



July 16, 2008

Housing Voucher Data for Washington D.C.

• Of Washington D.C.'s 12,272 authorized vouchers, only 83 percent were used by families last year.

• 803 fewer families in Washington D.C. received assistance in 2007 than in 2004.

• This year, the D.C. Housing Authority has sufficient funds, including reserves, to assist 2,309 additional families, thereby using up to 100 percent of its authorized vouchers. To encourage the agency to make efficient use of these resources, the agency must be reassured that voucher renewal funding policy will be both stable and take into account the additional vouchers used by these families. Congress should enact the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (H.R. 1851 and S. 2684) to provide confidence that renewal funding needs will be met in future years, thereby encouraging the agency to put as many of their vouchers to use as possible.

		2004	2005	2006	2007			2008			
									Additional		
								Auth-	Auth.		
							Auth-	orized	Vouchers	% of Auth-	
		% of	% of	% of	% of		orized	Vouchers	That Could	orized	
		Auth-	Auth-	Auth-	Auth-	Number	Vouchers	Funded	be Funded	Vouchers	
		orized	orized	orized	orized	of	as of	under	Using	Funded	
		Vouchers	Vouchers	Vouchers	Vouchers	Vouchers	January	Renewal	Remaining	(Counting	
Agency Name	Code	in Use	2008	Formula	Reserves	Reserves)					
Washington DC											
Total		99%	98%	94%	83%	9,963	12,272	12,272	0	100%	
DC HA *	DC001	99%	98%	94%	83%	9,963	12,272	12,272	0	100%	

Note: Authorized voucher figures for each agency are based on data from HUD's Resident Characteristics Report. The percentage of authorized vouchers in use in each year was determined by analysis of voucher leasing data reported by housing agencies to HUD's Voucher Management System (VMS). The number of vouchers funded in 2008 under the renewal formula was calculated using actual renewal funding awards and an estimate of the additional funds assumed to be available from excess reserves (the "offset" amount); these estimates do not take into account amounts received under the \$50 million in supplemental adjustment funds available under the law. The number of additional authorized vouchers that could be funded using remaining reserves is based on estimates of each agency's fund balance at the end of 2007, excluding the 2008 offset, and per-voucher costs for 2008. Agencies marked with an asterisk are funded according to their agreements with HUD under the Moving to Work demonstration. Such agencies are permitted to shift voucher funds to support public housing.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities