

City of Berkeley Homelessness System Gap Analysis

Homelessness Services Panel of Experts

Zoe Klingmann | May 1, 2024

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Project background

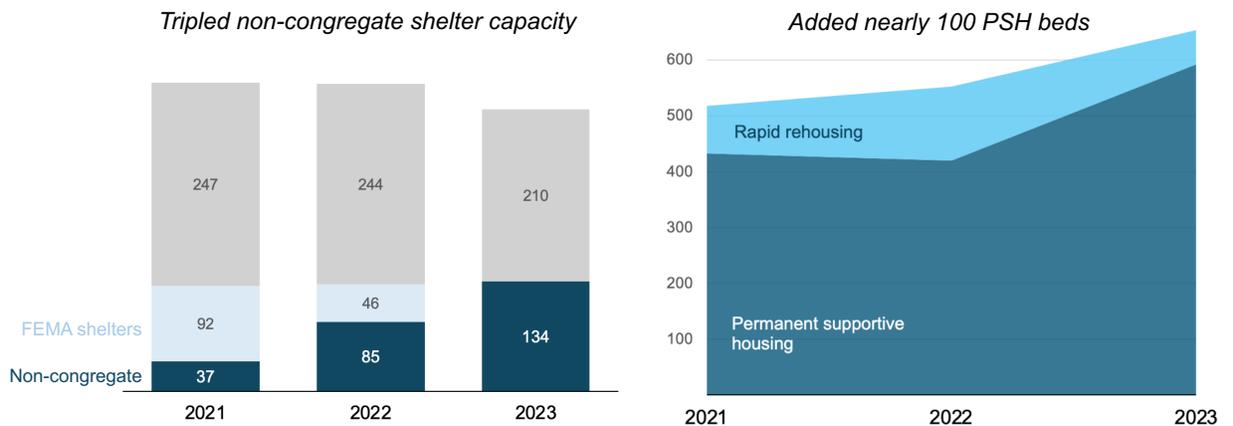
- In 2021, City Council signed onto the All Home Regional Action Plan (RAP) with goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness by 75 percent
- Core concept of RAP is “system flow”: We need investments in prevention, interim housing/shelter, and permanent housing in order to reduce and end homelessness
- Report will make recommendations for how City should prioritize funding to align with RAP

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Background: Berkeley's system of care

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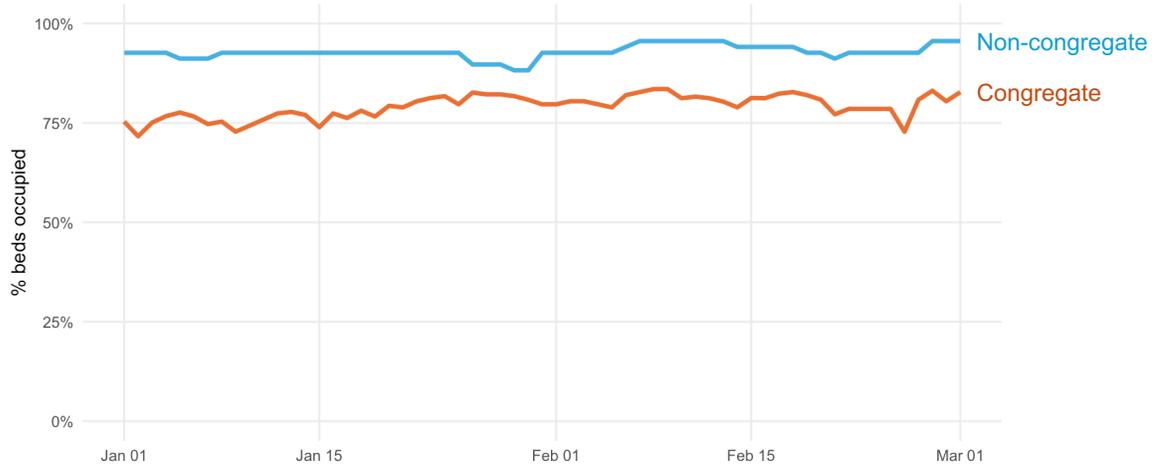
Berkeley has made major progress in recent years



Point-in-time count of permanent housing beds and shelter beds in the last week of January of each year. RRH inventory based on project stays. Source: 2021–2023 HIC

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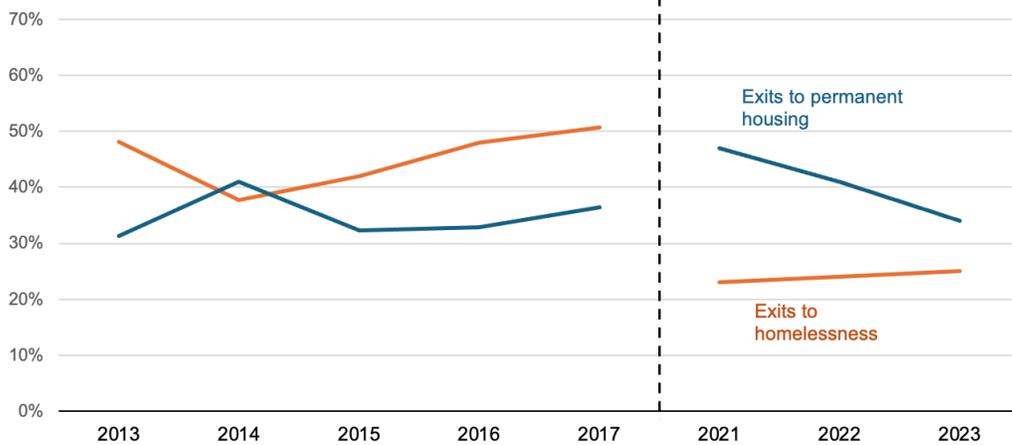
Non-congregate shelters consistently have higher utilization rates



Berkeley shelter utilization rates, January to February 2024. Source: HMIS weekly housing census

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Fewer are exiting Berkeley services to homelessness compared to before the pandemic

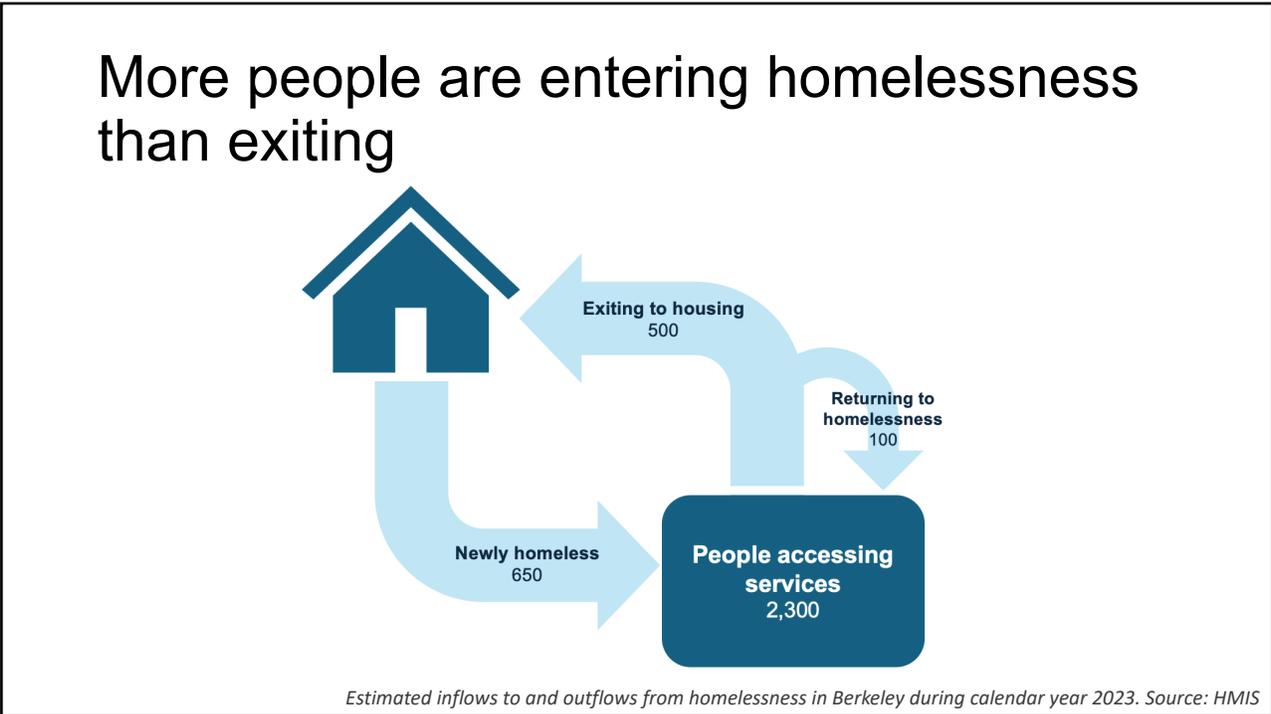


Percentage of exits from year-round ES, RRH, and TH to homelessness and permanent housing destinations. For clients with multiple exits per year, counts the last exit only. Source: HMIS

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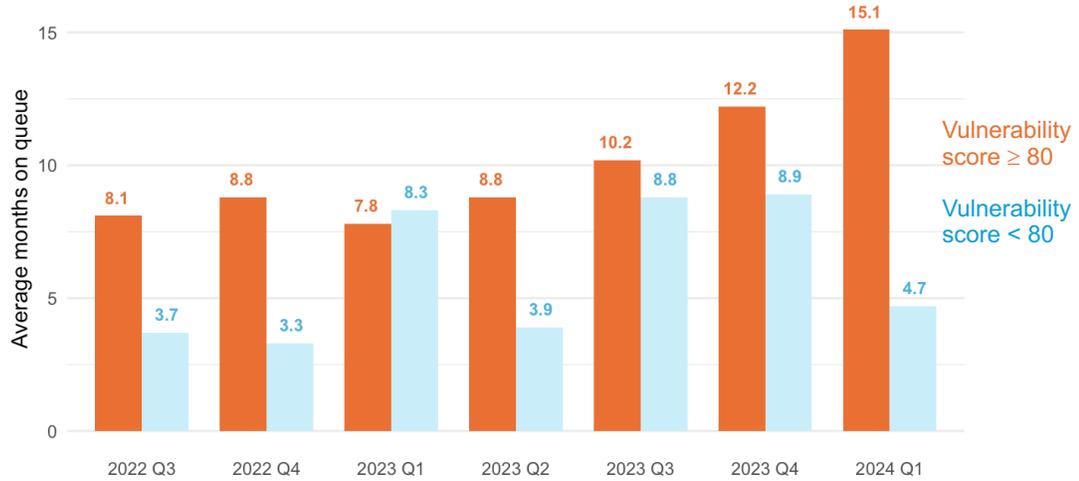
Current system needs

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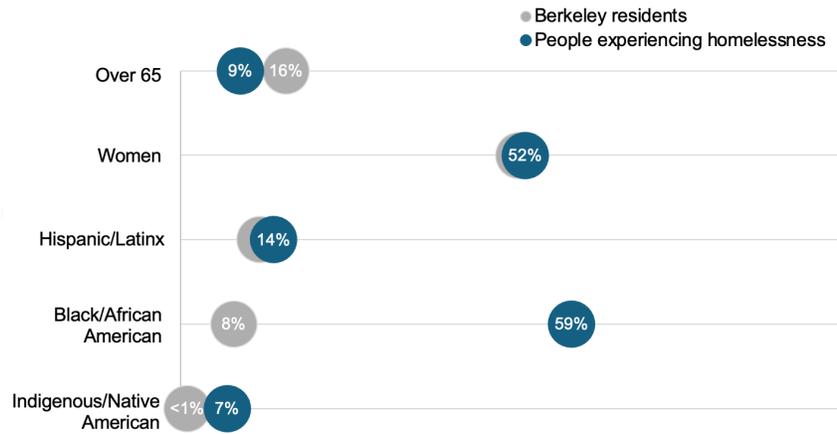
Vulnerable people still stuck in a bottleneck



Average wait time in months for people removed from queue during quarter (calendar years). Source: HMIS

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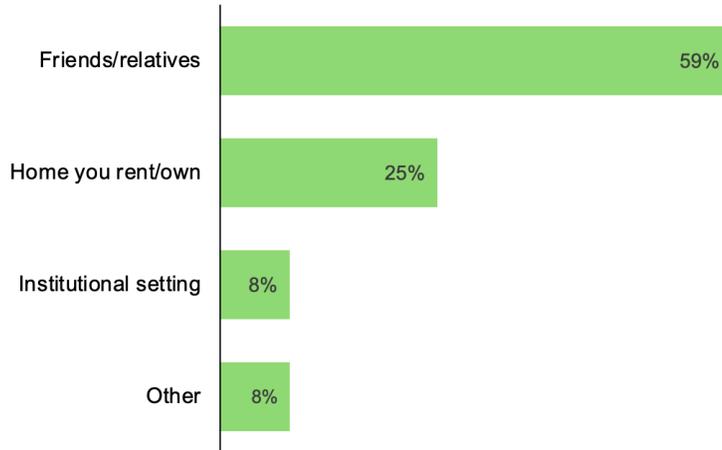
Racial inequality is stark



Demographics of people experiencing homelessness during 2023, compared to Berkeley residents in the 2023 ACS. Source: HMIS; US Census Bureau American Community Survey

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Most people report that they were last housed with friends and family, not a formal lease



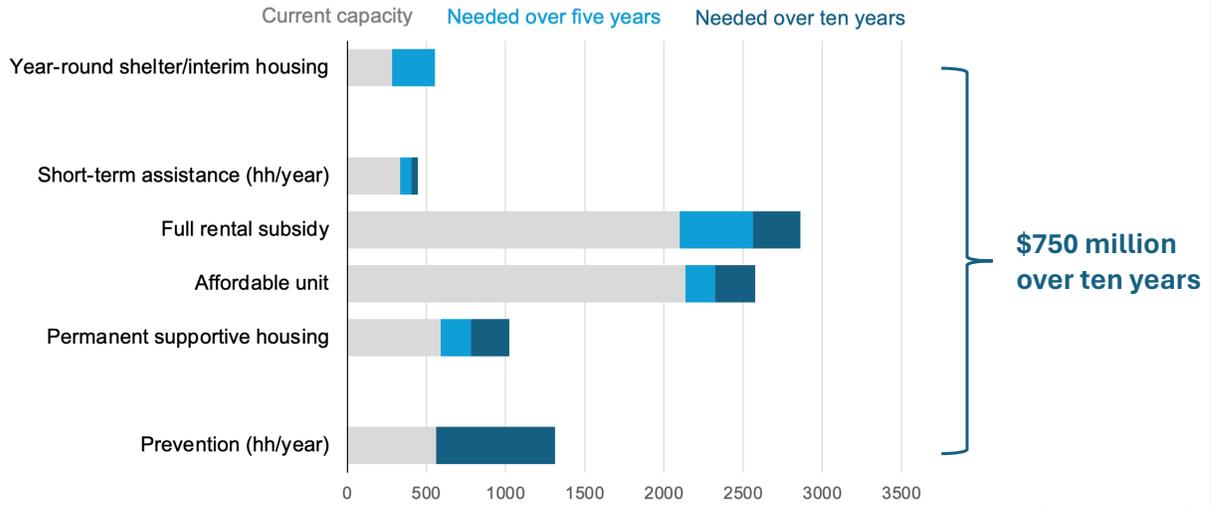
Reported last residence before becoming homeless among Berkeley respondents. Source: 2022 PIT

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Projected system needs

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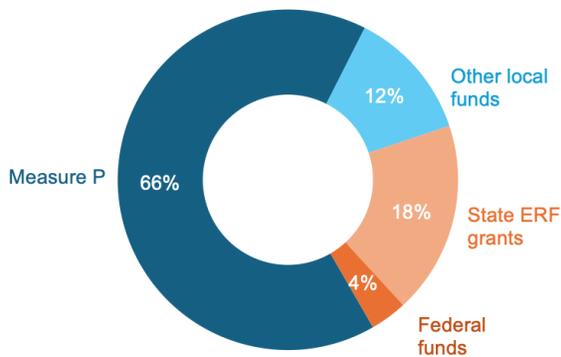
Increased capacity to achieve 75 percent reduction in unsheltered homelessness



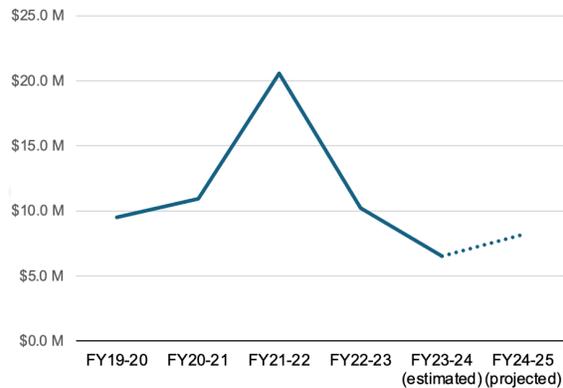
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Berkeley is at risk of going backwards

Homelessness services fund sources (FY24)



Measure P revenues, FY20–25



Source: City budget documents

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Recommendations

- Look for ways to maintain + increase funding for these programs
- Double down on non-congregate shelter/interim housing
- Invest in permanent supportive housing
- Reinforce and improve homelessness prevention programming