2026 Data Standards Follow-up

October 6, 2025

Agenda

- Overview
- Data Elements Review
- Live Review of Elements
- Updates to Documentation
- Resources
- Q&A

Overview of Standards

- What They Are
    - A set of national guidelines established by HUD to standardize how data on homelessness is collected and reported across all Continuums of Care (CoCs).

- Why They Exist
    - To ensure consistent, accurate, and comparable data that supports federal reporting, funding decisions, and policy development.

- What They Cover
    - Includes universal data elements (collected by all projects) and program-specific elements based on funding source and project type.

- Why They Matter
    - High-quality data helps improve services, track outcomes, identify gaps, and advocate for resources to end homelessness.

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Overview of Rollout

- On October 1, 2025, the HMIS system was successfully updated to reflect the HUD 2026 Data Standards.

- Providers received a confirmation email from the HMIS Team that morning, verifying that all updates were applied.

- The update included:

  - Retirement of outdated data elements

  - Introduction of new required fields

  - Updates to existing elements and reporting logic

- The system is now fully aligned with HUD's latest guidance and federal requirements.

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Retired Data Elements

- Gender (3.06)

- Sexual Orientation (R3)

  - These data elements will **no longer be available in HMIS to view or report on** starting October 1st,2025. In addition, these data elements will **no longer be included in Helpdesk documentation or CoC system reports / dashboards**.

  - This is to ensure that the CoC and HMIS are in full compliance with the 2026 Standards and Federal Executive Order

- Translation Assistance Needed (C4)

  - Removed from Assessments as of 10/6/2025

- HUD: ESG-CV and HUD: HOPWA-CV Funding Sources

Updated Data Elements

3.04 Race and Ethnicity

- Picklist value updated from "Hispanic/Latina/e/o" → "Hispanic/Latina/o"

3.20 Housing Move-In Date

- Now required for projects receiving "**VA: Grant Per Diem – Case Management/Housing Retention**" funding

4.13 Date of Engagement

- Now required for all **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)**

R4 Last Grade Completed, R6 Employment Status, and R7 General Health Status

- Data collection requirements for HUD VASH are updated to clarify that this data element is only required for HUD VASH Collaborative Case Management.

Updated Data Elements

R13 Family Critical Issues (Set of Questions)

- Picklist to include additional options: "Client doesn't know, Client prefers not to answer, and Data not collected".

V2 Services Provided – SSVF

- Add new picklist value – "Healthcare Navigation"

V7 HP Targeting Criteria - SSVF

- Wording changes

  1. "Household size of 5 or more requiring at least 3 bedrooms (due to age/gender mix)" will be updated to "Household size of 5 or more requiring at least 3 bedrooms (due to household composition)"

  2. "Household includes one or more members of an overrepresented population in the homelessness system when compared to the general population" will be updated to "Households which may include one or more members meeting other criteria for targeting prevention determined by the CoC"

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New Data Elements

4.21 Sex

- Data for this element will be collected at Record Creation
  - This question will not be available on any assessments and will only be accessible via the Client Profile

- This data element is **required for All Project Types**

- Only one option can be selected from the following picklist values:
  1. Female
  2. Male
  3. Client doesn't know
  4. Client prefers not to answer
  5. Data not collected

New Data Elements

V10 Mental Health Consultation – SSVF & GPD

- Picklist values:
  - Mental health consultation completed
  - Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with VA provider
  - Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with other provider
  - Offer declined
- This data element is required for Veterans at Project Entry for **SSVF RRH, SSVF HP, and VA Grant Per Diem - Case Management/Housing Retention**

V3 Financial Assistance – SSVF

- "Start Date of Financial Assistance" is conditional logic so that it only displays when "SSVF Financial Assistance Type" is populated with a picklist value.
- Start Date of Financial Services is the date the financial assistance is supposed to begin.

The Date Provided is the date that the financial assistance was identified as a need.

These dates can be the same date.

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Updated Articles

- [HUD CoC & ESG Entry SO ES SH (2026)](#)

- [HUD CoC & ESG Entry All Other Projects (2026)](#)

- [HUD CoC & ESG Update (2026)](#)

  - Updated HMID & Date of Engagement instructions to include new requirements

- [Client Profile](#)

- [Creating a Client Record](#)

- [Searching for Clients in HMIS](#)

Various HUD Resources

Various HUD and CoC Resources:

- HUD Exchange: https://www.hudexchange.info

- HUD HMIS Data Standards: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3824/hmis-data-dictionary/

- CoC Program HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4445/coc-program-hmis-manual/

- PATH Program HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4446/path-program-hmis-manual/

- HOPWA Program HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4449/hopwa-program-hmis-manual/

- VA Programs HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4450/va-programs-hmis-manual/

- YHDP HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6178/yhdp-hmis-manual/

- RHY Program HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4448/rhy-program-hmis-manual/

- HUD-VASH Program HMIS Manual: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5613/hud-vash-program-hmis-manual/

Currently, some links may appear to be broken. We expect these links to be restored once the new standards are finalized. If any links change after the release of the 2026 standards, we will notify providers via email with the updated link information.

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Helpdesk Links / Office Hours

Agencies can book dates to meet with the HMIS Team from October 1st - October 10th to address any questions regarding the 2026 Data Standards.

Please book an available time here:
https://outlook.office.com/book/HMISTeamCopy@allchicago.org/s/p2YuMDfOaUiUYp-TwsAtxw2

2026 Data Standards – Overview
https://hmis.allchicago.org/hc/en-us/articles/41521555789588

2026 Data Standards - Reporting Overview

https://hmis.allchicago.org/hc/en-us/articles/41551762175380

Q & A

Thank you!