

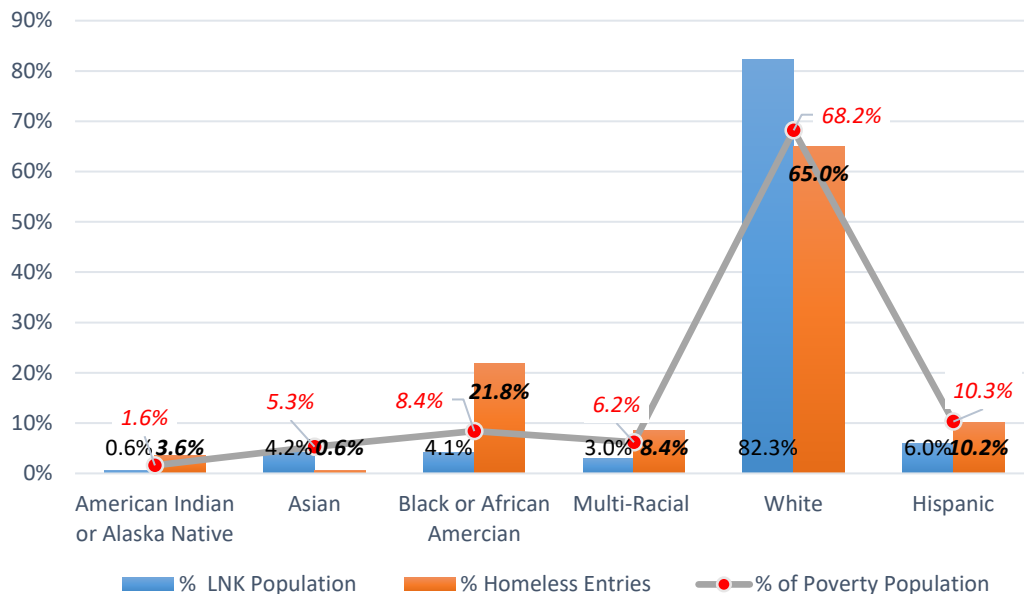
Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Lincoln Homeless Population – Initial Examination

Most minority populations experience homelessness in Lincoln at rates higher than their percentage of the overall population and at rates higher than their percentage of the population in poverty.

Eight-two percent (82.3%) of the Lincoln population is white and 68% of the persons in Lincoln in poverty are white yet they are 65% of those suffering through homelessness. In contrast blacks are 4.1% of the Lincoln population, and 8.4% of the Lincoln population in poverty yet they are 21.8% of persons suffering through homelessness. The American Indian and multi-racial populations experiencing homelessness also exceed their overall population and the percent of the population in poverty. Hispanic non-white persons experiencing homelessness are a higher percentage than their representation in the overall population but not exceeding their percent of the population in poverty. The Asian population is the racial group other than white that is not over-represented in the homeless population and is well below their percentage of the population in poverty. (see Chart 1.)

Chart 1.

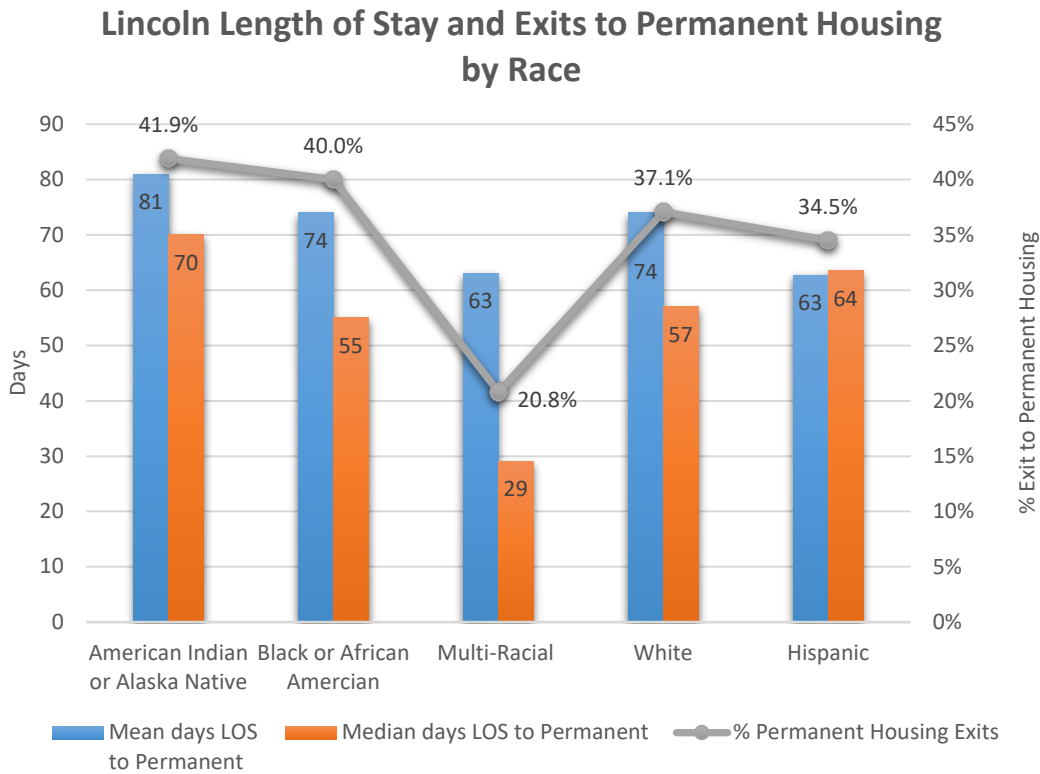
Lincoln Racial and Ethnic Disparities: Homeless Entries and Poverty



While there is minority disproportionality in those experiencing homelessness there does not appear to be significant differences in several key CoC system indicators. The length of stay in a homeless situation does not appear to be significantly different based upon minority status with Black and White persons each having an average LOS of 74 days, with multi-racial and Hispanic persons have average LOS at 63 days. Only American Indian persons experiencing homelessness have a higher LOS by 7 days than Whites. (See Chart 2)

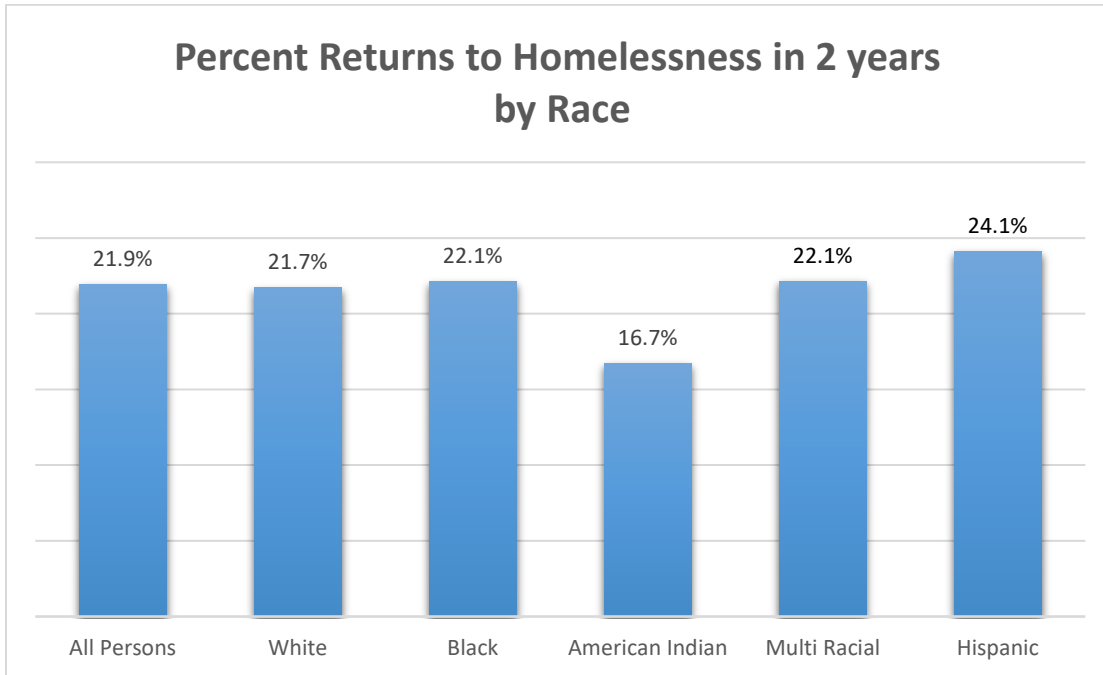
Exits to permanent housing also do not appear to differ significantly by except for persons identified as multi-racial. (See Chart 2)

Chart 2.



One of the key CoC system performances measures is the number of persons that return to homelessness after entering permanent housing. The CoC looks at this measure at several time periods out to 2 years. At two years there is no substantial difference in returns to homelessness by racial group. Hispanic persons have the highest return in 2 years at 24.1% which is 2.4% higher than White persons return to homelessness. (See Chart 3)

Chart 3.



When examining returns to homelessness in 2 years by the type of housing component individuals exited from there appears to be some difference by type of component. Hispanic exit from emergency shelter to permanent housing has the highest return to homelessness of any race – component type at 37%. There is also a large substantial difference in returns to homelessness from permanent housing components with Blacks and Hispanics returning at 25% and 22% compared to 12% for White persons.

