

AHAR Redesign: Tools That You Can Use

Molly McEvilley, Square Peg Data
Julia Brown, Abt Associates



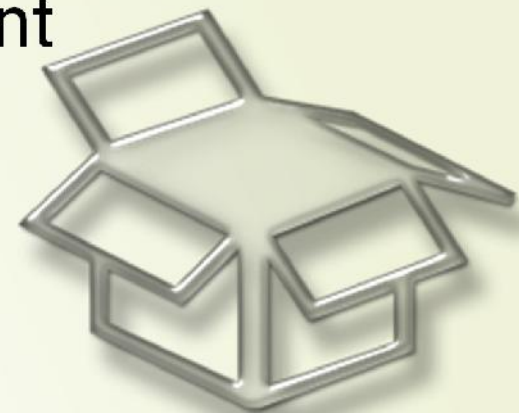
What's Next:
In Data, Leadership, and Community



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Learning Objectives for Audience

- AHAR conceptual changes
- AHAR 2-tier reporting structure
 - HMIS output of AHAR CSV
 - HDX presentation of AHAR report tables
- Vendor tools for AHAR development
 - Specifications
 - Data dictionary
 - Database scripts





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What Isn't Changing About the AHAR

- Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)
- A systemwide report on clients served by continuum projects
- Based on HMIS data
- Separate report output for different household types



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What Is Changing About the AHAR

• Everything Else

Align household types with other HUD reports

Add Safe Haven & RRH (combine homeless project types ES/SH/TH)

Housing outcomes for all project types

Keep veteran reporting!

Other pops?
• Seniors (55+)
• DV
• Large households

How can we make info more useful?

Hey! Do we know what happened to clients who exited in previous years?

Homeless kids with children
• Under 18
• 18-24

Chronically homeless households...

Programming specs!

Who is new to the homeless system and who has been here before?

Do different system paths / project types have different outcomes?

What about people who are almost CH?

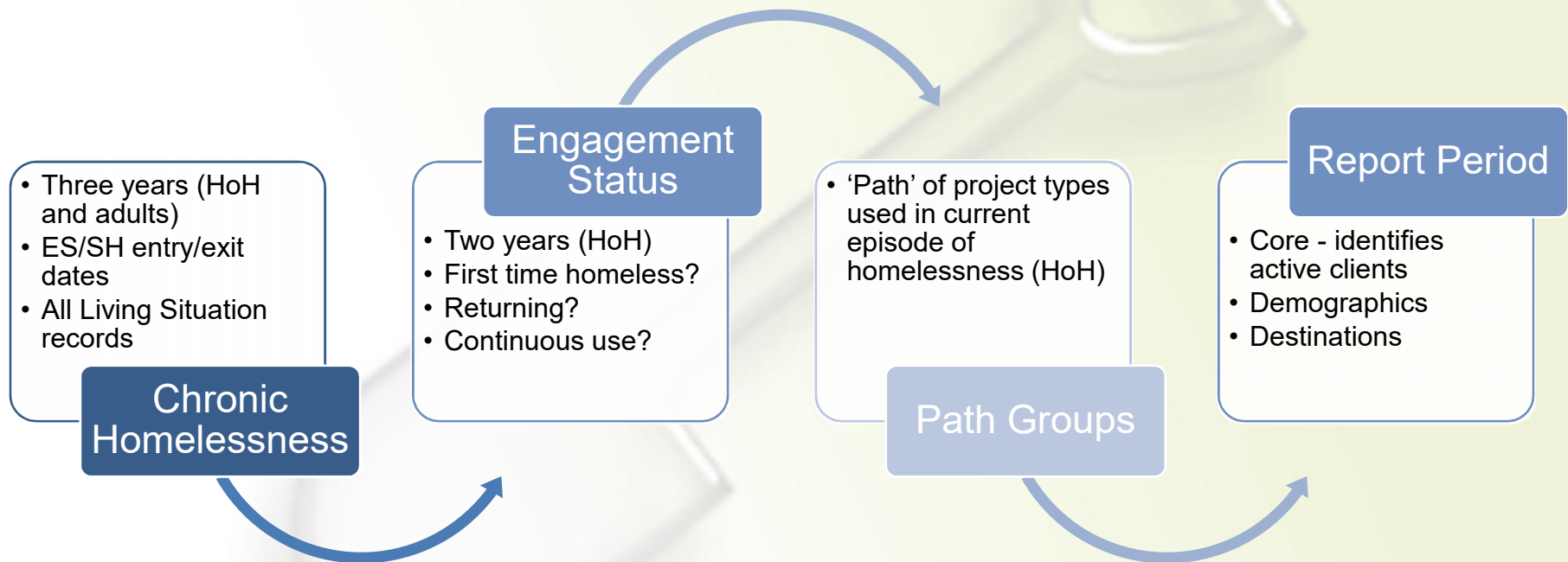
Huh?!?!?

Have time but not disabled... or a disability but not quite enough time



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Change: Data for Active Clients Not Limited to Report Period

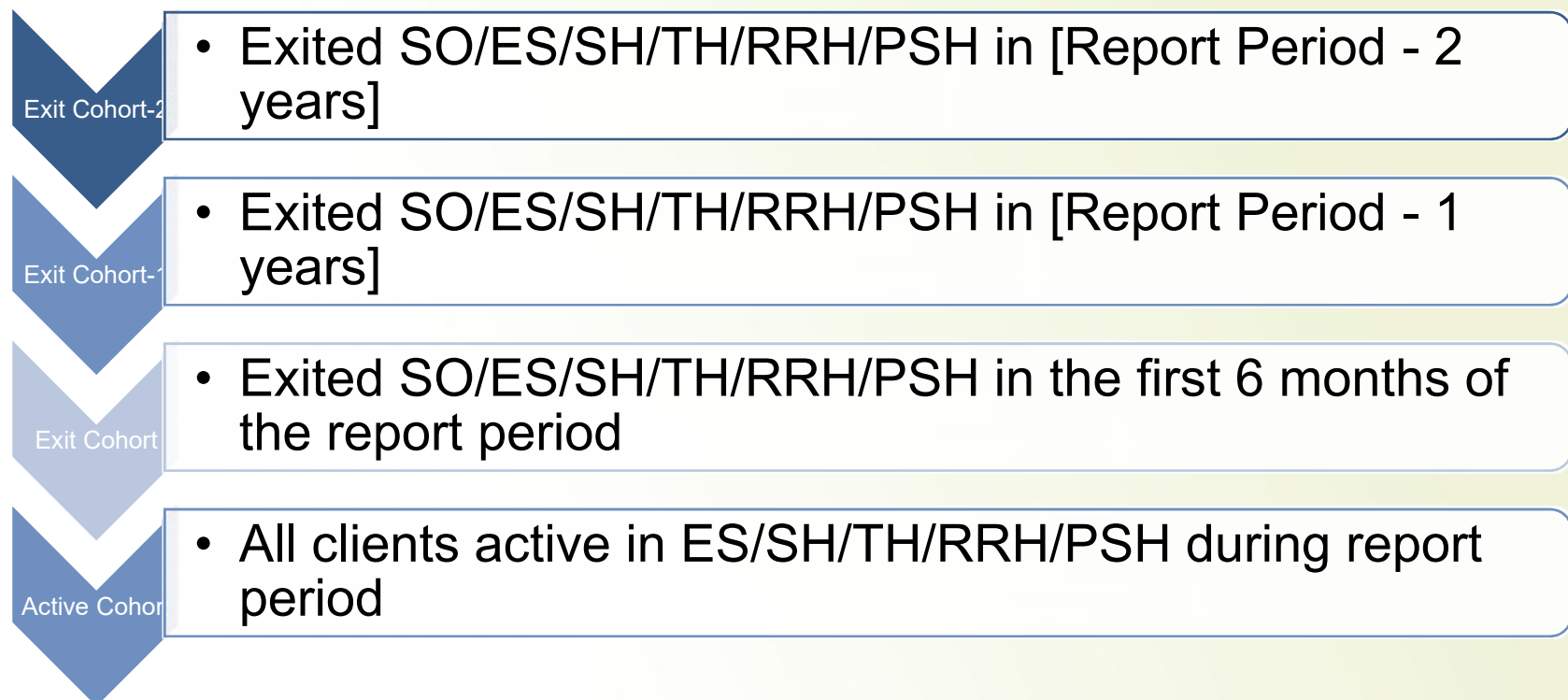




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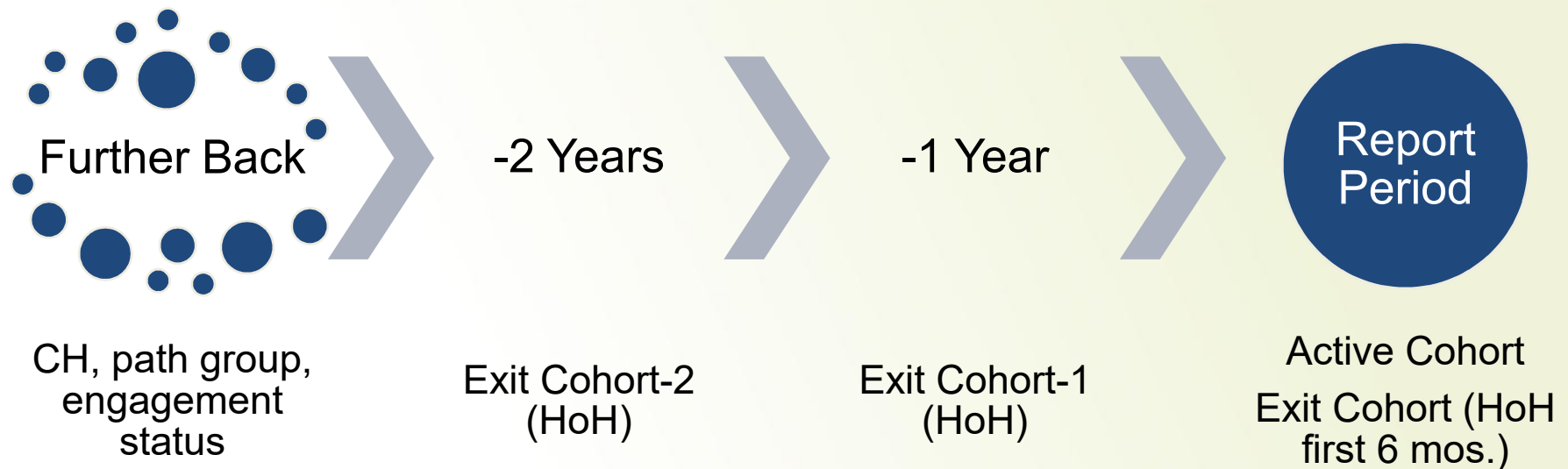
Change: Reporting Not Limited to Active Clients

Returns reporting follows up on households who exited before/during the report period



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Expanded Timeline, Client Base, Data Set

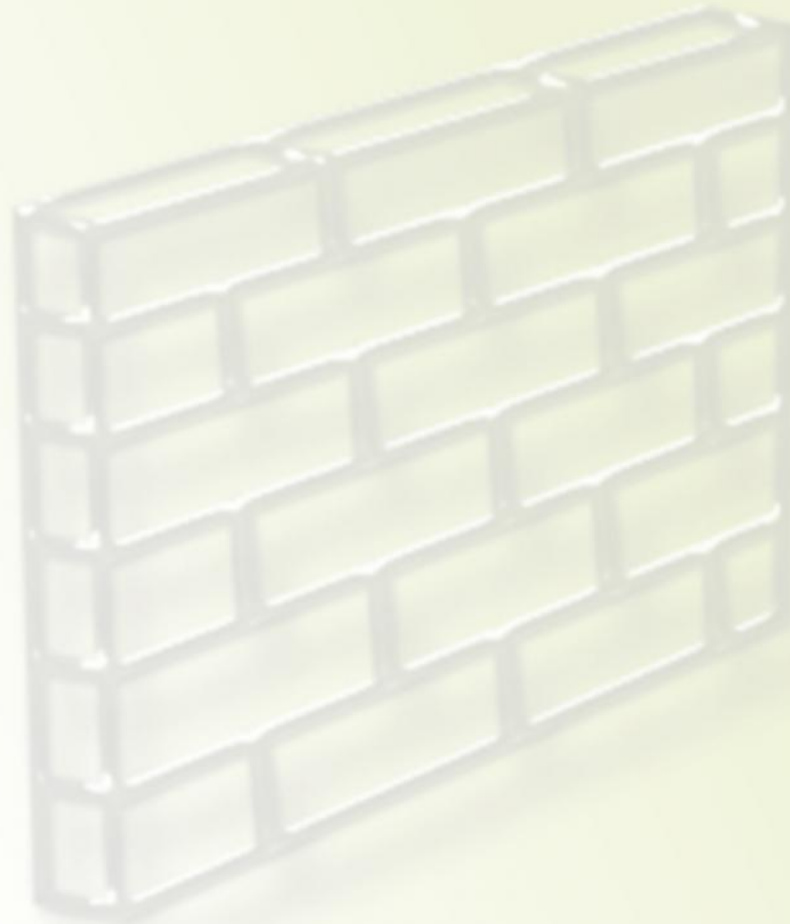




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Core Household Types and Populations

- **Adult-only households**
- **Adult-child households**
- **Child-only households**
- All households
- Young adults 18-21
- Young adults 22-24
- Veteran households
- Non-veteran households
25+





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Other Household Populations

- Chronically homeless
- Disabled adult or HoH
- Fleeing domestic violence
- First-time homeless
- Returning/re-engaging
- Moved into PSH in report period
- Senior households 55+ (AO only)
- Parenting youth households 18-24 (AC only)
- Minor (under 18) parents with children (CO only)
- Unaccompanied children
- Households with 3 or more children (AC only)



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Demographics Reporting

- > ES/SH/TH clients (homeless in the system) are counted in a single project group
- > Project group counts presented together
- > Reporting focus on heads of household and adults
- < Repeated for household types/population groups

Gender of Heads of Household and Adults	ES/SH/TH	RRH	PSH
Female			
Male			
Transgender			
Does not identify as male, female, or transgender			
Don't know/refused			
Missing			



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System Use Reporting

- System use reporting for all project types together
- Limited to heads of household
- How long do households remain homeless?
 - How many days/weeks/months do they spend in various project types?
 - How much other time in ES/SH or on the street is documented by Living Situation data?
- How do these differ for various household types and populations?



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'Path Groups'

- What project type 'paths' do clients use?
- How do housing outcomes compare for different path groups / patterns of system use?
- Which path groups are most/least likely to return to the system after exit?
 - ES/SH path
 - TH path
 - ES/SH+TH path
 - RRH path
 - ES/SH+RRH path
 - TH+RRH path
 - ES/SH+TH+RRH path
 - PSH path
 - ES/SH+PSH path
 - ES/SH+RRH+PSH path
 - RRH+PSH path
 - 'All other' path



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Length of Time Homeless

	# households	0	1-7	8-30	31-60	61-90	91-180	181-365	366-547	548-730	731-1094	1095 +	Average
Number of days													
In ES/SH													
In TH													
In ES/SH/TH total													
Homeless pre-move-in RRH/PSH													
In ES/SH/TH/homeless pre-move-in total													
Homeless reported in 3.917													
Homeless total													
Housed in RRH													
In ES/SH/TH/RRH/pre-move-in PSH total													
# entering PSH w/ no move-in by last day													



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Challenges of More Data

- > Have you seen the final count of AHAR report tables?
- > No.
- > Why?
- > It's like... somewhere around 600 for HUD and the research team.
- > 600?
- > Yeah.
- > If we're choosy.
- > Oh.
- > Wow.
- > Who's going to type all that into the HDX?
- > |



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Challenges, Continued...

- Data entry burden of 600 report tables
- HMIS vendor burden of 600 report tables on top of new content, more complex logic, additional date ranges
- Reporting in silos (age | race | disability status | length of stay | etc.) limits research potential and flexibility of report data, and makes it hard to identify errors and debug



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Two-Tiered Reporting

Aggregate data produced by HMIS
Detailed report tables produced by HDX



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Tier 1: HMIS AHAR Output

- Instead of 600 report tables, 4 CSV files of aggregate data:
 - **AHARPerson** – all person-level characteristics / demographics
 - **AHARHousehold** – all household-level and HoH-only report date for demographics and system use
 - **AHARReturns** – returns data for all 3 exit cohorts
 - **AHARAverageDays** – averages for system use and returns
- And one file – **AHARReport** – with report parameters, etc.



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AHAR Person

Age	Gender	Race	Ethnicity	VetStatus	DisabilityStatus	CHTime	CHTimeStatus	DVStatus	HHTypeEST	HoHEST	HHTypeRRH	HoHRRH	HHTypePSH	HoHPSH	HHChroni	HHVet	HHDisabil	HHFleeing	AOAgeHH	HHYParen	AC3Plus	RowTotal
21	2	3	0	99	99	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	99	0	0	-1	0	1
21	2	3	0	1	99	0	-1	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	1	99	0	0	-1	0	3
21	3	3	0	99	0	270	-1	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	0	0	0	-1	0	2
21	3	3	0	1	1	365	1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	1	1	1	0	-1	0	4
21	3	3	0	0	99	999	-1	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	0	99	0	0	-1	0	1
21	3	3	0	99	99	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	99	0	0	-1	0	3
21	4	3	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	2
21	3	3	0	99	0	0	1	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	0	0	-1	1	0	4
21	4	3	0	1	1	365	3	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	1	1	0	0	-1	1	3
21	99	3	0	1	1	999	-1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	0	0	-1	0	2
21	99	2	0	99	99	999	-1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	0	0	-1	0	4
21	1	3	1	99	0	270	-1	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	0	1	0	-1	0	1
21	1	3	1	0	99	365	99	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	1	0	0	-1	1	3
21	1	3	1	1	1	99	-1	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	1	0	-1	1	4
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21	1	3	1	1	1	99	-1	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	1	0	-1	0	2
21	2	3	1	0	99	365	-1	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	1	0	-1	1	4
21	2	3	1	1	1	999	-1	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	99	1	0	-1	0	3
21	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	0	1	0	1	0	2
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21	3	3	1	0	99	270	3	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	0	0	99	1	0	-1	0	1
21	3	3	1	99	99	365	-1	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	99	99	1	0	-1	0	3
21	4	3	1	0	0	999	-1	0	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	2
21	4	3	1	99	0	-1	-1	1	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	99	0	1	0	-1	0	4
21	4	3	1	1	1	0	-1	1	-1	-1	23	23	-1	-1	1	1	1	1	0	-1	0	1
21	4	3	1	0	99	270	99	0	12	12	23	23	-1	-1	1	0	99	1	0	-1	0	3

How many 18-21 year old non-Hispanic White males with a disability who have been homeless for between 270 and 364 days in the past 3 years are fleeing domestic violence and have been served in emergency shelter as a head of household and a parent with 3 or more minor children?



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AHARHousehold

Table with columns: Stat, TimeToRe, HHType, HHChroni, HHVet, HHDisabi, HHFleelin, HHAdult, HHMinor, HHNoOOE, AOAgeHH, HHYParer, ESTStatus, RRHStatu, RRHPlace, PSHStatu, PSHPlace, ESDays, THDays, ESTDays, ESTGeogr, ESTLiving, ESTDestin, RRHPrePI, RRHHouse, RRHGeogr, RRHLiving, RRHDestin, SystemHc, Other391, TotalHom, PSHGeogr, PSHLiving, PSHDestin, PSHPrePI, PSHHouse, RowTotal

How many first-time chronically homeless households with at least one veteran and one other adult, both over 55, spent 181-365 days in an urban shelter, entered a suburban RRH project, and moved into housing after 8-30 days ?



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AHARReturns

Cohort	ExitFrom	ExitTo	ES	TH	RRH	PSH	ReturnTin	HHType	HHChroni	HHDisabil	HHFleeing	HHVet	AOAgeHH	HHYParen	AC3Plus	RowTotal
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	16
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	6
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	25	0	0	13
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	0	13
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	8
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	10
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	6
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	0	4
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	12
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	12
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	7
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	0	13
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	12
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	10
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	14
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	0	13
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	12
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	0	0	5
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	11
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	55	0	0	4
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	10
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	6
-1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1

How many veteran households with children and a disabled adult or head of household were fleeing domestic violence and exited in the year prior to the report period to stay with friends permanently after staying in an emergency shelter returned to the system after 366-547 days?



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Tier 2: HDX Report Tables

- CSV files produced by HMIS are uploaded to HDX in a zip file
- HDX:
 - Validates file structure and basic logic
 - Produces some report tables for continuum users
 - Generates national roll-up and ~600 report tables for HUD / researchers



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AHAR Programming Specifications

- A draft version of the specs will be posted to the HDX next week (October 18)
- Data universe, business logic, and order of operations required to generate data
- AHAR CSV specifications / valid values
- SQL script examples as a reference to clarify business logic
- Explanations of how data are used to generate HDX report output



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AHAR CSV Data Dictionary

- Available as an Excel workbook
- Also available as a series of SQL scripts that will:
 - Create and populate dictionary/metadata tables for the AHAR CSV files
 - Create database tables in the structure of AHAR CSV files



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Validation Scripts

- Descriptions of the business logic associated with HDX validation of AHAR uploaded CSV files
- SQL scripts that will validate values against dictionary tables
- SQL scripts that validate column values in the context of programming specs
 - Children can't be veterans
 - Heads of household must have x/y/z
 - No adults in child-only households
 - Etc.

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Learning Objectives for Presenters

We have some ideas, but:

- How can we make this easier?
 - In-depth training (AHAR boot camp)?
 - More/different tools?
 - Phased implementation?
- Are you willing to
 - Review specs?
 - Test vendor tools/scripts?



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**Questions Ideas
Comments?**