



## Racial Disparity Assessment Summary 2020 CoC MI-514

Each year, the MI-514 Calhoun County Continuum of Care (CoC) examines race and ethnicity data across our homeless service delivery system to better understand racial disparities to ensure equitable access to homelessness services. The primary sources of data for this assessment are the US Census and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) demographic reports, as disaggregated by our HMIS System Administrator at Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH).

During 2019, our CoC partner agencies served 1,192 unique individuals experiencing Category 1 homelessness. This represents about 0.9% of the population of Calhoun County. Of those homeless, nearly one quarter (22%) are Children in families, aged 0-17, and an additional 5% are Youth, aged 18-24. In addition, approximately 14% are considered chronically homeless.

### Category 1 Homelessness Defined

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Category 1 Homelessness is defined “an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; or
- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs).”

### Chronic Homelessness Defined

HUD defines Chronic Homelessness as “an individual or family who:

- Is homeless and resides in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter and has been homeless and residing in such a place for at least 12 months *or* on at least four (4) separate occasions in the last three (3) years where the combined occasions must total at least 12 months; **and**
- Has a head of household with a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability (as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002)), post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments resulting from a brain injury, or chronic physical illness or disability.”

## **Demographics by Race/Ethnicity**

The CoC compared Calhoun County census and HMIS data and calculated that Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) represent 19% of people included in the July 2019 Census and represent 52% of people served within the CoC homeless service delivery system in 2019, according to the 2019 R8 Overall Homeless Count Report. Some significant findings:

- Black and African Americans make up 11% of the overall population and account for 50% of persons experiencing Category 1 Homelessness, served through our CoC partner organizations during 2019.
- 36% of Category 1 homeless Youth, ages 18-24, were Black or African American in 2019.
- 81% of Category 1 homeless children in families, aged 0-17, were Black or African American.
- 41% of the Chronically homeless, served through our CoC partner organizations in 2019, were Black or African American.
- Hispanics comprise approximately 6% of the overall population in Calhoun County and represent about 4% of persons experiencing Category 1 Homelessness, served through our CoC partner organizations in 2019.
- 4% of the Chronically homeless, served through our CoC partner organizations in 2019, were Hispanic ethnicity.

## **Racial Equity Task Force Assessment**

During 2020, the City of Battle Creek commissioned an Affirmative Marketing Report & Plan for Housing Assistance and Services in Battle Creek, Michigan. This plan was created through the Community Development Block Grant Covid-19 (CDBG-CV) program by a locally-formed Racial Equity Task Force, comprised of agencies and organizations representing a variety of cultural and racial backgrounds and experiences and diverse BIPOC leadership within the community. The plan provided a roadmap to ensuring equitable disbursement of grant funds while addressing barriers and lifting up the voices of those impacted by racial and ethnic disparities. This report was instrumental to CDBG awardees developing effective, measurable affirmative marketing plans that focused on reaching populations in most critical need. This report and plan will continue to provide guidance and direction to CoC partner agencies across the county as services are delivered and grants are administered.

Among the findings and recommendations:

- “The coronavirus laid bare the compounded health and economic disparities experienced by BIPOC that existed prior to the pandemic and were exacerbated by Covid-19.”
- Individual, organizational, and systemic barriers are experienced within our community, ranging from individual trauma to challenges with coordination between agencies and organizations serving the same populations.
- Individual, organizational, and systemic improvements are achievable within our community, including closer stakeholder engagement, continued communication and increased partnership between agencies, and promotion of BIPOC leadership in housing work.
- Targeting, purposeful outreach, and accountability measures are critical requirements to reaching the community’s most vulnerable populations who are least likely to reach out for help or, in the case of the CDBG-CV grant, least likely to apply for assistance.

## Action Steps

The CoC will continue to focus on assessing racial disparities over the next 12 months, underpinned by data through ongoing evaluation and communications with MCAH. We will continue to work with the Racial Equity Task Force to explore and implement strategies that will strengthen service delivery and better reach all populations within the community. The following community action steps have been continued from FY2019:

- Engage local stakeholders, leaders, culturally specific organizations, faith-based groups, social services agencies, landlords, housing providers, school systems, and people of color with lived experience of homelessness to discuss racial disparities.
- Endeavor to build a shared understanding of the systemic issues that affect people of color and create open and ongoing opportunities for continued conversations.
- Use demographic data from the most recent census to map the racial profile of our community and compare it to HMIS data to understand who is experiencing homelessness at disproportionate rates in our community.
- Assess and regularly revisit data indicators that link to equitable outcomes, particularly outcomes related to rates of permanent housing placement and connections to services.
- Develop data-driven goals for including people of color with lived experience of homelessness into CoC planning efforts.
- Integrate person-centered data to build out an understanding of service utilization patterns and the connection between those patterns and housing placements and/or other outcomes, and use these data points to inform planning and resource allocation.
- Share successful strategies and insights with community and national partners, as well as other systems, and commit to supporting others in undertaking the work to rectify racial inequities.

In addition, the following additional action steps are underway with support from the City of Battle Creek, the Population Health Alliance, and the Racial Equity Task Force:

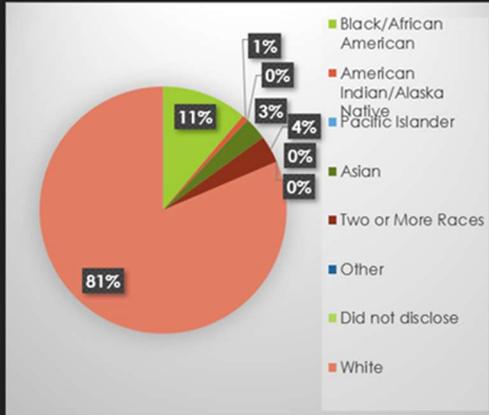
- Address language barriers through increased access to interpretation and translation services through local BIPOC community organizations
- Increase advocacy efforts for those experiencing homelessness and navigating the Coordinated Entry process.
- Investigate opportunities for funding to support undocumented immigrants.
- Meet regularly with the Racial Equity Task Force to discuss progress towards affirmative marketing plans, objectives and outcomes.

## Visual Summary of Demographic Data

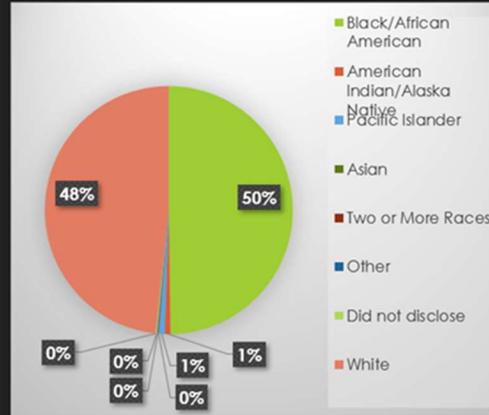
### Overall Demographics, By Race

2019 Census (Estimated) and 2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report

Total Population: 134,159



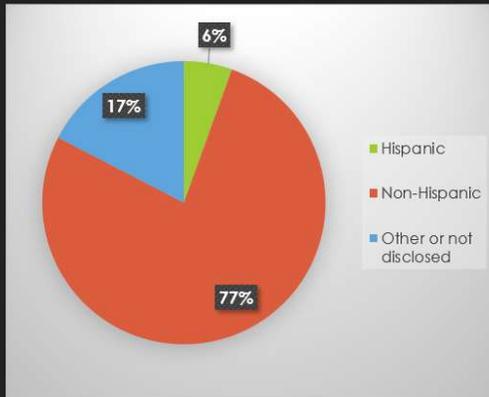
Homeless Population: 1,192



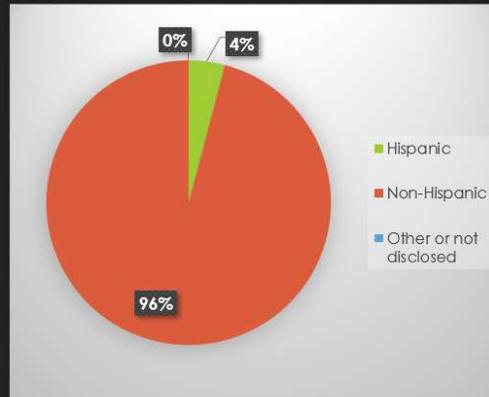
### Overall Demographics, By Ethnicity

2019 Census (Estimated) and 2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report

Total Population: 134,159



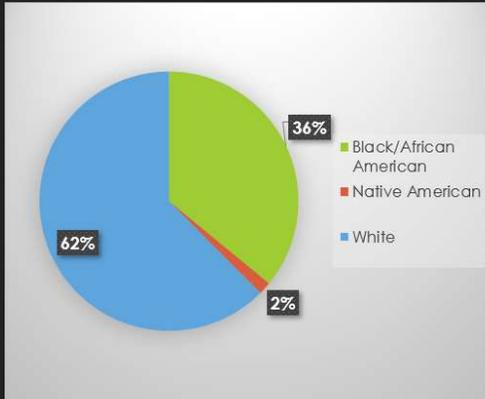
Homeless Population: 1,192



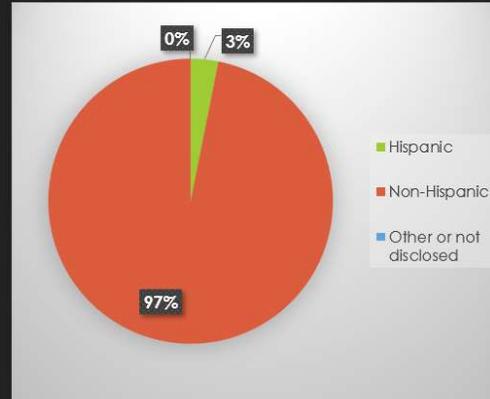
# Unaccompanied Youth (18-24), Homeless

2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report

Population, By Race: 64



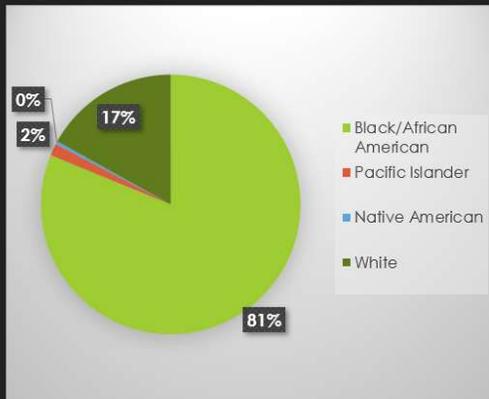
Population, By Ethnicity: 64



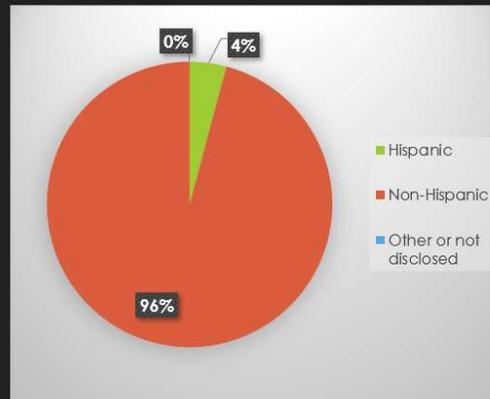
# Children in Families (0-17), Homeless

2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report

Population, By Race: 264



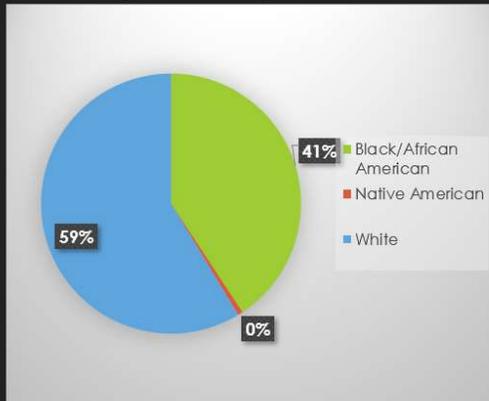
Population, By Ethnicity: 266



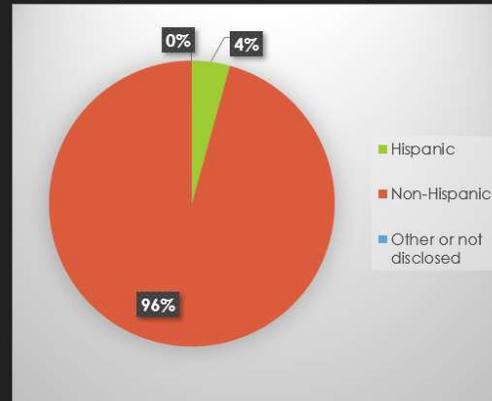
# Chronic Homeless

2019 R8 Chronic Homelessness Report

Population, By Race: 162



Population, By Ethnicity: 163



## Back-Up Documentation

Population	Calhoun County, Michigan
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>134,159</b>
<b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Population</b>	
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>134,159</b>
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2019)	136,150
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2019, (V2019)	-1.5%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	136,146

Figure 1. United States Census Population data for Calhoun County Michigan at Census.gov

Race and Hispanic Origin	Calhoun County, Michigan
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>134,159</b>
<b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>	
White alone, percent	81.4%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)	11.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	0.8%
Asian alone, percent (a)	3.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	Z
Two or More Races, percent	3.6%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	5.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	77.1%

Figure 2. United States Census Race & Ethnicity data for Calhoun County Michigan at Census.gov

Income & Poverty	Calhoun County, Michigan
<b>Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)</b>	<b>134,159</b>
<b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Income &amp; Poverty</b>	
Median household income (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018	\$47,426
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2018 dollars), 2014-2018	\$25,652
Persons in poverty, percent	17.3%

Figure 3. United States Census Income & Poverty data for Calhoun County Michigan at Census.gov

<b>Total Homeless:</b>	1192	<b>OVERALL LITERALLY HOMELESS (CATEGORY 1)</b>	
<b>Average Age Adults Overall:</b>	35	<b>Average Age Adult Female:</b>	27.4532
		<b>Average Age Adult Males:</b>	38.4

Gender	Total	Percentage
Data not collected	1	0.08%
Female	395	33.11%
Male	797	66.81%
<b>Sum:</b>	<b>1193</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

All Clients Age	Total	Percentage
1. Newborn to 4	112	9.14%
2. 5 to 10	108	8.81%
3. 11 to 14	34	2.77%
4. 15 to 17	16	1.31%
5. 18 to 24	88	7.18%
6. 25 to 34	243	19.82%
7. 35 to 44	174	14.19%
8. 45 to 54	202	16.48%
9. 55 to 64	193	15.74%
99. 65 and up	56	4.57%
<b>Sum:</b>	<b>1226</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Race	Total	Percentage
Black or African American (HUD)	596	49.79%
White (HUD)	578	48.29%
American Indian or Alaska Native (HUD)	9	0.75%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (HUD)	9	0.75%
Client doesn't know (HUD)	2	0.17%
Asian (HUD)	1	0.08%

Gender	Age Range	Total	Percentage
Data not collected	99. 65 and up	1	0.08%
Female	1. Newborn to 4	47	3.83%
Female	2. 5 to 10	53	4.32%
Female	3. 11 to 14	16	1.30%
Female	4. 15 to 17	9	0.73%
Female	5. 18 to 24	39	3.18%
Female	6. 25 to 34	101	8.23%
Female	7. 35 to 44	57	4.65%
Female	8. 45 to 54	48	3.91%
Female	9. 55 to 64	26	2.12%
Female	99. 65 and up	3	0.24%
Male	1. Newborn to 4	66	5.38%
Male	2. 5 to 10	55	4.48%
Male	3. 11 to 14	18	1.47%
Male	4. 15 to 17	7	0.57%
Male	5. 18 to 24	49	3.99%
Male	6. 25 to 34	142	11.57%
Male	7. 35 to 44	117	9.54%
Male	8. 45 to 54	154	12.55%
Male	9. 55 to 64	167	13.61%
Male	99. 65 and up	52	4.24%
<b>Sum:</b>		<b>1227</b>	
<b>Percentage:</b>			<b>100.00%</b>

Housing Status	Total	Percentage
Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)	1192	100.00%

Figure 4. 2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report

Total Homeless:		161		OVERALL CHRONIC HOMELESS							
Average Age Adults Overall:		88.1		Average Age Adult Femal		38.15		Average Age Adult Males:		24166	
Gender			Total	Percentage							
Data not collected			1	0.62%							
Female			40	24.84%							
Male			120	74.53%							
<b>Sum:</b>			<b>161</b>	<b>100.00%</b>							
All Clients Age			Total	Percentage							
1. Newborn to 4			3	1.84%							
5. 18 to 24			9	5.52%							
6. 25 to 34			43	26.38%							
7. 35 to 44			26	15.95%							
8. 45 to 54			44	26.99%							
9. 55 to 64			30	18.40%							
99. 65 and up			8	4.91%							
<b>Sum:</b>			<b>163</b>	<b>100.00%</b>							
Race			Total	Percentage							
White (HUD)			94	58.02%							
Black or African American (HUD)			66	40.74%							
American Indian or Alaska Native (HUD)			1	0.62%							
Asian (HUD)			1	0.62%							
<b>Sum:</b>			<b>162</b>								
Gender				Age Range	Total	Percentage					
Data not collected				99. 65 and up	1	0.61%					
Female				5. 18 to 24	3	1.84%					
Female				6. 25 to 34	17	10.43%					
Female				7. 35 to 44	7	4.29%					
Female				8. 45 to 54	9	5.52%					
Female				9. 55 to 64	4	2.45%					
Male				1. Newborn to 4	3	1.84%					
Male				5. 18 to 24	6	3.68%					
Male				6. 25 to 34	26	15.95%					
Male				7. 35 to 44	19	11.66%					
Male				8. 45 to 54	35	21.47%					
Male				9. 55 to 64	26	15.95%					
Male				99. 65 and up	7	4.29%					
<b>Sum:</b>					<b>163</b>						
<b>Percentage:</b>						<b>100.00%</b>					
Housing Status					Total	Percentage					
Category 1 - Homeless (HUD)					155	100.00%					
<b>Sum:</b>					<b>155</b>						
<b>Percentage:</b>						<b>100.00%</b>					

Figure 5. 2019 R8 Chronic Homelessness Report

## References

United States Census Demographics Data for Calhoun County, Michigan. July 2019.

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/calhouncountymichigan/PST045219>

2019 R8 Overall Homelessness Report. <http://dev.tcccalhoun.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Calhoun-County-CY2019-Overall-Homeless-Report.xlsx>

<http://dev.tcccalhoun.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Calhoun-County-CY2019-Overall-Homeless-Report.xlsx>

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MiCalhoun Demographics Data for Calhoun County, Michigan. July 2019.

<http://www.micalhoun.org/demographicdata?id=1295>

HUD's Definition of Homelessness. October 2017.

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/No2\\_Homeless\\_Certification\\_396781\\_7.doc](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/No2_Homeless_Certification_396781_7.doc)