FY 2026 HMIS Data Standards: Overview of Changes for End Users

PLEASE NOTE: FY 2026 HMIS DATA STANDARDS WENT INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1, 2025.

CHANGES IMPACTING ALL HMIS USERS:

- ⌂ ***Sex*** field added – List Options: *Male, Female, Client doesn't know, Client prefers not to answer, Data not collected* (available as of 10/1/2025).

- ⌂ ***Gender*** field retired.

- ⌂ ***Translation Assistance Needed*** and related fields (including ***Preferred Language***) retired (will be removed from assessments).

- ⌂ ***Sexual Orientation*** field retired (will be removed from assessments).

- ⌂ ***Race/Ethnicity*** List Option Changed - *Hispanic/Latina/e/o to Hispanic/Latina/o* (available as of 10/1/2025).

- ⌂ ***Additional Race and Ethnicity Detail*** field changed to "***Additional Race and Ethnicity Detail (Optional)*** to clarify to users that this is an optional field and does not need to be completed (available as of 10/1/2025).

DETAILS:

1. Addition of ***Sex*** field.
   a. Because Gender represents an individual's self-expressed identity and Sex is a biological classification assigned at birth, HUD has directed HMIS software vendors to not copy the ***Gender*** field data into the ***Sex*** field.

   b. Each client should be asked to complete the ***Sex*** field. Providers should not assume the answer to the ***Sex*** field based on a previous answer in the Gender field.

   c. Data will be collected at the creation of a client record. Only one option can be selected.

   d. List Options: *Male, Female, Client doesn't know, Client prefers not to answer, Data not collected*.

   e. Data needs to be collected for all new clients as of October 1, 2025. Existing clients served October 1, 2025, and after will need to have the value for the Sex field entered in their Client Record.

   f. ***Sex*** is a required field for HUD CoC, HUD ESG, HUD VASH, HHS RHY, VA SSVF, VA GPD, and other funders.

   g. The following program types are required to collect Sex data: Street Outreach, Emergency Shelters, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Services Only, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Homelessness Prevention, and Permanent Housing (PH) – Housing Only.

   h. Please see the screenshots below which display where the ***Sex*** field has been added to the **Summary** tab and the **Client Profile** tab. To enter/update data for this field, click the pencil next to the ***Client Record*** title.

Client Information									Service Transactions		

Summary	Client Profile	Households	ROI	Entry / Exit	Case Managers	Case Plans	Measurements	Activities	Assessments

Added to the system 11/22/2023 10:13 AM

Name	testy, test
Date of Birth	02/15/1967 (Age 58)
Race and Ethnicity	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander White
Gender	Woman (Girl, if child)
Sex	

Social Security	234-56-1234
U.S. Military Veteran?	No (HUD)

Summary	Client Profile

✏️ Client Record

Name	testy, test
Name Data Quality	Full Name Reported
Alias	
Social Security	234-56-1234
SSN Data Quality	Full SSN Reported (HUD)
U.S. Military Veteran?	No (HUD)
Sex	
Age	58

Click the pencil next to Client Record to add/update data for the Sex field.

i.   The screenshot below shows the list of options available for the new **Sex** field.

Client Record ✕

⚠️ Editing the Client Record Information could affect the Unique ID and the Client Search.

Client Record

Name	First: test	Middle:	Last: testy	Suffix:
Name Data Quality	Full Name Reported			
Alias				
Social Security	234 - 56 - 1234			
SSN Data Quality	Full SSN Reported (HUD)			
U.S. Military Veteran?	No (HUD)			
Sex	-Select-			

-Select-
Male
Female
Client doesn't know
Client prefers not to answer
Data not collected

Save   Cancel

2. **Gender** field retired. Note: Local communities may decide to continue data collection for this field, if the community requires this data for purposes not related to HUD grants, such as community-wide planning. The CoC will lead a discussion regarding the inclusion of the Gender field and request feedback over the next several weeks. The Gender field will remain available until a decision has been made.

3. **Translation Assistance Needed** and related fields (including **Preferred Language**) have been retired. They will be removed from all assessments.

These fields will be removed from assessments.

Translation Assistance Needed	*	Yes (HUD)	✔ G
Preferred Language		Spanish	✔ G
Required response when selecting Different Preferred Language			
If Different Preferred Language, please specify			G

4. **Sexual Orientation** field has been retired. This question will be removed from assessments.

   a. This field was collected only by Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs, and it followed the Translation Assistance Needed questions.

These fields will be removed from assessments.

Translation Assistance Needed		Yes (HUD)	✔ G
Preferred Language		-Select-	✔ G
Required response when selecting Different Preferred Language			
If Different Preferred Language, please specify			G
Sexual Orientation		-Select-	✔ G

5. The **Race and Ethnicity** List Option of **Hispanic/Latina/e/o** has been changed to **Hispanic/Latina/o** (available as of 10/1/2025).

To select multiple values hold down the "ctrl" or "cmd" key and click on each value

Race and Ethnicity	American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous ▲
	Asian or Asian American
	Black, African American, or African
	Hispanic/Latina/o
	Middle Eastern or North African
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
	White
	Client doesn't know
	Client prefers not to answer
	Data not collected ▼

Clear All

| Additional Race and Ethnicity Detail (Optional) | | G |

6. The **Additional Race and Ethnicity Detail** field changed to "**Additional Race and Ethnicity Detail (Optional)**" to clarify to users that this is an optional field and does not need to be completed (available as of 10/1/2025). The new wording is shown above.

CHANGES FOR RHY PROGRAMS

- ⌂ The set of questions under **Family Critical Issues** will have an updated list of options to include, *"Client doesn't know, Client prefers not to answer, and Data not collected."*
- ⌂ Going back into prior entries to update the options selected is not required.
- ⌂ This covers the following:
  Family Critical Issues
    - ▪ Unemployment - Family member
    - ▪ Mental Health Disorder - Family member
    - ▪ Physical Disability - Family member
    - ▪ Alcohol or Substance Use Disorder - Family member
    - ▪ Insufficient Income to support youth - Family member
    - ▪ Incarcerated Parent of Youth - Family member

CHANGES FOR VA PROGRAMS

VA: Grant Per Diem (GPD) – Case Management/Housing Retention

- ⌂ **Housing Move-In Date** is now a required field. This applies to all actively enrolled and new clients as of October 1, 2025
- ⌂ **Mental Health Consultation Status** – NEW field added and required at project entry for head of household. The list values for this item are "*Mental health consultation completed*," "*Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with VA provider*", "*Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with other provider*," and "*Offer declined*."

ALL VA: GRANT PER DIEM PROJECT TYPES

- ⌂ **Disabling Conditions** data collection is no longer required. This takes effect for all new clients as of October 1, 2025.

HUD VASH

- ⌂ **Disabling Conditions** data collection is no longer required. This takes effect for all new clients as of October 1, 2025.

SSVF

- ⌂ **Type of SSVF Service: Healthcare Navigation** has been added to the list of options for this field. When choosing this new service option, the Service Start Date must be 10/1/2025 or after.

- ⌂ **Financial Assistance – SSVF** – a new date field has been added for **Start Date of Financial Assistance**. This will be a required field when a value has been chosen for the SSVF Financial Assistance Type.

- ⌂ **HP Targeting Criteria** – updated wording for the following assessment questions (available as of October 1, 2025):

1. "Household size of 5 or more requiring at least 3 bedrooms (due to age/gender mix)" is changed 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" is changed to "Households which may include one or more members meeting other criteria for targeting prevention determined by the CoC."

Household size of 5 or more requiring at least 3 bedrooms (due to household composition)	-Select- ⌄ G
Households which may include one or more members meeting other criteria for targeting prevention determined by the CoC	-Select- ⌄ G

⌂ *Mental Health Consultation Status* – NEW field added and required at project entry for **SSVF RRH** and **SSVF HP**. The list values for this item are "*Mental health consultation completed*," "*Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with VA provider*", "*Mental health consultation being coordinated/arranged with other provider*," and "*Offer declined*." This is required for head of household.
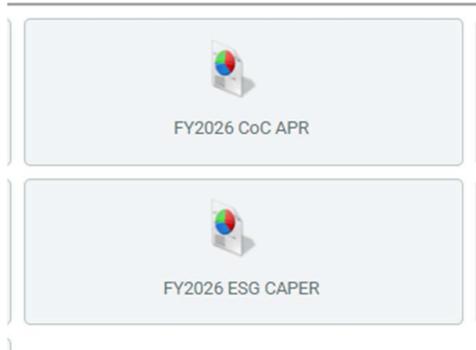
FY 2026 REPORTING UPDATES

⌂ DATA QUALITY FRAMEWORK Report – Gender removed.

⌂ **COC APR/ESG CAPER** Reports:
1. Gender row removed from Question (Q) 6a Personally Identifiable Information (PII) (Data Quality)
2. Q10a Gender Removed
3. Q10d Gender by Age Ranges Removed
4. Q24c Sexual Orientation of Adults in PSH removed.
5. Q24d Translation Assistance Needed removed.
6. Gender tables removed in sections for Veterans, Chronically Homeless Persons, and Youth – Q25c, Q26c, Q27c
7. Updated "Hispanic/Latino/e/o" to "Hispanic/Latina/o" in tables Q12, Q22f, Q22g, Q23e
8. New table added for Sex – Question **24e.**

24e - Sex	Total	Without Children	With Children and Adults	With Only Children	Unknown Household Type
Female	28	3	25	0	0
Male	24	7	17	0	0
Client Doesn't Know/ Prefers Not to Answer	0	0	0	0	0
Data not collected	7	1	6	0	0
Total	59	11	48	0	0

9. Buttons for the CoC APR and ESG CAPER have been relabeled to reflect the FY 2026 Data Standards, as shown below:

FY2026 CoC APR

FY2026 ESG CAPER

10. Please note: Sage will only accept CoC APR and ESG CAPER uploads in the new FY 2026 format, as of October 1, 2025.

⌂ **SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES (SPM)** Report – Measure 7 updated label text from "Of persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations" to "Of persons above, those who exited to specific homeless, temporary, and institutional destinations."