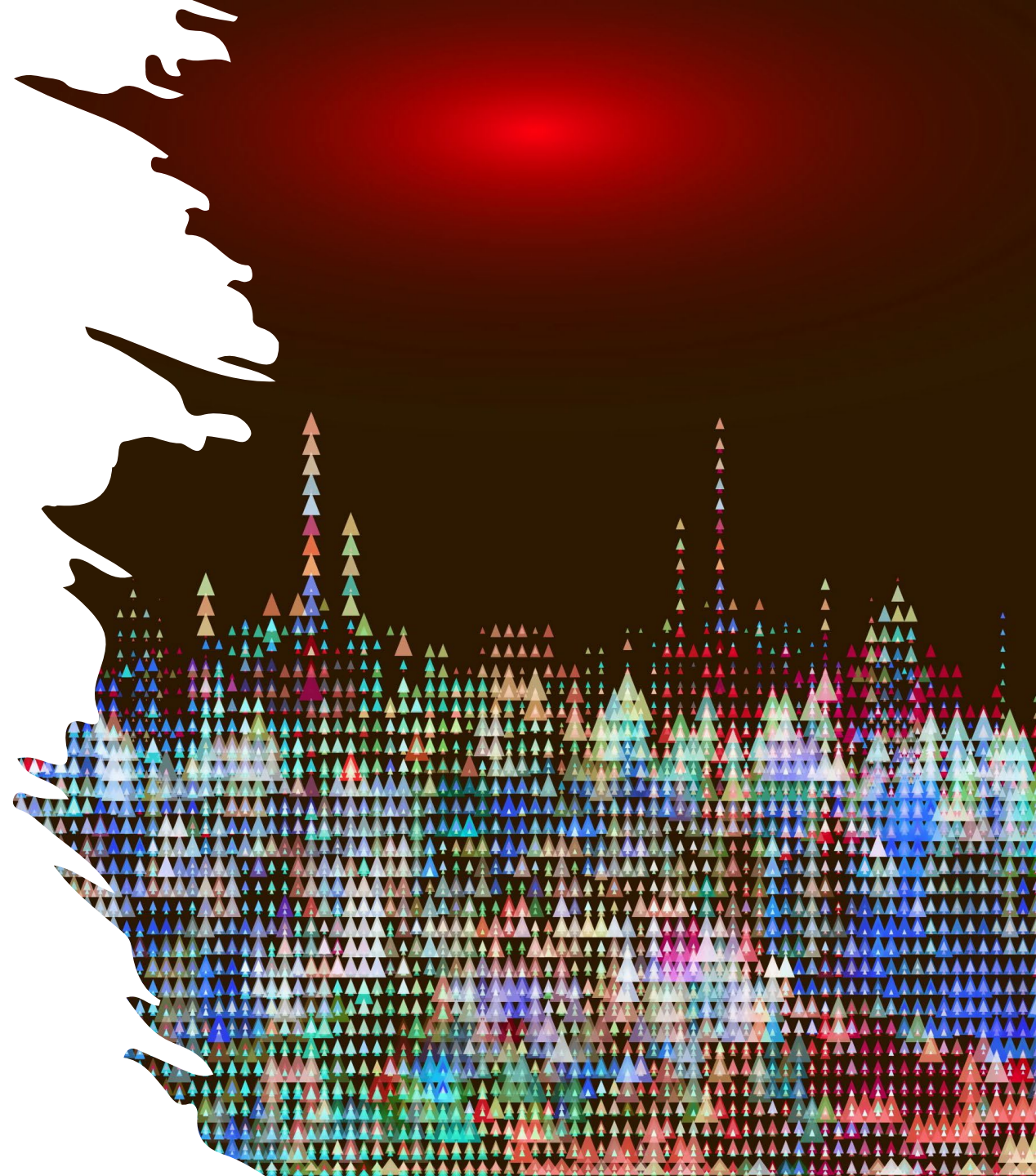


# Young Adult Prioritization Update

MAY 2022



# Current Prioritization

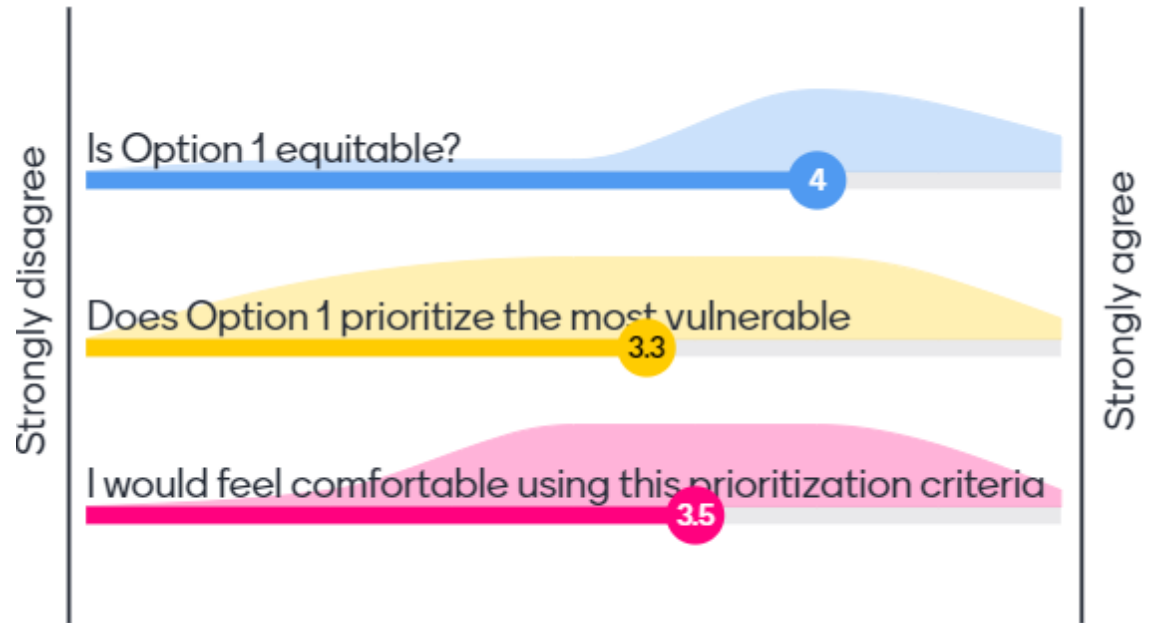
## **Young Adult Interim COVID Prioritization**

- Chronic Health Condition on VI or OneHome enrollment
- Criminal Justice Involvement
- Length of Time Homeless

Housing intervention is determined through case conferencing; if there is only RRH available a PSH eligible household will be matched to RRH first

## Option 1

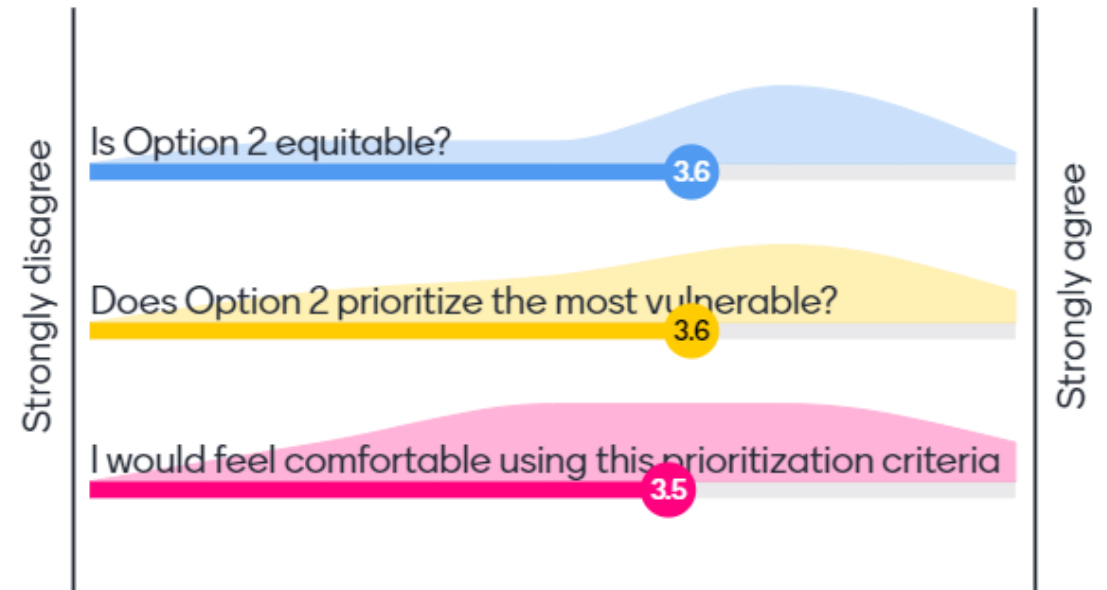
- Systems Involvement
  - YES to criminal justice involvement, DYS experience, foster care experience OR confirmed FUP eligible
- Lost housing due to violence, abuse, or unhealthy relationships
  - YES to Is your current lack of stable housing due to violence at home, unhealthy or abusive relationships, OR due to conflict around gender identity or sexual orientation
- Length of Time Homeless (LOTH)



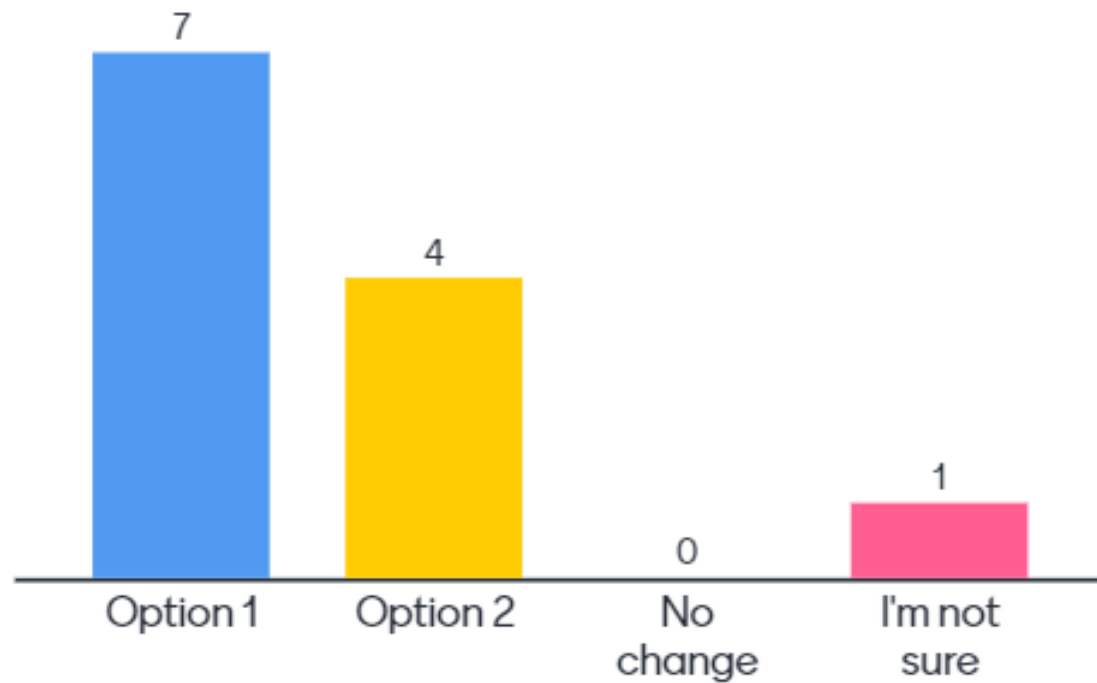
Feedback from Youth and Young Adult providers

## Option 2

- Number of Disabling Conditions (greatest to smallest)
  - Looks at: brain injury, developmental disability, mental health, physical disability, chronic health condition, substance use
- Systems involvement
  - YES to criminal justice involvement, DYS experience, foster care experience OR confirmed FUP eligible
- LOTH

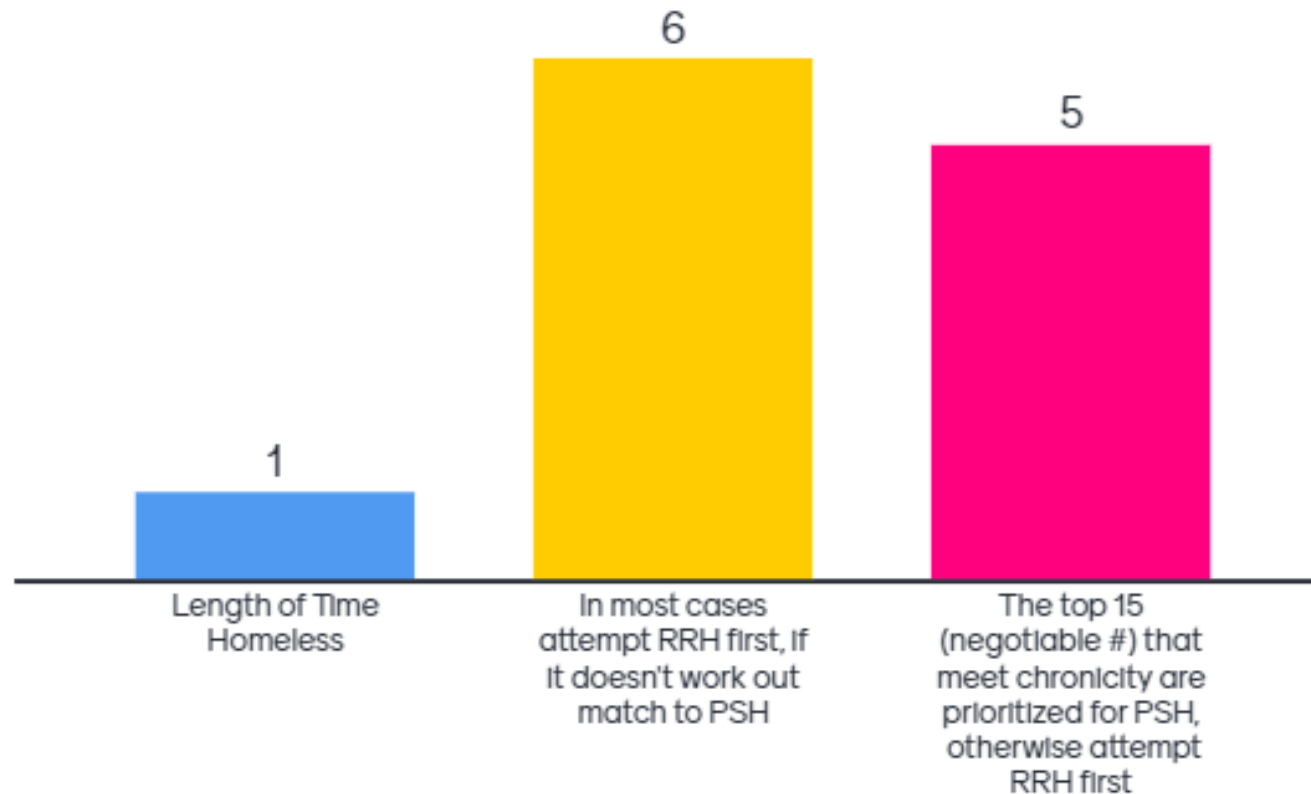


# Which prioritization option should we move forward with?



Feedback from Youth and Young Adult providers

# The best way to determine RRH vs PSH is:



# Notes from Project Foster Power

leans more to system involvement option, people face barriers when they exit criminal justice system, and without options like housing may fall back into criminal activity

can we prioritize on a matrix system that takes into account all these factors into one? thinks there is a way to consider all of them

-all great points in prioritizing people

This doesn't necessarily take into account people's choices and how they have affected them being unhoused

Would not lean towards one or the other, has a really great team, your team comes into play if you're in the foster care system, team pushes to save money and such and they have not closed this person's case, helping her be prepared so she doesn't fall into homelessness

# Young Adult's Feedback on Prioritization

“I really like the first option to prioritize because I think it's more beneficial to have multiple things qualify a person instead of just one or two things and because multiple situations can apply to one person”

“I like option 1 for youth prioritization, because I feel like, when I saw the Data representation it gave me information that I felt was crucial, that I have never seen before. I feel like it's important to highlight our problems in living when searching for housing because, recognizing issues within our living situations, creates awareness to then begin healing, I believe. Homelessness starts with home, both physically and figuratively. Prioritizing youth homelessness housing based off of the very things that may have created bumps in our tracks I feel like also contributes to the youths personal resilience. I feel like option one is the most beneficial for youth in need of housing because not only does it help with housing stability but also creates personal understanding for growth.”



# Young Adult's Feedback on Prioritization

“...When I was homeless I experienced a lot of violence to me and to other people I hung out with, I was jumped twice and had my phone, shoes and passport stolen from me, and these kinds of experiences don't get better over time, it makes you scared to be out in the open like that and its like your walking with a big target on your back.... There are many kinds of vulnerabilities for different people however I believe the most important vulnerability to notice is that of violence happening to the individual and their ability to speak up for themselves and/or find the right resources or even their knowledge of where to go for help and who to ask for help and their ability to know what help they are wanting...I was homeless for 5 years living in fear and for good reason as there were countless times I was a victim of violence or hatred from a certain group of people and I didn't feel safe...People who experience violence or difficulty know the kind of help they need and where to go to get that help are the people who need to be prioritized.”

# Young Adult's Feedback on Prioritization

"I did like the 2nd option because the youth that have mental issues typically are hard to deal with in your early adulting years. I think everyone should have the same opportunity to create housing for teens and young adults that's have been in the system. Honestly makes it harder to get housing if you've been in the system. The process we have now isn't working and I believe the 2nd option will be helpful to more of the youth."

"I think option 2 is a better option I'm my opinion just because I personally have mental issues that are hard to deal with but it's even harder trying to get housing if you've been hospitalized typically. Housing people typically look for things like that and it's makes it way harder"

# Overview

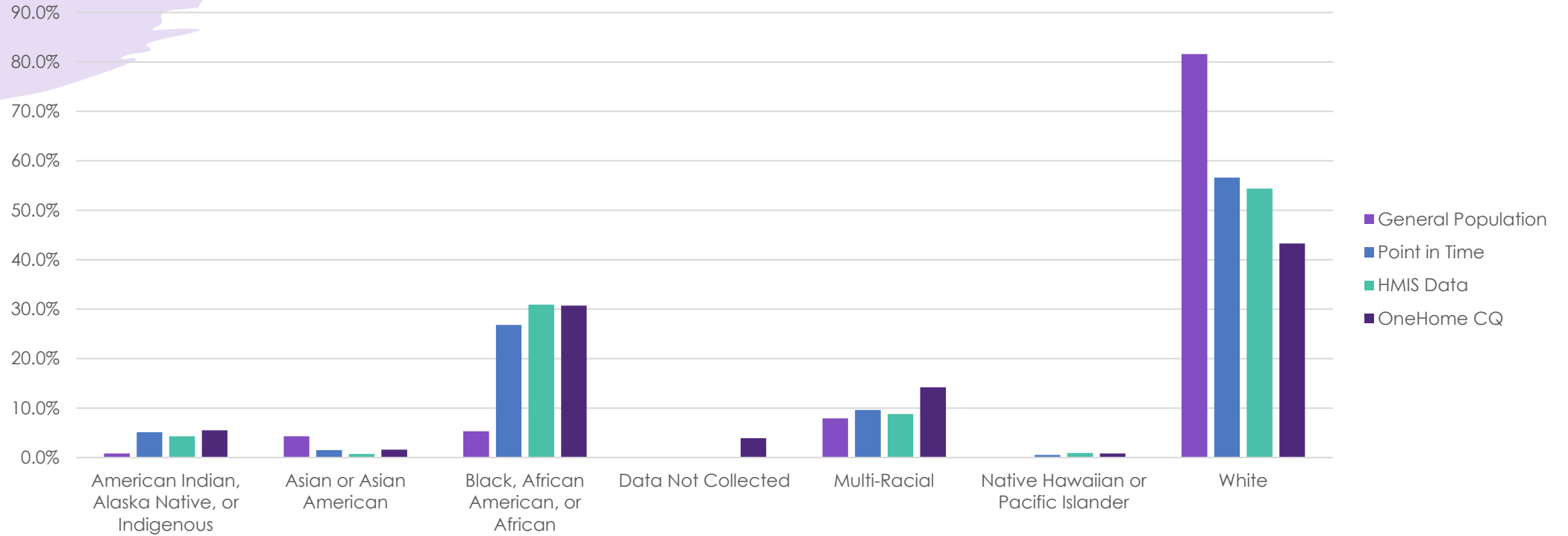
- There wasn't an overwhelming support for either prioritization criteria, though both young people and providers leaned towards option 1
- Both providers and young people mentioned the challenges of obtaining housing with criminal justice or other systems involvement experience
- Importance of having a strong team to advocate for a young person
- Providers were split on how to determine RRH vs PSH

# Data Sources

Data in this slide deck is from the MDHI State of Homelessness 2021 report and OneHome CQ data pulled on 3/29/22. The 2021 PIT only recorded sheltered households due to COVID

Community Queue (CQ) indicates that the household is active in OneHome and does not have a housing resource

# Single Young Adult Metro Denver Racial Representation



Race	General Population	Point in Time	HMIS Data	OneHome CQ
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	0.80%	5.10%	4.30%	5.50%
Asian or Asian American	4.30%	1.50%	0.70%	1.60%
Black, African American, or African	5.30%	26.80%	30.90%	30.70%
Data Not Collected	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.90%
Multi-Racial	7.90%	9.60%	8.80%	14.20%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.10%	0.50%	0.90%	0.80%
White	81.60%	56.60%	54.40%	43.30%

# MDHI State of Homelessness 2021

## VI-SPDAT data

### Overrepresentation



Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  
8.2x greater than population



American Indian/Alaska Native  
4.4x greater than population



Black/African-Americans  
5.6x greater than population

# Recommended Prioritization Criteria

Criteria	Weight
Lost Housing due to Violence or Unhealthy Relationships	45%
Systems Involvement	40%
3 or more disabling conditions	10%
Length of Time Homeless	5%

# Prioritization Criteria

## Lost Housing due to Violence or Unhealthy Relationships

- 1.) Homeless Because of Violence at Home (question 20, e. Because of violence at home between family members? and f. Because of an unhealthy or abusive relationship, either at home or elsewhere?)
- 2.) Homeless Because Conflict Gender Id or Orientation (d. Because of conflicts and gender identity or sexual orientation?)
- 3.) Currently Fleeing DV (OneHome Enrollment)

## Systems Involvement

- 1.) Have you had significant interactions with the criminal justice system?
- 2.) Were You Ever Incarcerated When Younger Than Age 18 (Question 13 -> legal issues)
- 3.) Formerly a Ward of Child Welfare or Foster Care Agency (37. Have you ever been in foster care?)
- 4.) Confirmed FUP Eligible (manually updated by OneHome Coordinator from CDHS TRAILS database confirming FUP eligibility)

3 or more co-occurring disabling conditions

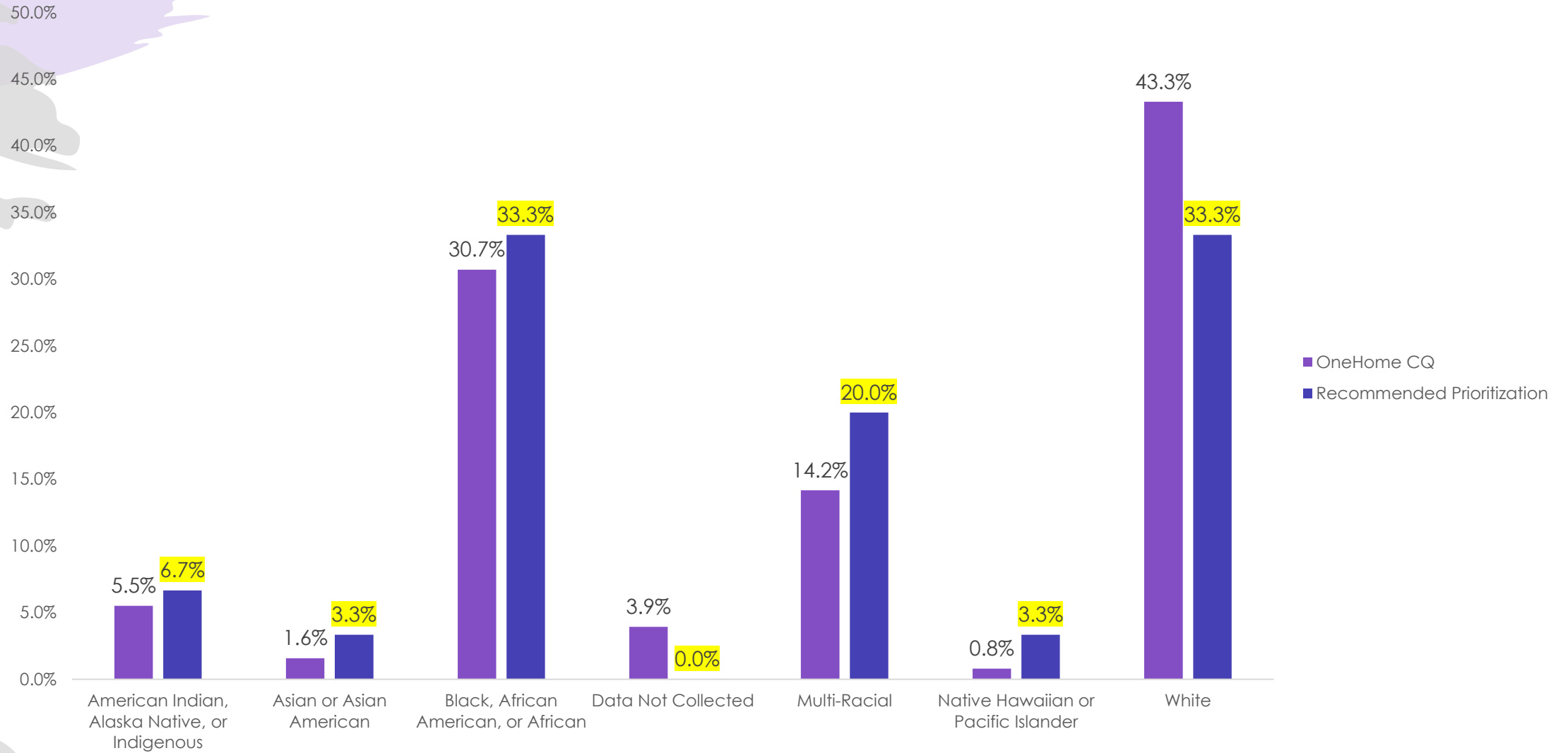
From the OneHome enrollment and VI-SPDAT questions



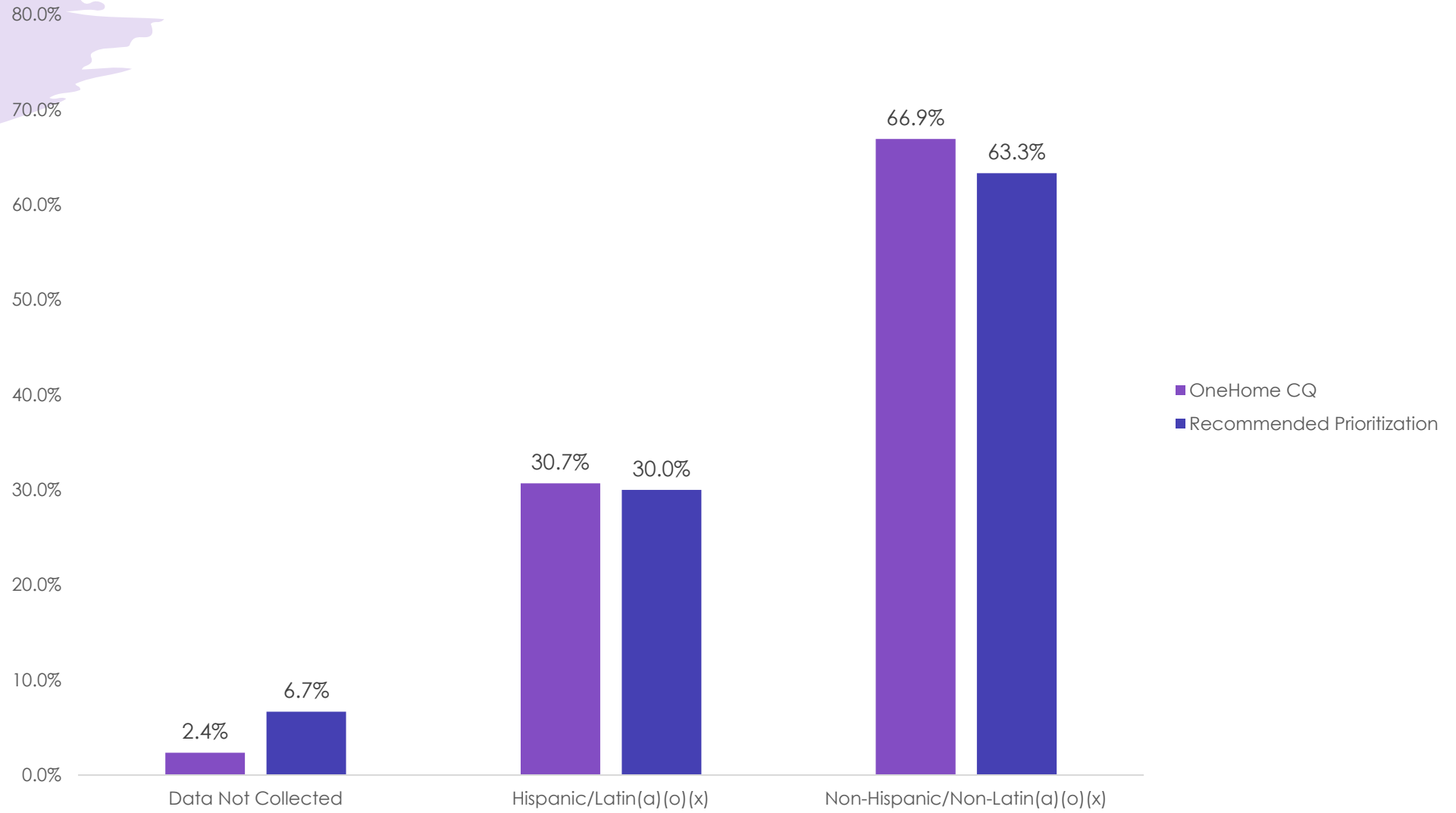
# Recommended Prioritization

The following slides compare the identities of the top 30 single young adults who would be prioritized with this recommended criteria to the total representation of single young adults active on the community queue

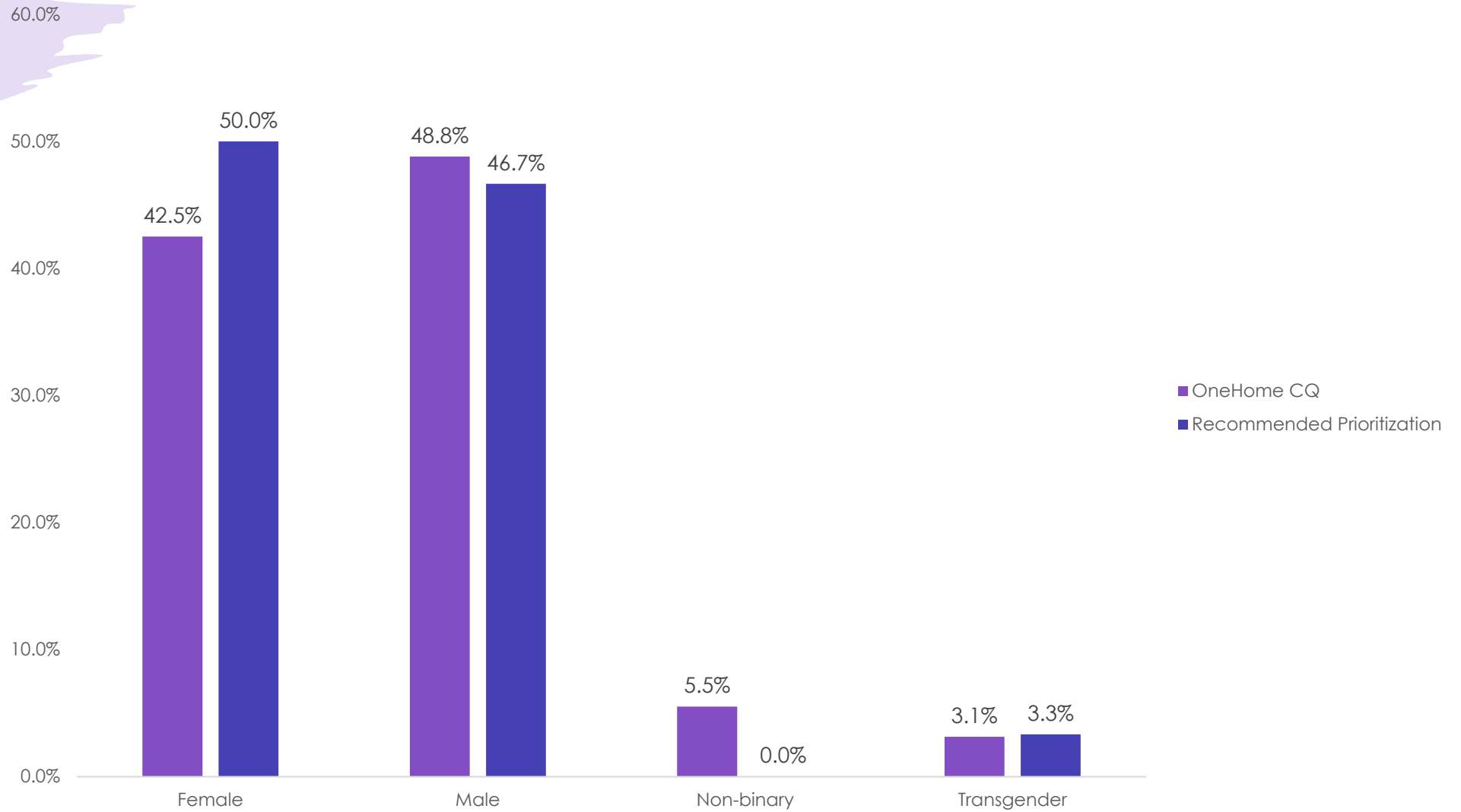
# Racial Equity Analysis of Recommended Prioritization



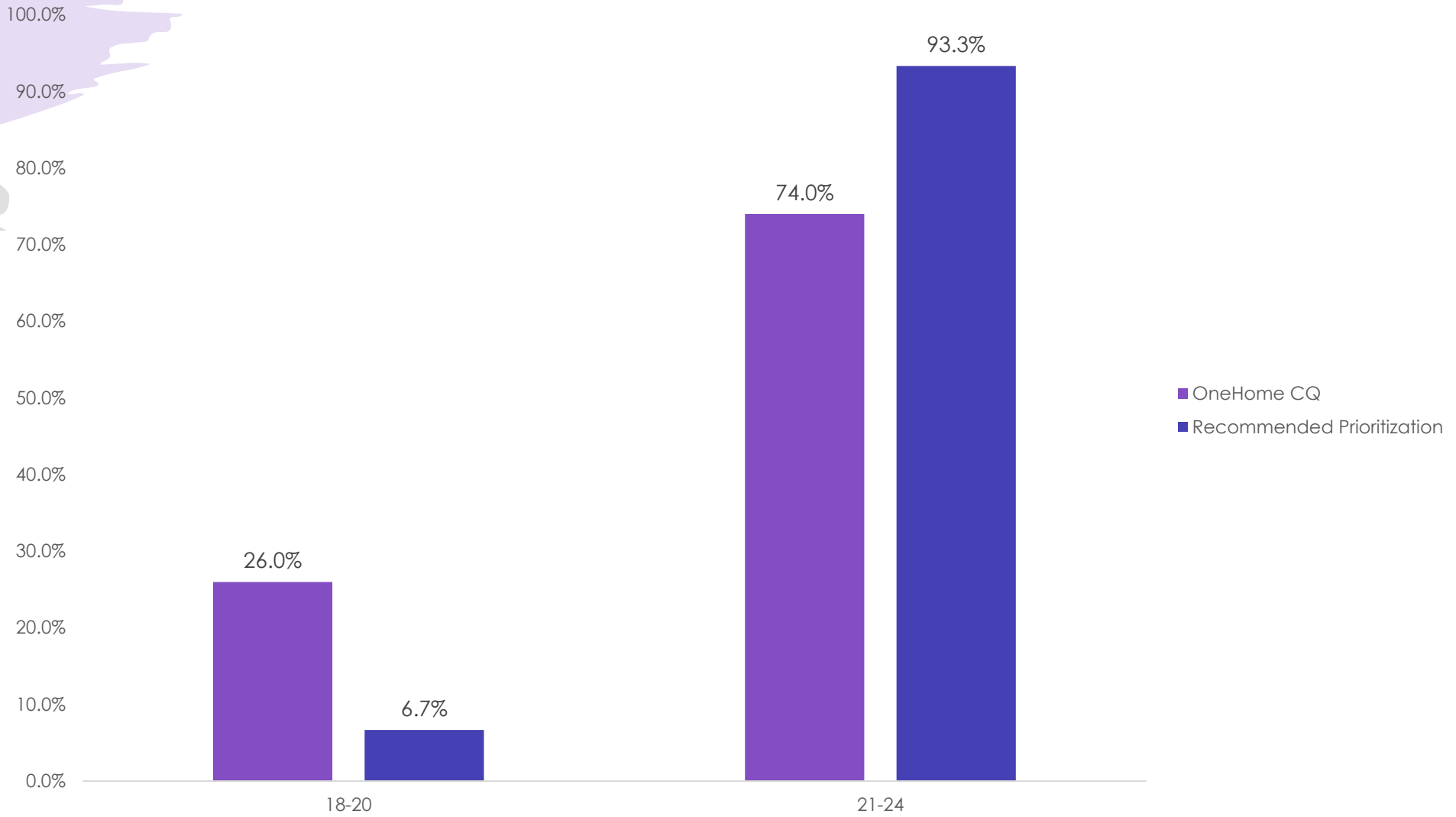
# Analysis of Recommended Prioritization by Ethnicity



# Analysis of Recommended Prioritization by Gender



# Analysis of Recommended Prioritization Criteria by Age Tier



# Age Tier discrepancy

Criteria that led to young people age 18-20 being prioritized also resulted in less racially equitable prioritization outcomes

- For example, Prioritizing all young people w/ 12 or more months of homelessness at the same rate resulted in higher percentage of shelter age youth being prioritized but also prioritized people by race and ethnicity at less than their representation in OneHome

## Of the top 30...

- All have experienced 40 or more months of homelessness in their lifetime
- Of the 23 who reported episodes of homelessness, 17 of the young people reported that this was at least their second time experiencing homelessness
  - 13 reported 4 or more episodes of homelessness
- 27 of 30 report at least one disabling condition, 13 young people report 3 or more disabling conditions

# Overview

- Prioritizes households by race and ethnicity at the same or greater than their representation in OneHome
- Prioritizes young people who have been experiencing homelessness for the longest time first
- Skews more towards young people who have aged out of youth specific shelter
- Does not prioritize any non-binary young people in the top 30



# Next Steps

Test out this prioritization criteria for 3 months, review data in Sept/Oct of who is connected to a housing resource, prioritized and/or housed during that period by race, ethnicity, gender, age tier

Top 30 is who is prioritized for permanent supportive housing

- If they are not eligible for PSH, prioritized for a moderate level intervention like RRH or TH
- If during case conferencing someone in the top 30 is found to be a good fit for RRH, can be matched to RRH