



SAN DIEGO
Regional Task Force
on Homelessness

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RTFH Unveils New Monthly Data Report to Better Track Homelessness Across our Region

The new monthly report shows the number of people entering and exiting homelessness along with additional detailed information

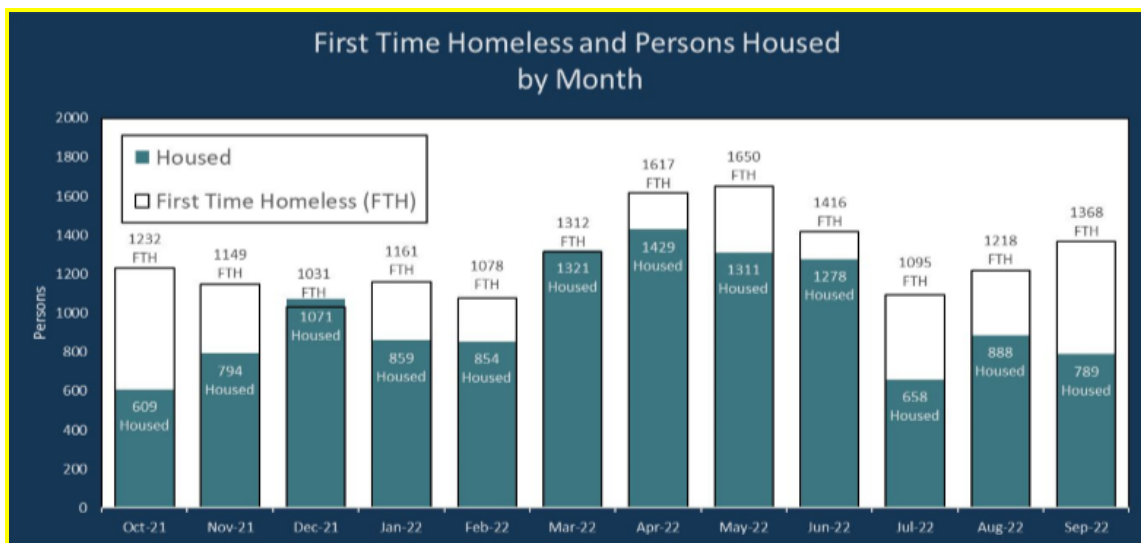
SAN DIEGO (October 25th, 2022) – To provide the San Diego region with a better understanding of the homelessness crisis, The Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) has begun publishing a new report that highlights how many people enter and exit homelessness each month throughout San Diego County.

“RTFH felt it was vital for everyone to better understand that homelessness in San Diego is not a static problem but a constant churn,” RTFH CEO Tamera Kohler said. **“While homelessness ends every day for some people, we’re seeing too many people become homeless, overwhelming an already taxed system.”**

RTFH’s data team has compiled this first-of-its-kind monthly data report with the help of homeless service providers from across the region. This initial release of data is broken down over the past 12 months. Moving forward, RTFH will update these statistics each month [on its homepage](#). On average, over the last 12 months, 10 people found housing for every 13 people who experienced homelessness for the first time.

In two of the last 12 months, according to the newly released data, our region saw more San Diegans exiting the system than becoming homeless. The other 10 months saw more people become homeless than exit the system.

“As a region, we must get to a place where more people are consistently connected to housing and services than becoming homeless,” Kohler said. **“Only then will we see real progress toward our goal of creating a robust system over the next five years that permanently changes homelessness – so it becomes a brief and rare occurrence and not a prolonged situation.”**



“This new report clearly and succinctly shows the challenges we face,” RTFH Board Chair Ray Ellis said. **“We are making progress every day, in spite of tough circumstances. It’s clear from this just how much we need more affordable housing options across our region to change the trajectory of these numbers.”**

Elected officials welcomed the new monthly report, acknowledging that it will draw a clearer picture for decision-makers and the community as they work toward finding permanent solutions for the most vulnerable San Diegans.

“The monthly report is a useful tool to measure progress in getting people off the streets and into housing,” Nathan Fletcher, Chair of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, said. **“While I am encouraged that so many people are going through regional programs to be housed; we still have too many people on the streets. We are**

committed to continuing our work with RTFH, service providers, and the 18 incorporated cities to do everything we can to slow the rate of homelessness in our communities.”

“This new data gives us more clarity on the challenge we are facing: While our system of getting people off the streets and into housing is working, it’s being undermined by larger forces that are causing a greater number of people to fall into homelessness, such as a lack of affordable housing and broken mental health and social safety net systems,” San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria said. “We as a city, region, state, and nation have a shared responsibility to work together to expand our response efforts to include the upstream causes of homelessness and fully commit to programs that keep families and individuals in their homes.”

“The numbers presented in this report confirm why — despite incredible efforts to house those who are experiencing homelessness — we continue to slip backward in the battle to solve our homelessness crisis,” San Diego Council President Sean Elo-Rivera said. “We must take urgent action to prevent people from falling into homelessness with greater tenant protections, rental support, or any other programs that prevent people from being forced to live on the streets.”

Due to the nature of how the new monthly data is collected, these reports will consistently provide a regional update on those entering and exiting homelessness. This report is not broken down by municipality but instead provides a regional outlook.

This report also creates more opportunities to measure the progress of the [Regional Community Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in San Diego](#),

“We are adding an additional layer of accountability,” CoC Advisory Board Chair Sean Spear said. “With a spotlight on seniors, families, transitional-aged youth, and veterans, the monthly reports will inform the work RTFH’s Continuum of Care does to meet the objectives outlined in the Regional Plan.”

The Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) has evolved from an initial Mayor’s Task Force nearly 40 years ago to the robust organization that it is today with an integrated array of stakeholders committed to preventing and alleviating homelessness in San Diego. We provide essential data and insights on the issue of homelessness, informing policy and driving system design, performance and solutions.

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