
HUD HMIS 2024 Data Standards Changes

September 2023

HUD and its partners have rolled out some key changes to the HMIS Data Standards, effective October 1, 2023. These changes represent a continued effort to capture higher-quality data, make data labels more inclusive, and help HUD identify disparities in homelessness services.

We expect to incorporate these changes in HMIS during the first week of October.

Any CAPER or APR that is due to be submitted to HUD on or after 10/1/2023 must be the new versions of the report.

For complete details from HUD on the data standards changes, visit:

[HUD HMIS 2024 Data Standards Manual](#)



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Universal Data Elements Changes

Data Collected About	All Clients
Funder/Program Component	All Programs – All Components
Project Type Applicability	All HMIS Project Types
Collection Point	Record Creation

(1) Name

- Client may provide preferred name
- “Legal Name” not required unless required by the funder.

HMIS records should use a client's full and accurate name whenever possible. If the client doesn't associate with their legal name, the name entered into HMIS should reflect the name the client identifies with, unless legal name is required by the funder (e.g., VA). Doing this as a standard practice makes it easier to find records when searching and avoids creating duplicate records. Each project should be aware of the funders' record keeping requirements, and if maintaining copies of legal documents is a requirement, they should be collected, and pertinent information updated in HMIS accordingly.

Street Outreach and Coordinated Entry projects may record a project entry with limited information about the client and improve on the accuracy and completeness of client data over time by editing data in an HMIS as they engage the client. The initial entry may be as basic as the 'Project Start Date' and a “code name” (e.g., “Redhat Tenthstreetbridge”) response in the name field that would be identifiable for retrieval by the worker in the system. Over time, the data must be edited for accuracy (e.g., replacing “Redhat” with “Robert”) as the worker learns more details, more information about the client is obtained

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(2) Social Security Number

- PATH, CoC, and ESG Program-funded projects are only required to collect the last four digits of the SSN, though are not prohibited from collecting all nine digits. CoC and ESG-funded projects are not penalized for only collecting the last four digits of the SSN.
- When enrolling a client who already has a record in the HMIS, verify that the SSN in the system is accurate and correct it if it is not. Do not replace a 9-digit SSN with the 4-digit SSN on existing clients unless the client has requested this. .

SSN Data Quality	Full SSN reported	Approximate or partial SSN reported
	A complete and valid SSN is provided.	Any SSN other than a complete and valid 9-digit SSN, regardless of the reason, is provided.
	Client doesn't know	A client does not know or does not have an SSN.
	Client prefers not to answer	A client prefers not to provide any part of their SSN, regardless of the reason.
	Data not collected	No attempt was made to collect an SSN for the client

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(3) Race and Ethnicity

- Combine Race and Ethnicity into single data element. (Eliminates separate Ethnicity option)
- Add response option for “Middle Eastern or North African” and modified “Hispanic/Latina/e/o” response option.
- Added text box to provide additional detail.

This essentially means that the existing Primary Race, Secondary Race, and Ethnicity options will be combined into 1 multi-select box similar to the current Gender data field. Clients may identify multiple races and all identified races/ethnicity should be selected. To select multiple options use your CTRL button (or Command on Mac) and click each chosen response.

New Race and Ethnicity Data Collection Instructions:

Record the self-identified race(s) and ethnicity, if applicable, of each client served. Help the client select as many race and/or ethnicity options that they identify with

When enrolling a client who already has a record in the HMIS, verify that race and ethnicity information is complete and accurately reflects how the client identifies, and correct if it does not.

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(4) Gender

- Change Female to “Woman (Girl if child)”
- Change Male to “Man (Boy if child)”
- Change “Gender other than...” to “Non-Binary”
- Add “Culturally Specific Identity (e.g., Two-Spirit)”
- Add “Different Identity” and text box to add detail

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Race, Ethnicity, Gender Data Collection:

Please see the [Client-Centered Approach to Recognizing Race and Ethnicity Identifies in Data Collection](#) and [Client-Centered Approach to Recognizing Gender Identities in Data Collection](#) resources for additional guidance.

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(5) Veteran Status

- Remove details of definition
- Refer to VA Data Guide for legal definition of “Veteran”

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(6) Destination

- Remove "or RHY Funded" from descriptor of "Host Home"
- Separate Temporary and Permanent Situations into separate headers
- Re-organize response options under headers
- Re-number responses by adding a standard # to the beginning of each response number based on category (i.e., 1xx for homeless situations, 2xx for temporary situations, etc.)
- Add dependency for permanent subsidized options

Prior Living Situation data should not be used as the source for Destination. Additionally, Destination should not be pre-filled at project start and unconfirmed, word-of-mouth information from anyone other than the client should not be used as a source for Destination responses in HMIS.

NbN shelters may have high rates of missing Destination data. Often, in this type of shelter, a client is exited after a period of not coming into the shelter, at which point the opportunity to ask clients where they are going is lost. HUD and other federal partners strongly encourage shelters, even large-scale shelters, to consider themselves to be a part of the community's system working to end homelessness. Any steps these projects can take to establish relationships with clients, focus on moving clients into more permanent housing situations, or collaborate with service projects that do so, will improve a system's functioning, data quality, and client outcomes.



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(6) Enrollment CoC

- “Client Location”
- Select or enter the CoC code assigned to the geographic area for where the project is funded to operate.
 - MACH: SC-502
- Household members' location data must match the ‘Enrollment CoC’ identified for the Head of household.
- Only collected at project start

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(7) Prior Living Situation

Added in “this episode” to response “Approximate date this episode of homelessness started” field for clarity.

The element has been constructed to avoid collecting information which is irrelevant or inappropriate for the client population being served in a particular situation by splitting the element into 3.917A and 3.917B.

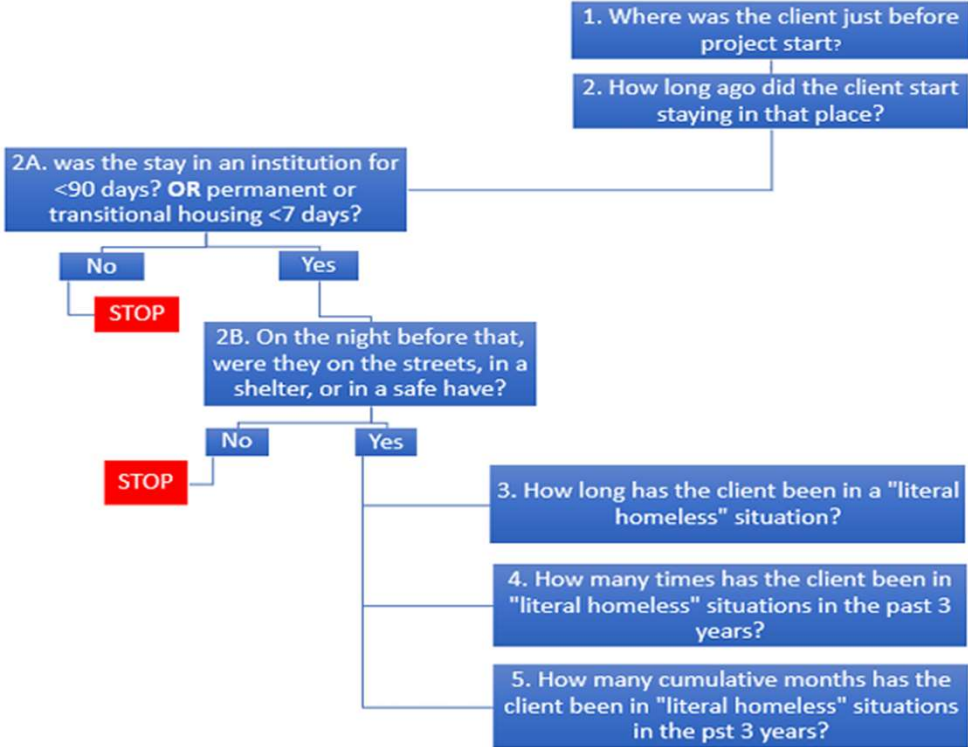
*3.917A is applicable only to Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, and Safe Haven project types.

*3.917B is applicable to all other HMIS project types.

For example, eligibility for Homelessness Prevention requires that a client be in housing. By definition, a person in housing is not experiencing chronic homelessness at that point in time, so some of the fields in this data element used to determine whether a person is experiencing chronic homelessness are not applicable in that situation.

Universal Data Elements Changes

(5) Prior Living Situation (cont'd)



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(8) Health Insurance

- Response to say “Veteran’s Health Administration (VHA)”

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() Client Refused = Client prefers not to answer

For the following UDEs, you will now see “Client prefers not to answer” in place of “Client Refused”

- a. Social Security Number
- b. Veteran Status
- c. Gender
- d. Race and Ethnicity
- e. Date of Birth
- f. Name
- g. Prior Living Situation
- h. DV
- i. Current Living Situation
- j. 4HUD Verifications (Income, Non-Cash Benefits, Health Insurance, Disabling Conditions)



Thank You!



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