November 12, 2024

Augusta Task Force on Homelessness

DEVELOPERS
COLLABORATIVE

Mutual Expectations

- We will remain respectful of each other and open to both learning and feedback.
- We accept that two truths may exist at the same time: What is true for you may not be true for me.
- We commit to arrive on time, start on time and end on time.
- We will respect the privacy of individuals and protect names or other identifying details of those we are trying to assist.
- We will be concise in our comments, stay on topic, and make space for others to contribute.

Strategies To Prevent & End Homelessness

Framework From: United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, (2024). 19 Strategies for Communities to Address Encampments Humanely and Effectively and United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, (2022). ALL IN: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

Graphic Source: United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, (2022). ALL IN: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

Housing & Support

Scale Housing & Supports That Meet Demand

1. Ensure Access to Housing and Services
2. Ensure Interim Strategies Promote Dignity, Respect, and Pathways to Permanent Housing
3. Develop Pathways to Permanent Housing and Support
4. Ensure Encampments are Closed Humanely

Crisis Response

Improve Effectiveness of Homelessness Response System

1

Address Basic Needs and Provide Health Care

2

Conduct Comprehensive, Coordinated, and Ongoing Housing-Focused Outreach

3

Provide Storage

Prevention

Prevent Homelessness

1

Expand Affordable Housing

2

Interrupt Pipelines Into Homelessness

3

Build and Strengthen Safety Nets

Equity

Lead With Equity

1

Engage Encampment Residents in Efforts to Develop Solutions

2

Address Unique Needs of People with Chronic and Acute Health Conditions

Data & Evidence

Use Data & Evidence to Make Decisions

1. Collect and Share Qualitative and Quantitative Data
2. Track Shelter and Housing Availability
3. Track Status of People Housed and Yet to Be Housed

Collaboration

Collaborate At All Levels

1. Establish a Cross-Agency, Multi-Sector Response
2. Empower Outreach Teams and Health Providers to Lead the Effort
3. Prioritize Encampment Closure Based on Health and Safety Factors
4. Engage Neighboring Residents and Businesses

GAP Analysis Methodology

Using U.S Interagency Council on Homelessness Framework

Identify Housing & Support Resources

- Affordable Housing
- Community Services
- Interim (Temporary) Shelter

Identify Crisis Response Resources

- Basic Needs
- Healthcare Services (Mental Health, Substance Use, and Other Health Services)
- Outreach
- Storage

Identify Prevention Resources

- Affordable Housing
- Safety Nets

Equity

- Identify Resource Referral Services & Education
- Engage Unhoused Community in Listening Sessions

Data & Evidence

- Review Qualitative and Quantitative Data

Collaboration

- Survey Community Service Providers
- Engage Community in Listening Sessions

Community Perspective: What is Working in Augusta

Housing & Support, Crisis Response & Prevention

- There are many existing resources & services to help
- There are a variety of affordable housing units within the city limits

Equity

- Task Force listening sessions engaged people who are unhoused to ensure their voices are included in solutions

Data & Evidence, Collaboration

- Task force is focused on solutions, and supported by City of Augusta leadership
- Coordinated Entry (Augusta is part of Hub 6)
- Community has long history of working together to solve problems

Responses are from community listening sessions and service provider survey responses

Gaps Identified From Community Listening Sessions

Housing & Support

- Affordable Housing
- Rental Subsidies
- Supportive Housing
- Rooming Houses
- Recovery/Sober Housing
- Places to Recover from Medical Procedures
- Diversification of Housing Types
- Low-Barrier Services, Shelter & Housing
- Services Funding
- Daytime Space for Unhoused Community to Gather
- Year-Round Warming/Cooling Center
- Job Training

Crisis Response

- Substance Use Services & Addiction Treatment
- Mental Health Services
- Other Healthcare Services
- Harm Reduction Strategies
- Outreach Services
- Safety
- Storage
- Transportation
- Sanitation Facilities

Gaps Identified From Community Listening Sessions

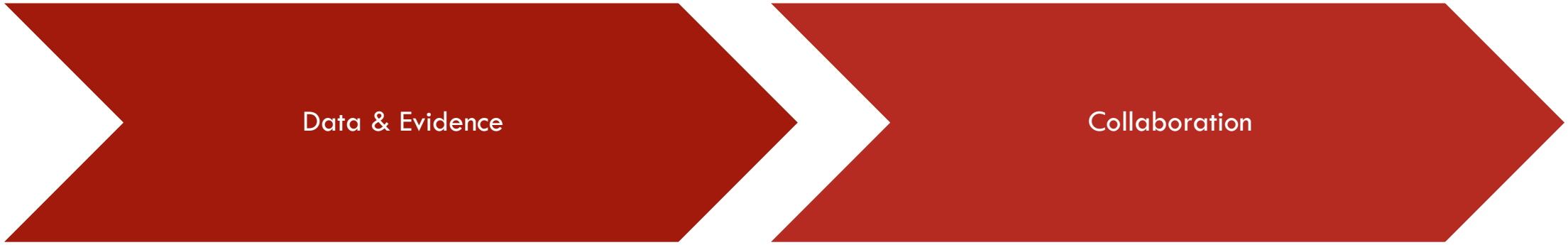
Prevention

- Affordable Housing
- Employment
- Mental Health Services
- Solutions to Root Causes of Homelessness
- Eviction Prevention
- Rent Limits
- Transportation & Financial Support for Personal Vehicles
- Financial Assistance for Rent and Security Deposits
- Youth Programs
- Other Homeless Prevention Programs

Equity

- Resource Education for Community, Clients & Providers
- Resource Referral Services and Application Assistance
- Resource Coordination
- Resource Follow Through & Monitoring
- Address Systemic Disparities
- Tenant & Landlord Education
- Community Education about Homelessness
- Life Skills Education
- Recreation Opportunities to Reduce Isolation
- Financial Education
- Relationship Assistance

Gaps Identified From Community Listening Sessions



- Data to Understand Current Needs
- Data to Determine Workforce Readiness
- Data to Understand Person-Centered Barriers to Housing

- Coordination of Current Services
- Collaboration with Healthcare Providers

Gaps Identified From Service Provider Surveys

- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness Prevention Programs

- Affordable Housing
- Low-Barrier Emergency Shelter

- Mental Health Services
- Substance Use Services
- Transportation
- Cell Phones (including reliable cell phone plans)
- Family Support

Response rate was low from service provider surveys

Affordable Housing Gap

Maine

Maine is estimated to have 36,378 extremely low-income renter households with only 51 affordable and available rental homes for every 100 extremely low-income renter households.

The shortage is17,772 rental homes that are both affordable and available to renters with extremely low incomes.

This deficit increases to 19,647 homes to renters with incomes at or below 50% AMI.

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition. (2024). The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Homes. https://nlihc.org/gap (based on 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data)

2024 MAINE HOUSING PROFILE

AN UNWAVERING PATH FORWARD TO HOUSING JUSTICE

Across Maine, there is a shortage of rental homes affordable and available to extremely low income households (ELI), whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% of their area median income (AMI). Many of these households are severely cost burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. Severely cost burdened poor households are more likely than other renters to sacrifice other necessities like healthy food and healthcare to pay the rent, and to experience unstable housing situations like evictions.

SENATORS: Susan Collins and Angus King, Jr.

KEY FACTS

36,378 OR 23%
Renter Households with extremely low incomes

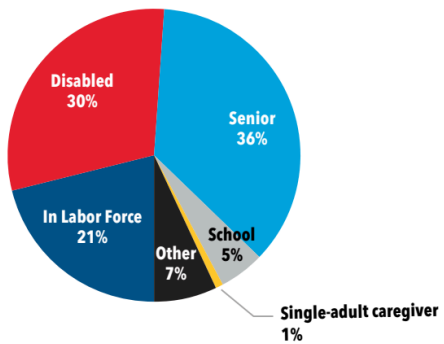
-17,772
Shortage of rental homes affordable and available for extremely low income renters

$29,710
Average income limit for 4-person extremely low-income households (state level)

$54,863
Annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's Fair Market Rent.

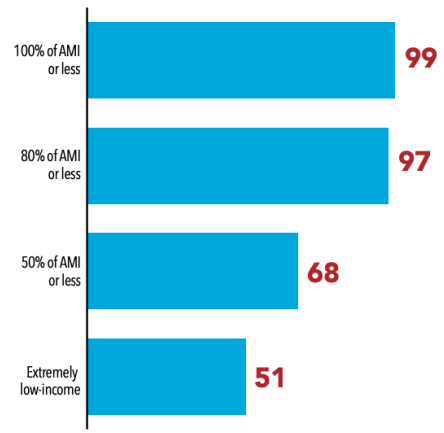
63%
Percent of extremely low income renter households with severe cost burden

EXTREMELY LOW INCOME RENTER HOUSEHOLDS



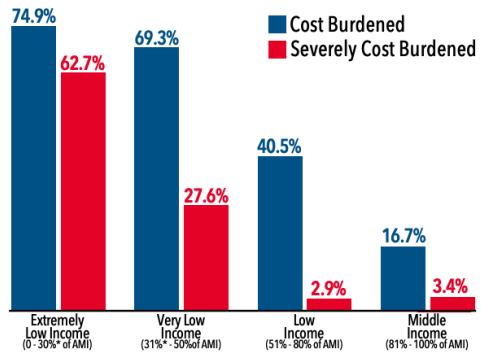
Note: Mutually exclusive categories applied in the following order: senior, disabled, in labor force, enrolled in school, single adult caregiver of a child under 7 or of a household member with a disability, and other. Nationally, 13% of extremely low-income renter households are single adult caregivers, 53% of whom usually work more than 20 hours per week. Source: 2022 ACS PUMS.

AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOMES PER 100 RENTER HOUSEHOLDS



Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2022 ACS PUMS

HOUSING COST BURDEN BY INCOME GROUP



Note: Renter households spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs and utilities are cost burdened; those spending more than half of their income are severely cost burdened.
Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2022 ACS PUMS

Updated: 06/13/2024

1000 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005 **WWW.NLIHC.ORG**

Note: ***Or poverty guideline, if higher.**

Future Affordable Housing Gap - 2030

Maine

Maine needs approximately 38,500 homes to remedy historic underproduction and will need an additional 37,900 to 45,800 homes to meet expected population growth and household change by 2030

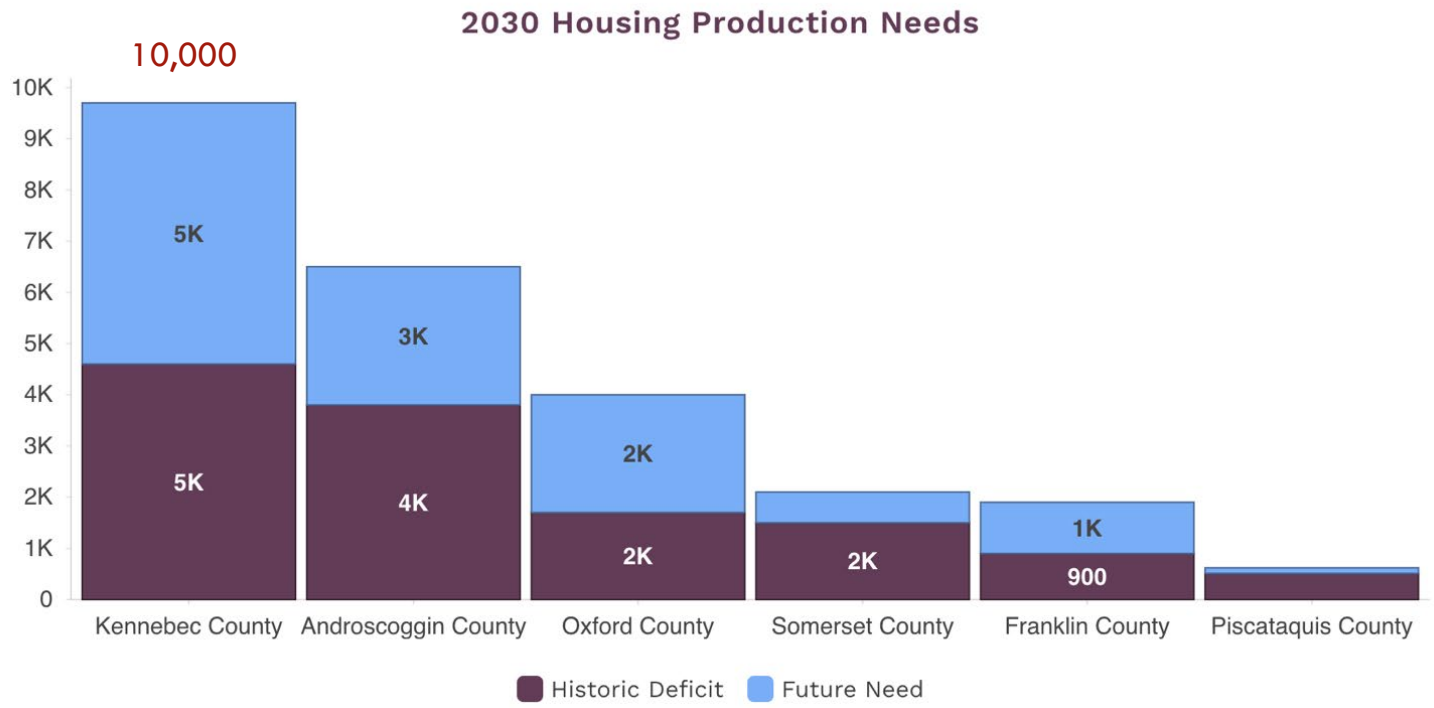
Total 76,400 – 84,300 homes statewide*

*Homes" refers to all housing types including single family, attached, multifamily, rental and homeownership options. The homes needed considers both new construction and homes that can be reinvested in.

Source: Maine State Housing Authority, Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, Department of Maine Economic & Community Development, (2023). *The State of Maine Housing Production Needs Study: Homes to support Mainers and Maine businesses, now and in the future.*

Future Affordable Housing Gap - 2030

Kennebec County



State of Maine Housing Data Portal. Augusta City, ME Housing Needs Assessment. https://dev.hra-dashtest.com/report/6568f05f24ba514a2c3b818a/2301102100/housing-supply#66918af287f387bcf700b5f7