

State of Homelessness in RI

October 2020



Rhode Island Coalition
for the Homeless

Executive Director's Report

Award Breakfast
October 2020

This Year...



Some Good Things from this Year...

- Providers can now **bill Medicaid** for Home Stabilization services.
- Increased **focus on housing** at the state and local level.
- **Fair Chance Licensing passed** by General Assembly.
- First of its kind **Landlord Incentive Fund** created.
- New funding received for homeless youth funded under federal **Runaway and Homeless Youth** program.



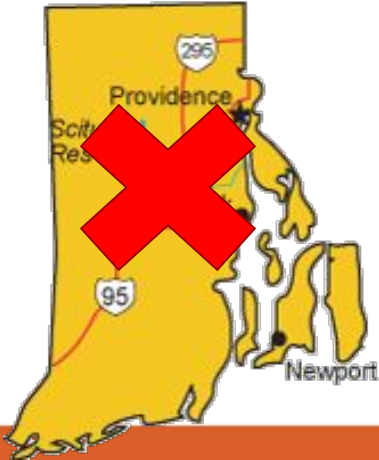
Some Good Things from this Year...

And... I got a dog...



Why is homelessness getting worse?

There is currently **NO** city/town in Rhode Island where a median renter household could **affordably** rent an apartment....



Gap between wages and housing costs is bigger!

Housing is STILL not affordable...

Median Income of Renters: **\$34,255**

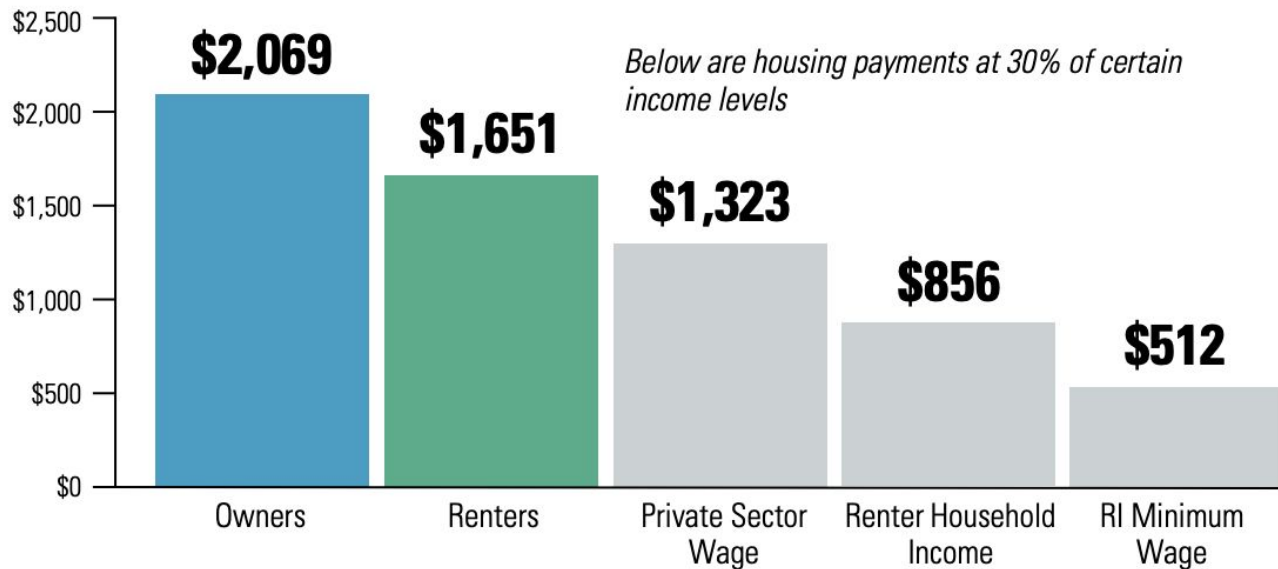
Average 2-Bedroom Rent: **\$1,651**

Income to afford that rent: **\$66,040**

Source: HousingWorks 2020 Factbook



Seeking 2 bedroom I can afford...



^ Average Monthly Costs ^

What someone
can actually
afford...



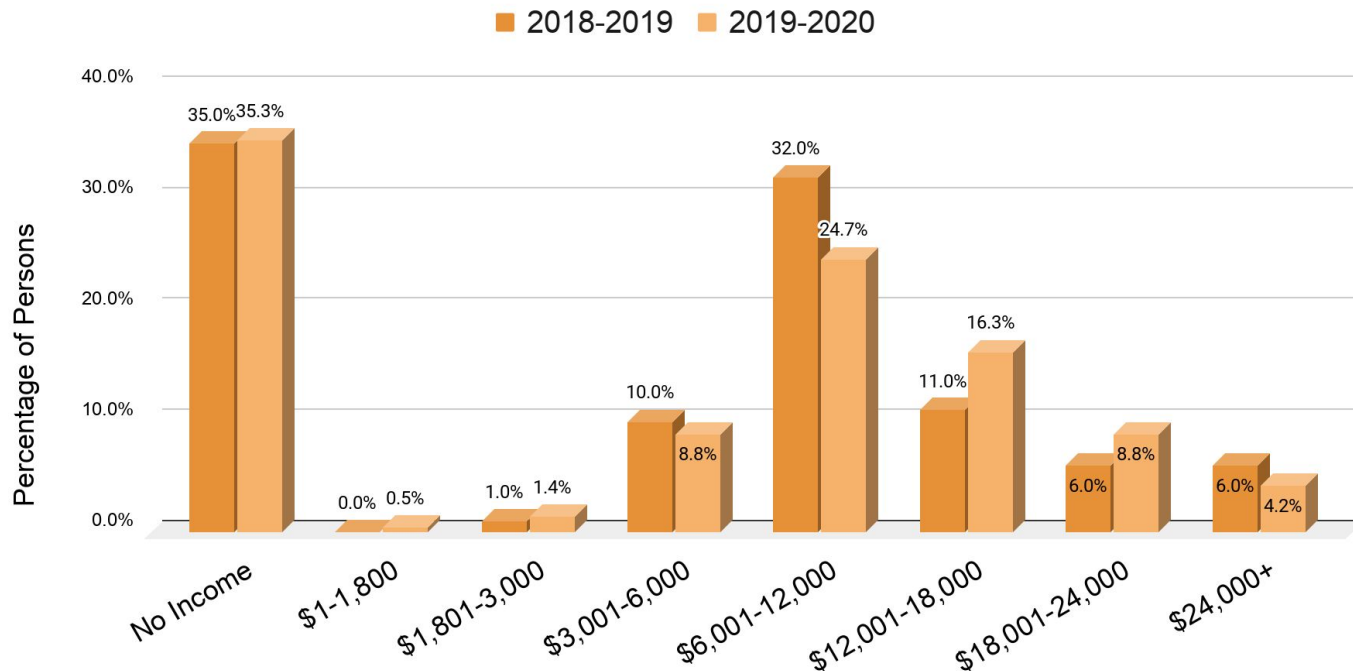
Source: HousingWorks 2020 Factbook



Annual Income When Entering Shelter - Families

**7% increase in
Families with
incomes from
\$12,001-24,000**

*March 2020 - Present
impacted by COVID-19*

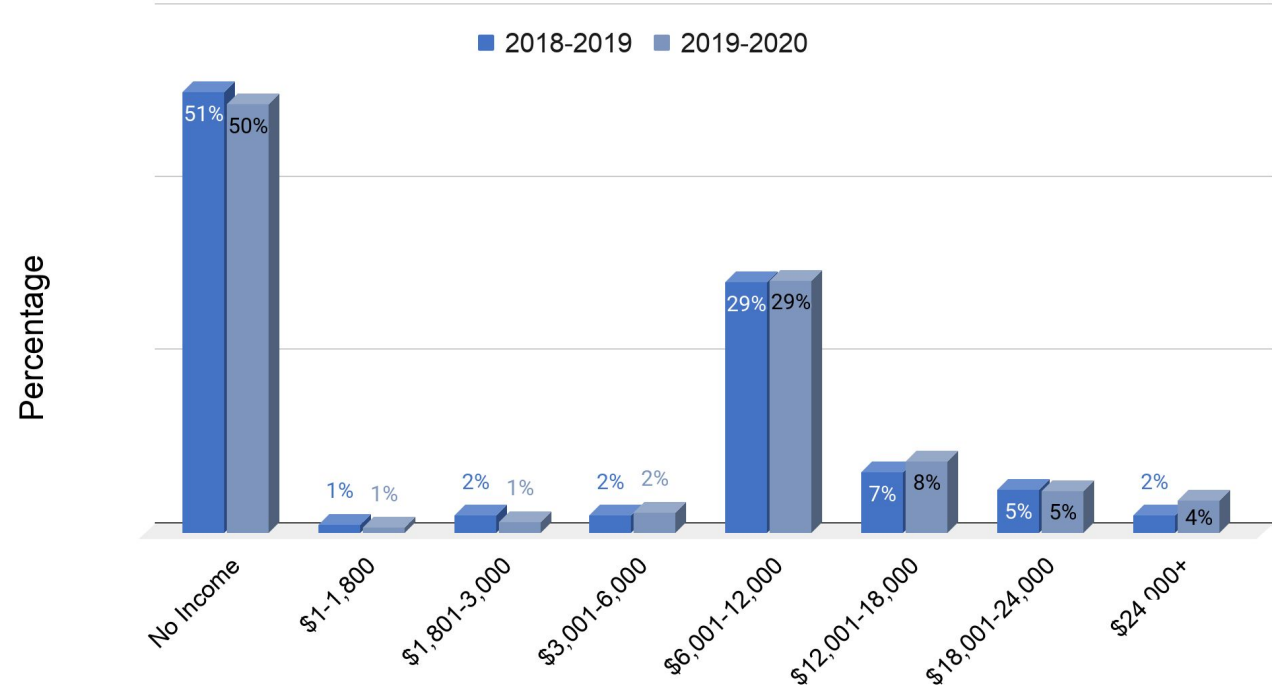


Source: Annual Sheltered Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER), State Fiscal Years 18/19 and 19/20

Annual Income When Entering Shelter - Individuals

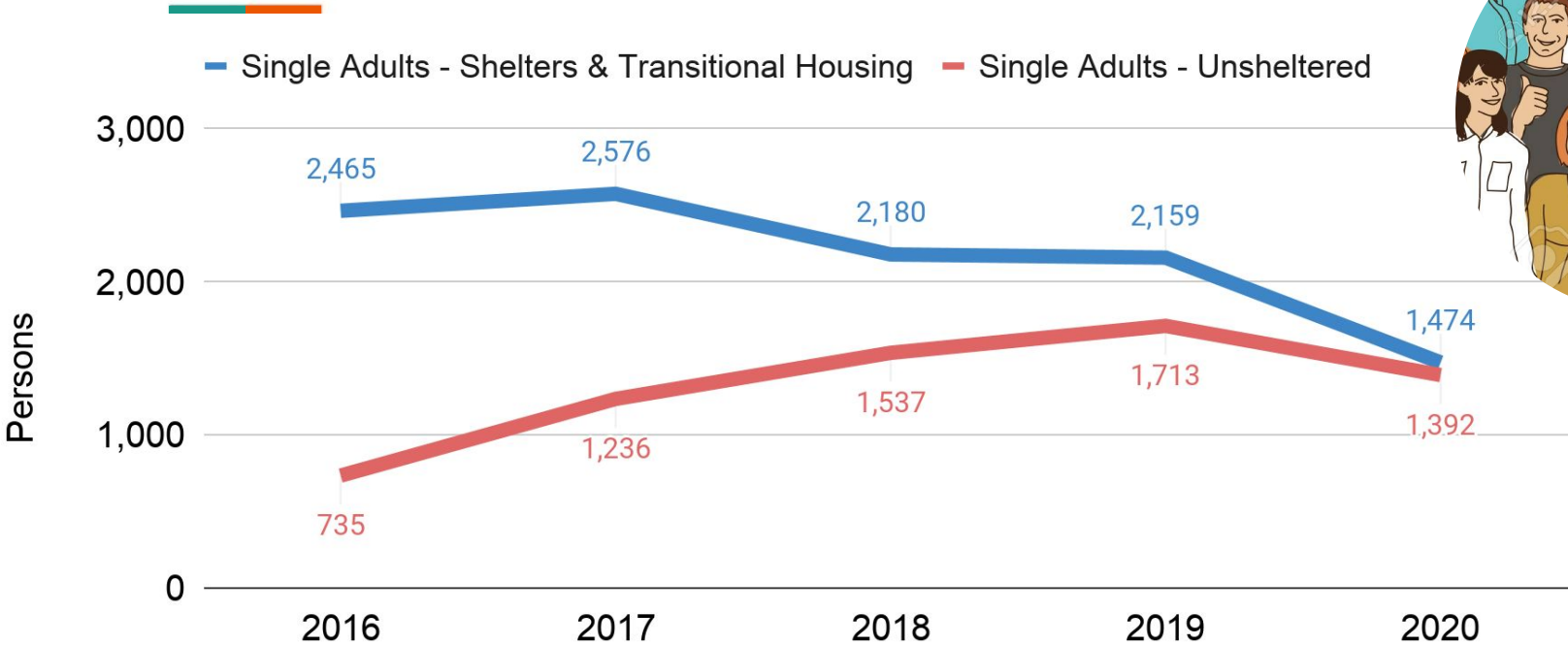
3% increase in
Individuals with
incomes from
\$12,001-24,000

March 2020 - Present
impacted by COVID-19



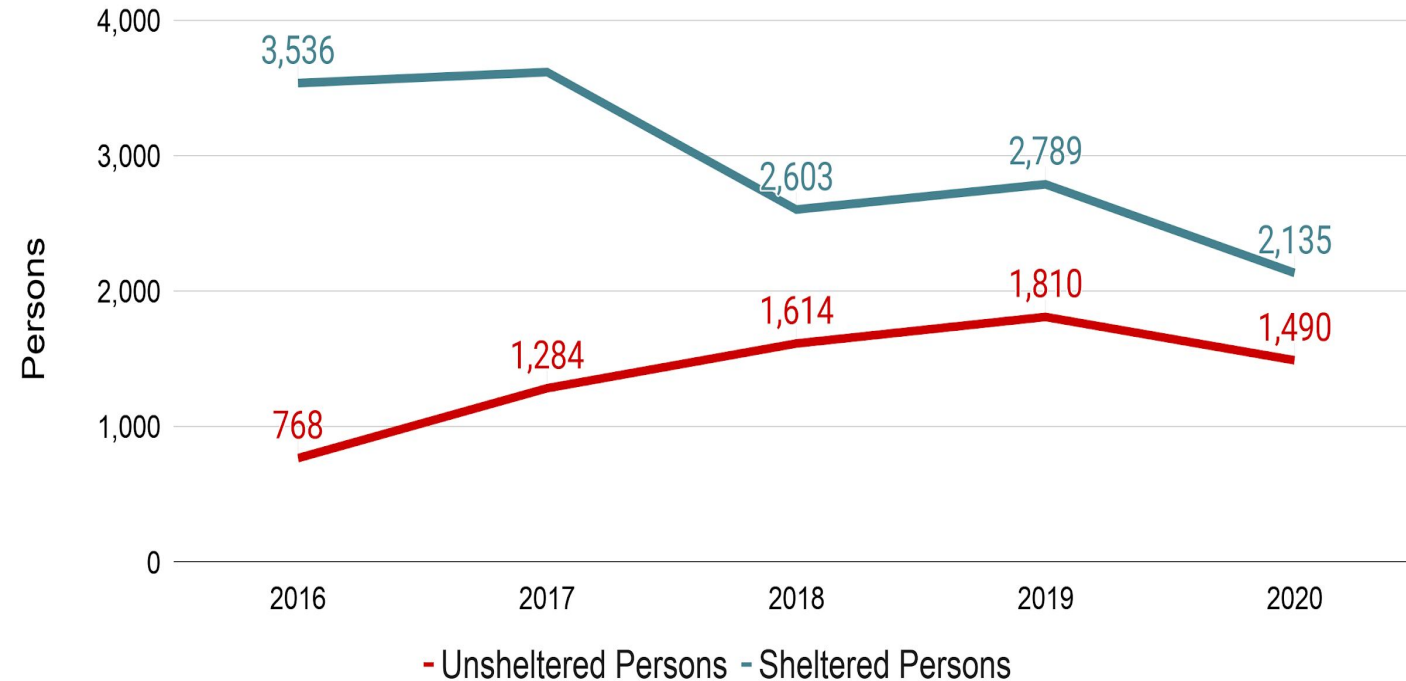
Source: Annual Sheltered Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER), State Fiscal Years 18/19 and 19/20

Homelessness - Single Adults



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER), Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2020 for Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Street Outreach Programs

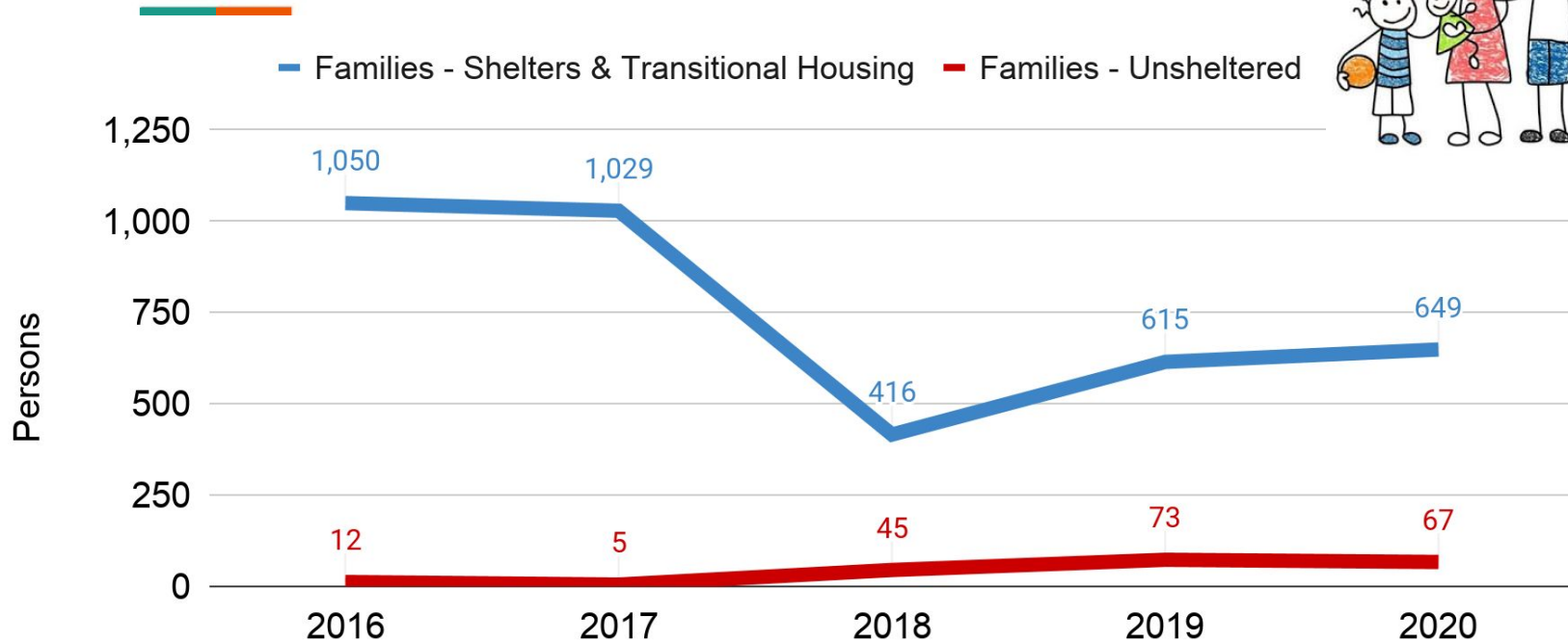
Homelessness Over Time



39.6% decrease in persons staying in shelters since 2016.

94.0% increase in persons living outdoors.

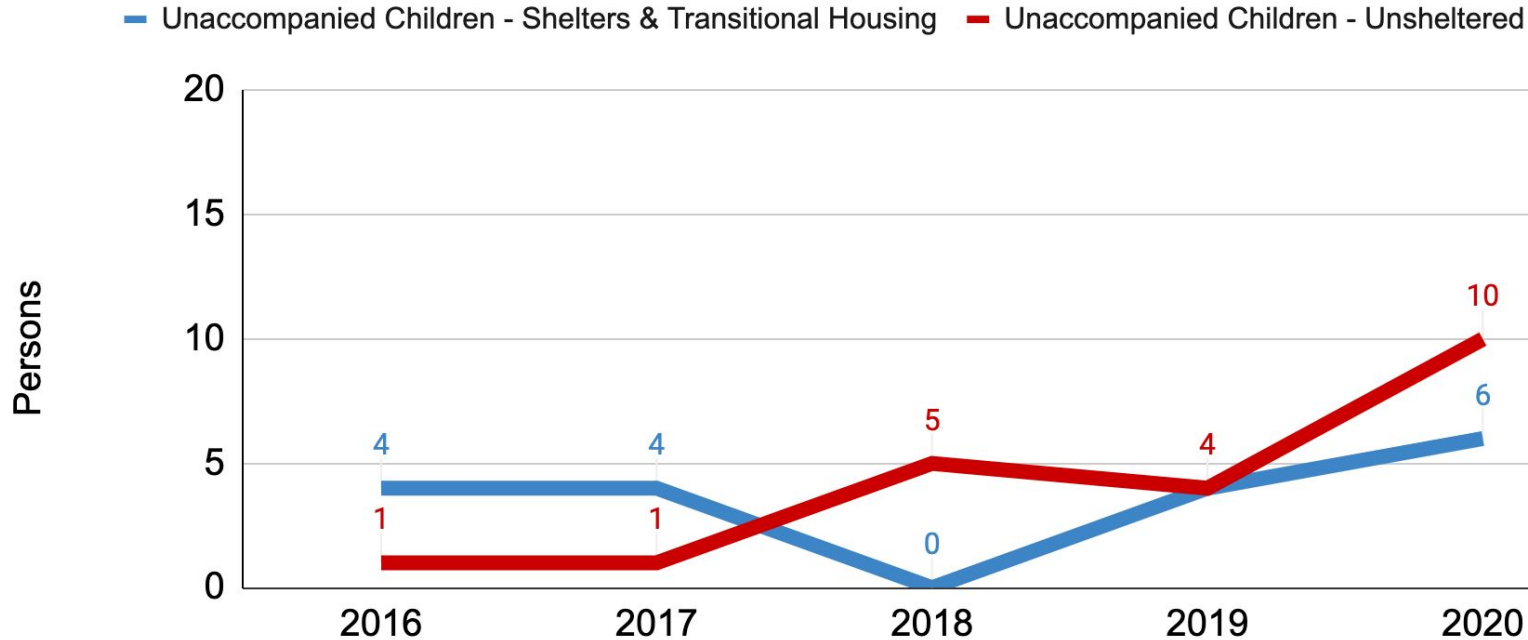
Homelessness - Families



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER), Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2020 for Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Street Outreach Programs



Homelessness - Unaccompanied Children



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER), Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2020 for Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Street Outreach Programs



What can we do about this?



- **Invest** in **youth** programming and **housing**
- Increase investment in **affordable housing**:
 - ***Pass the Affordable Housing Bond***
 - ***Include dedicated funding stream in the Budget***
- Increase access to jobs that pay a **living wage**
- Increase state funding for **rental subsidies**



Our Front Door



Coordinated Entry System (CES)

Operated by Crossroads Rhode Island, the Coalition for the Homeless, and the Rhode Island Continuum of Care



Initial Assessments by Household Type

Average per Month:

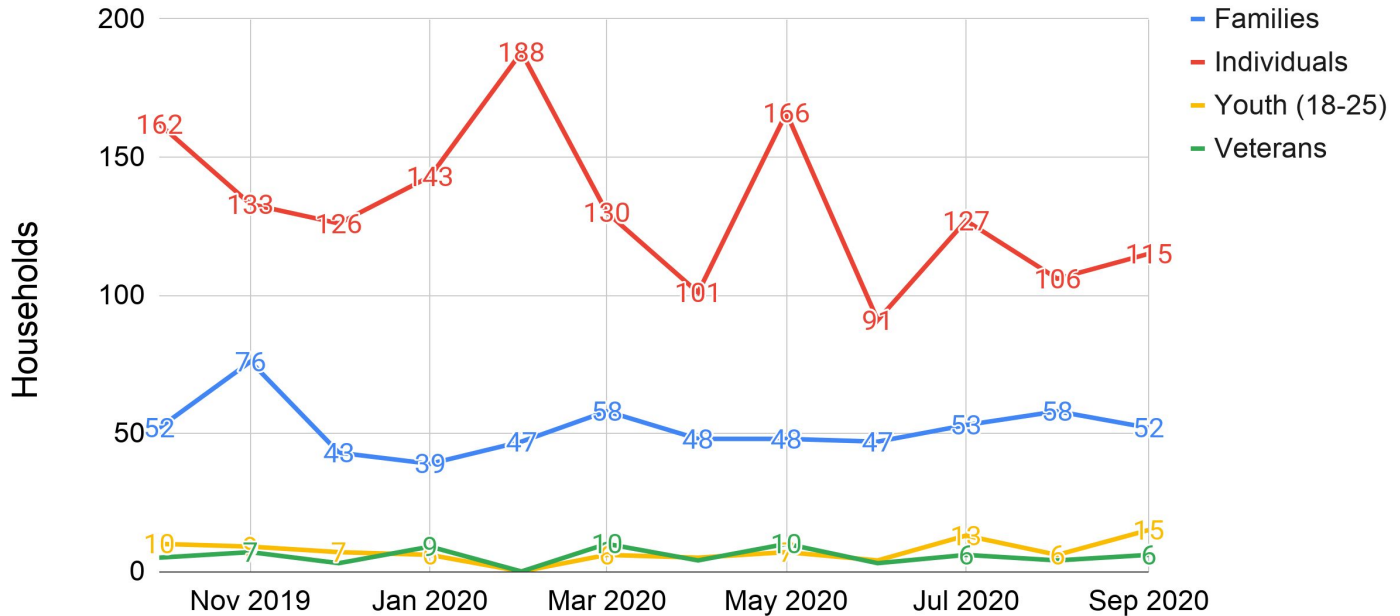
Individuals - 132

Families - 52

Youth - 7

Veterans - 6

March 2020 - Present
impacted by COVID-19



Source: CES Monthly Reports to CoC Dec 2019 - Sept 2020

What happens next? Can we prevent homelessness?

Average Diverted per Month:

Individuals - 21+

Families - 14+

Youth - 3+

Veterans - 3+

445+ Households helped in the last year by **Crossroads Rhode Island** under the Coordinated Entry System.

'An Ounce of Prevention Is Worth a Pound of Cure'

– *Benjamin Franklin*

Source: CES Monthly Reports to CoC Dec 2019 - Sept 2020



Average Wait Time for Shelter Entry

Average Wait:

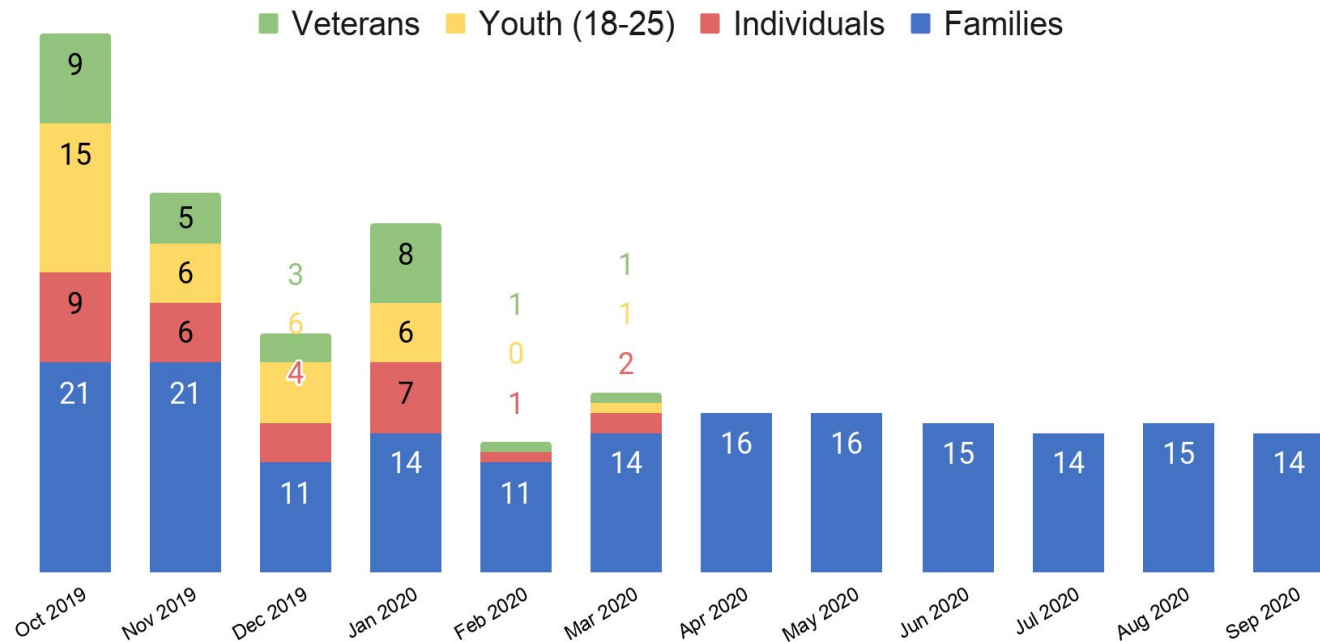
Individuals - 5 Days

Families - 15 Days

Youth - 6 Days

Veterans - 5 Days

March 2020 - Present
impacted by COVID-19



What can we do about this?

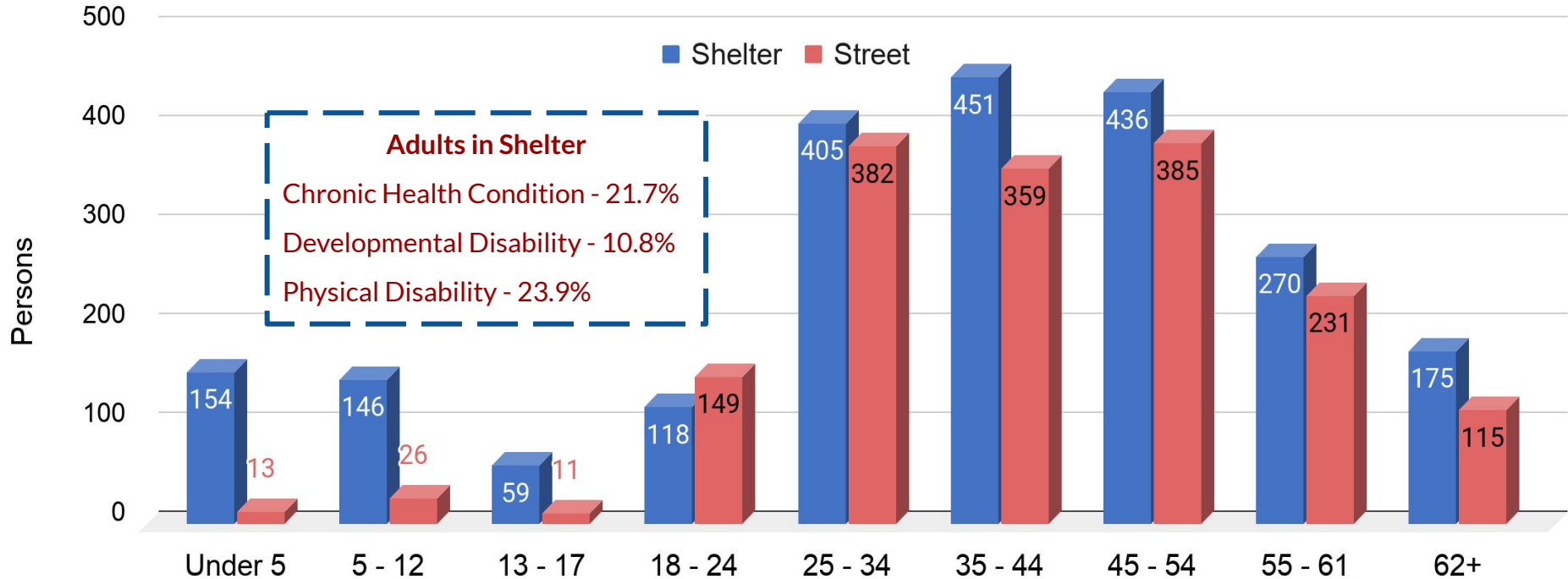
- Increase availability of **emergency housing**
- Increase investment in programs that **prevent homelessness**:
 - *Legal representation for evictions*
 - *Rental assistance for evictions*
 - *Diversion services and financial assistance*
- Continue eviction and foreclosure moratoriums



Impact of COVID-19



Our Neighbors At Risk without a Home



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05



COVID-19 Testing among Individuals Experiencing Housing Insecurity

September 22, 2020

Select Demographic Category

- ☒ Age
- ☐ Congregate Care
- ☐ County
- ☐ Disability
- ☐ Ethnicity
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Language
- ☐ Race

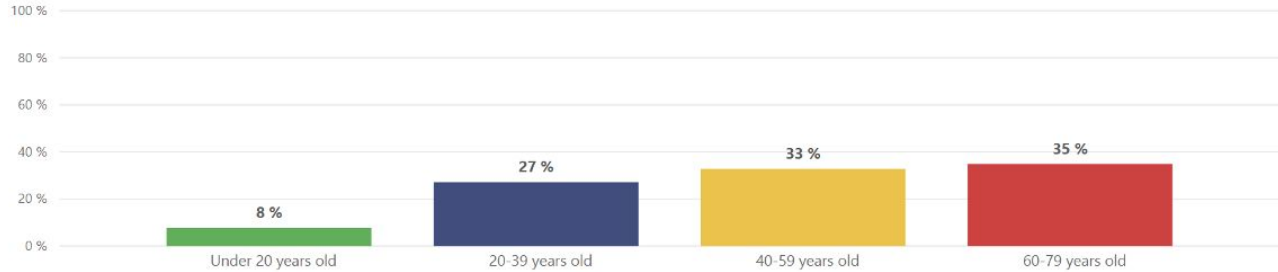
Tested for COVID-19

3,223 22 %

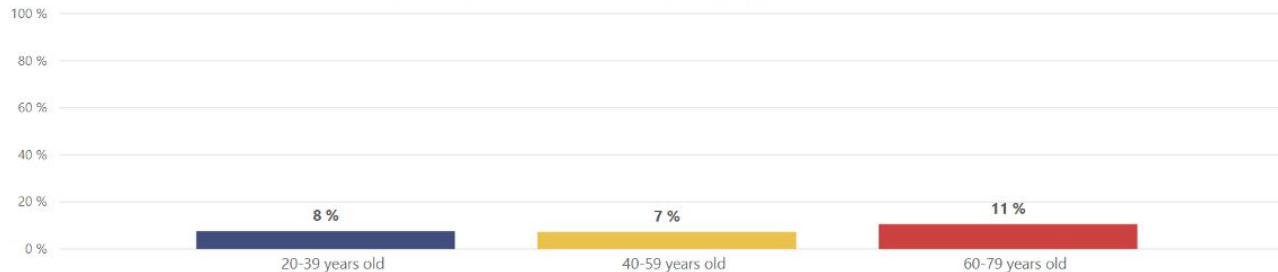
Tested Positive

260 8 %

Percentage of the Total Population Tested for COVID-19



Percentage of the Tested Population Testing Positive for COVID-19





COVID-19 Hospitalizations among Individuals Experiencing Housing Insecurity

September 22, 2020

Select Demographic Category

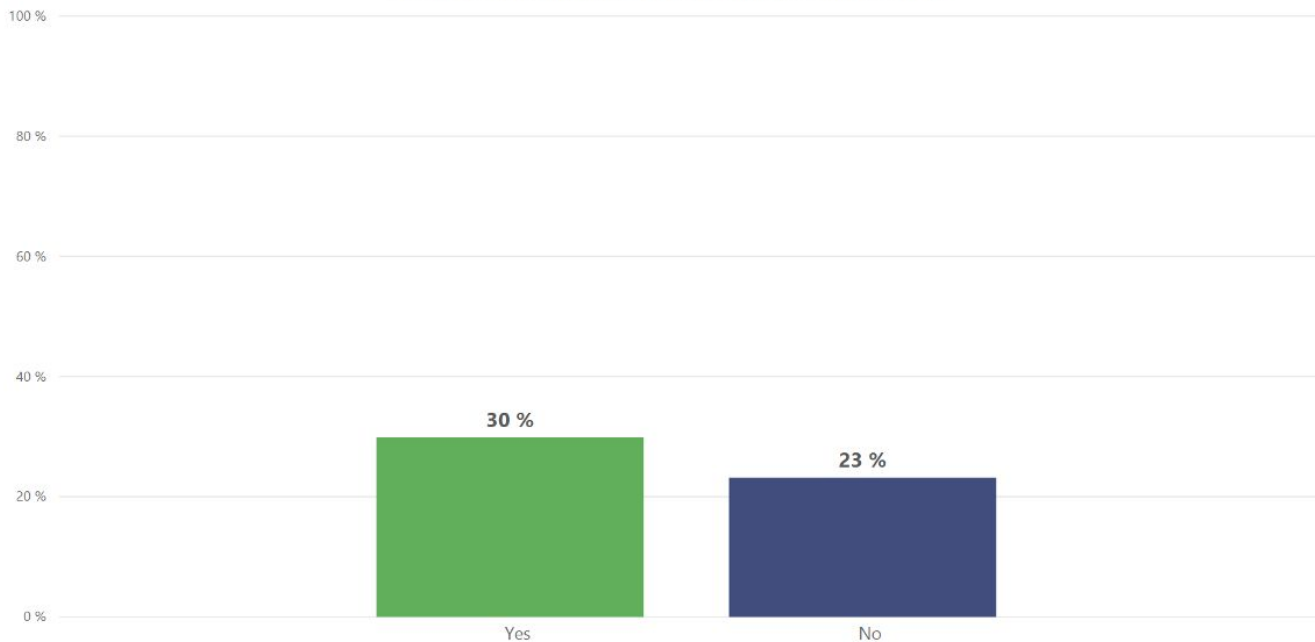
- ☐ Age
- ☐ Congregate Care
- ☐ County
- ☒ Disability
- ☐ Ethnicity
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Language
- ☐ Race

Hospitalized with
COVID-19

74

28 %

Percentage of the Population's Cases Hospitalized with COVID-19



COVID-19 hospitalizations data available through July 2020. Source: EOHHS Ecosystem



Housing Insecurity Dashboard Notes

EOHHS Ecosystem

The data populating this dashboard are housed in the Executive Office of Health and Human Service's (EOHHS) Data Ecosystem, pulling from the following sources: RI Department of Health (RIDOH) COVID data, RI Coalition for the Homeless's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data, and EOHHS's Medicaid data. Data are matched across sources using common personal identifiers. In this case, they include first name, last name, date of birth, zip code, race, and ethnicity.

Population

Individuals experiencing housing insecurity includes all individuals found in the Homeless Management Information System database since August 2017.

Individuals involved with Department of Corrections includes all individuals found in the Population Grid table of the Medicaid database where the Aid_Category_Code_1 is equal to 'DO' since August 2017.

Metrics of interest

Testing data are sourced from the RI Department of Health. This presentation counts individuals who have been tested at least once between March – July 2020. Testing positive indicates a positive case.

Hospitalization data are sourced from the RI Department of Health. This presentation counts individuals who have been hospitalized at least once between March – July 2020.

High risk data are sourced from Medicaid.

Individuals with high risk chronic health conditions were identified from the last two years (since August 2018) of Medicaid claims. Chronic health conditions linked to high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are chronic kidney disease, chronic lung disease, diabetes, HIV, immunocompromised state, liver disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, and obesity. For more information and the ICD-10 codes, please see Mathematica's COVID-19 Primer.

Data filters

The following data filters are listed below with their corresponding source(s):

Age – Medicaid, HMIS, RIDOH COVID data

Congregate care – Medicaid, using the LTCSS Category

County – Medicaid, HMIS, RIDOH COVID data

Disability – Medicaid

Ethnicity – Medicaid, HMIS, RIDOH COVID data

Gender – Medicaid, HMIS, RIDOH COVID data

Language – Medicaid

Race – Medicaid, HMIS, RIDOH COVID data



What can we do about it?

- Maintain initiatives that ***ensure safety***:
 - Cleaning of shelters and congregate settings
 - Distribution of vital supplies (sanitizer, masks, etc.)
 - Decreased numbers in congregate settings
- Provide funding **hazard pay** for shelter & outreach workers
- **Increased COVID testing** with **FASTER** results and offer dedicated contact tracing

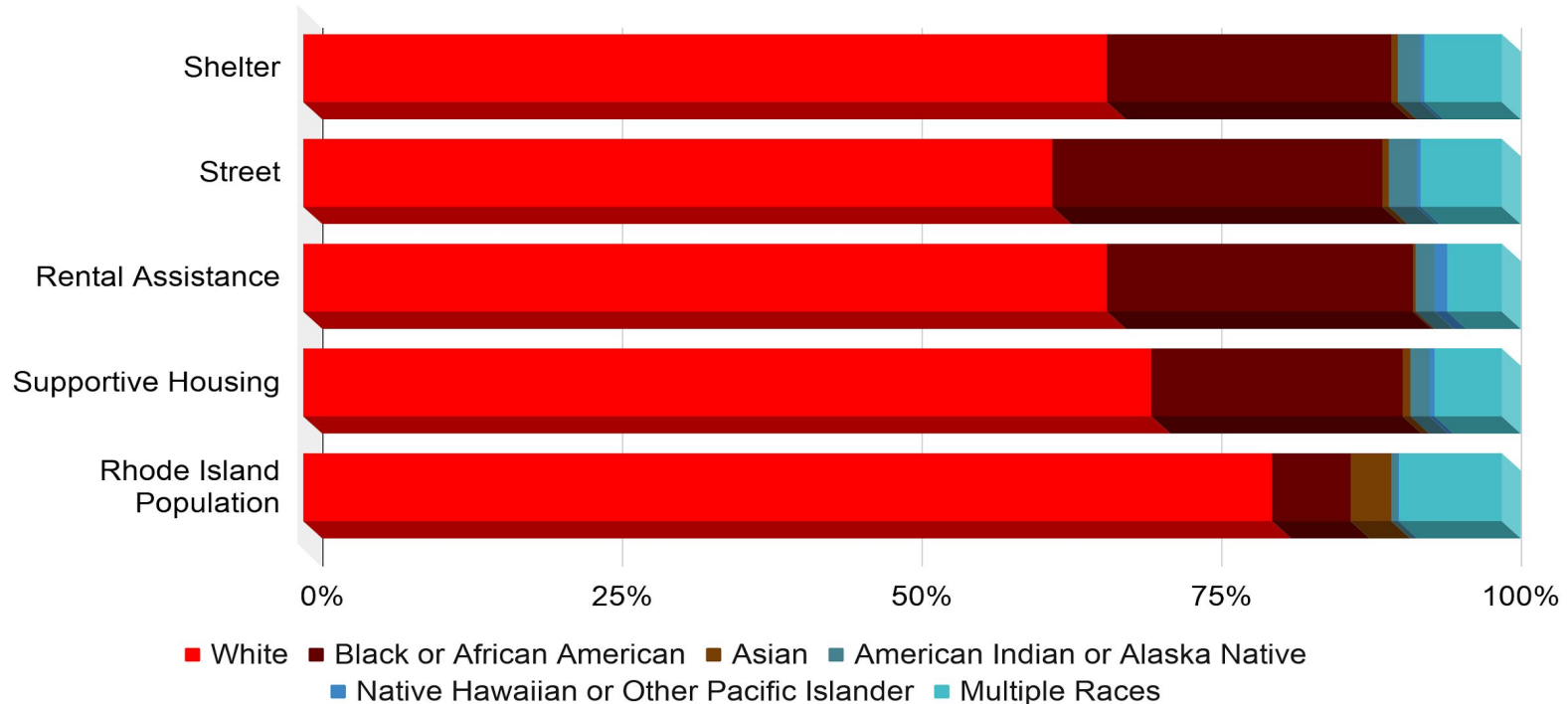


Racial and Ethnic Disparities



**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

Racial Disparities - Single Adults



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05

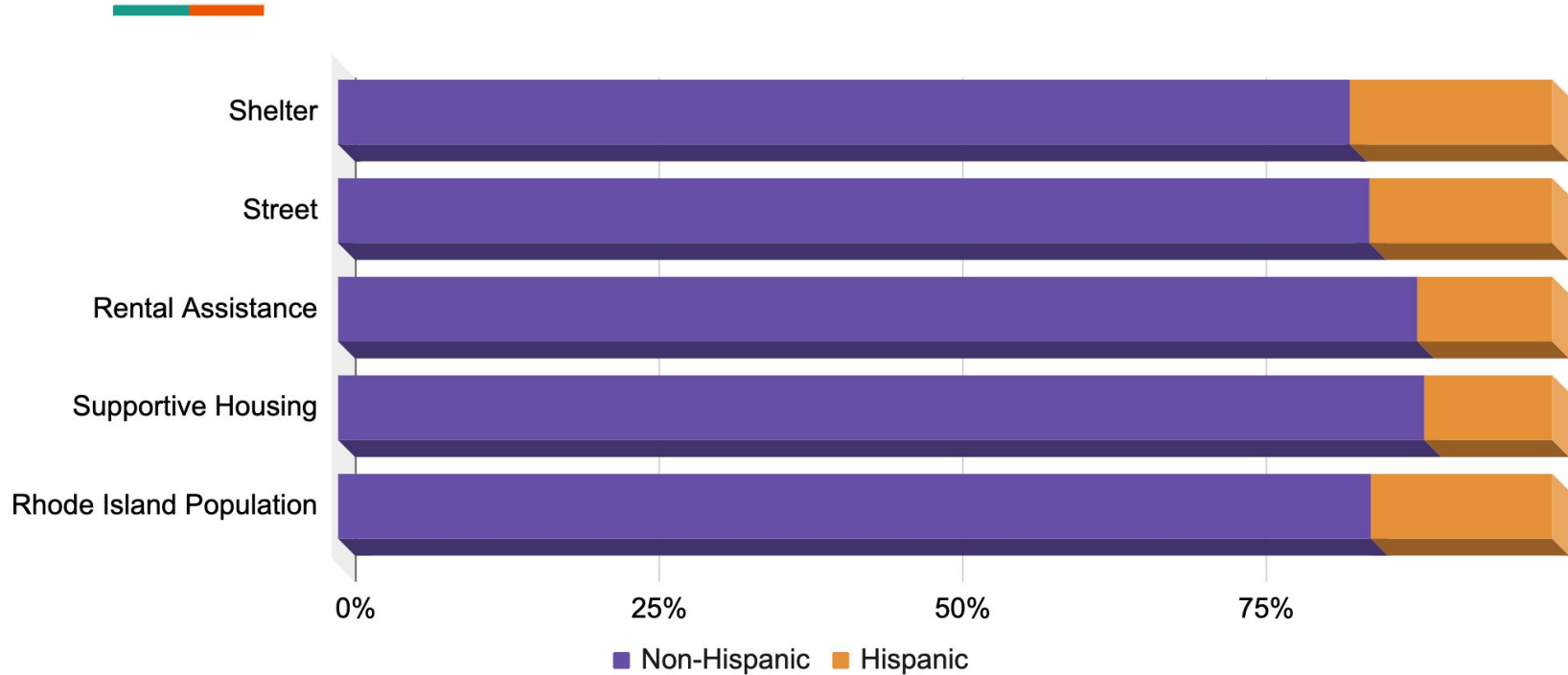


Racial Disparities - Single Adults

	Shelter	Street	Rental Assistance	Supportive Housing	Rhode Island Population
White	67.04%	62.48%	67.01%	70.77%	80.90%
Black or African American	23.75%	27.53%	25.52%	20.91%	6.60%
Asian	0.56%	0.53%	0.21%	0.74%	3.40%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.86%	2.38%	1.66%	1.57%	0.50%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.31%	0.33%	1.04%	0.37%	0.10%
Multiple Races	6.49%	6.75%	4.56%	5.64%	8.60%

Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05

Ethnic Disparities - Individuals



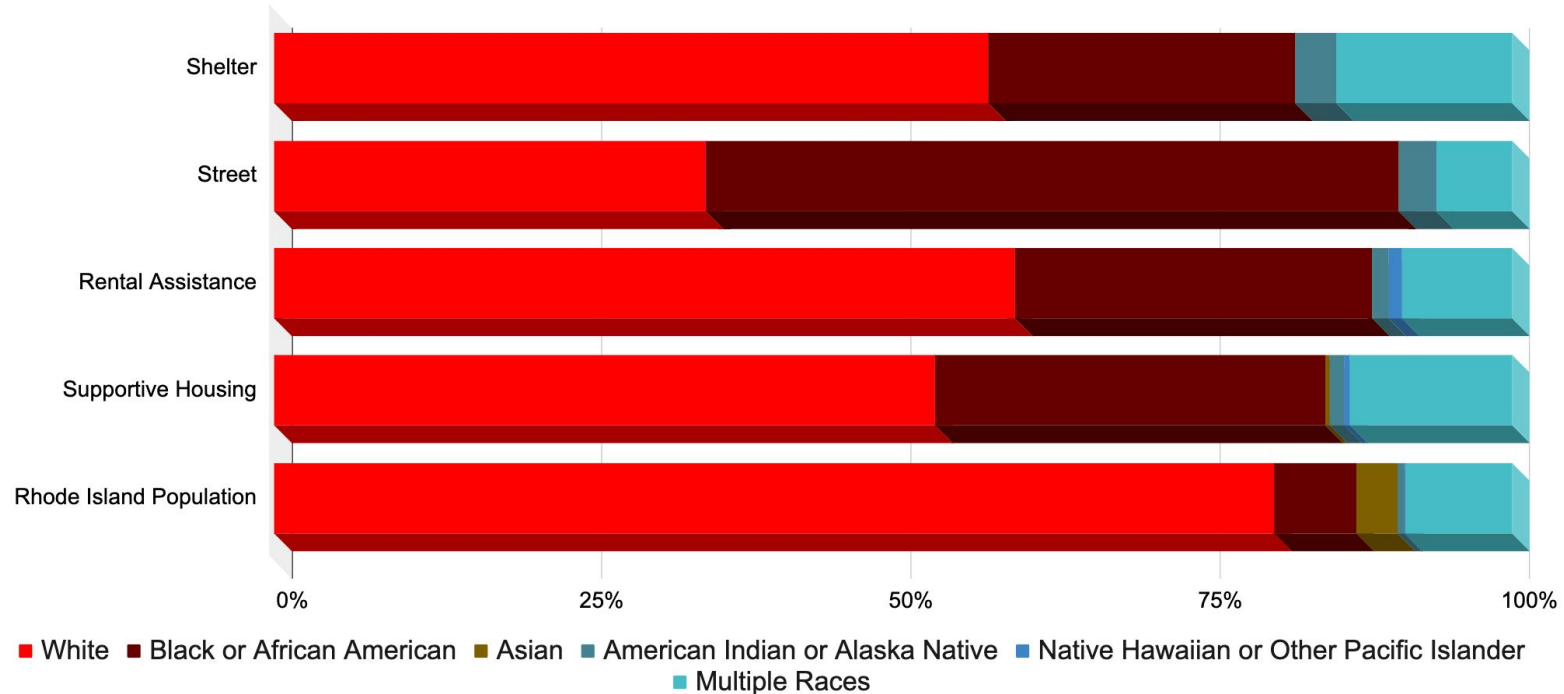
Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05



Ethnic Disparities - Individuals

	Shelter	Street	Rental Assistance	Supportive Housing	Rhode Island Population
Non-Hispanic	83.26%	84.85%	88.80%	89.45%	85.00%
Hispanic	16.74%	15.15%	11.20%	10.55%	15.00%

Racial Disparities - Families

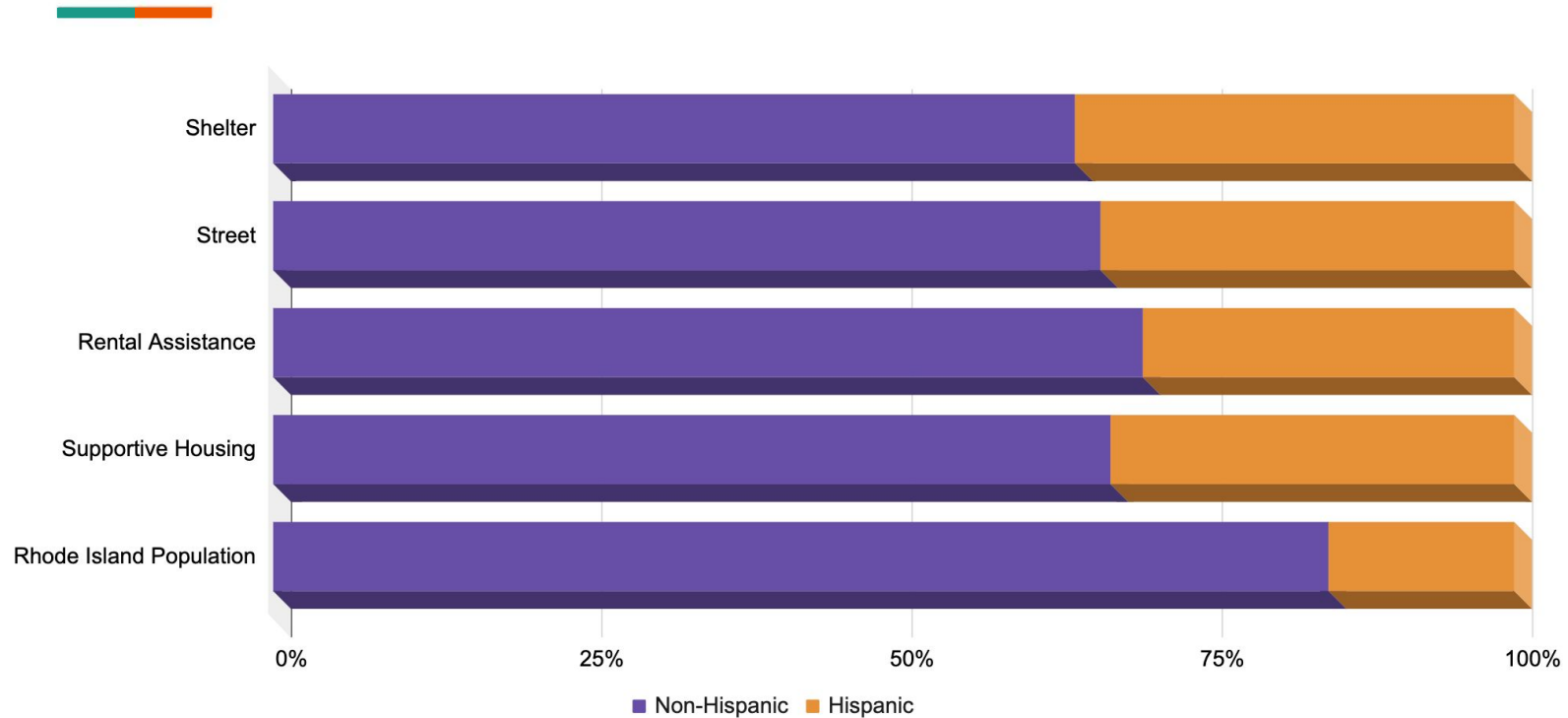


Racial Disparities - Families

	Shelter	Street	Rental Assistance	Supportive Housing	Rhode Island Population
White	57.69%	34.85%	59.87%	53.42%	80.90%
Black or African American	24.83%	56.06%	28.85%	31.48%	6.60%
Asian	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.43%	3.40%
American Indian or Alaska Native	3.32%	3.03%	1.30%	1.14%	0.50%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0.00%	1.08%	0.43%	0.10%
Multiple Races	14.16%	6.06%	8.89%	13.11%	8.60%

Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05

Ethnic Disparities - Families



Source: Annual Count in HMIS (ESG CAPER) State Fiscal Years 2019-20 for Named Programs and 2018 American Communities Survey Table RI-DP05

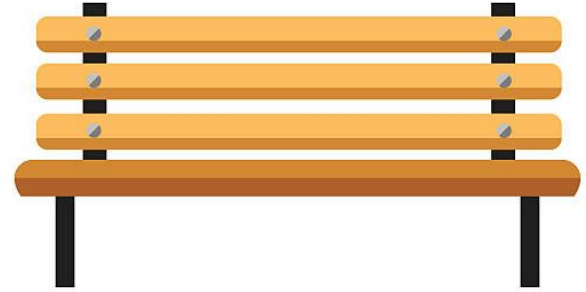


What can we do about it?

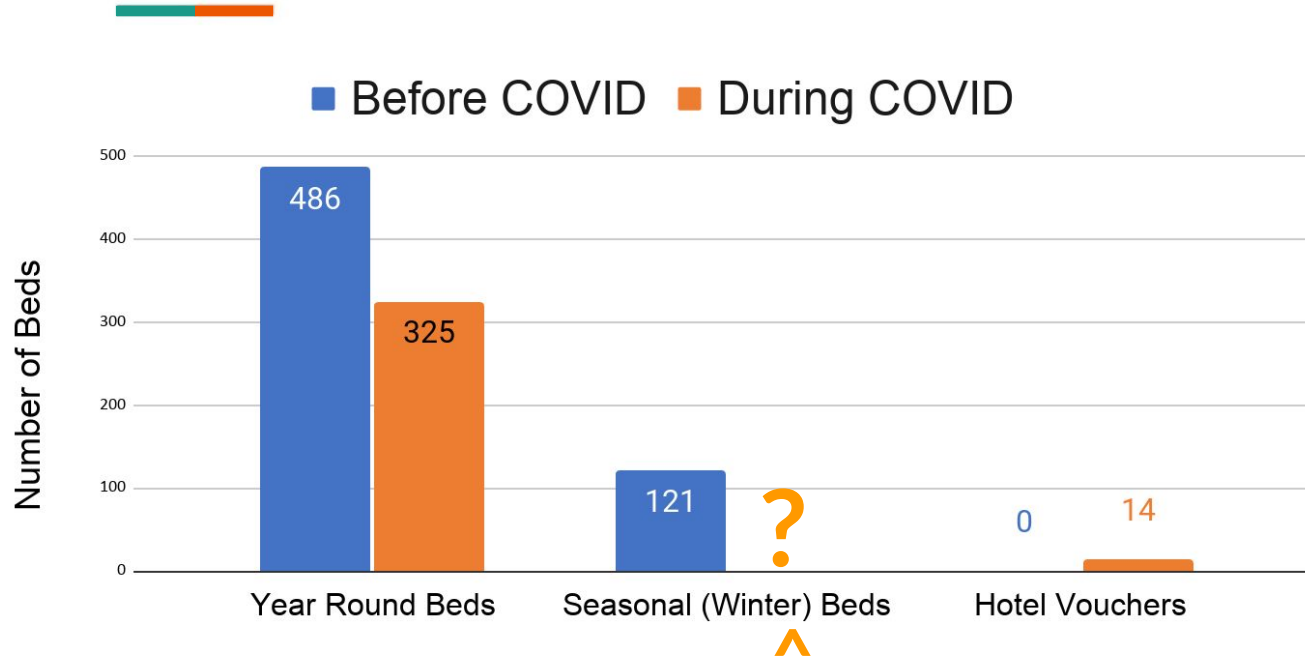
- Dramatically **INCREASE** affordable housing and **investments** in BIPOC communities.
- Pass legislation that removes barriers to housing:
 - Make discrimination based on lawful source of income ILLEGAL statewide
- **Decriminalize homelessness**: housing NOT handcuffs.



Places Not Meant For Human Habitation



Shelter Capacity for Individual Adults



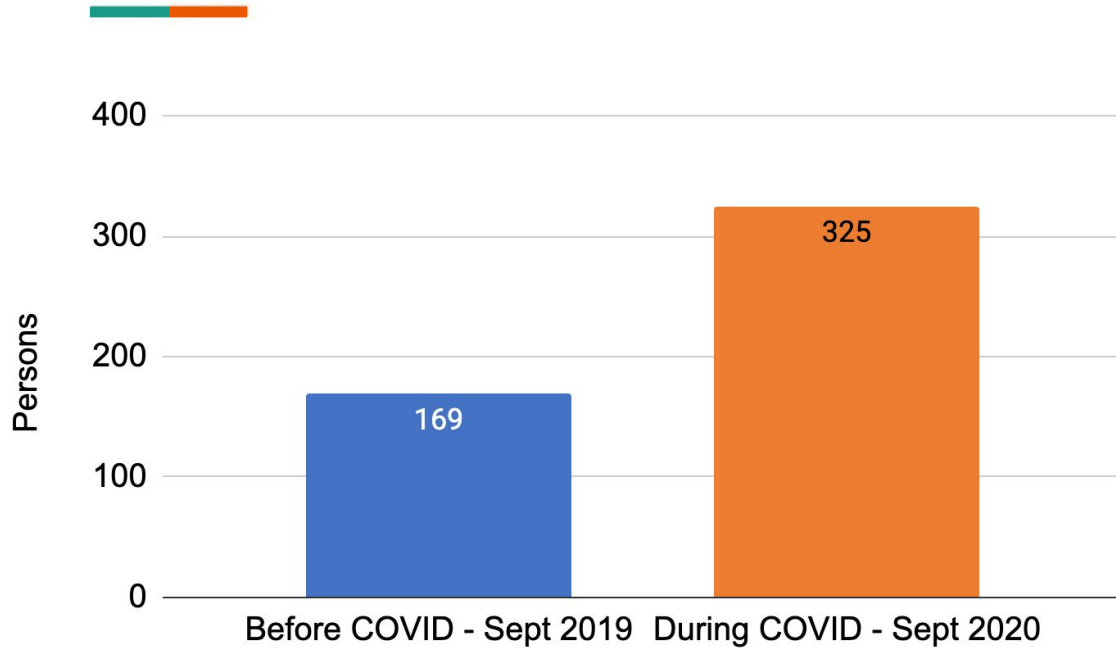
*Loss of 146
Year Round Beds to
achieve social
distancing within
programs.*

Unknown how many winter shelter beds will be online for 20-21 Winter.

Year Round count based on 2020 Housing Inventory Chart, Current Count as of 10/5/2020.



Unsheltered Homelessness



92% increase in
unsheltered persons.



Based on Persons with Unsheltered Living Situation 9/1/19-9/30/19 vs 8/25/20-9/25/20 in HMIS.



What can we do about this?

- Stand up at least **280+ beds of temporary and safe housing** (e.g. expanded shelter spaces, hotels, dorms, tiny houses, etc).
- Continue and **INCREASE rental assistance** and supportive **services**.
- Continue **innovative** solutions like the **Landlord Incentive Program**.



Will you help us?



*"Nobody can do everything,
but everybody can do something."
- Unknown*





Thank you!

