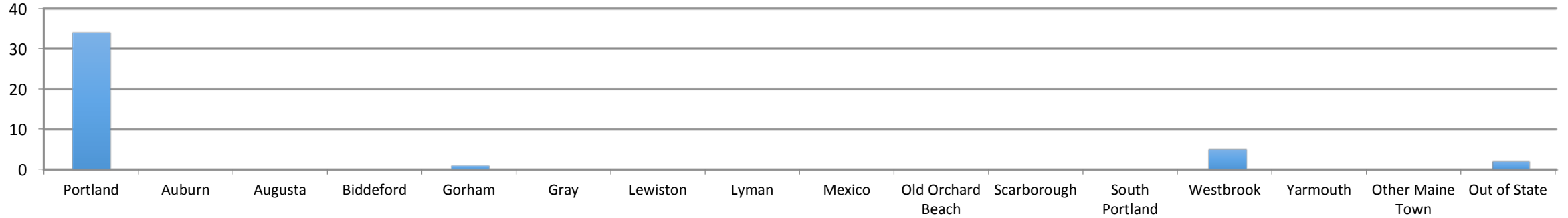
OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2021 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	18	5	10	8	7	13							48	100%
Portland	12	4	9	4	2	8							39	63.9%
Auburn				1	1								2	3.3%
Gorham	1												1	1.6%
Lewiston	1												1	1.6%
Sanford						3							3	4.9%
South Portland				1									1	1.6%
Westbrook	1												1	1.6%
Yarmouth			1										1	1.6%
Other Maine Towns					1								1	1.6%
York County Shelter														0.0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*					2								2	3.3%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	3	1		2	1	2							9	14.8%

FAMILY SHELTER PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

■ 2021



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	June	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	100%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	6	5	9	13	5	4							38	
Portland	2	5	8	12	5	2							34	84.2%
Auburn														0.0%
Augusta														0.0%
Biddeford														0.0%
Gorham	1												1	2.6%
Gray														0.0%
Lewiston														0.0%
Lyman														0.0%
Mexico														0.0%
Old Orchard Beach														0.0%
Scarborough														0.0%
South Portland														0.0%
Westbrook	1		1	1		2							5	7.9%
Yarmouth														0.0%
Other Maine Town														0.0%
Out of State	2												2	5.3%

Federal Legislation Update – Short Version**BUDGET & FUNDING-RELATED ITEMS - Updates**

Federal Moratorium on Evictions – [Update](#) – On 6/25 the Biden administration and the CDC announced an extension of the federal eviction moratorium, previously set to expire on 6/30, through July 30, 2021, adding it will be the final extension.

President Biden’s FY 22 Budget Request – [Update](#) – The House will soon begin work on its FY 22 appropriations bills, for which the President’s \$6 trillion budget request for FY 22 provides a good starting point. It proposes an overall 15.5% increase in non-defense appropriations. For HUD specifically, per the NLIHC: The \$6 trillion HUD budget proposes \$9 billion in additional funding for HUD, a 15% increase over FY21. The funds would provide substantial federal investment in affordable homes and increase the availability of housing assistance to families with the greatest need. Overall, the budget request calls for expanding rental assistance through the Tenant Based Rental Assistance program to 200,000 additional households, focusing on those experiencing homelessness and survivors escaping domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. If enacted, this provision would be the single largest expansion of vouchers in the program’s history. The request also proposes:

- \$30.442 billion for tenant-based rental assistance (an increase of \$4.66 billion) including expanding rental assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher program to 200,000 additional households, focusing on those who are experiencing homelessness or fleeing domestic violence;
- \$3.5 billion Homeless Assistance Grants (an increase of \$500 million)
- \$1.85 billion for HOME (an increase of \$500 million)
- \$800 million across HUD programs to rehabilitate public and affordable housing and provide energy-efficient upgrades, on top of \$3.5 billion for public housing capital repairs and climate-resilient upgrades to the public housing stock.
- Increase Community Development Block Grants by \$295 million increase, with additional funds targeted to historically underfunded and marginalized communities facing persistent poverty.

The FY22 budget is the first annual spending bill in a decade that is not limited by the low spending caps required by the Budget Control Act that have prevented Congress from investing in affordable housing at the scale necessary.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework – [Update](#) – On 6/24, after much negotiation, the President and Vice President announced their support for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework, the largest long-term investment into the country’s infrastructure in nearly a century. Per the President’s announcement: “The \$1.2 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework is a critical step in implementing President Biden’s Build Back Better vision. The Plan makes transformational and historic investments in clean transportation infrastructure, clean water infrastructure, universal broadband infrastructure, clean power infrastructure, remediation of legacy pollution, and resilience to the changing climate. Cumulatively across these areas, the Framework invests two-thirds of the resources that the President proposed in his American Jobs Plan.” However, the proposal does not include the major investments in affordable, accessible housing needed for millions of households with the lowest incomes. Though, that may be addressed in upcoming companion legislation, as per the announcement “President Biden remains committed to the comprehensive agenda laid out in the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. He will work with Congress to build on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework in legislation that moves in tandem.”

House T-HUD FY 22 Appropriations – [New](#) – On 6/29, the House Committee on Appropriations approved the FY 22 subcommittee allocations, known as 302(b)s, that set the topline number for each of the 12 annual appropriations bills. The committee allocated \$84.06 billion for the combined Transportation-HUD bill, a \$9.4 billion (12.6 percent) increase over FY 21 enacted levels.

BILLS - Updates

Affordable Housing Opportunities Made Equitable (HOME) Act – [New](#) – On 6/29, Sen. Merkley reintroduced the [Affordable HOME Act](#), a comprehensive bill that, if enacted, would provide robust resources for the construction of affordable housing and increase access to housing for millions of low-income people. The legislation would provide significant resources and protections for renters. Per the NLIHC: The bill proposes \$45 billion for the national Housing Trust Fund for the construction and preservation of housing affordable to the lowest-income households, and \$100 million per year over ten years for rural housing development. The bill would also scale up tenant-based rental assistance, allowing for one million new vouchers for low-income households by 2031. If enacted, the bill would also repeal the Faircloth Amendment, allowing for the construction of additional units of public housing and providing \$1 billion every year for ten years to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program to increase access to permanent supportive housing for those experiencing homelessness.

S 2008 A bill to strengthen the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness – [New](#) – Introduced by Senator Reed on 6/10, and Co-Sponsored by Senator Collins. Bill text is not yet available.

S 1469 Homeless Children and Youth Act (HCYA) – [New](#) – This bill was reintroduced in the Senate by Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Rob Portman (R-OH). A House companion bill is expected shortly. HCYA corrects flaws in the HUD homeless assistance system. It aligns the HUD definition of homelessness with the definitions utilized by other federal agencies, increases data transparency within the current system, and allows localities to prioritize program models that best meet the needs of their communities.

S 1360 Child Care for Working Families Act (CCWFA) – [New](#) – This bill was reintroduced in Congress by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), and Congressman Robert Scott (VA-03). The CCWFA amends the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act and the Head

Start Act to increase access to high quality early learning services by improving the quality and supply of child care services and preschool programs, incentivizing a highly skilled child care workforce, and lowering child care costs for working families. The legislation contains several provisions to remove barriers to childcare and improve outcomes for children experiencing homelessness and children in foster care.

Housing is a Human Right Act – New – Reintroduced by Representatives Pramila Jayapal (D-WA) and Grace Meng (D-NY) on 6/8, the bill would invest more than \$200 billion in affordable, accessible housing and support services. Additionally, the bill would provide \$27 billion a year for homelessness services, \$100 million a year for community-driven alternatives to criminalization of people experiencing homelessness, and make targeted investments in communities at disproportionate risk of homelessness.

RULES - Updates

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Rule – New – on 6/10 HUD published an [interim final rule](#) on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) that restores the definitions and certifications originally established under the 2015 AFFH Rule. Under this interim final rule, jurisdictions will need to certify that they are meeting their statutory obligation to affirmatively further fair housing (using the restored definitions) but are not required to conduct an assessment of fair housing to support that certification, as was required in the 2015 rule. If a jurisdiction decides to engage with the process, HUD will provide technical assistance and other support. The interim final rule notes that HUD intends to release a separate, more extensive proposed rule that builds on the 2015 AFFH rule and will be subject to notice and comment rulemaking. The interim final rule will go into effect on July 31 and will be open for public comment through July 12.

State Update:

BUDGET – Updates

LD 1733 An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds – Governor’s Bill Re. American Rescue Plan Act funding – Update – The AFA Committee met on 7/14 to give final consideration to this bill. A summary of this meeting and the majority and minority reports can be found here: <https://mainebudget2013.wordpress.com/2021/07/14/afa-update-ld-1733-american-rescue-plan-act-arpa-funding/> The Legislature is planning on considering this bill as amended on 7/19.

Included in the majority report is:

- Nearly \$6M to backstop increased pay for behavioral health workers under Secs. 17, 26, 28, and 65 passed in the budget
- \$50M for affordable workforce housing with a Maine State Housing Authority and Department of Economic and Community Development partnership, \$20M of which is subject to a pilot program using Project Labor Agreements.
- \$10M homelessness support efforts, anywhere the need is, operating costs, renovations, capital costs, etc...
- Authorization by letter for the Maine State Housing Authority to refinance Part E housing bonds providing \$32M more in affordable housing, as well as interest savings over the life of the loans,
- \$1.5M Support for Housing navigators in the Maine State Housing Authority,

LD 221 Governor’s Change Package – FY 22 & FY 23 Supplemental Budget – Update – On 7/1, Governor Mills signed LD 221 into law as an emergency measure meaning the budget takes effect immediately. The budget, as enacted as public law can be found [here](#).

BILLS

Color code: Bills highlighted in yellow have been voted by the Maine Homeless Policy Committee to support. Bills highlighted in red have been voted by the Maine Homeless Policy Committee to oppose. Bills highlighted in light blue have faced votes in the House and/or Senate either to be engrossed or enacted. Bills highlighted in pink have been passed in each chamber and sent to the Governor. Bills highlighted in Green have been passed by the Governor, or became law without the Governor’s signature. Bills highlighted in blue have been included (in whole or in part) in the Governor’s Change Package budget (LD 221) Bills with red text are now dead.

- Bills listed as being on the Special Appropriations Table can be funded off the table as bills and sent for signature, or they can be incorporated within the budget process – this the latter occurs it’s much harder to know if the bills are in fact incorporated into the budget until the budget is finalized and the line items are made public.

The AFA Committee voted at its 7/14 meeting to carry over to the second regular session all of the bills currently on the Appropriations Table in the Senate.

Homelessness

- **LD 81 An Act To Ensure the Safety of Children Experiencing Homelessness by Extending Shelter Placement Periods**, Rep. Meyer – This bill amends the laws governing facilities for children. It amends the definition of "emergency children's shelter" to extend placement from 30 consecutive days or less to 60 consecutive days or less, and it amends the definition of "shelter for homeless children" to extend the limit on overnight lodging and supervision from 30 consecutive overnights to 60 consecutive overnights. **–This bill has been combined with LD 1076, An Act To Support the Operations of Youth Shelters in Maine and extends the shelter placement to 90 days, and the parental consent notification from 3 hours to 72 hours. Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/2, and in the Senate on 6/3. The bill was signed into Public Law on 6/8.**
- **LD 211 An Act To Support Emergency Shelter Access for Persons Experiencing Homelessness**, Rep. Cloutier – This bill (as amended) includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$3,000,000 per year to the Shelter Operating Subsidy program within the Maine State Housing Authority to support operations and capacity at all emergency homeless shelters across the State. The amendment allows MaineHousing to allocate funding based upon the shelter funding formula rule under 99-346

- **LD 654 An Act To Create a 24-hour Shelter Capital Project Funding Program**, Rep Arford – This bill establishes the Twenty-four-hour Shelter Capital Project program within the Maine State Housing Authority to support new construction or expansion of emergency 24-hour shelters for persons experiencing homelessness. New construction and expansion projects funded by the program must address an increase in the need for shelter capacity in the region since the construction, or expansion, of an existing shelter or shelters in the region or since the start of the outbreak of COVID-19 or both. The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 to the Maine State Housing Authority to fund the program. This bill specifies that the funding is supplemental to funding for the Maine State Housing Authority's emergency shelter and housing assistance program. - **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/7, and the Senate on 6/8. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**
- **LD 1300 An Act to Require County Governments to Coordinate with Municipalities to Create Plans to Address Homelessness**. Rep. Supica – This bill requires the county commissioners of each county, in consultation and coordination with the Statewide Homeless Council, regional homeless councils and the municipalities in the county, to develop and implement a plan with protocols to address homelessness within the county. - **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/17, and the Senate on 6/18. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**
- **LD 1318 An Act To Increase High School Graduation Rates for Students Experiencing Education Disruption**, Sen. Libby – This bill amends the laws regarding students who experience education disruption and Department of Education diplomas in many ways, but importantly it adds “student experiencing homelessness” to students experiencing education disruption. A student experiencing homelessness is defined in the bill as “a student who has been identified by a school administrative unit as a homeless child or youth as defined in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 United States Code, Chapter 119.” – **Signed by the Governor on 7/13.**
- **LD 1478 An Act to Decriminalize Homelessness**, Rep. Morales – This bill provides a response other than traditional arrest for a person who lacks a home who commits certain listed low-level violations of law. The bill requires the Attorney General to adopt a homelessness crisis protocol to be adopted by law enforcement agencies. The protocol must provide mental health and substance use disorder professionals who are trained in crisis response to respond to the encounter between the law enforcement officer and the person who lacks a home and provide appropriate information and referrals to resources in the community, including, but not limited to, crisis services, emergency and transitional housing and case management services. - **Became law without the Governor's signature on 7/1.**

Housing/Rental Assistance

- **LD 475 Resolve, To Create the Frequent Users System Engagement Collaborative**, Rep. Morales – This resolve establishes the Frequent Users System Engagement Collaborative in order to develop a plan to provide stable housing and community services to 200 persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness who are the most frequent consumers of high-cost services, such as psychiatric hospitals, emergency shelters, emergency rooms, police, jails and prisons. The collaborative must submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 1, 2022 on its plan and recommendations. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature related to the report. – **The bill was signed into Public Law on 6/8 as an emergency measure.**
- **LD 1305 An Act To Streamline Requests for Housing Assistance**, Rep Morales – This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to include on certain applications for aid, including those for the statewide food supplement program, the MaineCare program, and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, an option for the applicant to request housing assistance from the department or the Maine State Housing Authority – Referred to HHS Committee – **The bill became law without the Governor's signature on 6/22.**
- **LD 773 An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless**, Rep. Brennan – This bill requires that the Maine State Housing Authority give priority for temporary housing assistance to homeless students and their families who are identified and referred to the authority by a local educational agency liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001. – **Voted passed to be enacted in the House on 6/3, and the Senate on 6/7. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**
- **LD 473 An Act To Create the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program**, Rep. Morales – The Committee amendment replaced the entire bill: The amendment establishes the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program within the Maine State Housing Authority. The program provides rental assistance to qualified tenants and provides housing navigation services and includes a guarantee program to encourage landlords to work with rental assistance programs. The amendment also creates the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program Fund to carry out the program. The amendment includes an ongoing nonlapsing General Fund appropriation of \$9,000,000 per year - **Voted passed to be enacted in the House on 6/17, and the Senate on 6/18. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**
- **LD 1269 An Act To Preserve Fair Housing in Maine**, Rep Talbot Ross – This bill requires the Maine State Housing Authority to ensure that public funds are used to affirmatively further fair housing, which is defined as to engage actively in efforts to address barriers to and create opportunities for full and equal access to housing without discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, familial status or receipt of public assistance. The bill requires the Maine State Housing Authority to develop a plan and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing by January 15, 2022. **This bill is now Public Law.**

- **LD 953 An Act To Improve Affordable Housing Options and Services to Address Homelessness**, Sen. Deschambault – This bill permits tax increment financing to be used by a municipality to cover costs associated with the development of affordable housing in and outside development districts, for the use in supporting housing services for persons who are homeless, for the purpose of providing an incentive for development within the municipality. The bill also corrects a conflict in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5225, subsection 1, paragraph C, which was amended by Public Law 2019, chapter 604 and chapter 625, by incorporating the changes made by both laws. **-This bill is now Public Law.**

- **Services**

- **LD 415 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Increase MaineCare Reimbursement Rates for Targeted Case Management Services To Reflect Inflation**, Rep. Stearns – This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules governing MaineCare reimbursement for targeted case management services to provide an increase reflecting cost increases from 2010 to 2020. – **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/7 and the Senate on 6/8 (as emergency with 2/3s). Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**
- **LD 582 An Act To Support the Fidelity and Sustainability of Assertive Community Treatment**, Rep. Madigan – This bill modifies the definition of "assertive community treatment" (ACT) to better align the definition with an evidence-based treatment model. The bill adds definitions of "psychiatric provider" and "medical assistant" and changes the description of the composition of the multidisciplinary teams that provide assertive community treatment. The bill also requires the DHHS to increase the MaineCare reimbursement rates for ACT by 25% immediately to allow providers to continue to offer the service. The bill also requires the department to amend its rules governing ACT to provide an initial authorization period of 6 months for clients meeting eligibility requirements for ACT and require reauthorization no more often than 6 months thereafter. – **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/8, and the Senate on 6/9. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table. The Governor's Change Package (LD 221) as amended by the Appropriations Committee includes increased reimbursement rates for certain MaineCare chapters, including a 25% rate increase for Section 65.**
- **LD 512 An Act to Provide Intensive Case Managers to Counties That Do Not Have County Jails or Regional Jails**, Rep. Dodge – This bill as amended, provides funding for 4 additional Intensive Case Manager positions in the Department of Health and Human Services. It also directs the department to, no later than January 1, 2022, report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services on the geographic distribution and activities of the intensive case managers. The committee is authorized to report out legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature. – **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/9, and the Senate on 6/10. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table. Though not necessarily directly funding the requests of this bill, the Governor's Change Package (LD 221) as enacted as Public Law includes more than \$1 million in funding for the ICM program, including 8 ICM positions.**

General Assistance

- **LD 910 An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement**, Rep. Brennan – This bill requires the State to provide 100% reimbursement for general assistance costs to Indian tribes. It provides that a municipality's most recent state valuation rather than the all state valuation is used for calculating when the municipality begins to be reimbursed 90% for general assistance costs and that the reimbursement is for gross costs rather than net costs. It establishes that the new departmental reimbursement to municipalities begins July 1, 2022. *(This language was also presented as an amendment for the Supplemental Budget.)* – **Passed to be enacted in the House on 6/7 and the Senate on 6/8. Placed on the Special Appropriations Table.**

Food Insecurity

- **LD 95 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Establish a Right to Food**, Rep. Faulkingham – This constitutional resolution declares that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to grow, raise, harvest, produce and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being. **Taken from the Special Appropriations Table and finally passed. The bill is now chaptered law, it will now go to referendum for statewide vote.**