U.S. Department of the Treasury Overview of Quarterly HAF Participant Data through June of 2022

December 2, 2022

Early participant-reported data for the American Rescue Plan-funded Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) through June of 2022 show that assistance is reaching low-income and underserved communities as states continue to provide assistance to homeowners through the HAF program. The early data demonstrate that HAF has provided assistance to tens of thousands of homeowners across the country.

HAF was designed to support homeowners experiencing financial distress, working in conjunction with a range of other foreclosure prevention initiatives implemented by the Biden-Harris Administration that resulted in historically low foreclosure filings in 2021. After a planning process during which Treasury required states, territories, and Tribes to inform their plans with data and community input, HAF programs began providing assistance in the first half of 2022 as some other foreclosure protections wound down. HAF programs across the country are assisting homeowners both by providing direct assistance and helping homeowners access workouts through their mortgage servicers, such as loss mitigation options made available for government-backed loans.

Treasury has taken numerous actions to ensure that HAF empowers states, territories, and Tribal governments to reach the most vulnerable homeowners, including requiring participants to structure and target assistance based on data-driven assessments of homeowner needs, with an emphasis on data that identifies disparate hardships across demographic groups. Reporting through June of 2022 shows that HAF assistance is reaching a much broader range of economically vulnerable and traditionally underserved homeowners than prior federal mortgage assistance and foreclosure prevention programs:

- Excluding omitted data, 59% of HAF assistance was delivered to very low-income homeowners (those earning 50% of area median income and below).
- 33% of homeowners receiving assistance self-identified as Black and 22% self-identified as Latino.
- Nearly two thirds of HAF beneficiaries were female applicants.

Since June, many HAF programs have assisted thousands more homeowners, with some public dashboards from these programs indicating they have doubled their total assistance provided. As rising interest rates strain housing affordability, particularly for homeowners with lower incomes, HAF funds continue to serve as a crucial resource to assist in resolving delinquency, providing mortgage payment assistance, and addressing other threats to housing stability. HAF participants have until September 30, 2026 to use their funds to assist homeowners in their communities.

HAF is an important part of a <u>broader Biden-Harris administration effort</u> to enable struggling borrowers across the country to remain in their homes. The Biden-Harris administration has engaged a series of measures that protected homeowners from foreclosure, including a foreclosure moratorium, increased options for mortgage payment forbearance, and enhanced loan modifications to resolve delinquencies, among other initiatives that have together helped keep mortgage delinquencies and foreclosures below pre-pandemic levels.

A summary of Quarterly HAF participant data through June of 2022 is available here.