

# THE STATE OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



## OVERVIEW

The Supportive Housing Network of New York's (the Network) [State of Supportive Housing report](#) provides a comprehensive overview of the 62,000+ supportive housing units in New York, aiming to fill a crucial gap in understanding this vital sector.

As a national leader in supportive housing, New York has developed an elaborate infrastructure of supportive housing that spans 18 programs overseen by 9 government entities, serving 46 specific population categories. The report details the various eligibility criteria and funding rates, shedding an important light on the complexities of navigating this complicated system.

The supportive housing model originated in the 1980s through the grassroots efforts of a handful of nonprofits and faith-based organizations that were responding to what people living on the streets wanted. Since then, it has evolved from a modest experiment to a statewide network of 62,299 homes that offer permanent, affordable housing and voluntary services to those who are unhoused or at-risk of homelessness or facing housing instability due to disabling conditions or traumatic life events. The report can be downloaded in full [here](#).

## Supportive Housing Units by Site Type and Location



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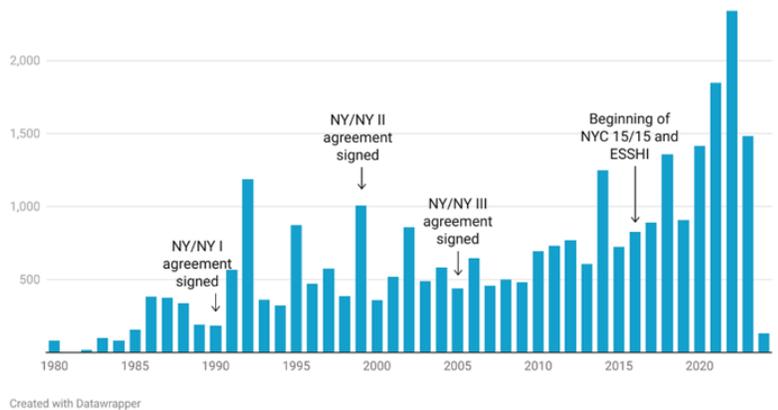
- 40,472 units in New York City
- 21,827 units in Balance of State
- 50% congregare, 50% scattered site

The state's supportive housing units are divided between what are known as congregare residences, where onsite staff provide services to tenants, and scattered site units - rented apartments (and sometimes single-family homes) on the private market where mobile services are provided to tenants in their homes. While congregare residences were initially rehabbed single-room occupancy residences and hotels (SROs) with shared bathrooms and often kitchens, the majority of today's buildings are state-of-the-art new construction featuring apartments that each have their own full bathroom and kitchen.

Notably, 21% of the statewide congregare supportive housing was created 15 or more years ago - marking a milestone in the affordable housing industry for refinancing and preservation. Yet only 6% of the older stock has been rehabbed.

The supportive housing target tenant population has evolved over time as well. While early programs primarily served unhoused individuals with serious mental health diagnoses or HIV/AIDS, they now serve an array of unhoused and at-risk populations including people with substance use disorders, young adults, families, veterans, individuals leaving incarceration, survivors of domestic violence, and older adults with additional barriers to stability.

Number of Congregate Units by Open Year - Statewide

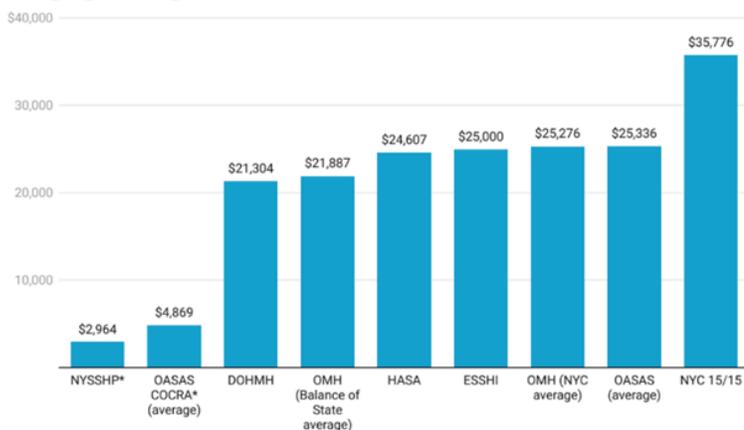


## SERVICES AND OPERATING FUNDING

**Service funding** supports the staff who work with tenants to maintain their housing stability and meet their self-determined goals. **Operating funding** provides for the ongoing cost of the housing itself. In scattered site housing, this is primarily paying the rent set by a private landlord and capped by the government contract. In congregate housing, it encompasses the costs of building security, cleaning, maintenance, repairs, insurance, utilities and more.

The funding levels for New York’s supportive housing programs differ greatly.

Congregate Single Adult Rates



- New York State Supportive Housing Program (NYSSHP), the oldest and lowest-funded, provides **\$2,964** for an individual and **\$3,900** for a family per year for services only
- ESSHI provides funding for both services and operating at **\$25,000** per household per year (individuals or families)
- NYC 15/15 at up to **\$35,776** for a single adult and **\$54,835** for a family in congregate housing



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