# Home After Incarceration: A Reentry Housing System Assessment in North Carolina

July 24, 2025

North Carolina's Reentry 2030 initiative is leading the way in reentry nationwide.

"This executive order directs a whole of government approach to improve reentry services, strengthen our economy, make communities safter, and give people the second chance they deserve." —Governor Roy Cooper
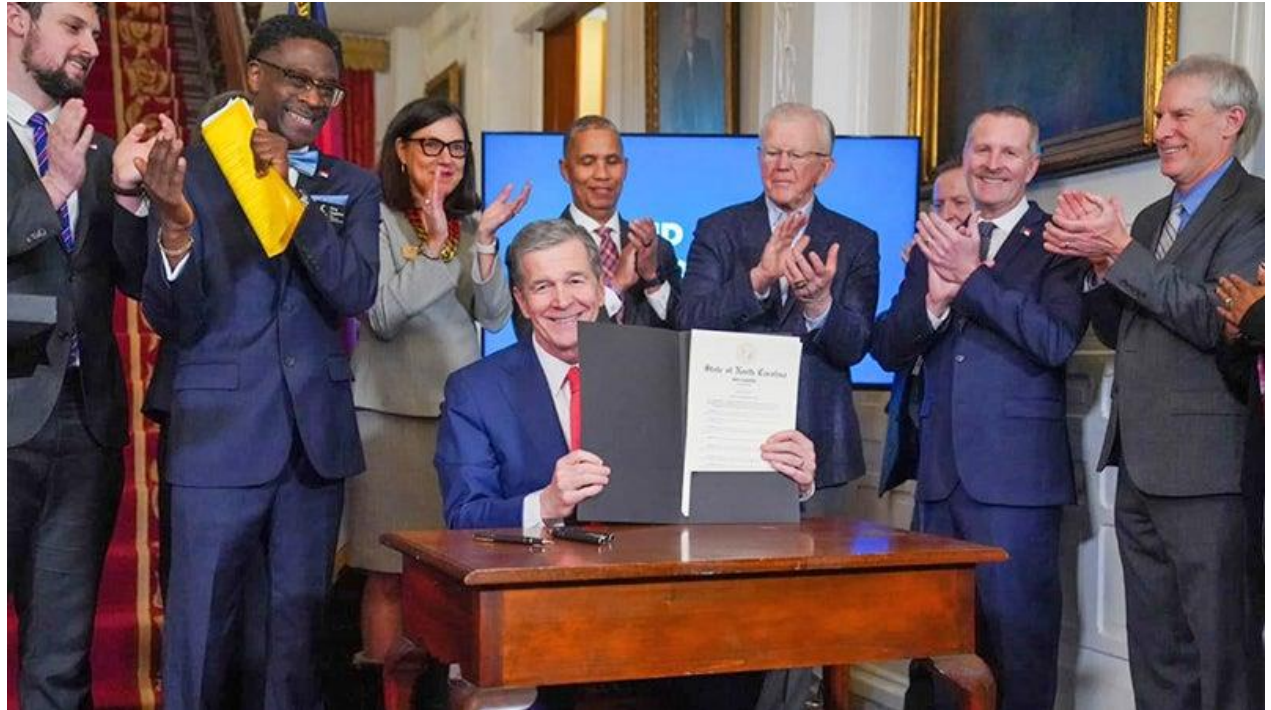
We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

A team of CSG Justice Center staff supported the North Carolina Housing System Assessment.

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Methodology

Our assessment included a mix of qualitative and quantitative analysis.

CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH STATE AND LOCAL LEADERS

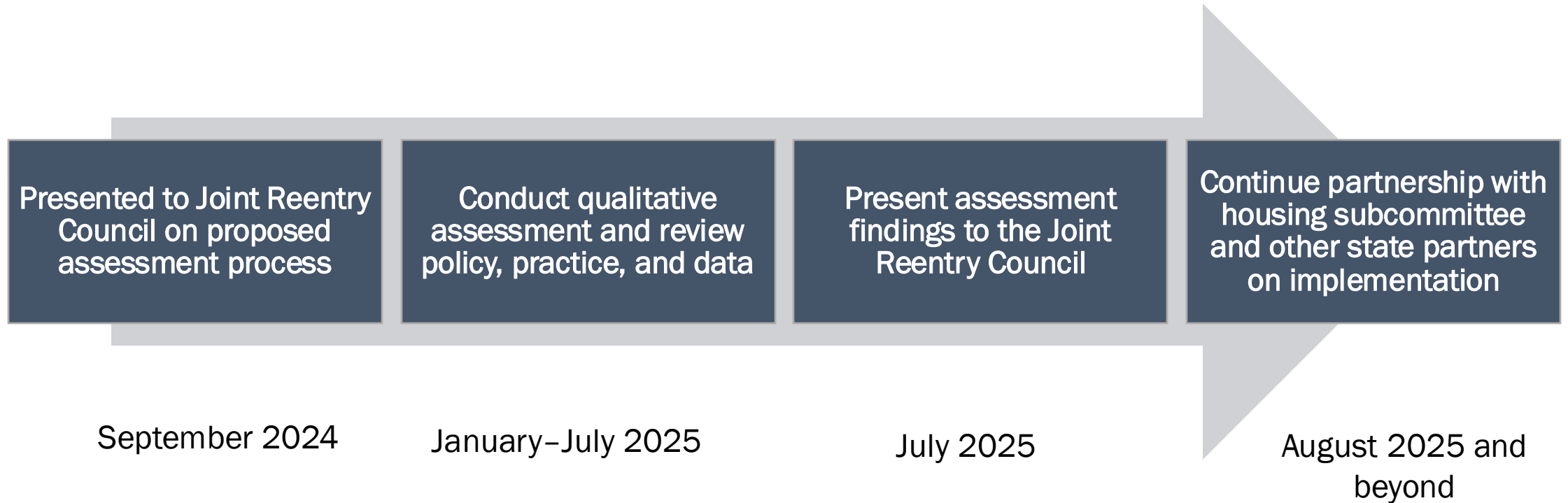EXAMINED PROGRAM AND AGENCY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

FACILITATED LISTENING SESSIONS WITH PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE AND CORRECTIONS STAFF

ANALYZED PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DATA AND DAC AGGREGATE DATA

The assessment was conducted over a six-month period.

Presented to Joint Reentry Council on proposed assessment process	Conduct qualitative assessment and review policy, practice, and data	Present assessment findings to the Joint Reentry Council	Continue partnership with housing subcommittee and other state partners on implementation
September 2024	January–July 2025	July 2025	August 2025 and beyond

Key findings presented today are based on interviews and listening sessions with hundreds of stakeholders across North Carolina.

DAC Administrators and Reentry Staff	People with Lived Experience	State Agency Leaders	Transitional Housing Providers
Local Reentry Councils	Reentry Service Organizations and Providers	Continuum of Care (CoC)	Public Housing Authorities
Prison Case Managers and Social Workers	Community Supervision Officers	JRC Housing Subcommittee	Advocacy Organizations

Key findings are also informed by analysis of data from multiple sources, with opportunities to expand and review additional data in the future.

Data Source	Description
DAC Data Pull for CSG Justice Center	Releases to homelessness, contracted transitional housing participants, LRC housing services
DAC Publicly Available Statistical Reports	Annual statistical reports and research bulletins, ASQ
NCHFA	NCHFA tabulation of HUD and Census data; LIPP Final Report
HUD and Census	Point-in-time count; affordable and subsidized housing inventories, rent burden
Qualitative data collection	Semi-structured interviews with data/research staff from DAC

Note: For the purpose of this assessment, DAC defines a release to homelessness as a release with no verified home plan; self-reported homelessness, or releases to an intersection address; shelter; treatment facility; or transitional housing program.

Multiple data analysis limitations impact the collection and reporting of housing and homelessness information.

- It's difficult to accurately track people releasing to homelessness from state prisons due to current data collection practices with information contained in text fields without a homelessness identifier.

- There is not an agreed-upon definition of homelessness, leading to different data reporting on people released to homelessness.

- Subpopulation definitions may be tracked internally but are not necessarily consistent across state agencies and with community providers.

- The ways people experience homelessness are not linear or uniform, which creates challenges for accurately capturing and reporting on homelessness and housing instability during reentry.

Key Findings and Opportunities

Key Finding 1:

Current data collection and reporting finds a high number of people returning to homelessness. Data gaps make it challenging to fully understanding their housing needs, which inhibits North Carolina's ability to make data-driven decisions.

North Carolina has robust data collection efforts and a strong statewide data system that allows for cross-system coordination.

The Department of Adult Correction collects a wealth of data on people's experiences of homelessness returning from incarceration and in reentry.

Homelessness Continuums of Care (1) collect single-night estimates of the total homelessness population and (2) track referrals and prioritization in Homelessness Management Information Systems (HMIS).

NC Health Connex is a data sharing system that allows providers to record and share health and social care information about people in the state.

People returning to homelessness from DAC are doing so amid a statewide rise in homelessness in North Carolina.

11,600 North Carolinians experience homelessness on a given night, including 688 veterans.

4,523 people experience unsheltered homelessness on a given night, making up 39 percent of the population experiencing homelessness.

This is a 19.2 percent increase from 2023.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, *The 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress* (Washington, DC: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, December 2024), https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2024-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

Definition(s) of Homelessness

Point-in-Time
People experiencing sheltered and street homelessness on a single night

Prioritization
"Chronic homelessness" (highest prioritization) excludes people incarcerated for more than 90 days

"At-risk" includes people leaving prison

There are deep disparities in homelessness and housing for Black North Carolinians.

Percentage of People Experiencing Homelessness, by Race, and Total North Carolina Population, by Race

Black ■ Other ■
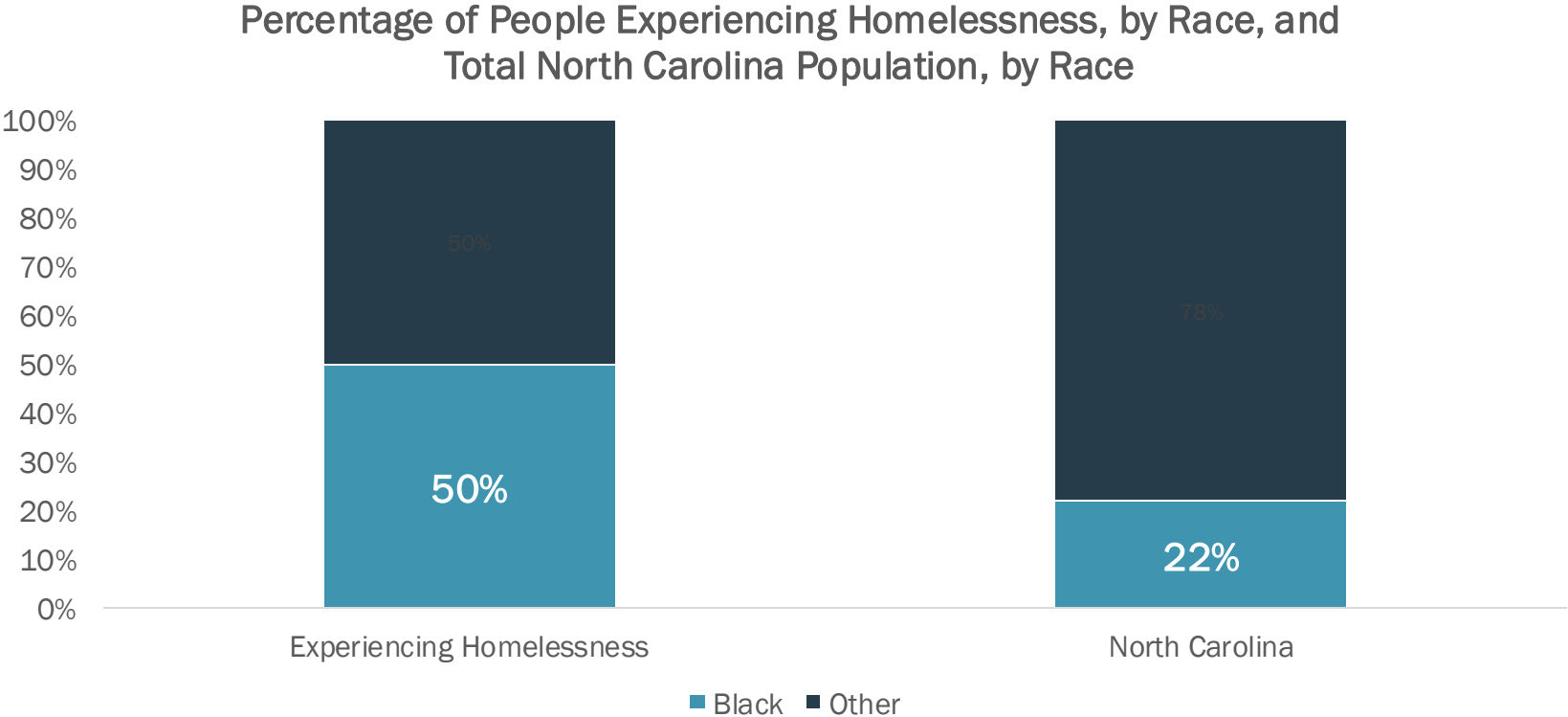
Erin Joy Crossfield, "Newly Released Data Shows Homelessness in North Carolina and Nation is Trending Upward," *North Carolina Housing Finance Agency,*, January 21, 2025, https://www.nchfa.com/news/policy-matters-blog/newly-released-data-shows-homelessness-north-carolina-and-nation-trending-upward.

More than 1 in 4 releases were to homelessness in 2024.

Releases with a Home Plan: **72%**

Expired Sentence	4,916
Release to Supervision	14,774
Total	19,690

Releases **identified as homeless: 28%**

Expired Sentence	963
Release to Supervision	4,647
Total	5,610

Definition of Homelessness

- No verified home plan
- Self-report of homelessness or intersection address*
- Shelter
- Temporary housing placement (transitional housing or treatment program)

Note: Individuals may be included in the release count multiple times because an individual can be released from DAC more than once in a year. Releases included Expired Sentences and Releases to Community Supervision.

Data Source for Total Releases (N=19,690): North Carolina Department of Adult Correction, Automated System Query (ASQ) 3.0b, Custom Offender Reports, https://webapps.doc.state.nc.us/apps/asqExt/ASQ. Selection Criteria: Prison Exits 1-1-2024 thru 12-31-2024 [Type of Exit - Expired; Releases to Supervision].

Data Source for Releases without a Home Plan: Unique data pull from DAC.

*Intersection address: A location listed as a street corner or cross-streets (like "Main St & 1st Ave") instead of a home or shelter address. This typically means a person does not have a verifiable place to live and is likely staying on the street or in an unsheltered location.

Most people released to homelessness are released on community supervision.
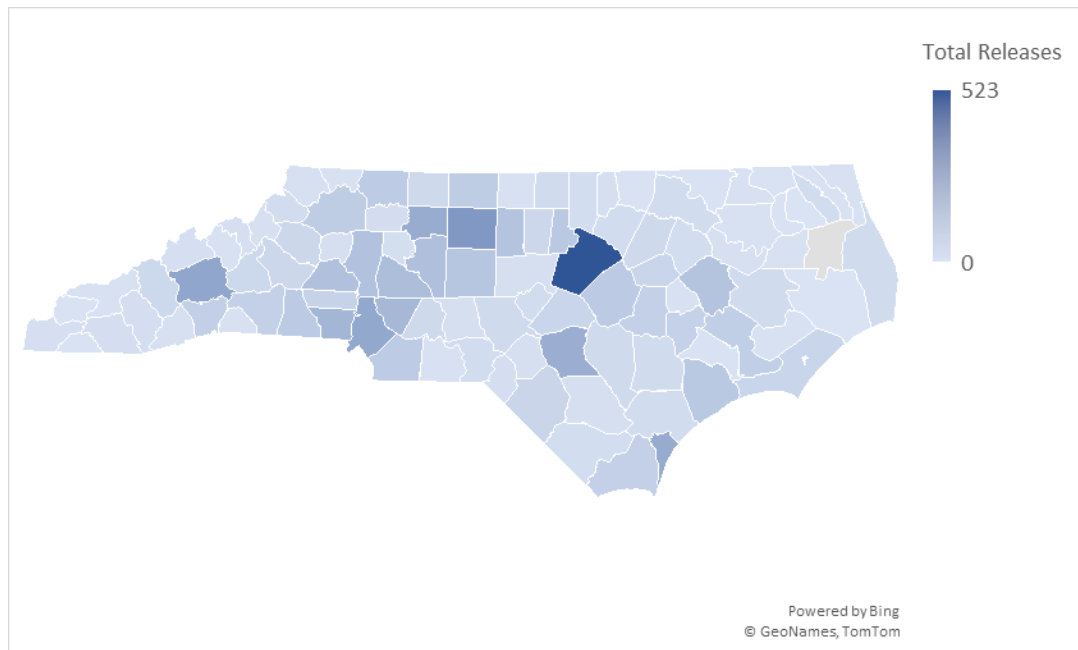
83 percent of **all releases identified as homeless** are released to community supervision.

Of the **4,647 releases** to community supervision identified as homeless, **4,424 (95 percent) were released to the street (not a shelter, treatment program, or temporary housing).**

In 2024, **951 individuals were served by contracted housing** vendors.

# Most releases to homelessness are to metropolitan areas across the state.

Releases Identified as Homeless, 2024

County	Releases Identified as Homeless
Wake	523
Guilford	275
Buncombe	223
Mecklenburg	217
New Hanover	206
Forsyth	204
Cumberland	194
Gaston	164
Cabarrus	157

The rates of releases vary across the state, regardless of geography and population.

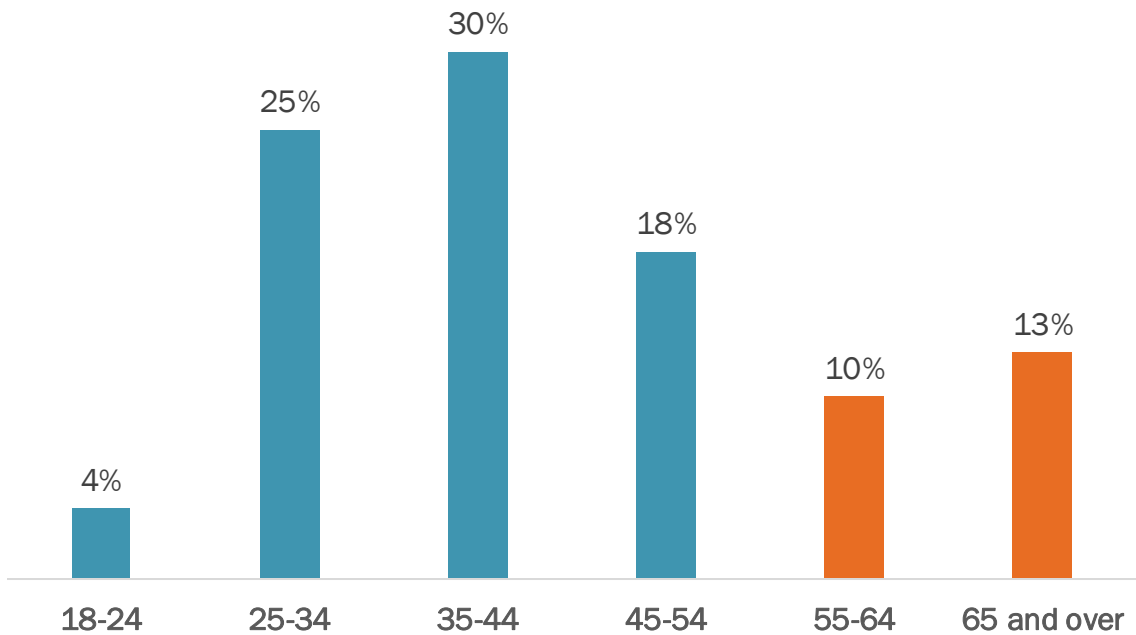## Rate of Releases Identified as Homeless, 2024
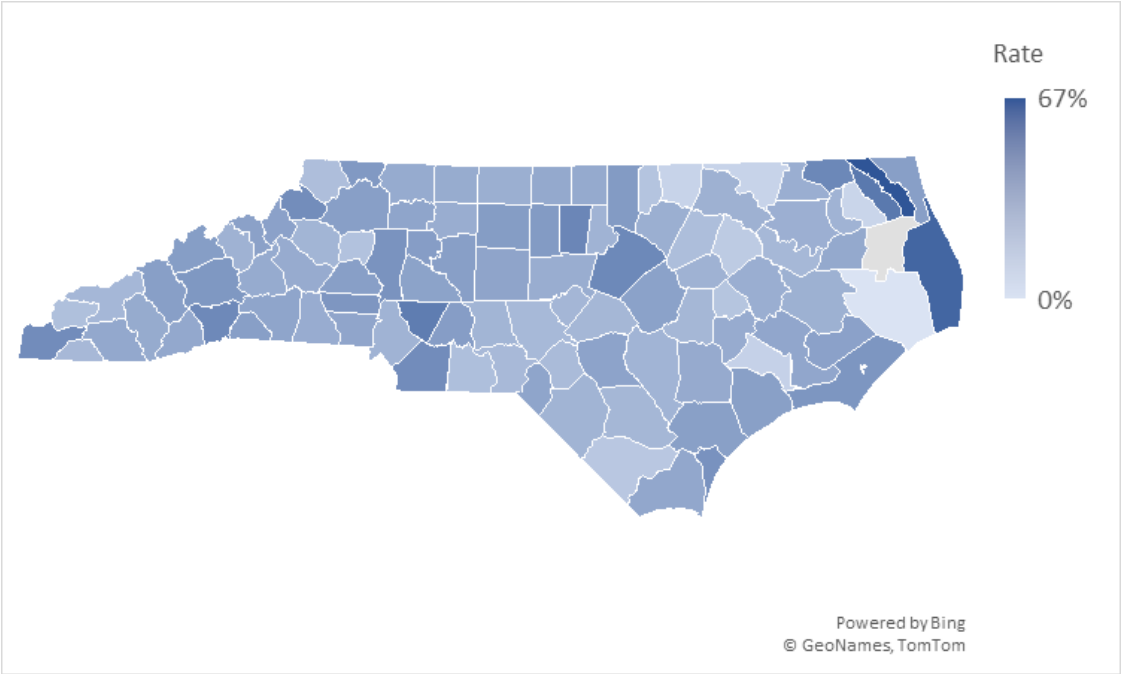
Homeless release rate= number of releases identified as homeless/total prisons releases.

Note: Counties were excluded from the "highest rate of homeless releases" table if there were fewer than 10 prison exits to that county in 2024.

County	Rate of Releases Identified as Homeless
Dare	59%
Pasquotank	50%
Cabarrus	48%
Orange	43%
Wake	42%
Henderson	42%
Union	41%
Watauga	40%
New Hanover	38%

Nearly 1 in 4 releases identified as homeless are age 55 or older.

Age Distribution of Releases Identified as Homeless, 2024

Only 10 percent of all prison exits in 2024 were 55 or older compared to 23 percent of releases identified as homeless.

Data Source for Total Releases (N=19,690): North Carolina Department of Adult Correction, Automated System Query (ASQ) 3.0b, Custom Offender Reports, https://webapps.doc.state.nc.us/apps/asqExt/ASQ. Selection Criteria: Prison Exits 1-1-2024 thru 12-31-2024 [Type of Exit - Expired; Releases to Supervision].

Data Source for Releases without a Home Plan: Unique data pull from DAC.

More than 1 in 5 releases identified as homeless in 2024 had a current or previous sex offense.

Total releases identified as homeless: 5,610

With a sex offense: 1,224 (**22%**)

Registerable sex offense: 874 (71% of sex offense releases)

Note: ALL offenses were counted per "same conviction date." Offenses include both primary and all offenses consolidated for judgment.

*Sex offender Includes offenders registered as current Sex Offender/Sex Predator, Amy J. child molester, Amy J. sex offender, *Sex offense may not not be connected to offender's 2024 prison sentence/release.

*Once an individual is incarcerated, DAC attaches a sex offender code if the individual qualifies under any of the following categories: Current Amy J. Child Molester; Current Amy J. Sex Offender; Registered Sex Offender; Current Sex Offender; Current Sex Predator; Sex Offense Conviction; Sex Predator Conviction; Sex Offense Arrest; Previous Sex Offense Conviction.

Registerable categories include Current AmyJ. Child Molester; Current Amy J. Sex Offender; Registered Sex Offender; Current Sex Predator; Sex Predator Conviction.

Hispanic releases were 22 percent more likely to be released to homelessness than White releases.

	Releases Identified as Homeless	All Releases	Rate of Release Identified as Homeless	RRI	Interpretation
White, non-Hispanic	2,946	9,901	30%	1.00	reference group
Black, non-Hispanic	2,169	8,299	26%	0.88	12% lower rate
Hispanic	328	906	36%	1.22	22% higher rate
Asian, non-Hispanic	17	54	31%	1.06	6% higher rate
American Indian, non-Hispanic	99	352	28%	0.95	5% lower rate
Other/Unknown	51	178	29%	0.96	4% lower rate

Data gaps impact the state's ability to understand the service needs of people being released to homelessness.

- Context is missing on why people are releasing to homelessness and what services would be needed to help them return to family or other support.

- The way DAC defines and collects SMI/SUD need varies from other state agencies, creating a gap in connecting to services.

- There are limitations in aggregate data analysis to understand the relationship between people released multiple times to homelessness and recidivism.

- Homelessness Continuums of Care do not necessarily collect community supervision data.

Lack of data sharing between systems on homelessness and housing needs makes needs-based housing placements in discharge planning difficult.

- CoCs are often hesitant to share client data due to strict data governance policies, creating information silos that obstruct a clear understanding of system-wide needs and outcomes.

- Multiple and uncoordinated HMIS platforms exacerbate the fragmentation of information and duplication of data entry.

- Without shared data, there is a gap in discovering available beds, services, or funding options across jurisdictions, leaving people without timely housing placements.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

20.1 – DAC will collaborate with the ICCHP to track the number of reentrants in the Homeless Management Information System six- and twelve-months following release.

20.4 – DAC will establish a consistent housing/homelessness risk assessment for use by housing specialists.

There are opportunities to better identify the population returning to homelessness by integrating homelessness flags and questions about justice system involvement into workflows.

1. Simple, mandatory checkboxes as part of the Home Plan assessment to denote when a person will be released to homelessness can help ease data collection and reporting.

2. Point-in-time counts can include questions about community supervision to inform system planning.

3. State agencies can build on DAC's data to identify a shared population for common goals and system planning/scaling.

REENTRY 2030

Key Finding 2:

While the state has employed some effective strategies to better connect individuals to housing resources, the scale and reach is insufficient.

Promising small-scale housing initiatives across the state and referral systems are demonstrating impactful support.

"If I didn't come here, I would've ended up back in prison."
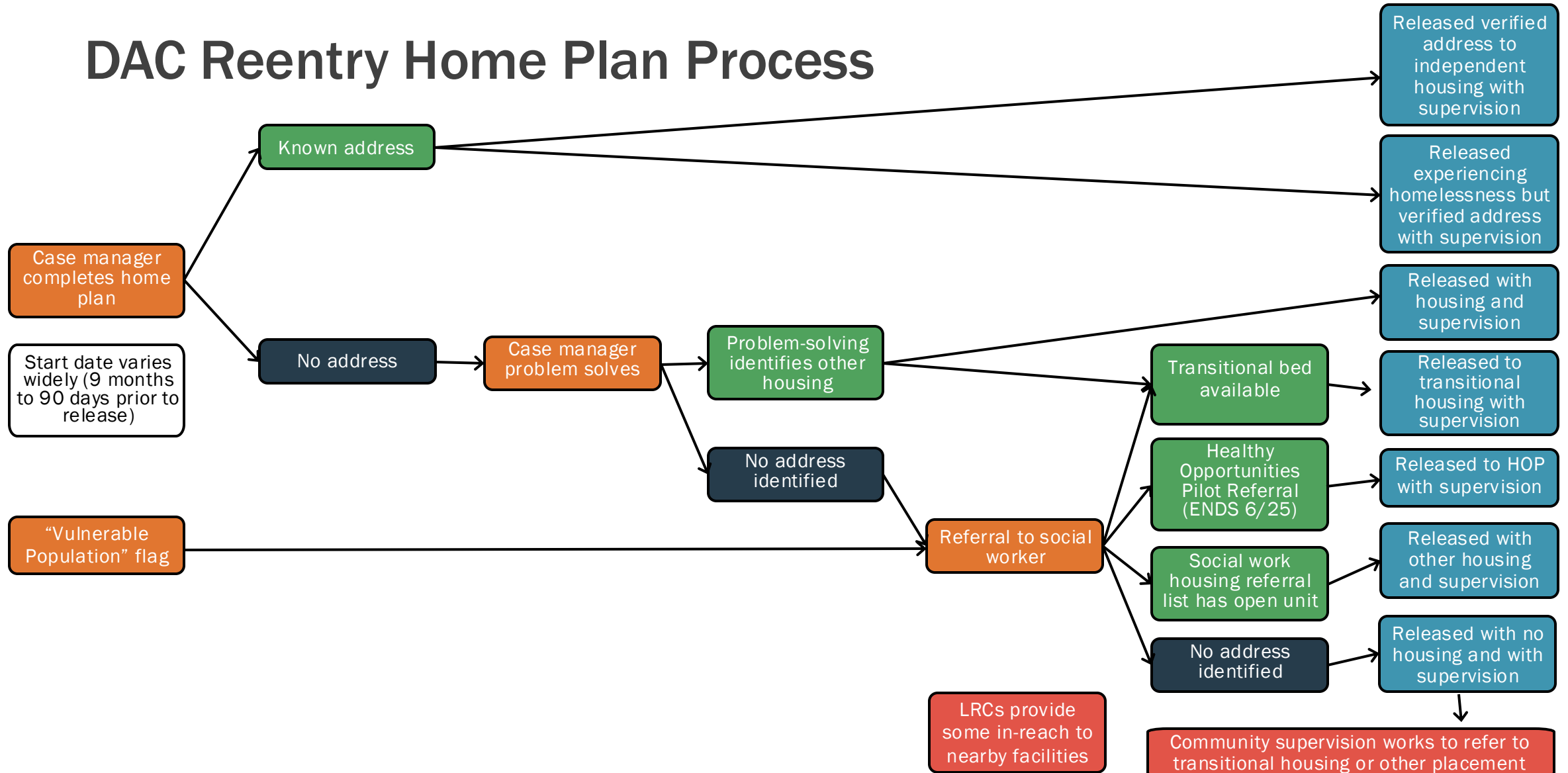
—DAC transitional housing program resident

Transitional housing is well regarded by residents and cited nationally as an emerging practice.

Local reentry councils provide rental assistance and housing navigation resources in the communities where people are returning.

MeckFUSE supports people cycling between jails and homelessness with permanent supportive housing in Mecklenburg County.

Numerous reentry housing resource guides, affordable housing resources, and referral systems, such as the Recidivism Reduction Hotline, NC Housing Search, and NC Cares360 serve as strong resource lists.

DAC Reentry Home Plan Process

Case manager completes home plan
- → Known address
  - → Released verified address to independent housing with supervision
  - → Released experiencing homelessness but verified address with supervision
- → No address → **Case manager problem solves**
  - → Problem-solving identifies other housing
    - → Released with housing and supervision
    - → Transitional bed available
  - → No address identified

Start date varies widely (9 months to 90 days prior to release)

"Vulnerable Population" flag → Referral to social worker
- → Transitional bed available → Released to transitional housing with supervision
- → Healthy Opportunities Pilot Referral (ENDS 6/25) → Released to HOP with supervision
- → Social work housing referral list has open unit → Released with other housing and supervision
- → No address identified → Released with no housing and with supervision
  - → Community supervision works to refer to transitional housing or other placement

LRCs provide some in-reach to nearby facilities

Challenges in reentry transition planning are leading to missing links in the housing reentry continuum.

- Staffing shortages exacerbate the already limited housing navigation supports inside corrections to help people find affordable and permanent supportive housing options, conduct outreach to landlords, complete housing applications, and secure rental assistance.

- People are being released without their vital documents, creating barriers to finding permanent housing. Transitional housing providers are currently filling the gap, but this process can take weeks or months to complete.

- Limited coordination between DAC staff with local reentry councils leads to missed opportunities.

- There is no regular connection to housing Continuum of Cares from incarceration as a formal homelessness response system resource.

"If people had home plans the case managers were on top of it, but if you didn't there was no help to make one."

—DAC transitional housing program resident

There are several formal collateral consequences that can also limit people's access to housing.

1. **Government program policy choices or requirements:** Exclude people convicted of certain offenses in their policies from accessing Continuums of Care, public housing, Section 8 vouchers, transitional housing programs, and specialized care homes.

2. **Landlord policy choices**: Evict people for arrest, conviction, or allowing someone with a criminal record to reside in their housing.

3. **Property management choices**: Deny people automatically during tenant screening for private housing based on any previous criminal history.

People with criminal histories face significant stigma that acts as an informal consequence to accessing housing.

Landlords

Hard to find landlords to accept housing vouchers

Stigma against people with criminal histories (compounded for people with mental health issues)
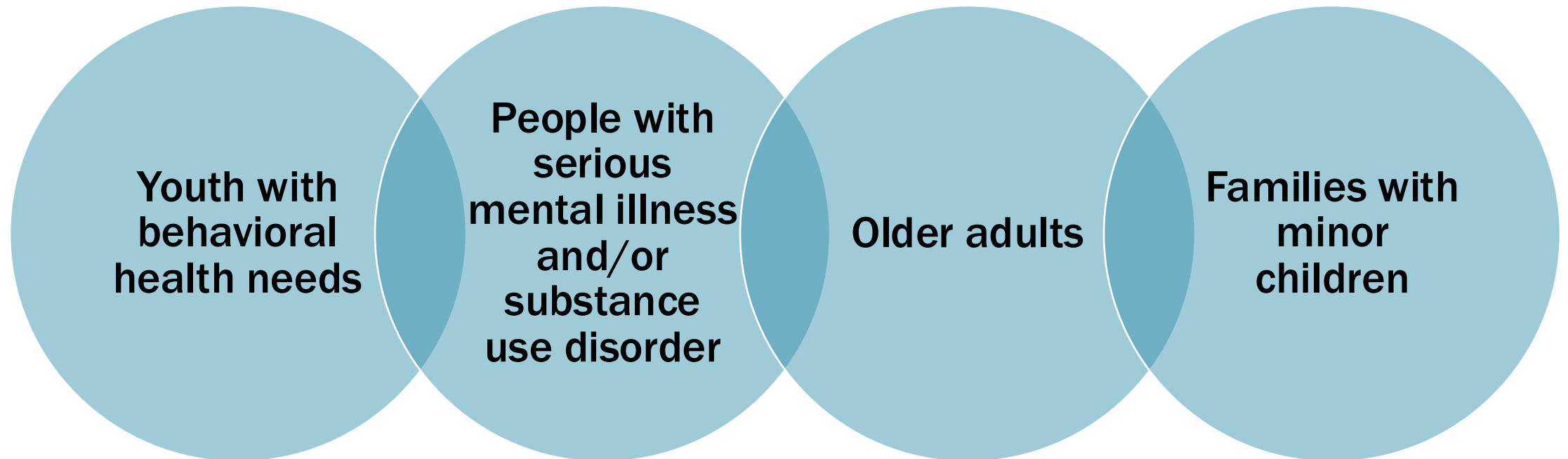
Prioritization

Reentry population not explicitly prioritized in current PSH options

Providers may decline to work with reentry population

These challenges disproportionately impact harder-to-house populations and provide limited opportunities for long-term housing success.

Youth with behavioral health needs

People with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder

Older adults

Families with minor children

Effectively reduce homelessness for people returning from prison through the Housing First approach.

Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods	Client-centered services ensure that choice is available for people with complex needs and ensures their successes in housing and programming.
Remove Barriers to Entry	Barriers to entry often prevent vulnerable people from accessing necessary services, e.g., credit history, criminal records, and active substance use.
Engage Landlords and Property Owners	Landlords and property owners are critical partners in allowing service providers to have housing options for quickly housing vulnerable individuals and families.
Use Data to Quickly and Stably House People Experiencing Homelessness	Tracking data illustrates key outcome measures, such as common technical violations related to housing, to improve system efficiency and quality.

"CoC Competition Focus: Housing First," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, August 2016, https://www.hudexchange.info/news/coc-competition-focus-housing-first/.
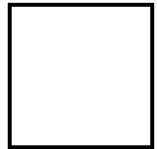
A full continuum of reentry housing model options meets people's income and service needs. There are gaps in North Carolina's state-wide continuum.
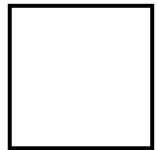
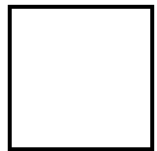- ☑ Jobs, public benefits, and other payments
- ☑ Transitional settings
- ☐ Rental assistance, affordable housing, and family reunification
- ☐ Rapid rehousing
- ☐ Permanent supportive housing

Transitional housing offers an intermediate step to bridge housing gaps and prevent homelessness; however, eligibility criteria and short duration of services limit the potential impact.

- DAC funds **188* transitional housing beds** across 9 transitional housing providers and offers structured programming to meet people's reentry needs and divert them from homelessness.

- However, short 90-day program duration impacts obtaining documentation, treatment access, employment, and the search for permanent housing. Most state-peer transitional housing programs have longer program participation times.

- **Strict eligibility criteria** limits people with serious mental illness, people with disabilities, or people with certain offenses (i.e., sex offense, arson) from participating.

Demand is higher than the current affordable housing inventory in North Carolina, and supply is uneven throughout the state.
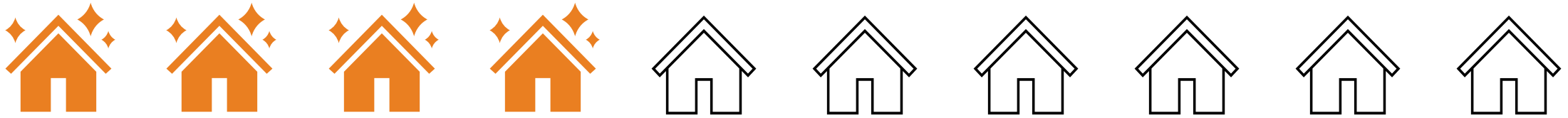
- **North Carolina only has enough affordable housing for 4 in 10** extremely low-income renters.[1]

- **73 percent** of extremely low-income renters are severely housing cost-burdened, spending more than 50 percent of their income on housing.[1]

- There are **117,000 units** of affordable housing between USDA rental assistance and public housing authorities. There are over 8,000 permanent supportive housing units across NC Continuums of Care including HUD-VASH for veterans.[2]

- Homeownership, when attainable, offers a barrier-free path to a home; 64.5 percent of North Carolinian households own their own home.[3]

1. National Low Income Housing Coalition, *The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Rental Homes* (Washington, DC: National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2025), https://reports.nlihc.org/gap
2. CSG Justice Center staff analysis of "Assisted Housing: National and Local," Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD, accessed April 3, 2025, https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/assthsg.html. "Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Data Dashboard," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, accessed June 26, 2025, https://www.hud.gov/helping-americans/public-indian-housing-hcv-dashboard.
3. U.S. Census Bureau, *Homeownership Rate for North Carolina* (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 2025), https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/NCHOWN?utm_source=chatgpt.com

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

10.3 – DAC and DIT will develop a centralized reentry resource platform to link resources across various topics, such as health, housing, and employment.

19.1 – DAC will collaborate with CSG Justice Center, the Interagency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs (ICCHP), and other agencies with housing programs to assess the statewide housing landscape by:

- Researching each county's existing housing resources.

- Assessing current cross-system partnerships and the current needs and gaps.

- Researching and identifying state and local city/county housing plans for affordable housing, including veteran-specific housing that could serve formerly incarcerated veterans.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

19.3 – DAC will collaborate with the ICCHP and other agencies with housing programs to explore the implementation and maintenance of an accessible and user-friendly online housing database or the addition of resources specific to previously incarcerated people to an existing database. This database will specify resources tailored to the elderly, disabled, or families. DAC will explore options for partnerships across agencies and opportunities to build on existing work.

20.2 – DAC will create 5 housing specialists to ensure every person in need of housing assistance prior to release has support in finding safe and stable housing in the community.

20.3 – DMVA will create 3 transition service coordinators who will assist with housing previously incarcerated veterans.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

20.5 – DAC will encourage use of the housing first model by:

- Training PPOs, case managers, housing specialists, and LRC staff on the Housing First model,

- In collaboration with justice system involved people, integrating the Housing First Model into DAC policies concerning housing, and

- Partnering with the ICCHP to engage community partners through provider education and training.

20.6 – DAC will collaborate with the NC Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA), PHAs, and private landlords/housing providers to educate landlords on the reentry population and dispel myths that they make bad tenants.

20.9 – DMVA will provide family benefits education to incarcerated veterans' families.

20.10 – DAC will advocate to COCs, the NCHFA, and other housing agencies for the prioritization of those who are justice system involved.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

20.12 – DMVA will bolster the relationships with housing providers utilizing HUD-VASH and GPD funding.

20.13 – DAC will collaborate with DHHS and housing providers to ensure that disabled or elderly reentrants have housing opportunities that fit their needs.

21.5 – DAC will develop a process to quickly identify, assess, refer, and connect people in crisis to housing and assistance through LRCs.

21.6 – DAC will partner with housing providers across the state to align programs in providing increased services.

22.1 – DAC and DMVA will create a statewide program to connect incarcerated military veterans to reentry support services for housing before and upon release.

There are opportunities to address collateral consequences through proven interventions.

Landlords

Education

Recruitment

Financial Incentives

Prioritization

Community supervision and Continuum of Care Cross-Training

Housing First Training

In-reach can be strengthened and expanded to fill the gap in current reentry housing navigation and support.

Cross-System Partners

- Other state agencies
- Providers funded by state agencies
- Local reentry councils
- Community-based organizations

Key Finding 3:

While North Carolina has strong statewide and local collaboratives that are committed to improving access to safe and stable housing, systems are siloed.

Individual state agencies are assessing their internal policies and practices to better help justice-impacted people access housing.

DAC	DHHS	NCHFA
DAC is working on integrating the Housing First Model into DAC housing policies.	DHHS is working on expanding the capacity of housing programs to serve people with SMI/SUD by funding additional beds, staffing, and treatment services.	NCHFA is working on reviewing the tenant selection process for tax credit properties and educating landlords to ensure past criminal history does not dictate access to housing.

REENTRY 2030

Strong partnerships exist at the state and local levels to address housing. However, systems are siloed with limited coordination and lack of a shared strategy.

	Reentry	Housing
State	The **Reentry 2030 Joint Reentry Council** has goals to reduce the number of people returning to homelessness and expand housing opportunities for people in reentry, with the housing subcommittee working on 24 strategies from the Strategic Plan.	The **Interagency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs** advises the governor and other state agencies on policies and practices to support people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.
Local	There are 31 **local reentry councils** serving 53 counties that provide a range of housing assistance and resources to justice-involved people.	There are 12 **Continuums of Care** representing 100 counties that provide funding and planning for homeless services and prevention efforts.

Lack of clarity on what success in housing means creates gaps in resources and missed opportunities for collaboration.

- There is no shared definition of homelessness and current definitions exclude people leaving incarceration from accessing homeless prevention services.

- Efforts are frequently duplicated because of unclear roles and a lack of formal agreements between key stakeholders outside of DAC's contracts with transitional housing providers.

- If success is defined as people finding permanent housing, there is currently no mechanism in place to determine whether this goal is met.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

S 1.5 – DAC will review and revise the LRC model to ensure all relevant agencies/ resources are represented and best practices are shared across the state.

S 19.2 – DAC will collaborate with the ICCHP to advocate for additional housing resources for previously incarcerated people. This will include:

- Developing a talking points template for outreach to housing partners on providing resources to previously incarcerated people,

- Identifying existing housing advocates and housing organizations.

- Requesting DAC representation on existing housing task forces and workgroups throughout the state.

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

S 20.8 – DAC and DMVA will develop a partnership with Federal/State/City/County governments to facilitate pathways to permanent housing and services for justice system involved people.

S 20.11 – DAC will review the DHHS Strategic Housing Plan and partner with its leaders to identify areas of overlap to reduce duplication of effort, align work, and partner to ensure inclusion of the needs of justice system involved people within the DHHS's plan's target population.

S 21.4 – DAC will establish partnerships with each county's COC to facilitate housing assistance and services for justice system involved people.

The JRC Housing Subcommittee presents an opportunity for two-way information exchanges by having the right stakeholders from reentry and housing systems represented.

North Carolina Cross-System Housing Partners

- DAC (referral lead: transitional housing)
- Contracted housing provider
- Homelessness response agency
- State/local housing agency
- NC HealthConnex (social care referral system)
- Community supervision
- County correctional agency
- Veterans affairs
- Local reentry council
- NC Medicaid/DHHS
- Champions
- Person with lived experience

Joint system terminology reviews can ensure alignment, identify where similar terms have system-specific meanings, and ultimately increase coordination across systems.

Groups to Host Terminology Reviews
- Joint Reentry Council
- Interagency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs
- Continuums of Care and Local Reentry Councils or Community Supervision Agencies
- State planning agencies

Key Finding 4:

There are insufficient resources to address the full needs of the reentry population, and more coordination is needed to leverage funding to develop and expand housing availability and accessibility.

Unique interventions exist in North Carolina to meet the needs of special populations that can be expanded to serve more people returning from incarceration.

Healthy Opportunities Pilot

- **Population**: People with two or more chronic conditions as well as parents reunifying
- **Opportunity**: Continued funding or lessons learned

Transitions to Community Living Initiative

- **Population**: People with disabilities
- **Opportunity**: Amend eligibility criteria to allow incarcerated people to start application process

Alliance of Disability Advocates Reentry Program

- **Population**: Incarcerated people with I/DD or TBI
- **Opportunity**: Continue and expand eligibility

Local Reentry Councils are positioned to solve housing challenges with flexible funding, and opportunities exist to strengthen their capacity.

Well-managed flexible funding comprises the following:

- Rental subsidies
- Flexible resources and dedicated staff to secure units
- Support services including case management and tenancy supports
- Administrative capacity to move quickly

LRCs are well positioned due to the following:

- Some LRCs (such as Piedmont Triad Regional Council) serve multiple roles such as CoC or PHAs
- Can braid or blend funding from multiple sources (federal, state, etc.)
- LRCs have local connections
- Brings together funding *and* leadership in one hub

North Carolina is not leveraging its wealth of data to make the business case to justify spending on reentry housing.

- **Total Need:** Data on intended population size, level of service needs

- **Estimated Costs:** (1) Consequences of the lack of appropriate services
                       (2) Cost of having appropriate services

- Investments impact:

  Reduce recidivism

  Investments cost less money/equal

  Decreases burden on public systems

North Carolina state funding plans do not always include prioritization of the reentry housing population.
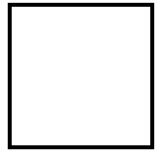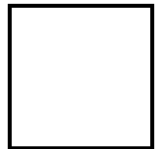
☐ Specific carve-out or scoring preferences in tax credit properties

☑ DAC and NCHFA collaboration on Consolidated Plan

☑ Statewide housing affordability plan includes reentry population

☐ State plans for PSH development (i.e., SHARP) include reentry population

These strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

1.1 – DAC will identify internal reoccurring funding for LRCs.

1.2 – DAC will collaborate with other Departments and sources such as philanthropic foundations and local governments to provide funding for LRCs.

1.3 – DAC will advocate for additional funding for LRCs from the General Assembly by providing evidence-based data and information of the benefits of LRCs to the State of North Carolina.

14.2 – Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval of the 1115 waiver renewal request, DHHS will work to expand the Healthy Opportunities Pilots statewide during the new waiver period. This will allow the state to further test and evaluate the impact of providing select evidence-based, non-medical interventions related to housing instability, transportation insecurity, food insecurity, and interpersonal safety.

These housing strategies in the Reentry 2030 Strategic Plan address these challenges.

STRATEGIES

20.7 – DAC will collaborate with the NCHFA and private landlords/housing providers to increase housing opportunities for justice system involved people.

21.1 – DAC will identify and support 10 new transitional housing programs by 2030.

21.2 – DAC will work with existing providers to expand programs through DAC grants and other funding.

21.3 – DAC will engage in broad-based work with affordable housing providers, including PHAs and private owners, to increase overall availability of units and vouchers and increase access to units and vouchers for the justice system involved population.

**22.2** – DAC and DMVA will create a veteran specific reentry peer support program.

Funding to Expand Transitional Housing to Serve More Individuals on Community Supervision

With $8 million ($8k per person over 90 days), **1,000 additional people** leaving prison could receive transitional housing including employment services, housing navigation, and group-based interventions.

Based on the average daily cost of community supervision programs for FY2023–2024 reported in the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction Annual Statistical Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The average daily cost per individual on community supervision for Treatment of Effective Community Supervision Transitional Housing is $89.86.
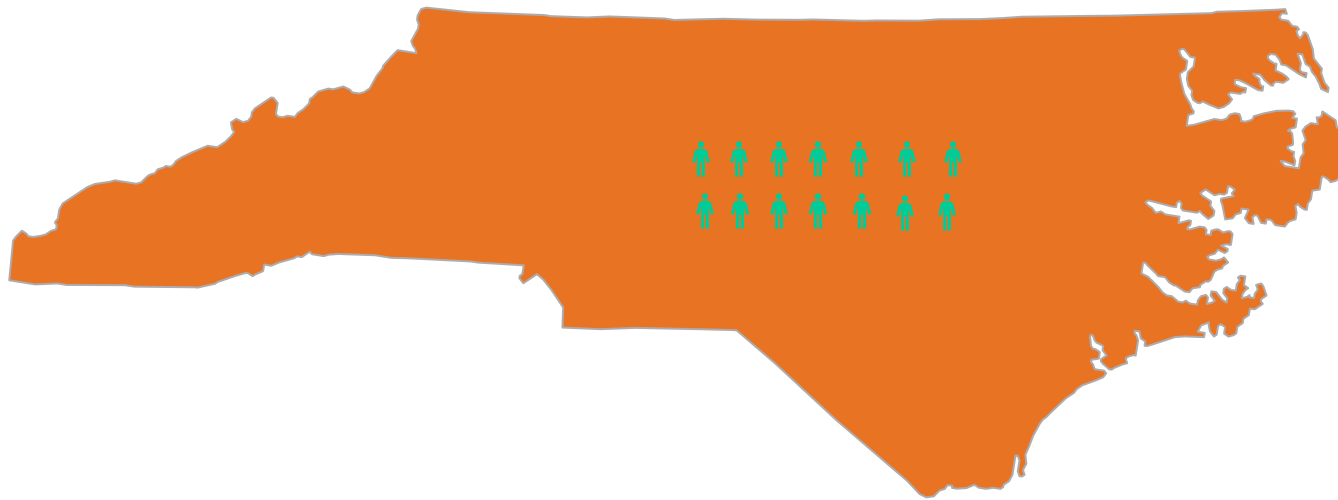
Funding to Engage Landlords and Provide Housing Stability Bonuses to Landlords Who Successfully Maintain Residents, in Addition to Risk Mitigation and Rental Assistance as Needed
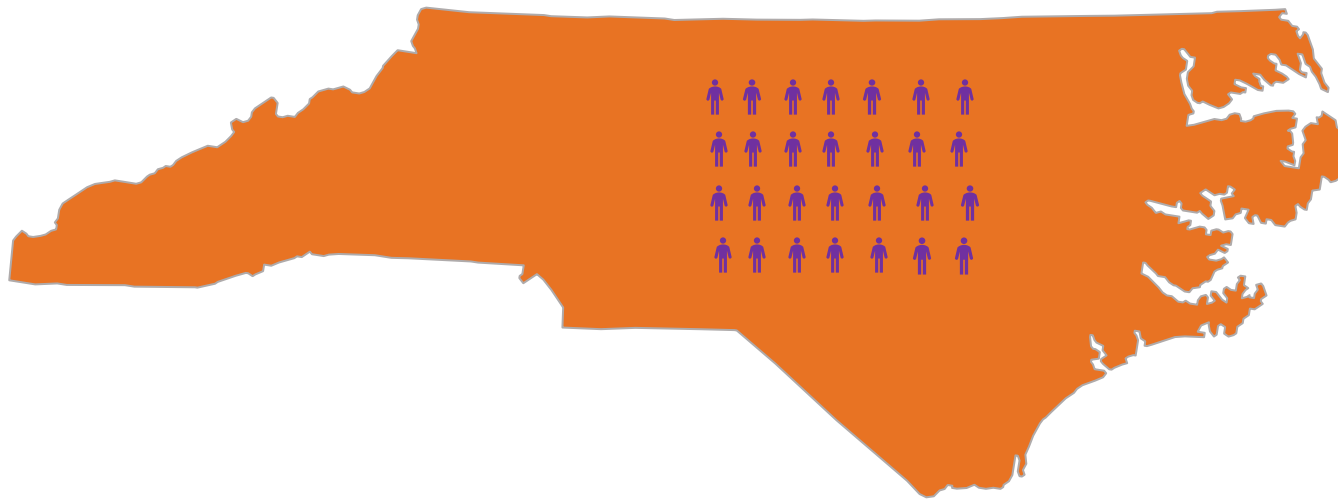
With $100,000, **325 landlords** can be recruited to house **750 people** leaving prison.
Funds are often not drawn down, and unspent funds could be dispersed in grants to recruit additional landlords through unit repairs, etc.

Based on findings from the Landlord Incentive Pilot Project between NCHFA, NCDMVA, and NCEEH through Operation Home. Of the total amount, the pilot expended 17% of the total set-aside funding.

Funding to Pilot Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing Options for Formerly Incarcerated Veterans

CSG Justice Center staff analysis of DAC data; Thomas Coyne, "People with Behavioral Health Needs Leaving Prison/Jail: Scope and Case for Long-Term Investments" (CSG Justice Center unpublished manuscript, September 15, 2021), Microsoft Word file.

Permanent Supportive Housing
For $20k per person ($4 million for 201 people), North Carolina veterans could receive:

- **Rental assistance** for a year (most states find it averages 9 months)
- **Wraparound supportive services** for (1) housing navigation and retention, (2) mental health support, and (3) substance use treatment.

Rapid Rehousing
$12k per person ($2.4 million for 201 people), North Carolina veterans could receive

- **Rental assistance** for a year (most states find it averages 9 months)
- **Services that begin as intense but taper** as people begin employment or are connected to other community-based services

To comprehensively fund housing resources in North Carolina, there are multiple funding sources that exist.

- State agency contracts (DAC, DOC, etc.)
- Grant funding
- Public-private partnership and philanthropy
- Leveraging partnerships
  - Medicaid funding
  - State and local rental assistance
  - Federal block grant dollars
  - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
  - Insurance companies (including housing pilots) and managed care organizations
  - Homelessness service dollars, public housing authorities

Funding building and sustaining single-site supportive housing typically involves integrated financing and collaboration for capital/operating services.

	Type of Funding	Purpose/Uses	Sources
1	Capital Financing	Land/property acquisition, development, and construction	State bond authority, low-income housing tax credits, conventional financing
2	Operating Funding/Rental Assistance	Building operations and maintenance, property management (operating), or private market rent (rental assistance)	Housing Choice Vouchers, federal homeless assistance grants, health and behavioral health agencies
3	Supportive Services	Staffing and other-than-personnel costs, such as management and interdisciplinary teams	Health and behavioral health agencies, human services agencies, federal homeless assistance grants, Medicaid (in some states)

Things to Consider

- What is one opportunity your agency can identify to strengthen collaboration to ensure better alignment and information sharing?

- Are there particular ways the state can better address policy barriers and stigmatization?

- How can North Carolina better leverage resources from the business community to invest in reentry housing?

Thank You!

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