

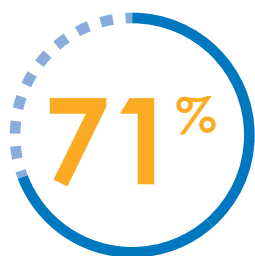
# Families with Children Served by Homelessness Programs in California



This fact sheet is part of a series using the [Homeless Data Integration System \(HDIS\)](#) to understand how homelessness programs are reaching different populations in California. It provides a snapshot of how adults and children in families were served by homelessness programs in California using information reported in HDIS during the three-year period between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2021. HDIS includes information about programs that report to a local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), but does not contain information about every homelessness response program across the state.

## Characteristics of Families Served by Homelessness Programs

- Approximately **210,000 people in families** were served by homelessness programs during the three-year assessment period, about 60% of whom were children



Of adults in families identified as female

This number reflects 38% of all people served over the three-year assessment period, highlighting the importance of programs that target the needs of families.

- 122,205** people in families were children (under 18 years-old)
- 82,666** people in families were adults (at least 18 years-old)

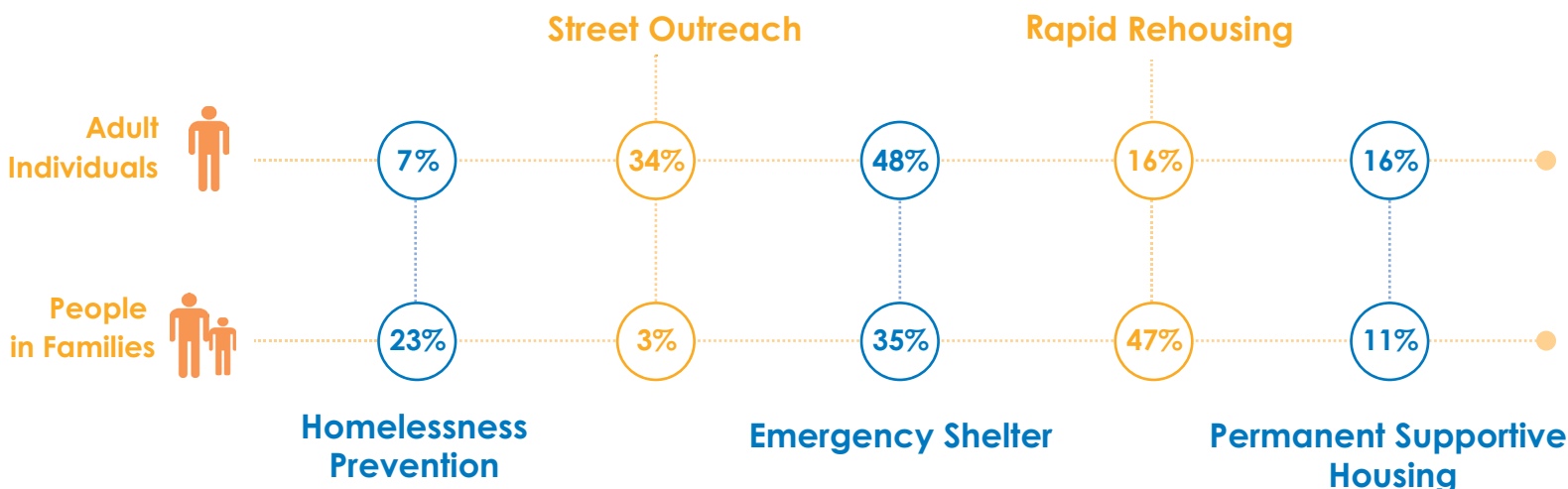


Of people in families were people of color

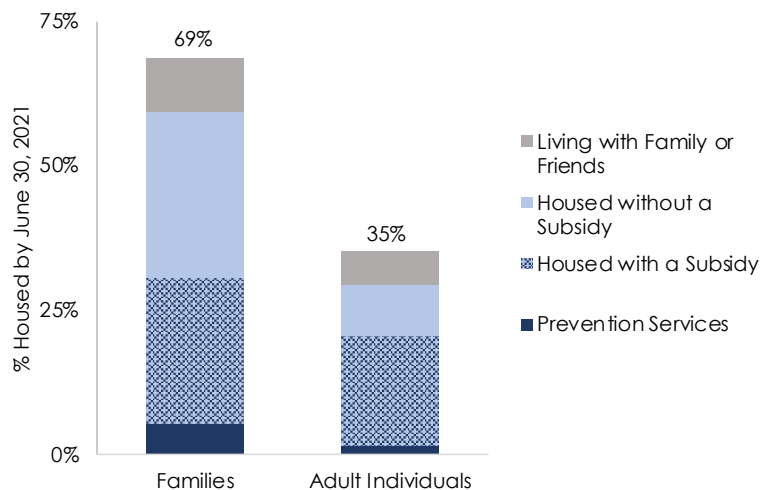
Programs served 18,464 people in families headed by a young adult parent (ages 18–24 years-old)

## Types of Homelessness Programs Serving Families

The percentages of people in families and adult individuals (at least 18 years-old in households without children) served by each type of program.



# Outcomes for Families Served by Homelessness Programs



- **69%** of people in families were recorded as being housed by the end of the study period, about twice the rate for adult individuals.
- Many of those who were not recorded as housed were still receiving homelessness services, including staying in an interim housing program or being enrolled in a permanent housing program but not yet moved in.



Of people in families exclusively enrolled in homeless prevention programs during the study period.



Homelessness prevention programs serving families primarily included emergency rental assistance and other short-term financial help.

**74% of families with multiple adults were housed at the end of the study period, compared with 66% of families with one adult.**

## Conclusion

- Over 210,000 people in families were served by homelessness programs reporting to HDIS, which does not include families served exclusively by programs assisting survivors of domestic violence or those that provide support for public school students experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.
- Families were housed about twice as often as adult individuals at the end of the study period, in part due to homelessness prevention programs serving a much higher share of families.
- Several state programs target families experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including the CalWORKs Homeless Assistance program and Housing Support Program from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS); CDSS's Bringing Families Home program, which serves children and families involved in the child welfare system; and Cal ICH's Family Homelessness Challenge Grants in 2021.

This series is a collaboration between the California Interagency Council on Homelessness; the Turner Center for Housing Innovation at the University of California, Berkeley; the Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative at the University of California, San Francisco; and Abt Associates.

