



GREATER VIRGINIA PENINSULA
HOMELESS CONSORTIUM (GVPHC)

RACIAL DISPARITIES REPORT

NOVEMBER 2020

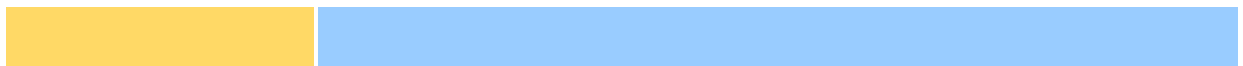


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Introduction

The Greater Virginia Peninsula Homeless Consortium (GVPHC) is a coalition of public and private organizations that maintains a current and viable process to end homelessness, and provides services and resources to the most vulnerable households and individuals across the six (6) jurisdictions of Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg, James City County and York County.

The GVPHC serves as the region's Continuum of Care (CoC) organization, which is a regional planning body responsible for coordination and management of federal and state funding for homeless services. The Hampton Department of Human Services is the designated Lead Agency for the CoC. Coordination and facilitation support are provided by The Planning Council. Persons who have experienced or are experiencing homelessness are encouraged to participate in the process as well. The GVPHC has adopted the vision that homelessness will be rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The United States has a history of creating inequity for persons of color, particularly when it comes to obtaining and maintaining equal and fair housing. Nationally, persons of color experience homelessness at a proportionally higher rate than the portion of the general population warrants. *Persons of color* refers here refers to all non-White races, including Black or African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian and Alaska Native, and Multiracial.

This assessment examines data from the U.S. Census, the GVPHC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the 2020 Point in Time Count and GVPHC member agencies to identify potential racial or ethnic disparities in the CoC's provision of homeless assistance. For clarity's sake, the populations described below are from the six geographical jurisdictions that make up the Greater Virginia Peninsula Homelessness Consortium.

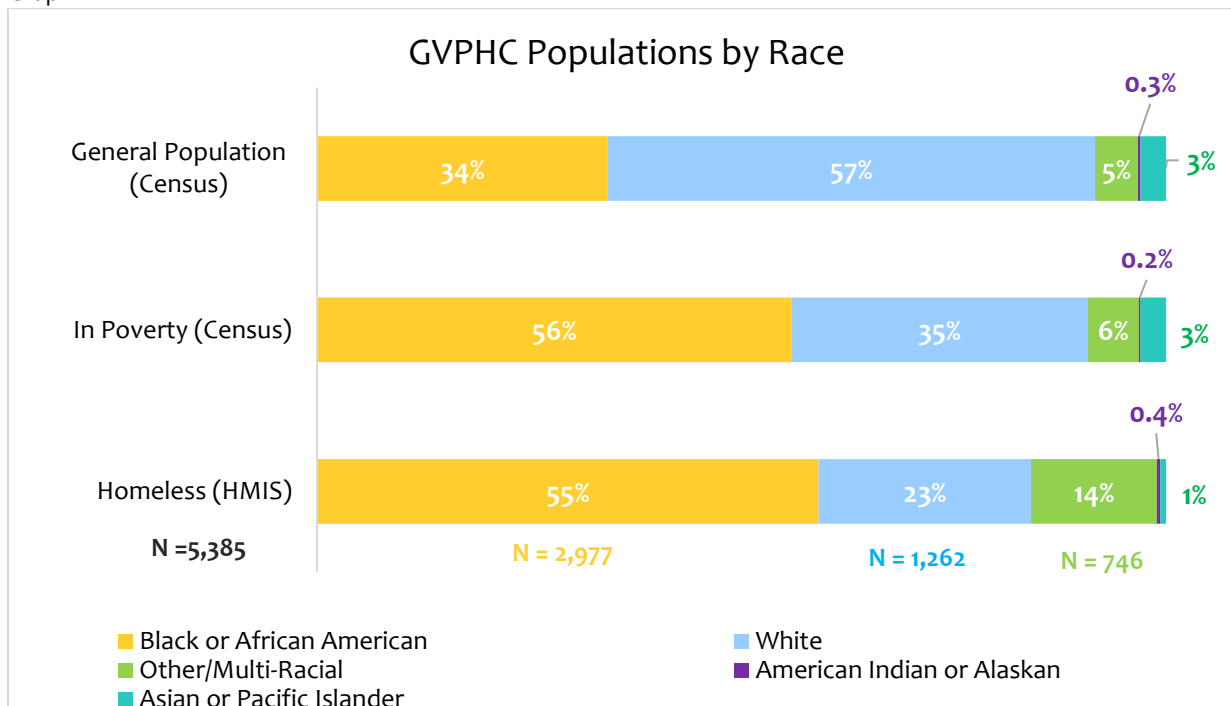
GVPHC Population by Race

The graph below compares the racial composition of the GVPHC’s general population, those in poverty and those experiencing homelessness to indicate that as in the national trend, persons of color in the GVPHC service area experience homelessness at a rate that is disproportionate to their incidence in the general population.

During the period from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019 there were 5,385 unique individuals in HMIS who received homeless assistance in GVPHC programs. These programs include emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing, rapid rehousing, street outreach and services only day centers.

In contrast, according to the most recent US Census data, 34% of the general population in the GVPHC service area identify as Black or African American, 57% identify as White, 5% identify as Multiracial, 3% identify as Asian or Pacific Islander and 0.3% identify as American Indian or Alaska Native.

Graph 1

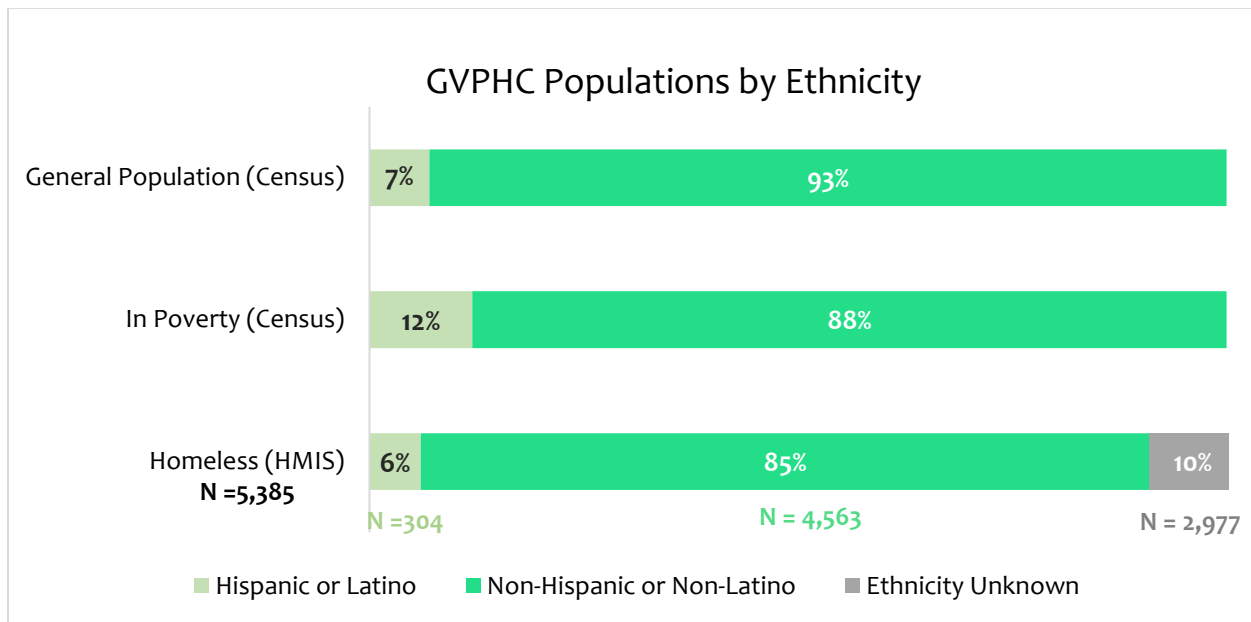


Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

GVPHC Population by Ethnicity

Of the 5,385 clients in HMIS, 304 were Hispanic or Latino. This represents 6% of the total client population and is slightly less than the percent of Hispanic or Latino persons in the general population (7%). The percentage of Hispanic or Latino residents in poverty (12%) is greater than those experiencing homelessness, indicating that this population may have additional safeguards in the community to prevent those in poverty from falling into homelessness.

Graph 2

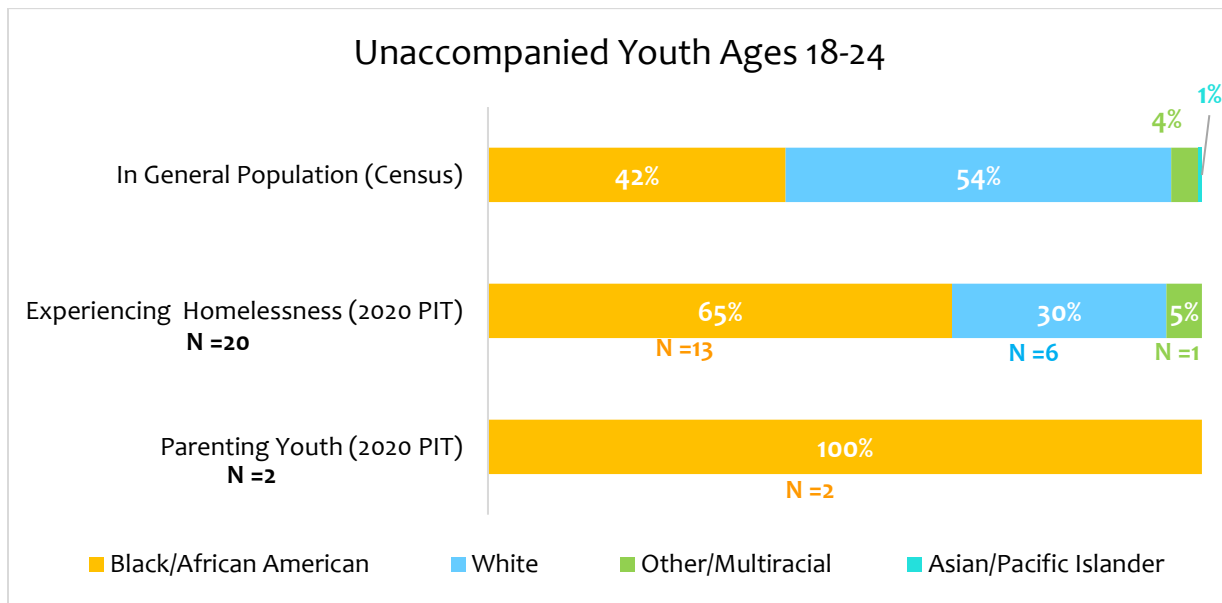


Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

GVPHC Unaccompanied Youth by Race

More Black/African American unaccompanied youth experience homelessness than White unaccompanied youth. Just 42% of unaccompanied youth in the general population were Black/African American, while the 2020 Point in Time count (PIT) revealed that more than half (65%) of those experiencing homelessness were Black/African American. This compares to 54% of White unaccompanied youth in the general population but just 30% experiencing homelessness. There were only 2 parenting youth counted during the 2020 PIT and both were Black/African American.

Graph 3

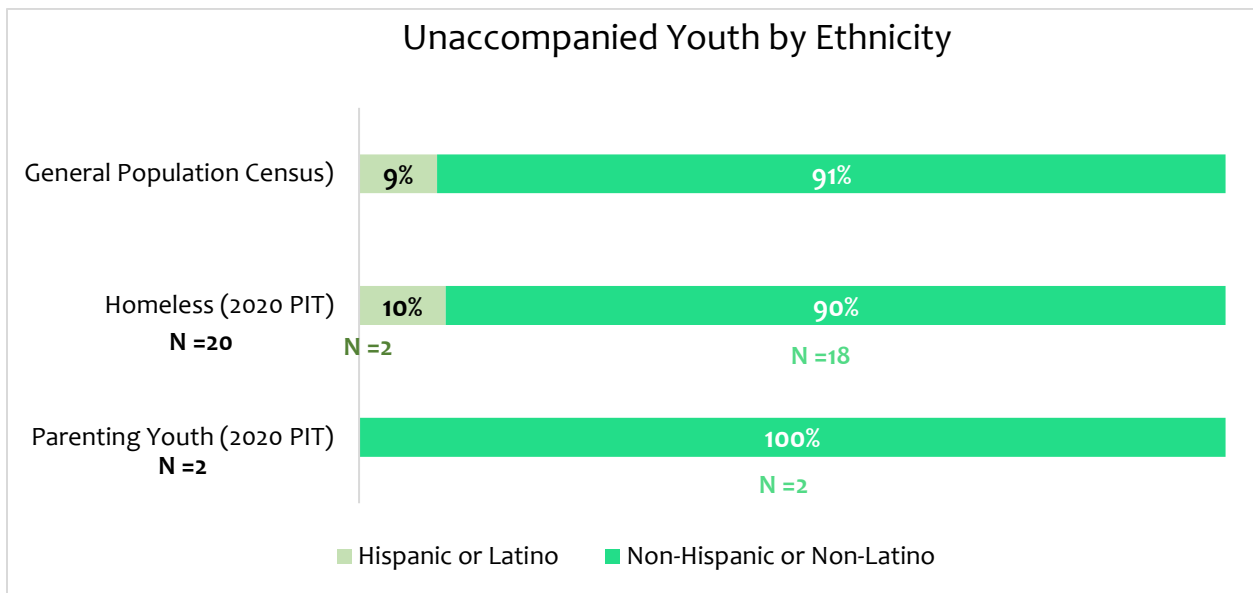


Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; 2020 PIT

GVPHC Unaccompanied Youth by Ethnicity

Hispanic or Latino youth comprised 9% of the unaccompanied youth population in the GVPHC service area general population and 10% of those experiencing homelessness (which was just 2 persons). There were no Hispanic or Latino parenting youth in the 2020 Point in Time count.

Graph 4

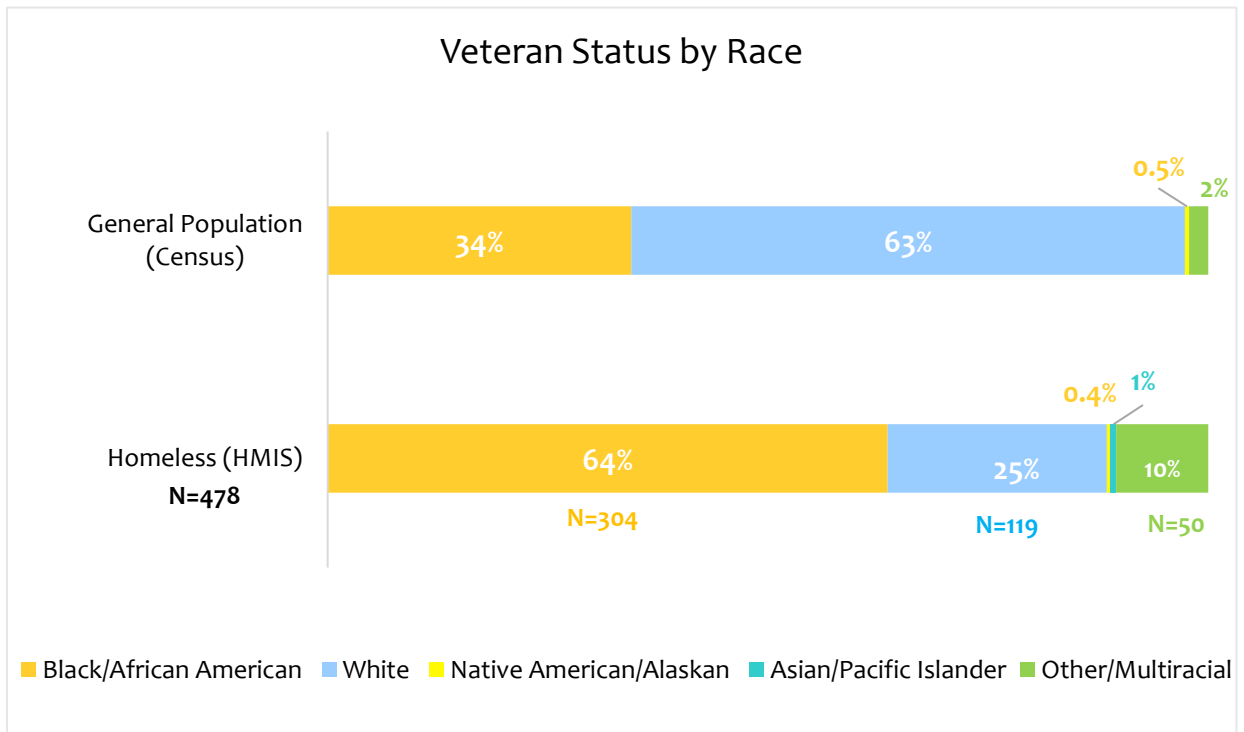


Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; 2020 PIT

GVPHC Veterans by Race

Veterans who are Black/African American are more likely to experience homelessness than other races. While Veterans comprise 34% of the GVPHC’s general population, they represent 64% of Veterans experiencing homelessness. By contrast, White Veterans represent 63% of the general population but just 25% of total Veterans experiencing homelessness.

Graph 5

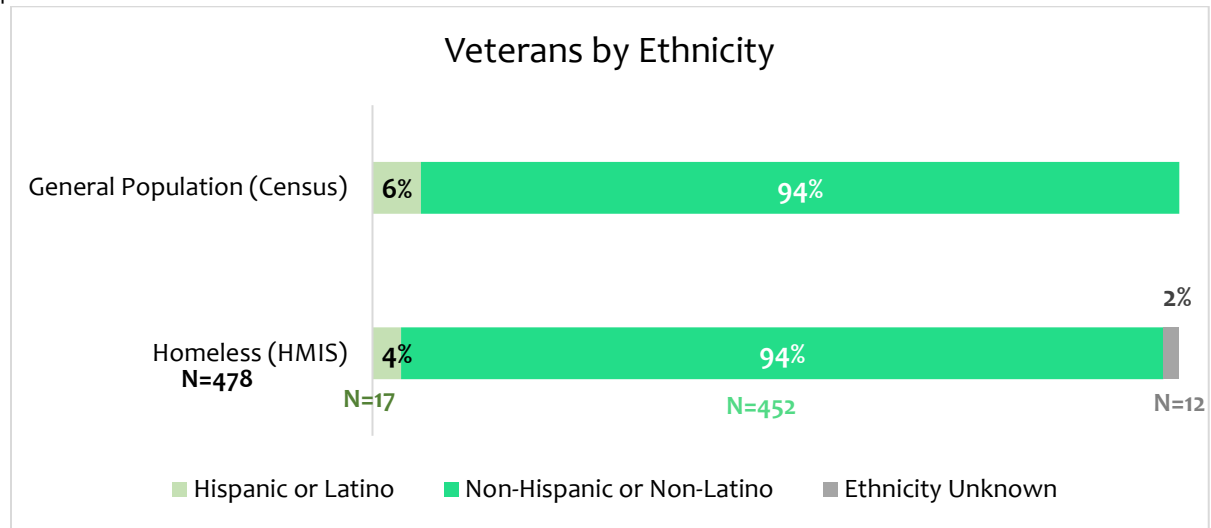


Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

GVPHC Veterans by Ethnicity

Compared to Hispanic or Latino Veterans in the general population (6%), just 4% experienced homelessness.

Graph 6



Source: US Census, 2013-2017 5-Year Estimates; HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

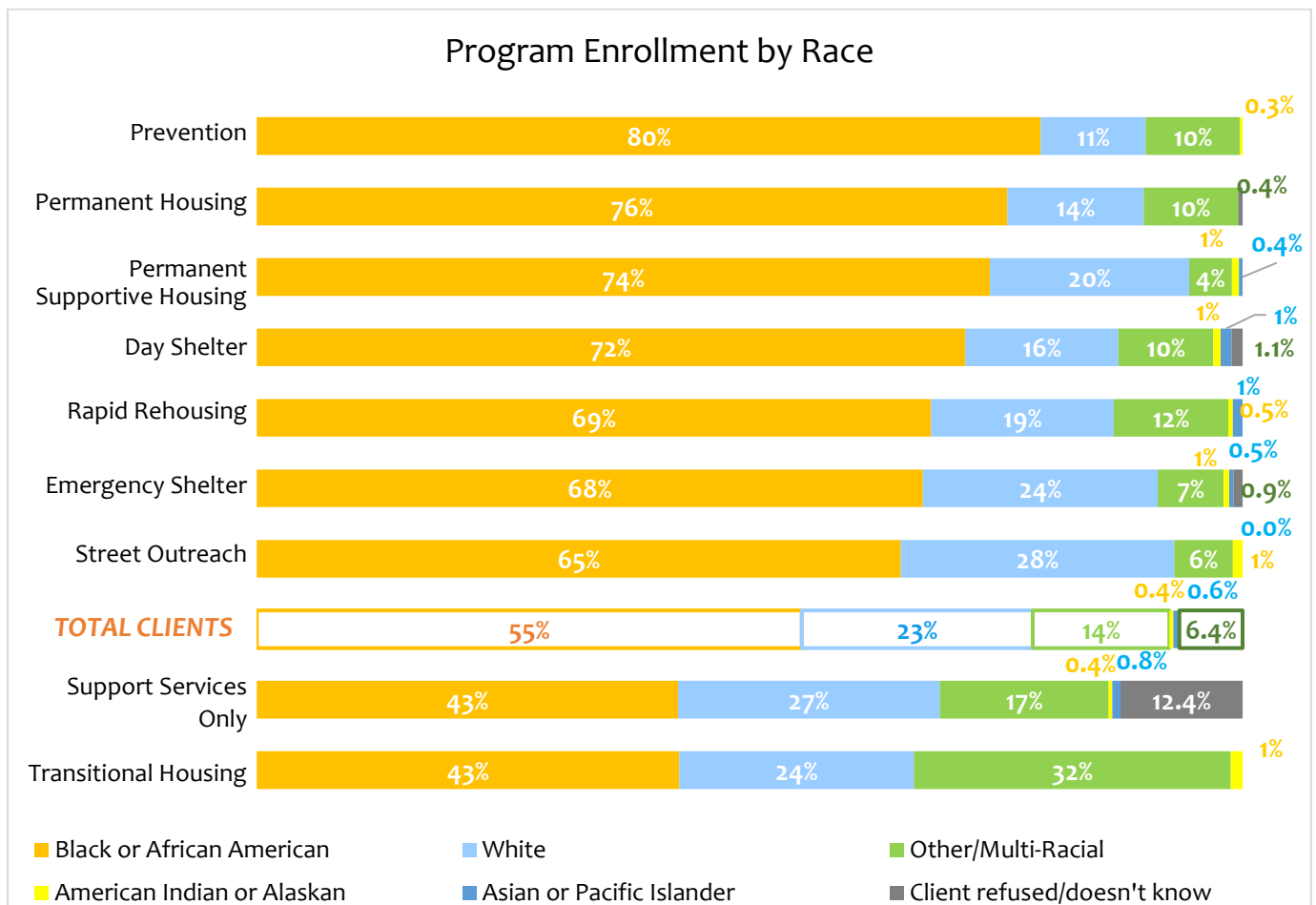
GVPHC Annual Program Enrollment by Race

To compare the percent of clients in each program, the total percentage of clients by race is indicated in the Total Clients bar in the graph below.

Black/African American clients comprised 80% of those in Prevention, which may indicate a higher rate of eviction, job loss and other risks for homelessness within the community. Whites comprised just 11% of Prevention, possibly indicating lower risks for homelessness within the community.

Black/African American clients are also more highly represented in Permanent Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Day Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, and Street Outreach programs. Black/African American clients are slightly less represented in Support Services Only programs (43%) as well as Transitional Housing (43%).

Graph 7



Source: HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

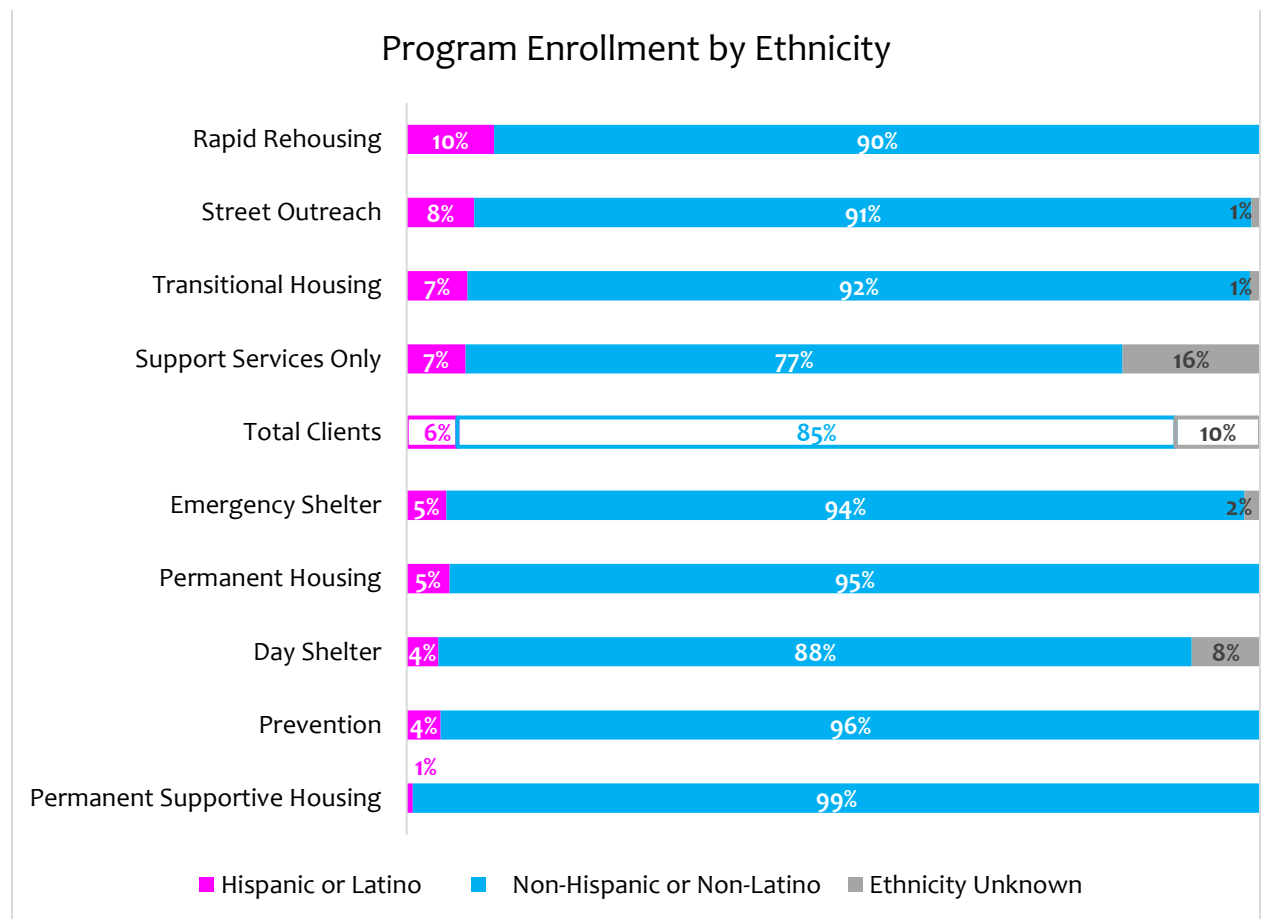
GVPHC Annual Program Enrollment by Ethnicity

To compare the percent of clients in each program, the total percentage of clients by ethnicity is indicated in the Total Clients bar in the graph below.

Compared to 6% of the Hispanic or Latino clients experiencing homelessness in GVPHC, 10% were enrolled in Rapid Rehousing, 8% in Street Outreach, and 7% each in Transitional Housing and Support Services Only.

However, just 1% of Permanent Supportive Housing clients were Hispanic or Latino (2 persons), and 5% of other Permanent Housing were Hispanic or Latino (12 persons). Lower enrollment in permanent housing may indicate an area for further exploration.

Graph 8



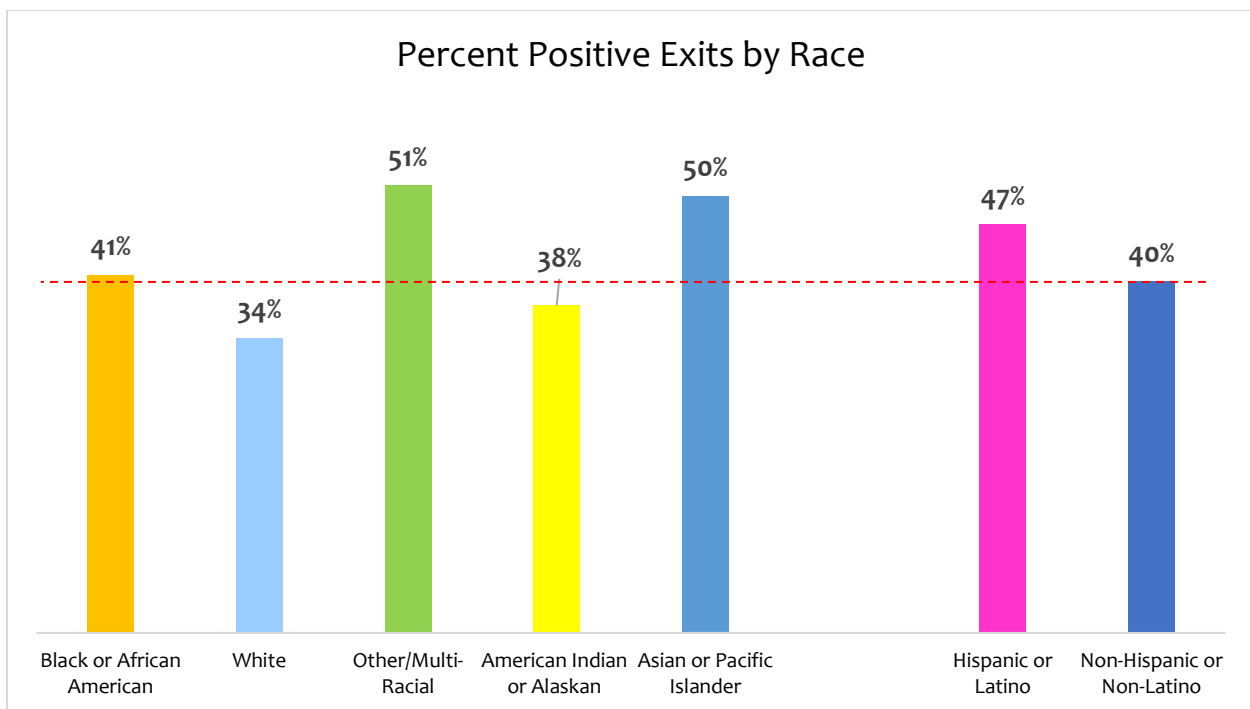
Source: HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations by Race and Ethnicity

Among all clients exiting from Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, any Permanent Housing or Rapid Rehousing during the program year, 40% exited to a permanent housing destination. White clients had the lowest positive exit outcome at 34%, while between 38% to 51% of persons of color (clients who identified as Black/African American, Multi-racial, American Indian, or Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander) had positive exits.

Hispanic or Latino clients had better exit outcomes (47%) than non-Hispanic or non-Latino clients (40%).

Graph 9

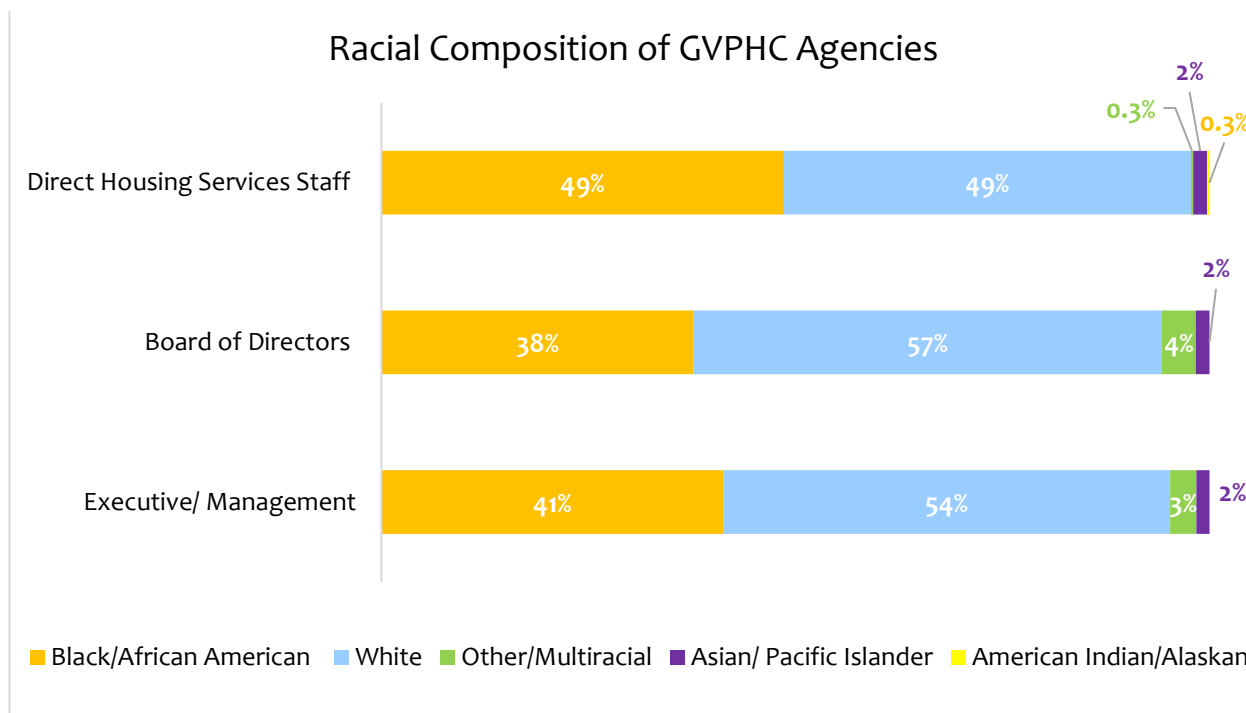


Source: HMIS Custom Report, October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

Racial Composition of GVPHC Partner Agencies

This is the second year that the GVPHC agencies have tracked the racial composition of staff, management, and their Board of Directors. Compared to the 55% of clients who are Black/African American, GVPHC agencies are represented by 49% direct housing staff, 38% Board of Directors, and 41% management. The GVPHC continues to strive to include agencies that represent the clients they serve.

Graph 10

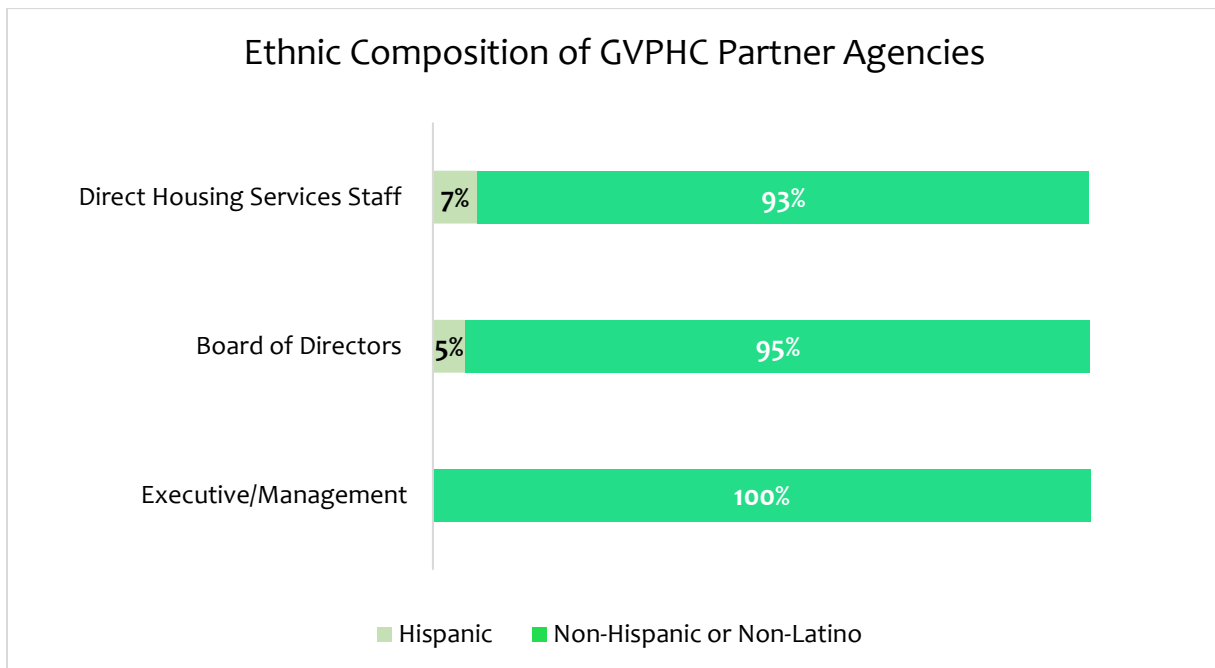


GVPHC member agencies included in the graphs above: Hampton Department of Human Services, Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board, James City County Rapid Response Team, LGBT Life Center, LINK of Hampton Roads, Menchville House Ministries, Newport News Department of Human Services, The Salvation Army-Peninsula, The Salvation Army-Williamsburg, Transitions, Warwick SRO, Williamsburg House of Mercy and The Planning Council.

Ethnic Composition of GVPHC Partner Agencies

GVPHC agencies seem to reflect the ethnicity of the clients they serve. Seven percent of direct housing staff are Hispanic or Latino compared to 6% of Hispanic or Latino clients. GVPHC agencies also reported that their Board of Directors are 5% Hispanic or Latino. There are currently no management who report being Hispanic or Latino.

Graph 11



GVPHC member agencies included in the graphs above: Hampton Department of Human Services, Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board, James City County Rapid Response Team, LGBT Life Center, LINK of Hampton Roads, Menchville House Ministries, Newport News Department of Human Services, The Salvation Army-Peninsula, The Salvation Army-Williamsburg, Transitions, Warwick SRO, Williamsburg House of Mercy and The Planning Council.