



**KCRHA**

King County Regional Homelessness Authority

# **Understanding System Performance Measures: A HUD Federal Report Overview**

Research and Data, KCRHA  
April 1st, 2026

# Goals:

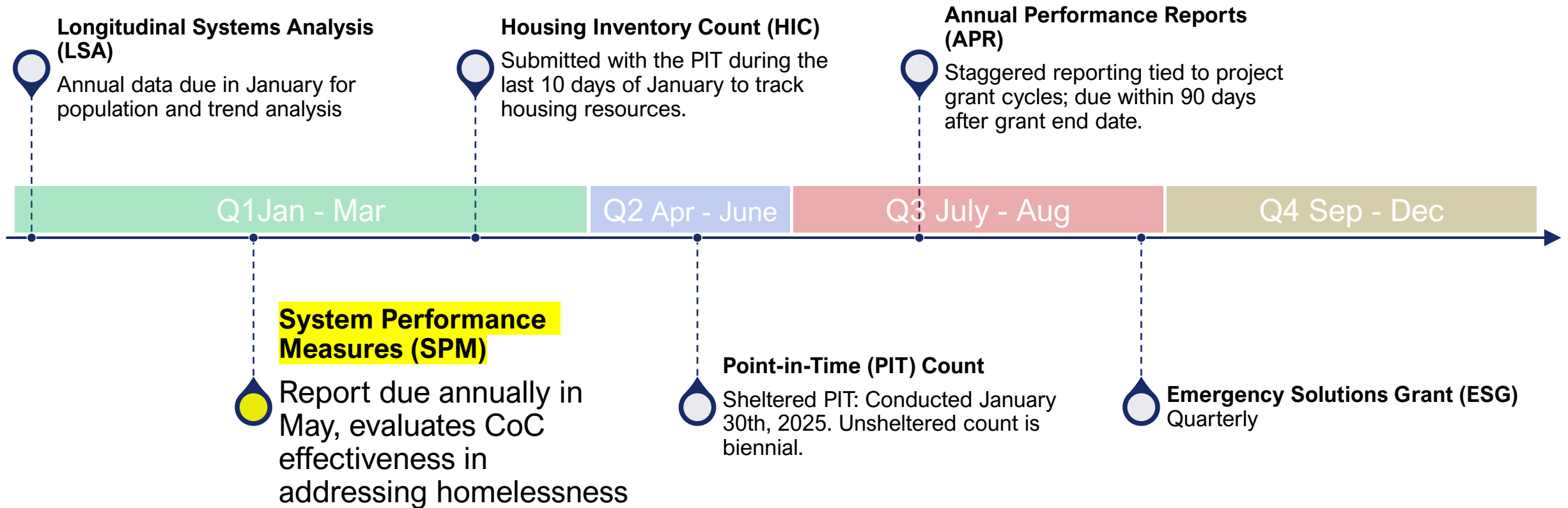
**Enhance Understanding:** Provide CoC Board members with a clear, high-level overview of the System Performance Measures (SPM) report, including FY2025 results compared to FY2024.

**Facilitate Informed Discussion:** Create space for advisory board members to ask clarifying questions and deepen their understanding of how the measures reflect system performance.

**Support Strategic Use of Data:** Identify ways the CoC Board can leverage the SPM report to inform policy decisions and strengthen the region's homelessness response.



# Federal Reporting Calendar



# **System Performance Measures**

# What This Report Is & Why It Matters

- Annual HUD-required report for all Continuums of Care (CoCs)
- Measures how the homelessness response system performs over time
- Uses HMIS data from shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs
- Excludes victim service providers due to federal privacy rules
- Helps inform federal funding decisions and system accountability
- System Performance Measures aka “SPMs”



# How HUD Evaluates System Performance

*We report on 7 core system measures:*

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- Length of time homeless (shelter + overall system time)
- Returns to homelessness within 2 years
- Number of people experiencing homelessness (PIT + annual)
- Income growth for CoC program participants
- First-time homelessness entries
- Homelessness Prevention and Housing Placement of Persons\*
- Housing outcomes (exits to permanent housing, retention)





# System-Level Changes Year Over Year

*FY2024 Vs FY2025*

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- Slight increase in average time in shelter (248 → 263 days)
- Returns to homelessness increased (10% → 15%)
- PIT sheltered count remained relatively stable (7,058 → 7,126)
- Annual sheltered population decreased (14,470 → 13,884)
- Income growth remained stable (~39%), but more people increased income in total numbers
- First-time homelessness decreased (10,332 → 9,592)
- Housing exits to permanent housing remained stable overall; Street Outreach exits to permanent housing declined (75% → 50%)



# What Is Driving These Shifts

*Some changes reflect system behavior and data quality improvements, not just service performance shifts*

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- Returns to homelessness increase driven largely by Street Outreach exits.
- Outreach exits increased significantly, but so did returns (444 returns)
- Housing outcomes largely stable, except Street Outreach decline (75% → 50%)
- Decline linked to record cleanup and proper record closure practices
- Annual sheltered count decrease suggests fewer people staying continuously in programs



# What We Did to Improve Data Accuracy

*Results reflect both system performance and improved data quality*

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- Engaged 63 agencies for data review and corrections
- Focused on missing/incorrect fields:
  - chronic homelessness status
  - income and assessments
  - move-in dates
  - exit destinations
- Two agencies were unresponsive
- Improvements directly strengthened reliability of system performance results
- SPM submitted and approved ahead of HUD deadline (Feb 26)



# Discussion & Questions



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