

August 26, 2024

The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz
Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs Rodrigues and Michlewitz:

Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024, we are transmitting to you this bi-weekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program.

Sincerely,

Secretary Matthew J. Gorzkowicz,
Executive Office for Administration
and Finance

Secretary Edward Augustus,
Executive Office for Housing and
Livable Communities

MEMORANDUM

TO: House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means
FR: Executive Office for Administration and Finance, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities
DT: August 26, 2024
RE: Bi-weekly EA report

Background/Narrative

The table below includes key datapoints outlined in Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024. The data is updated as of August 22, 2024. The Administration continues to pursue key activities related to these datapoints below.

Caseload

Datapoint	Value as of 08/22/24	Notes
Total families in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	3,650	Estimate based on family head of household citizenship status and primary language spoken.
Total families currently in shelters, hotels or motels, by municipality	See Appendix A	Families are supported across traditional EA shelters and hotels/motels.
Number of families applying for shelter in the previous 14 days	490	Not all families that apply for shelter are eligible.
Number of families in Temporary Respite Centers (TRCs) and Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment (CSRA) sites	320	This currently includes four state-funded Temporary Respite Centers (Cambridge, Chelsea, Lexington, and Norfolk) and two clinical and safety risk assessment sites (Revere and Quincy). Families at these two types of sites are currently on the contact list (previously waitlist) for the Emergency Assistance shelter system and are placed in site based on site availability and a family's health and safety needs.
Number of exits from EA in the previous 14 days (families)	186	
Average length of stay in the EA program	351 days	Based on families active in EA shelters/hotels on 8/22/2024.
Number of new student enrollments associated	0	Data includes newly enrolled students in K-12 districts from hotel EA sites and TRCs as of July 31, 2024. Future reports will include

with the EA program in the last 14 days		additional updates at the start of the school year. There may be a lag in data reporting to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from school districts.
Number of families certified pursuant to G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G	N/A	Reporting will begin when 60-day rehousing assessment policy is implemented
Number of families not certified pursuant to G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G	N/A	Reporting will begin when 60-day rehousing plan compliance policy is implemented

EA Contact List (previously waitlist)

Datapoint	Value as of 08/22/24	Notes
Number of families on the EA contact list	762	
Number of families on the contact list who have been placed in the last 14 days	188	
Services provided to families on the EA contact list		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shelter diversion services, including HomeBASE - Family Welcome Center services, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Basic needs provisions, including but not limited to diapers, wipes, hygiene products, baby formula, and meals o Employment authorization legal assistance o Public benefits enrollment o Vaccinations and health screenings o Reticketing o Referrals to other services such as ESOL courses, legal assistance, mental health services, health care services - TRC and safety net shelter and services including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Temporary shelter o Intensive case management and wraparound services o Legal assistance for work authorization applications o Diversion services, including but not limited to family reunification, housing search, and application assistance for diversion programs o Reticketing referrals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment site services for eligible families on the contact list, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Clinical supports and connections to care o Case management services
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Work Authorizations

- **Work Authorization Clinics:** In partnership with the Department of Homeland Security and multiple Massachusetts state agencies, the Administration successfully ran two weeks of work authorization clinics for migrants staying in emergency family shelter (November 13-17 and November 27-30). In total, the work authorization clinics supported 2,910 individuals, completed 1,951 biometrics with USCIS, vaccinated 1,031 adults and children, and facilitated 734 visits to MassHire stations.

Datapoint	Value as of 08/22/24	Notes
Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have work authorizations	3,863	Adults who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers in EA shelter system who have self-reported that they have confirmed work authorization, including those who filed for work authorization at the work authorization clinic in November. This excludes (1) US citizens, green card holders, and other categories of individuals who have not recently migrated but are eligible to work; and (2) those who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have applied for work authorization but who have not reported confirmation of approved work authorization.
Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have filed for work authorizations	4,513	In addition to the approved work authorization efforts, the Administration is working with local legal services providers to file additional work authorization applications for migrants staying in emergency shelter. This number includes those captured above who have confirmed receipt of a work permit, as well as those who have filed and are waiting for their application to be processed.

Fiscal

Datapoint	Value as of 08/22/24	Notes
Total amount expended on the emergency housing assistance program in FY24	\$852.4 M	Spending to date includes shelter & associated services, National Guard activation, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Temporary Emergency Shelters, Family Welcome Centers, municipal payments, and TRC spending. Because the Commonwealth typically pays service providers and vendors monthly, spending to date is largely reflective of costs through June; Accounts Payable period invoices are currently being received and processed.
Total amount expended on supplemental school district costs, by district	See Appendix B	FY23 and FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B.
Total amount expended on municipal supports, by municipality	\$45.0 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$43.0 M spent on FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B. • \$2.0 M spent on Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 municipal room occupancy tax reimbursements.
Total amount spent for any other purpose from 1599-0514 and 1599-1213	\$392.3 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$297.6 M spent to pay shelter providers • \$32.1 M spent to pay service providers at Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment and Temporary Respite Centers • \$43.0 M for emergency per-pupil student aid • \$9.7 M spent for National Guard payroll. • \$3.1 M spent for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers • \$3.0 M for additional educational supports for homeless student transportation and multi-lingual faculty • \$2.0 M for municipal reimbursements • \$743 K for community health, including vaccine record reviews • \$359 K spent for Regional Response Team Leads • \$353 K spent for Immigrant Family Services Institute

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$260 K for Neighborhood Villages Pilot Program • \$59 K spent for nursing staff supporting Temporary Respite Centers <p><i>Note:</i> Figure is inclusive of municipal payments reported above.</p>
Projected FY24 deficiency	\$0	The recently signed supplemental budget will address all spending needs for the remainder of FY24, which includes shelter & associated services, staffing, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Family Welcome Centers, Temporary Respite Centers, school district reimbursements, immigration and refugee health, community, and workforce supports, and municipal support.
Projected FY25 costs through the end of FY25	\$1.018 B	Estimate includes shelter & associated services, staffing, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Family Welcome Centers, Temporary Respite Centers, school district reimbursements, immigration and refugee health, community, and workforce supports, and municipal support.
Current funded capacity of the EA program	7,500	Based on historical costs and current projections, sufficient funding exists to support a capacity of 7,500 through approximately January 1 st 2025.
Expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 in the previous 14 days, delineated by purpose	\$599 K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$546 K spent for National Guard payroll • \$53 K spent for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers
Total expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 since July 1, 2024, delineated by purpose	\$1.7 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.7 M spent for National Guard payroll • \$67 K spent for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers
Efforts by A&F to maximize federal support and reimbursement for funds spent on EA	<p>A&F and other executive branch agencies continue to aggressively pursue federal support for the EA program. So far, the following have been secured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of revised 1115 waiver, which may bring additional reimbursements on HHS-related EA program costs directly to the General Fund 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.8 M portion of joint City of Boston-Commonwealth of Massachusetts award within FEMA Shelter and Services Program (SSP-A) in 2023 • \$7 M award for additional FEMA SSP-A grant via the first 2024 funding round – now formally approved by FEMA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$6 M of award will be used for FY24 TRC/CSR costs, and progress is ongoing for moving those expenses onto that grant ○ \$1 M is allocated to the City of Boston <p>HLC, in collaboration with A&F and EHS, submitted a \$34.5 M application for FEMA’s SSP-C grant on June 12, 2024.</p>
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Appendix A: Total Families Currently in Shelters, Hotels or Motels by Municipality

Town	Total Families
Acton	32
Amherst	5
Andover	30
Ashland	2
Attleboro	14
Auburn	79
Ayer	54
Barnstable	35
Beverly	25
Boston	1,289
Bourne	45
Bridgewater	2
Brockton	178
Brookline	31
Burlington	32
Cambridge	35
Chelmsford	3
Chelsea	21
Chicopee	111
Concord	89
Danvers	180
Dedham	164
Devens	10
Everett	97
Fall River	91
Falmouth	7
Fitchburg	10
Foxborough	84
Framingham	218

Franklin	90
Gardner	44
Gloucester	6
Greenfield	58
Hanson	1
Haverhill	79
Holyoke	171
Hudson	48
Kingston	93
Lawrence	68
Leicester	41
Lexington	26
Lowell	342
Ludlow	1
Lynn	305
Malden	62
Marlborough	151
Marshfield	21
Medford	44
Medway	11
Melrose	1
Methuen	74
Middleborough	12
Milford	75
Milton	2
New Bedford	28
North Attleboro	1
Northampton	24
Northborough	11
Norton	21
Norwell	13
Norwood	82
Peabody	237
Pittsfield	17
Plainville	53
Plymouth	34
Raynham	65
Revere	26
Rockland	60
Salem	80
Saugus	77
Sharon	71
Shrewsbury	28
South Hadley	8

Southbridge	1
Springfield	293
Stoneham	1
Stoughton	230
Taunton	177
Tewksbury	28
Wakefield	2
Waltham	53
Watertown	42
West Springfield	73
Westborough	56
Westminster	33
Weymouth	7
Woburn	112
Worcester	347
Total	7,190

Appendix B: Amount Expended on Supplemental School District Costs by District

District	FY23 – First Tranche		FY23 – Second Tranche		FY24 – First Tranche		FY24 – Second Tranche		FY24 – Third Tranche		Total to Date
	Amount	(Oct. 1, 2022 – Mar. 1, 2023)	Amount	(Mar 2, 2023 – end of school year)	Amount	(Sept. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023)	Amount	(Dec. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024)	Amount	Mar 1, 2024 - end of school year)	
		Paid 6/22/23		Paid 8/30/23		Paid 1/29/24		Paid 5/16/24		Paid 8/15/24	
Acton-Boxborough					\$0		\$49,193		\$197,445		\$246,638
Andover					\$16,048		\$72,374		\$72,374		\$160,796
Arlington					\$0		\$114,645		\$80,765		\$195,410
Ashburnham-Westminster					\$61,570		\$81,395		\$89,681		\$232,646
Auburn					\$121,568		\$152,478		\$293,191		\$567,237
Ayer Shirley School District					\$61,570		\$92,408		\$223,924		\$377,902
Bedford					\$284,252		\$260,547		\$343,095		\$887,894
Berkshire Hills School District					\$0		\$0		\$131,322		\$131,322
Billerica					\$94,611		\$114,993		\$140,895		\$350,499
Boston					\$0		\$751,844		\$1,034,867		\$1,786,711
Bourne					\$221,737		\$214,710		\$12,587		\$449,034
Braintree					\$40,488		\$47,934		\$70,440		\$158,862
Bridgewater-Raynham					\$0		\$223,557		\$219,919		\$443,476
Burlington				\$44,200	\$142,021		\$147,895		\$177,789		\$511,905
Cambridge				\$11,648	\$0		\$180,281		\$230,309		\$422,238
Chelsea					\$0		\$154,713		\$90,730		\$245,443

Chicopee		\$52,416	\$101,009	\$394,177	\$314,040	\$861,642
Concord		\$39,832	\$148,944	\$139,713	\$258,239	\$586,728
Concord-Carlisle		\$13,312	\$0	\$46,991	\$35,348	\$95,651
Danvers			\$251,946	\$517,057	\$694,712	\$1,463,715
Dartmouth			\$62,514	\$72,060	\$9,860	\$144,434
Dedham		\$5,824	\$477,354	\$280,791	\$508,716	\$1,272,685
Dennis-Yarmouth			\$112,652	\$177,474	\$250,049	\$540,175
Everett			\$0	\$595,461	\$376,240	\$971,701
Fairhaven			\$30,418	\$44,473	\$0	\$74,891
Foxborough			\$214,710	\$275,231	\$354,738	\$844,679
Framingham			\$231,387	\$269,079	\$317,685	\$818,151
Franklin			\$198,557	\$385,575	\$434,979	\$1,019,111
Gardner			\$163,628	\$145,482	\$197,928	\$507,038
Greenfield		\$18,200	\$68,598	\$205,060	\$246,701	\$538,559
Hadley			\$22,237	\$47,725	\$73,675	\$143,637
Holyoke			\$75,626	\$0	\$0	\$75,626
Hudson			\$83,283	\$115,798	\$166,880	\$365,961
King Philip			\$64,717	\$90,835	\$104,261	\$259,813
Kingston	\$87,984	\$130,416	\$101,848	\$248,170	\$251,841	\$820,259
Leicester			\$81,604	\$87,479	\$138,472	\$307,555
Lexington			\$24,964	\$81,919	\$239,746	\$346,629
Lowell			\$0	\$256,236	\$428,825	\$685,061
Malden			\$420	\$104,155	\$102,583	\$207,158
Mansfield			\$48,249	\$54,630	\$32,178	\$135,057
Marlborough	\$38,064	\$104,832	\$423,756	\$684,532	\$925,507	\$2,176,691
Methuen	\$237,952	\$376,480	\$277,959	\$454,803	\$412,431	\$1,759,625

Middleborough			\$116,743	\$186,599	\$220,269	\$523,611
Milford			\$40,907	\$161,321	\$265,162	\$467,390
North Attleborough			\$113,806	\$185,840	\$141,046	\$440,692
Northampton			\$0	\$0	\$35,750	\$35,750
Northboro-Southboro			\$25,488	\$39,439	\$34,614	\$99,541
Northborough			\$46,152	\$72,920	\$76,117	\$195,189
Norton			\$3,147	\$35,453	\$31,362	\$69,962
Norwood		\$3,432	\$12,692	\$141,407	\$243,558	\$401,089
Oxford	\$21,320	\$50,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71,552
Peabody		\$43,472	\$183,348	\$542,334	\$697,963	\$1,467,117
Pittsfield			\$8,916	\$38,494	\$49,928	\$97,338
Plainville			\$111,183	\$124,924	\$160,641	\$396,748
Plymouth	\$93,496	\$123,864	\$135,728	\$202,081	\$173,040	\$728,209
Revere		\$11,544	\$0	\$339,384	\$299,719	\$650,647
Rockland			\$36,082	\$63,878	\$187,930	\$287,890
Salem	\$52,936	\$231,504	\$388,303	\$395,194	\$421,343	\$1,489,280
Saugus			\$98,072	\$124,400	\$112,756	\$335,228
Seekonk			\$84,751	\$34,299	\$0	\$119,050
Sharon			\$6,503	\$306,214	\$329,904	\$642,621
Shrewsbury		\$102,648	\$310,055	\$261,805	\$359,773	\$1,034,281
Silver Lake	\$27,248	\$64,584	\$77,409	\$66,500	\$83,493	\$319,234
Somerset			\$43,949	\$111,813	\$83,073	\$238,835
Somerset Berkley Regional School District			\$5,245	\$34,928	\$12,796	\$52,969
Stoughton			\$43,949	\$715,970	\$708,950	\$1,468,869
Sturbridge			\$302,398	\$61,361	\$194,780	\$558,539

Sutton				\$90,625	\$79,297	\$0	\$169,922
Swansea				\$59,158	\$79,507	\$25,488	\$164,153
Tantasia				\$37,865	\$19,720	\$64,449	\$122,034
Taunton		\$61,672		\$345,508	\$324,949	\$492,773	\$1,224,902
Tewksbury				\$0	\$0	\$5,769	\$5,769
Waltham				\$58,214	\$74,262	\$119,034	\$251,510
Wareham				\$58,843	\$106,477	\$71,540	\$236,860
Watertown				\$0	\$152,930	\$138,664	\$291,594
West Springfield	\$71,864	\$295,360		\$383,058	\$785,836	\$733,496	\$2,269,614
Westborough	\$44,928	\$142,064		\$194,256	\$191,739	\$238,700	\$811,687
Woburn				\$464,348	\$443,475	\$552,036	\$1,459,859
Worcester	\$201,240	\$235,040		\$586,020	\$745,034	\$891,985	\$2,659,319
Total	\$877,032	\$2,162,576		\$8,782,966	\$15,683,657	\$18,542,867	\$46,049,098